



The *Great* Canadian
Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire
des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

The First Fifty Years: 1931-1981
St. Joseph's General Hospital
North Bay, Ontario

by
Thelma Patterso

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Sr. Margaret Smith, CSJ

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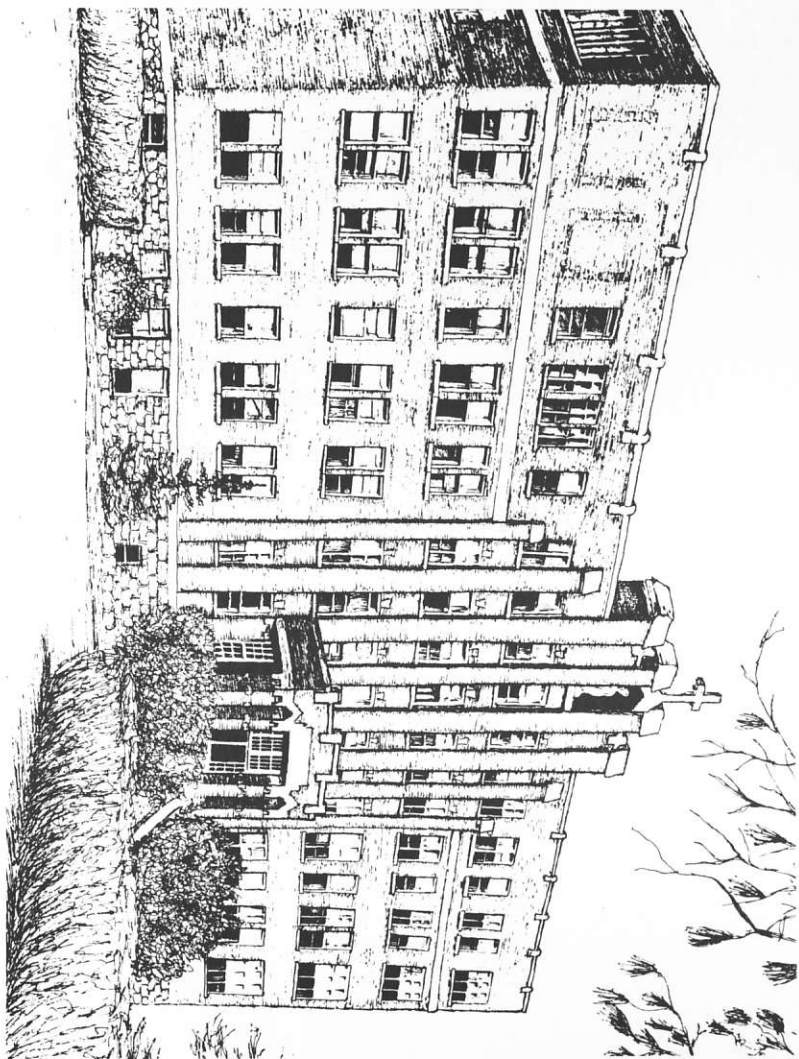
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The
First Fifty Years
1931 - 1981



St. Joseph's General Hospital
North Bay, Ontario

by
Thelma Patterson



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To the Sisters of St. Joseph and to everyone who

had a part in the life and work of

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL

Only a few of their names are mentioned in these pages,

while very many others are warmly remembered

and deeply appreciated.

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*The inside cover sketch shows St. Joseph's General
Hospital as it was in 1931.*

This is the 1981 work of Tammy McCallum.

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FROM THE STRENGTH OF OUR PAST TO OUR HOPES FOR THE FUTURE

The year was 1981 and the words "Joint Hospital Planning" put question marks around the future of St. Joseph's Hospital. Staff members, always proud of their workplace, and secure in the hospital family, viewed this change with mixed feelings.

Sr. Margaret Smith, the Executive Director, ever mindful of the health needs of the community, knew that only through a joint hospital could new services be provided. She wisely said, "the future may not be clear, but we have a great past; we should celebrate our 50th birthday".

Thus started a proud and happy year. The friends of St. Joseph's came to celebrate and the Nugget printed a special anniversary edition. The members of the planning committee were indeed grateful to all those who had preserved pictures and information from the past. The School of Nursing yearbooks, the archives at St. Joseph's Motherhouse, and the scrapbooks of Nugget clippings, precious treasures, were greatly appreciated by staff and visitors.

BEGINNING – THE THIRTIES

St. Joseph's General Hospital was officially opened October 7, 1931, by His Excellency, Most Rev. D. J. Scollard, D.D., then Bishop of the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie. The hospital's initial establishment was 90 beds.

From that date, the hospital has played a major role in this community and district. Completion of this institution was hailed as an accomplishment of singular merit and further evidence of the tremendous energy and purpose of His Excellency, who to that date of his diocesan administration had seen the completion of a multitude of projects, including more than 100 churches and 33 rectories.

With keen forethought Bishop Scollard had, in 1928 contacted the Provincial Government for grants, and the Superior General of the Sisters of St. Joseph's in Peterborough, proposing that the religious community take over this planned hospital. His offer to build it in conjunction with the 40-bed Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital on the adjoining property was declined by its board.

Permission came from the Minister of Health in 1929 to build a 60-bed St. Joseph's Hospital with grants of 60 cents per patient per day. The architect was P.J. Gorman and the building was constructed by Fitzgerald Construction Co. of Sault Ste. Marie on land donated by Bishop Scollard.

Closely linked with the history of St. Joseph's General Hospital is Reverend Mother St. Philip, the first Superintendent. She acted untiringly in administrative and advisory capacities from the time of the initial excavation on July 6, 1930, until the hospital was opened to the public in October of the following year.

Sister Felicitas, Superintendent of Nurses, had also spent a year in North Bay preparing for the opening. Two weeks before the great day, the first staff of Sisters arrived. Sister Veronica was Night Supervisor; Sister Irma had charge of X-Ray and maternity; Sister Anysia the Operating Room; Sister Maris Stella the Medical Floor; Sister Thomasina the office; and Sister St. Lawrence the Dietary department. Other Sisters were Sister Eugene and Sister St. Raymond.

An Advisory Board of public minded citizens had been appointed. They were: Senator Gordon, Mr. John Blanchette, Mr. J.E. Cholette, Mr. W.M. Flannery & Mr. W.E. Lee.

The Hospital Auxiliary had been holding card parties since 1929 to raise money. Women in that early group included: Mrs. Black, Mrs. Pringle, Mrs. Pat Quinn & Mrs. O'Kane. Ladies from the Catholic Women's League assisted in the preparations for the opening.

At the opening, Bishop Scollard adequately expressed the policy of operation which the Sisters of St. Joseph follow: "The hospital is, and must continue to be, a public hospital . . . all its patients shall have full liberty to obtain spiritual help and consolation from whatever spiritual guide they prefer."

In conjunction with the hospital a School of Nursing was established with 4 first-year students from the Peterborough Hospital.

Speakers at the opening ceremonies included: Hon J.M. Robb, Minister of Health; Dr. A.E. Ranney, Medical Officer of Health; Rev. H.A. Sims, Anglican Church; A.B. Currey, representing Hon Senator George Gordon; Dr. J.R. Hurtubise, M.P. Sudbury; Dr. G.W. Smith, Chairman of Medical Staff & Mayor Rowe, City of North Bay Mayor. Mr. Rowe paid tribute to Bishop Scollard saying "The most sacred memories of our institutions are bound up with the names they bear, and the name of Bishop Scollard belongs to this building as long as it stands".

The cost of over \$350,000.00 was offset by donations of only \$9,000.00.

The hospital world of the 1930's was a very different one. Without prepaid hospitalization many rooms were empty. Indigent patients, however, filled the ward beds which were rated at \$3.75 per day. There was great difficulty in collecting even this amount from the municipalities. The backlog of \$1,500.00, a considerable sum at that time, was collected from the City of North Bay, only after Sister Thomasina & Sister Felicitas journeyed to Toronto and appealed to the Minister of Health.

The Sisters continued to struggle under a debt of \$35,000.00 with no municipal grant. The very existence of the institution depended on its ability to attract paying private room patients. Sister St. Irma acquired bone china cups and cut-work doilies to meet the expectations of this group of patients.

Mother St. Philip asked that the lights be put on in empty private rooms each evening, believing that it paid to advertise. On one occasion when faced with the knowledge that there was no money to pay the mortgage, Mother St. Phillip went to the chapel and prayed for the money. The very next day a donor contributed the needed funds.

Paid employees were few as the Sisters and Student Nurses made up the greater part of the work force. The Sisters worked long hours; their day started with prayers at 0530 hours and after 1900 hours, on their free time, they worked in the laundry or on a special cleaning project.

Sister Felicitas, the Director of Nursing, was a remarkable person. The first year, a class of nine probationers started their "training". As well as teaching the students, Sister directed patient care, set and marked anatomy examinations for provincial registration, and in her "spare" time organized bazaars to make money. Students also raised money. Each spring student nurses, in their blue uniforms and orange lined capes, were to be seen "tagging" downtown. Instead of tags, they pinned two paper violets on the donors.

The students who had started to train in Peterborough graduated in 1933. Their names were Sister Mary Celesta, Mary Yvonne Leroux, Mary Delia Charette & Rose Marie Pelland. The nine nurses who were the first to receive their training at St. Joseph's Hospital graduated in 1934. They were: Monica McParland, Dorothy Dales, Mona Bremner, Aileen Quinn, Violet Leduke, Margaret Hurtubise and Aileen McAnulty.

During the early years of this school, the nurses were housed on the fifth floor of the hospital, while the classrooms, recreation rooms, and dining rooms were located on the ground floor. With an increasing number of candidates enrolling, it was imperative that additional accommodation should be provided. Consequently the building, then known as the "Hill School", initially erected in 1888, was transformed into a home-like residence and was ready for occupancy in August 1938. This work was supervised by His Excellency, Most Reverend R.H. Dignan, D.D., successor to Bishop Scollard.

The doctors in the 30's were Dr. J.E. Joyal, Dr. D.A. Campbell, Dr. George Smith, Dr. A.E. Ranney, Dr. Lorne Crowe, Dr. E.J. Brennan, Dr. E. McMurchy, Dr. R.H. Dillane, Dr. G.F. Guest, Dr. H.E. Lowery, Dr. K.Y. Sinclair, Dr. R.A. White, Dr. N.A. Bowers and Dr. W.S. Butler. St. Joseph's Hospital was indeed fortunate in the caliber of the medical staff. Patients and former nurses share many warm memories of these dedicated men. Medicine was very personal then; the doctor made house calls and took few vacations.

In 1936 at the request of Bishop Dignan, the Sisters of St. Joseph's of Peterborough gave rise to a new branch of diocesan Sisters, the Sisters of St. Joseph's of the Sault Ste. Marie Diocese. The impact of this move was to have reaching benefits for Northern Ontario. Not only would education and hospital care be provided, but the nursing graduates of their institutions would make significant contribution to hospitals across the country.

In the fall of 1940, Sister Melanie was appointed Sister Superior. Looking back one remembers her "style", a gliding walk and exquisite taste. Other staff of the institution were Sister Mary Alice, Night Supervisor; Sister Irma, X-Ray; Sister Mary Agnes, Laboratory; Sister Julia (Quinn), Operating Room and Rose Pellerin in Central Supply. Sister Mary Grace, Sister Paula and Margaret Foley were in the office.

Sister Felicitas was assisted by an instructor for only a few months as the new class of students came in, and then single handed, she managed education and service without as much as clerical help. Even the "house mother" role was hers as she lived in the Nurses' Residence.

An outbreak of influenza at the army barracks taxed the hospital facilities at that time. Cots set-up in the classrooms provided the only accommodation. The soldiers' only complaint, however, was that the open backed gown was a poor garb for retreating.

The student nurse was depended upon for nursing care in all areas, on days & nights. Her "forté" was experience, gained in a 6½-day week with a 12-patient case load. Assessment was crucial and her skill in providing physical care was well developed. She practiced the "art" of nursing. While sulphur drugs were now available, there was no penicillin. Nursing procedures of the day included hot packs (for pre eclampsia) catoplasms, turpentine stupes, interstitial and rectal feedings.

Discipline was a mark of the times and the student nurse, in her starched bib and apron, "netted hair", face devoid of makeup, quickly stood up for each passing Sister or Doctor. During their training each nurse spent 2 months at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium in Weston and 3 at the old Children's Memorial Hospital on the "mountain" in Montreal. It is interesting to remember the incidence of spinal tuberculosis there, and that all those children slept out of doors in winter.

In 1941, the arrival of the Egan Sisters, Kathleen & Margaret, heralded a new era for nursing practice at St. Joseph's Hospital. Both were teachers and graduates of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Kathleen reorganized the Central Supply. Proper dressing trays replaced the package of gauze and forceps in a "Lysol" jar of the old days. In the five years that Margaret served as the Instructress, she left a lasting imprint on the professional standards of the graduates.

In 1942, the Nurses' Residence burned and was replaced with a three story structure.

New doctors of the early forties were Drs. Moore, Hall, Teasdale, Bromley and McGowan. Dr. Sam Bromley is remembered by many for his professional generosity. "Scotty" McGowan also starred in the medical picture with his successful "versions" in difficult deliveries. Dr. Eric Dillaine served in the Air Force and Drs. N.H. Bowers and George Jackson in the Navy.

In the fall of 1946, Sister Mary Alice replaced Sister Thomasina as Superior and Sister Felicitas was replaced by Sister Camillus. The eight-hour day was introduced. Registered Nurses on staff included Sister Dorothy, Operating Room; Thelma Patterson, Instructress; Frances (Kerr) Nicholls, Dietary; "Katie" Allen, Obstetrics; Mae Foley; Marcella Foley; Margaret Beattie; and Mrs. Kennedy. Other staff members at that time were Bernie Griffin in X-Ray; Gloria Demario, Nursing Secretary; the Quilty Sisters in Accounting and Bill Windsor in Maintenance. By this time a large percentage of the population had prepaid medical insurance. Blue cross was available for groups. No longer were there empty rooms.

In the late "forties" the financial picture brightened, and the Sisters looked to develop expertise in nursing practice and nursing education. Sister Patricia (Margaret Smith), Sister Sheila O'Loughlin and Sister Michaela were among the first to earn university diplomas.

In 1948, Sister Sheila, Superintendent of Nurses, instituted the block system of nursing education. This was a brave move, putting students who were depended upon for service into the classroom for 6 weeks. It was typical of her Superior, Sister Mary Alice, to give the green light to the project saying, "If you wait, it will never happen; we will find the staff". The fact that many nurses who were raising their families came back to nursing each year for this "block" period had the added benefit of keeping their practice current. Dr. N.H. Bowers and Dr. W.S. Butler lectured to students in the "block system".

The modern Library was set-up by Miss Elizabeth Mitchell, Librarian from the Normal School. It housed pertinent journals and 1000 titles.

In the X-Ray Department, Sister Camillus initiated the training of Helen Dupuis, the first Radiology Technician. Under Bernard Griffin this training program would continue for 20 years. In the early years, the technicians shared their first year of training with the student nurses.

To alleviate the nursing shortage, the nurses aide was introduced to the hospital ward. Now the Ontario Department of Health organized the training of Nursing Assistants and variations of functional nursing were tried.

Entering the new decade of the fifties, Mr. A.T. Smith succeeded Mr. George Lee as Chairman of the Board. Other board members were Mr. F.M. Donegan, Mr. J.D. Murphy, Mr. J.P. Allen and Mr. Norman McDonald.

Sister Camillus was now the Administrator and Sister Michaela the Superintendent of Nurses. The latter was ably assisted in the school by Marjorie Shannon, and Eleanor McKenney, Instructresses.

Dr. Main Thompson headed the new Radiology Department and Dr. Paul Karnauchow was soon to establish the Pathology Department. The first organizational chart was drawn and the first year-book published.

Medical Staff of the early fifties were: Drs. J.E. Dillane, Mr. Thompson, J.D. Horan, C.H. Rorabeck, G.M. Wallace, G.A. Jackson, L. Brenman, J.E. Nixon, R.A. White, R.M. Kilborn, E.J. Brennan, J.C. Allison, R. Bisson, J.R. Hall, A. Smith, W.A. Keech, G.T. Ross, W.S. Butler, G.W. Smith, L.L. Crowe, H.M. Wallace, I. Joyal, A.H. Moore, H.E.D. Lowrey, G.F. Guest, N.H. Bowers, M.G. Rivet, and K.Y. Sinclair. Missing from the ranks of the Medical Staff recorded at that time were the late Drs. Duncan Campbell and Sam Bromley.

Miss Helen Ryan and Mrs. Doris Casey were Supervisors. Goldie Pappin had joined the hospital staff. Sister Anna Theresa in the Operating Room was followed by Sister Anysia. Marcella Foley was in the Children's Ward. June Currier, Mary Robson, Sister Antoinette, Geraldine O'Kane, Mary Newton, Gwen Steele, Marg Lynette, Dale Edwards, and Laurena Montgomery were some of the nurses on staff. Later in the decade, teachers would be Thelma Bush and Barbara Ralston. Sister Leila Greco would be in the Operating Room, "Kay" Barnes on Maternity and Velma McLeod on 3 West.

Religious observances were an important focus of faith with daily Mass at 6:30 and Holy Communion at 7:00 a.m. Catholic patients were wakened early in order to receive Holy Communion. Central to the hospital world was the chapel; truly a place of tranquillity with its beautiful white altar and stained glass window. The Sisters gathered for prayers at 5:30 a.m. and again at 1:00 p.m.

A great deal was expected of a Sister. However young, she was expected to assume heavy responsibilities as well as extra curricular duties. The staff and public ascribed to the person within the habit, their own preconceived picture of a Sister.

Nurses and patients remember fondly the dedicated Sisters of the day. One was Sister Mary Alice Quinlan who returned to the hospital to assume supervision of the Obstetrical Unit. Before entering the Religious Order, Alice Quinlan had been Instructress at the Queen Victoria Memorial (Civic) Hospital School of Nursing and later an Assistant Administrator there. Following her term of Administrator at St. Joseph's, she took postgraduate education in Obstetrics. Sister Mary Alice with her twinkling eyes and down to earth approach, fitted everyones ideal of a Sister.

In 1951, the 40-bed Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital situated on the present Visitors' Parking Lot, closed and the new 100-bed Civic Hospital opened. However, the need for beds was still acute and in 1954 approval for a 60-bed addition was received. St. Joseph's Hospital treated 4926 patients that year.

Because of the limitation on term of office, Sister Camillus stepped down as Superior/Administrator to be the Assistant of Sister Joan who succeeded her. Sister Joan was responsible for construction of a new wing which began in 1955. In 1956, the cornerstone of this new million dollar addition was laid.

In October 1957, the new wing opened. The Operating Room had been moved from 500 to 200 East, and 200 became the Surgical Unit with Gynecology planned for a May opening on 400 East. The kitchen was moved from the present Stores area, and a one-room Pharmacy was set-up in the old dining room area. This was later to be Medical Records. Medical Records was then in the present Accounting Area and the Board Room later became the Administrator's Office. The Sisters' Residence was on 500 West. Laboratory was

on 100 East adjacent to the one-room Emergency Department. The Sisters' Dining Room later became the Cafeteria Meeting Room. The Director of Nursing had an office next door to Pharmacy on 100 while the Teachers had small cubicles off the classroom at the end of the 100 West corridor. The only telephone was in the hall. Physiotherapy was a one-room at the north side of 100 West hall.

In 1958, Sister Paula was appointed Superior/Administrator. There were many challenges to be met as she coped with the growing pains of the enlarged institution.

Mr. Albert Hearne of the Service Employees' International Union had been approached by hospital management, and the employees voted to organize, so the first union contract was signed. This included R.N.A.'s, Dietary, Housekeeping Aides, Maintenance, and Grounds Workers. While fairness had always been an objective of management, now formal policies were written. The relationship with the S.E.I.U. and the hospital has remained cordial ever since.

The fifties were years of progress. The hospital was blessed with fine leadership in the Sisters - Sister Camillus, Sister Joan, Sister Paula, Administrators, Sister St. Louis, Sister Sheila O'Loughlin, Sister Michaela, Superintendents of Nurses. Specialists now headed departments in the formal medical staff organization.

The advances in Pediatrics care under Dr. Frank Fazzari were paralleled by Dr. George Jackson on Obstetrics and Dr. K. Brown in Surgery. The hospital had been saddened by the sudden death of Dr. Alex Smith and Dr. D. Williamson noted Surgeons.

Dr. Frank Chirico was named Medical Director in 1959. Doctors who had joined the Medical Staff in the fifties were: Drs. K. Brown, P. Girard, W. Keech, G. McIntyre, A.R. Scappatura, W. Rendell, C. Wall, R. Hunter, A. Griffin, R.M. Jackson, D. Paine, J. Rochefort, F. Armstrong, P. Karnauchow, M. Rivet, R. Sinclair. The latter was the son of the well loved Dr. K.Y. Sinclair. Family practice with warm doctor/patient relationships followed the traditions of the pioneers in medicine in this area.

In 1958, this hospital school was one of the 13 picked from across Canada to participate in the Canadian Nurses Association Pilot Project - "Evaluation Of Schools Of Nursing" under Miss Helen Musallem..

Sister Sheila O'Loughlin was the Director who spearheaded this project. Her Nursing Office staff and Faculty were Sister Barbara McKinnon, Velma McLeod, Thelma Patterson, Margaret (Bunny) Martin, Helen Vanmeer, M. White, Mrs. Kay and Rosemary McNulty.

In order to meet the criteria for the inspection, the school was required to submit many tools which had to be developed. Long hours of work went into the preparation of ward manuals, charting manuals, nursing service policies, procedure manuals, organizational charts and job descriptions. The benefits to both service and school were far reaching; a milestone had been reached in modern hospital organization.

In 1959, the Ontario Hospital Services Commission along with Physician Services Incorporation came into being. Prepaid hospital care, now available to all residents of the province, brought many changes affecting hospital autonomy, finances, workload and staffing. Prepaid drugs and diagnostic testing strained the carefully planned facilities.

Night emergency admissions to beds set-up in hallways continued to plague the organization of nursing care.

To increase the bed capacity, the Sisters vacated their living quarters on 5 West and moved to the newly purchased property at McLaren Street. Gynecology was moved from 4 East to 5 West and Obstetrics was expanded to take the entire area of 400. Sister Fidelis was the Supervisor on 400 and Head Nurses were Laurena Montgomery, Nursery; Dwyla Britton, 4 East; and Kay Barnes, on 4 West.

Others on staff at that time included Mr. Toupin, Stores; Mrs. Toupin, Cafeteria; O.B. Gillespie, 3 West; Jack Heale, Maintenance; Mrs. Church, Housekeeping; Sister Josephine, C.S.R.; Mrs. L. McNamarra, 3 West; Mrs. Savage, Dietary; Marg Owens, O.R.; E. Poeta; Mrs. Couchie; and Freddie Trudel.

At the end of the decade, Sister Paula was to guide the institution for two more years and Sister Sheila O'Loughlin was in her final year as Director of Nursing. A milestone had been reached on the road to separation of School and Service as Sister Barbara McKinnon was named Associate Director of the School of Nursing and Thelma Patterson Associate Director of Nursing Service.

Although faculty meetings were well established, now head nurses' meetings were held on a regular basis. Inservice programs were organized for nursing staff and a highlight of the year was a workshop lead by Dean McDowall from the faculty of Nursing, University of Western Ontario. Within the next two years, students from the nursing administration program of that university would receive field experience at St. Joseph's.

Registered Nurses were now in charge of units on all shifts, but serious staff shortages interfered with proper staffing patterns. Short changes and double shifts were facts of life; master scheduling was only a dream of the future. When a unit could not be covered for the forthcoming week or day, the provision of staff seemed to be dependent upon an answer to the Director's prayers.

Nursing staff at that time were very difficult to categorize as there were many graduates of short-term programs - non registered graduates or auxiliary workers. Their numbers were supplemented with "trained on the job" Aides. Patient assignments were very difficult because, while the aide on duty one day was excellent, her replacement might have less training. Advances in technology, prepaid drugs and diagnostic tests added to the complexity of nursing. Paperwork, the requisition, now made inroads into the hours of bedside care.

It is interesting to note that evening and night supervisors were traditionally hired by the administrator who received their shift report.

At the close of the decade, nursing bade farewell to Sister Sheila O'Loughlin who had left her mark on nursing as she strove for excellence in very trying times.

Sister Barbara McKinnon assumed the position of Director of Nursing in 1960. In the early sixties, a "time & activity" study was organized by Sister Barbara and Miss Jennie Ives, Consultant with the Ontario Hospital Services Commission. The objective was to identify the actual hours of nursing care received by patients. The results were far reaching as non nursing duties, formerly done by nursing, were reassigned to other departments. Ward Clerks, a Porter and a Messenger soon made their appearance. The hours of care for each patient were now recorded to form the basis for staffing estimates.

The Nursing Unit Administration correspondence course established by the Canadian Hospital Association contributed further to the organization of nursing service.

When Sister Camillus was named Administrator in 1962, she established the Personnel Department under Mr. O.B. Gillespie. At that time, Mr. Gillespie was a staff Nurse on 3 West with a background in administration and business.

The Personnel Department promoted educational preparation for administrative staff, job descriptions and an orderly system of record keeping. Following a five-day workshop for administrative staff, a salary administration program was begun. Salary administration meant that a dollar value was placed on each job, considering necessary education, skills, and the seriousness of error. It was a timely event as it was now quite acceptable to query ones rate of pay. This differed from the earlier years when the ward "money" was not thought to be compatible with "dedication".

Sister Camillus, who had always a keen eye for cleanliness, appointed Mrs. Doreen Berry, Reg. N., as Executive Housekeeper. As well as the cleaning, Doreen also took on selection of furnishings, pictures, draperies and beds. A new understanding was to develop between housekeeping & nursing.

The College of Nurses of Ontario was established in 1963 by legislation to set nursing standards and register nurses. A waiver that year allowed "recommended" nurses aides with 10 years experience to have R.N.A. status. Four years later a second and better type of waiver allowed recommended nurses aides with 5 years of experience to write R.N.A. examinations.

Later in the decade Miss Jennie Ives, O.H.S.C. Consultant and a representative from the College of Nurses were to journey to the Phillipines, interview nurses and direct applicants to hospitals in Ontario. A group of six nurses & two laboratory technicians arrived that year. Jessie Nebre, his wife Radegunda, Reg.N., Melber Moyes Baldwin were among the first to come. They were to bring high standards, quiet efficiency and cultural traditions to enrich the hospital family.

Those who emigrated from Britain also contributed much to this institution. Sheila Parrish, Dorothy Behrens, Dorothy Norton, Nursing; Betty Nicholson, Physiotherapy; Ray Proctor & Mr. Shep-cott, Laboratory; and Colin Wallace-Tarry, Respiratory Technology were to help shape the future of this hospital.

Medicine also progressed in the new decade. An operation to change blood of a newborn infant was photographed for the first time in North Bay.

In the early sixties, Dr. Walters, a specialist in Internal Medicine and Dr. Coombes, Orthopedic Surgeon, joined the Medical Staff. The Department of Medicine came into its own in this decade. Dr. Walters, as Chief, voiced strong concern for some medical patients who were vulnerable to infection. Until this time, the safeguarding of surgical and obstetrical patients from cross infection had been of prime concern. Now we were to see all transfers of staff and patients to medicine carefully scrutinized.

Electrocardiogram testing, which had been introduced by Dr. Main Thompson and taken over by Dr. Karnachow in the fifties, was given a room on 300 (later to be the Library) with Grace Chapman, Reg. N., as Technician. Alma Macdonald, Reg. N., took over as E.C.G. Technician in 1964. Dr. N.H. Bowers who had taken advanced training in cardiology was responsible for E.C.G. interpretations. Dr. Bowers and Dr. Walters set the stage for further development of the Department of Medicine later in the decade.

Private duty nurses had until then been called to nurse "very ill" patients. Sometimes this was at the request of family, but if necessary, at the hospital's expense. Dr. Walters and Dr. Brown insisted that the staff nurse on that service would be most familiar with the specific nursing care requested. For that reason, and because the care provided by the hospital was good, the private duty nurse was soon to vanish from the hospital scene.

The critically ill patients equipment needs were still to be met and the two-bed Intensive Care Unit on 2 West would be established. The hiring of a Respiratory Technologist was another step forward in the care of the critically ill patient. Progress in technology pointed out the need for radioisotope testing, and Dr. Rendell was to be in charge of the new service with Helen Dupuis as Technician.

Property acquisition in the sixties included the house across from the hospital, former Richardson residence, and adjacent to the hospital (758 McLaren Street) as well as the Manor Hotel. As there were now 97 students in the School of Nursing this building helped to alleviate the space problem. Students were at that time living in the original residence and in rooms over the laundry.

In February of 1963, Sister Julia (Leila Greco) was named Director of Nursing Service. Separation of education and service was not quite complete as student's hours of work were essential to service. In the following year, the R.N.A.O., in a brief, the Royal Commission on health service, urged that nurse education be under general education. The days of student service were numbered.

The Sisters' belief that educational preparation is essential to excellence in performance would call for many sacrifices. This was an important factor, however, in their great contribution to sensitive health care. As the Sisters left to attend university, other Sisters were transferred to cover key positions. Each is remembered for some special work. It is interesting to note the first nursing audit was done in Sister Julia's term, the wearing of caps and masks in Nursery and C.S.R. was to be dispensed with under Sister Josepha, and policies were to be updated by Sister St. Michael.

There were other changes in the sixties. In the X-Ray Department new technology included ciné radiography, 35mm, 16mm, image amplification with t.v. chain; video tape recording; tomography multi directional; and automatic film processing by Kodak.

In the Laboratory automation came to the chemistry laboratory. The cytology section expanded and there were now three pathologists. Growth brought space problems.

In Respiratory Technology the "Bird" & the "Bennet" equipment for intermittent positive pressure breathing took their place in critical care.

Medical Records joined the H.M.R.I. system of data processing. Sister Mary Alice had been the first purchasing agent and now Dave Johnson took over this position. When the Joint Hospital Laundry was established the vacated space was taken by Purchasing, Pharmacy and Maintenance. A men's Ward on 3 West was renovated to be a four-bed Intensive Medical Care Unit. Nancy Jean Hoffman, before the unit opened, went to Toronto for coronary care training. Hospital wide staff education was provided with Velma McLeod as Coordinator.

Meanwhile in the School of Nursing, Sister Barbara McKinnon had been replaced in the fall of 1963 by Sister Marion (Marie McGirr). In 1965 Sister St. Louis (Alice Johnson) was the Director.

Forty-three students were admitted to a new program in which there was two years of theory and concurrent practice followed by one year of paid internship. Students gained clinical experience during their first two years at St. Joseph's Hospital, Civic Hospital and at the Psychiatric Hospital.

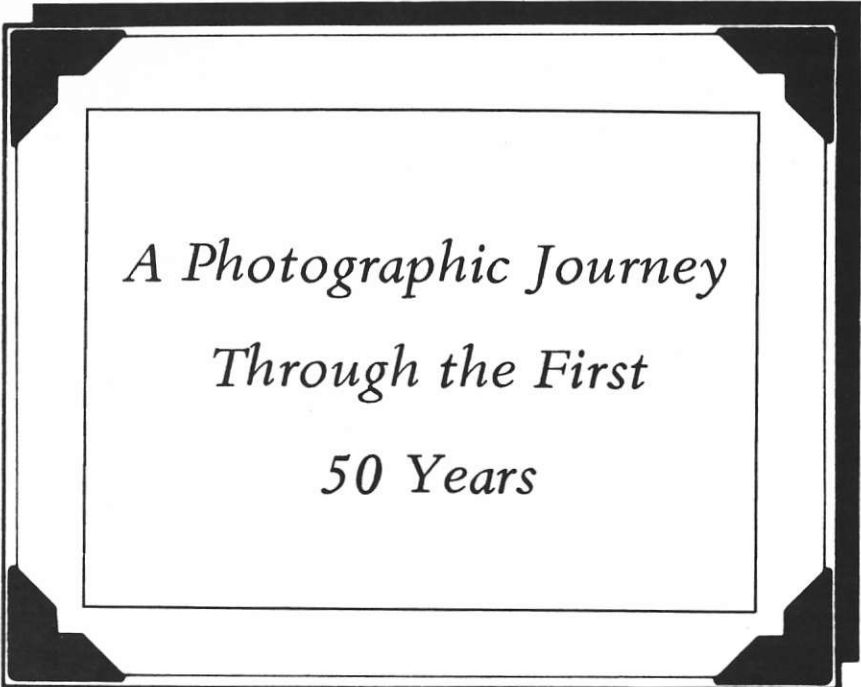
In 1968, fifty-two students were admitted at the School of Nursing, and the first interns began their eleven-month internship. The School of Nursing hosted a successful reunion. An apartment building at 1236 Clarence Street was leased to serve as residence for students.

A change in the rules and role definition of Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph's took place in the late sixties under the leadership of Superior General Sister Noreen McColgan. Here the Director of Nursing, Sister St. Michael contributed to the study. Of the major changes, the most visible, was the trial change from the traditional habit to smart black dresses and veils. The medieval style dress worn by the Sisters was thought to have fostered feelings of distance in relationships with members of the public. For many, the change was an emotional issue, but soon forgotten. Most Sisters would, in the next few years wear ordinary attire, and those who chose to do so would revert to family names. Even the segregated dining room would disappear. No longer did the nurse "stand up" if a Sister was present. The changes were not too significant for those who worked closely with the Sisters. They had always enjoyed close friendships and would continue to do so.

In 1966, the hospital was saddened by the death of Dr. Frank Chirico, Medical Director, and in that decade the hospital had also great losses in the death of Dr. J. Hall, Dr. J. Joyal, Dr. R.H. Dillane, and Doris Casey and Helen Ryan, Supervisors.

Late in 1967, Sister St. Camillus, Administrator, was succeeded by Sister St. Martin (Winnifred McLoughlin). Mr. O.B. Gillespie had been appointed Associate Executive Director.

In 1969, all employee services were centralized in Personnel Office under the leadership of Velma McLeod and new personnel policies were formulated. Thelma Patterson, Associate Director of Nursing Service, was appointed (hospital wide) Director of Education.



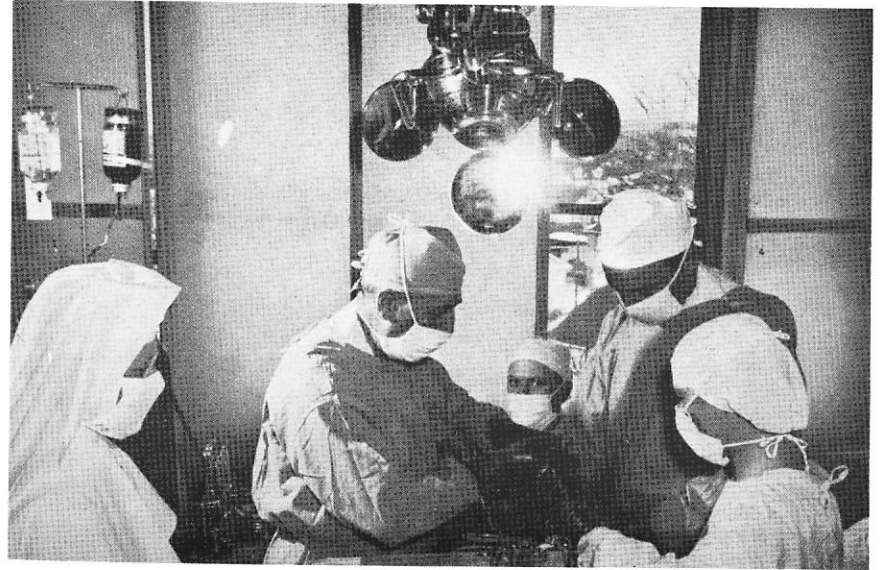
*A Photographic Journey
Through the First
50 Years*



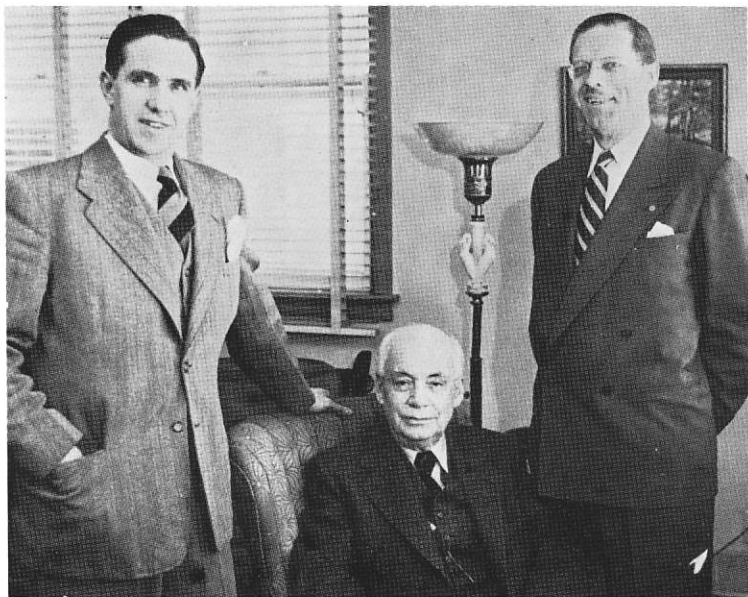
1933 GRADUATION WITH MEDICAL STAFF AND STUDENTS

Back Row - M. O'Shawnessy, A. McAnulty, Dr. E. McMurehy, Dr. E.J. Brennan, V. Leduc, Dr. D. Campbell,
 D. Dales, Dr. A. Ranney, Dr. G. Smith, Dr. J.E. Joyal.
 2nd Row - A. Quinn, M. McPharland, D. Charette, Y. Leroux, R. Pellerin, Sister Celeste, M. Hurtubise.

Front Row - ...



Top: Student Nurse - 1949
 Bottom: Operating Room
 Sr. Anna Theresa, Dr. D.Y. Sinclair



MEDICAL STAFF — 1949

Dr. H. Wallace - Chairman Medical Staff
 Dr. G. W. Smith - past Chariman
 Dr. W.S. Butler - Vice Chairman



CHILDREN'S WARD

J.E. Joyal, Dr. L. Crowe, M. Foley



EDITORIAL STAFF - 1949 "In Caritate"

EDITORIAL STAFF — Left to Right standing: Miss Marjorie Shanon, Reg. N.;
 Bob Vezina, consultant. Seated Left to Right: Sister Michaela;
 Miss Elizabeth Sullivan; Miss June Burns, Reg. N.; Miss June Burns, Reg. N.;
 Miss Eleanor McKenney, Reg. N.



GRADUATING CLASS — 1958



ST. JOSEPH'S RESIDENCE



ST. BRIDE'S RESIDENCE



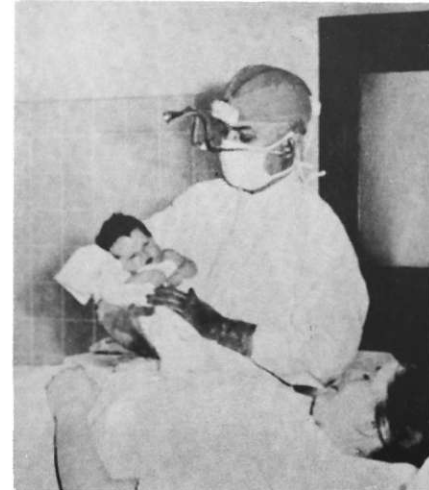
AN INSIDE VIEW OF THE RESIDENCE



Top: DR. KEECH

Middle: DR. FAZZARI

Bottom: DR. PACE, DR. G. JACKSON





Mother St Philip
1931-1959



Sister Melanie
1940-1943



Sister Thomasina
1943-1946



Sister Mary Alice
1946-1950



Sister Camillus
1950-1954-1962-1967

St. Joseph's Hospital North Bay

Executive Directors



Sister Tom
1955-1958



Sister Paula
1958-1962



Sister St. Martin
1968-1973



Sister Margaret Smith
1974-1987



Louise G. Johnson
1987-

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL OF NURSING

DIRECTORS



Sister Felicitas
1931-1946



Sister St. Camillus
1946-1947



Sister M. Sheila
1947-1950-1955-1960



Sister Michaela
1950-1953-1954-1955



Sister St. Louis
1953-1954-1965-1967



Sister M. Barbara
1960-1963



Sister Marion
1963-1965



Sister M. Fidelis
1967-1968

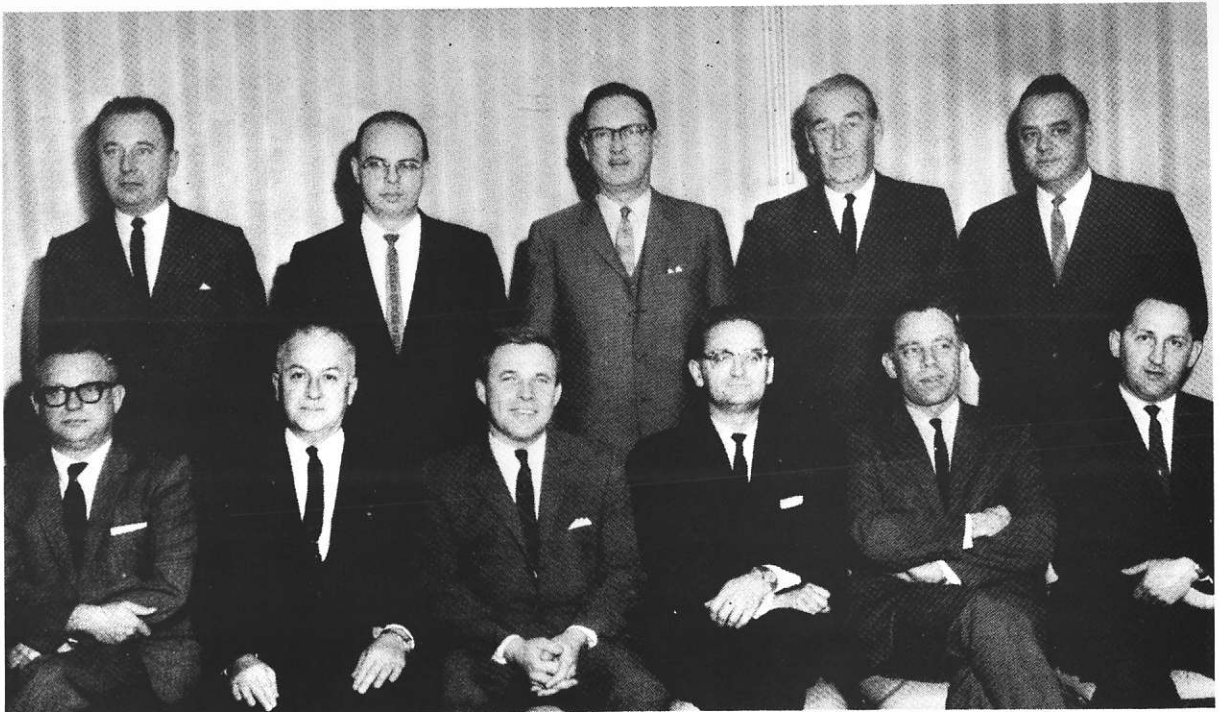


Sister Sheila Anne
Spooner
1968-1973

MEDICAL STAFF – 1963

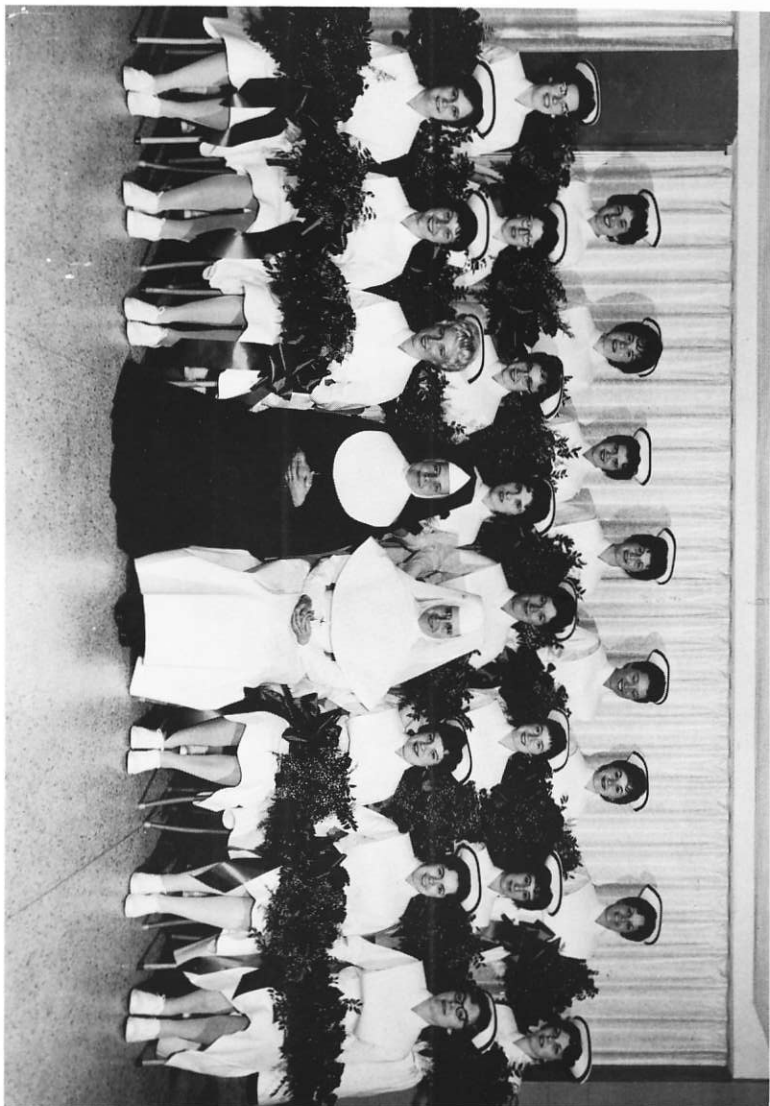


MEDICAL DEPARTMENT HEADS – 1965



FRONT ROW, Left to Right: Dr. P.N. Karnachow, Dr. G.A. Jackson, Dr. F.A. McKinnon, Dr. D. Paine, Dr. K.B. Brown, Dr. A. R. Scappatura.

BACK ROW: Dr. G.T. Ross, Dr. F. Fazzari, Dr. M. Thompson, Dr. N.H. Bowers, Dr. F.E. Chirico.



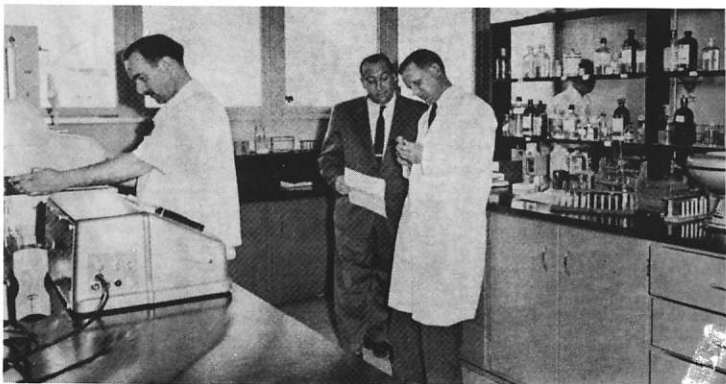
CHAPEL - 1963



MEDICAL RECORDS – 1959



KRAY – 1959



LABORATORY – 1959

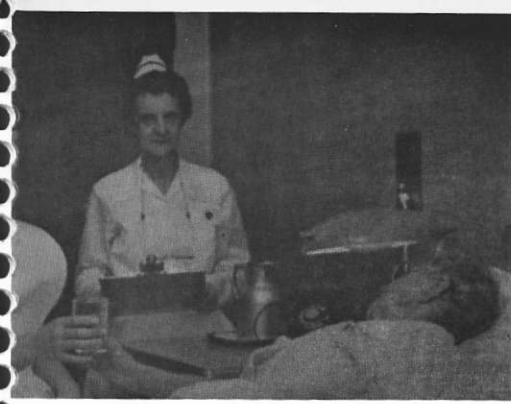


NURSING SERVICE FACULTY TEA – 1965

L. Montgomery, Sr. Mary Beatty, E. McNally, M. Foley, Sr. Barbara, M. Turnbull, T. Patterson, F. Brown, V. McLeod, D. Hanson

Sister St. Michael
 Mrs. T. Patterson
 Mrs. M. Smithson
 Mrs. S. Parrish
 Mrs. L. Montgomery

Mrs. R. Linkie
 Mrs. G. Pappin
 Miss B. Nicholson
 Miss M. Foley



DORIS CASEY

STAFF – 1965



ARMAND MATHIEU
 JACK HEALE



Mrs. V. Millard
 Mrs. M. Martin
 Miss M. Robson
 Mrs. D. Hansen

Mrs. D. Norton
 Miss F. Brown
 Mr. B. Griffin
 Mrs. H. Christie
 Mrs. D. Behrens

Mrs. M. Barnes
 Mrs. L. Morel
 Mr. F. Dignan
 Mr. R. Proctor
 Mrs. Letcher
 Mrs. E. McNally



N. HYATT



DAVE JOHNSON/COLIN WALLACE-TARRY

THE HEART OF THE
HOSPITAL IS ITS
PEOPLE



PHYSIOTHERAPY



HOUSEKEEPING



VOLUNTEERS



HOUSEKEEPING



DIETARY



SWITCHBOARD



Coronary Care



OR STAFF



MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY CLASS – 1975



STAFF EDUCATION



ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FRONT ROW:

Sister Margaret Smith, Mrs. Mathilde Bazinet, Mrs. Betty Dennis, Sister M. Regins
Sister Marilyn Duff, Mr. Frank Falconi, Colonel R.A. (Bud) White, Mr. H.E. Brown

BACK ROW

Mr. L. Voisin, Dr. K.M. Asselstine, Mr. George Justice, Mr. M.J. Kennelly, Dr. W.A.
Keech, Rev. Norm Clement, Dr. D.A. Dellandrea, Mr. Karl Graber, Mr. John D.
Hobbs, Mr. A. Filiatrault, Mr. Hugh Knox



Sr. Margaret Smith, Doreen Berry, Velma McLeod



B. Laporte



F. Wilson



B. Evans

AWARDS DINNER 1979



R. Buckner



L. Gauthier



O.B. Gillespie, Ron Harris, 1980



Sr. Nona Dennis



Conrad Cooley, Ann Roy, Sr. Jean Doyle



NORI SUGIMOTO



EILEEN HOLMES



Thelma Patterson, Roberta Myers, Alice Farlinger, Leslie Mcleod, Doreen Berry, June Schiavoni, Eileen Homes

The joint medical staff was organized. Now Civic and St. Joseph's would share the same chief for each service. That year a Joint Planning Committee of the two boards prepared the first draft of a plan for centralization of services.

THE SEVENTIES

Sister St. Martin had now been the Executive Director for 2 years. It was an orderly administration, in which department heads were given more responsibility for operation and budget control. New departments would be initiated and space limitations would require many changes in these years.

Sister would place the welfare of the patient ahead of all other considerations, as plans were made. She would serve as president of the Ontario Catholic Hospital Association. Like her predecessor Sister St. Camillus, she would make it possible for department heads to attend these conferences to increase their understanding of a Catholic Hospital as well as other conferences.

An important focus of the seventies was philosophy, the "why" behind the hospital's purpose. It was always there, but now discussed and identified as the basis for decision making. "The sanctity of human life - each person worthwhile and wholly respected", "Christian love, concern and commitment" were thoughts to permeate the hospital climate and programs.

The Sisters' decision to address their efforts to unmet human needs in a technological age set the direction for new programs.

The first was the Volunteer Program, in 1971 under the wing of the Personnel Department and coordinated by Diane Hunter. The "pink ladies" and Volunteens, with time and attention, added a new dimension to patient care.

The Pastoral Care Department was established in 1974 with Father Jim McHugh as Director. Because funding was not available, the Sisters financed this department in the early years. As well as ministering to the spiritual needs of all patients, the Director and Pastoral Associates would support families through the crisis of serious illness and coordinate the services of the local clergy. To prepare for the program, inservice meetings were held with the sixty district clergymen. On the recommendation of the Pastoral Care Committee of the Board of Directors, all nursing staff attended inservice on the care of the dying patients.

In 1979 Sister Frances Dignan would go to Britain for a year's study on palliative care and come back to work as a Clinical Specialist with dying persons.

A second staff member was added to Social Service for discharge planning. As the value of this department became known, the number of requests for their services increased.

In cooperation with the North Bay Civic Hospital, the Dietitian developed a four-day Diabetic Education Clinic as well as a group program for obese teenagers. A multidisciplinary group presented a program for patients suffering from chronic respiratory disease.

When bed allotments were reduced by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission, a large ward on 2 West was made into a combined Medical, Staff & Patient Library. Sister Mary Bernard worked as a part-time Librarian under the Education Department. Two years later, patients would be moved into this area. The Patient & Staff Library would then be housed on 300, and the Medical Library would be adjacent to the Doctors' Room on 100 West. It became clear that the concept of "library" with trained staff could not always be justified costwise because of limited usage. Efforts were then made to provide reference books, maintain journals in order for 5 years, and place some books in areas where needed for "quick" reference. Staff books were listed for each department.

With the first draft of the plan for centralization of services in North Bay Civic & St. Joseph's Hospital, the Obstetrical Service was to be housed in St. Joseph's Hospital. This move took place early in 1970. Hindsight would show that the public was not prepared for this move. The premise was that if your motives are good, they will be understood. Hospital management understood well the difficulty in trying to maintain staff competence in an area where patient numbers were too few to provide sufficient practice. The Civic Hospital Auxiliary had given many hours of work to pay for the equipment in their almost new Obstetrical Department. Throughout the years, each institution had its own faithful clientele. For these reasons because of concern about freedom of choice in sterilization procedures, there was considerable opposition to all Obstetrics being at St. Joseph's Hospital. However, the benefits of the centralization were soon appreciated by the public. Because of fluctuating occupancy patients other than obstetrical had been placed on obstetrics, now only mothers or mothers to be were to be found on 400. Family centered maternity care relaxed the rigid rules of yesteryears.

High risk mothers and newborn babies requiring critical care would, in increasing numbers, be referred to the Obstetricians and Pediatricians.

Nurses would increase their expertise in these areas. In 1975, the hospital would be part of a perinatology study and education program which was a project of Dr. Chance from the Hospital For Sick Children. Family centered maternity care had arrived.

The unified Laboratory in 1973 was the next venture in joint planning. This move caused not even a ripple in the community, suggesting that people are not emotional about their blood tests.

For hospital staff at St. Joseph's Hospital, the transition was made easier in that Ray Proctor, a long-time favourite Director of service here was to head the new venture.

It has often been said that an army runs on its stomach. This may also be said of this hospital, where good food served by pleasant, trim looking Dietary staff added immeasurably to patient and staff satisfaction. Attractive uniforms had now replaced the traditional blue ones. As the director of food service was hired, the dietitian was now able to assume her therapeutic role. The rooms used for formula preparation were to become offices. Patients would now have a menu choice and at the end of the seventies there would be insulated trays. Outpatient diet counselling would be a widely used service.

The "shining face" that the hospital presented to patients and public reflected the meticulous care the housekeeping staff gave to their work. Even the smooth running of a patient's admission process, would be timed by their efficiency in terminal cleaning.

The Maintenance Department, in addition to keeping the institution in good running order, did many construction jobs, as rooms and offices were moved to solve the space problem. Major changes in the department included the installation of an automatic steam plant and a change of director, as Bryan Evans assumed this responsibility, Jack Heale then was the hospital Fire & Safety Coordinator. An active Safety Committee with staff representatives contributed to both staff and patient welfare.

Central Service, long a part of nursing, came under the Materiel Management Department. Marcella Foley, Reg.N., diligent charge person would retire at the end of the decade. The registered nurse would no longer be a part of C.S.R. Staff. Upgraded education of Aides and the use of prepackaged goods were factors in this change.

Medical Records was also to change Director with the retirement of Sister Antoinette. For herself Sister had seemed not to know of the 40-hour week. The diligence of this department while not highly visible to the public, served the patient well in areas of maintenance and protection of information as well as assistance to medical staff and gathering of statistics.

Admitting and Switchboard, the "store front" for public relations, were to change departments. Long under the Accounting Department, now they would come under the jurisdiction of the Director of Nursing.

In 1974, Sister Margaret Smith became the Executive Director. With a broad vision of Health Care, she would be instrumental in establishing a District Health Care agency, be President of the Canadian Catholic Hospital Association, later be a Director of the Ontario Hospital Association, a member of the Ontario Council of Health and for 1 year its Acting Chairman. Sister Margaret would continue to emphasize the unmet needs of the individual - spiritual and emotional as well as physical. This focus was seen in budget requests and in the hospital departments as they planned for outreach, patient education and social support. On Obstetrics, group conferences involving Sheila Parrish, Head Nurse; Gene Quinn, Social Service; and Father Jim McHugh, Pastoral Care; would help mothers and fathers deal with the emotional aspects of parenting. Pediatrics under Lillian Morel would arrange staff and parent conferences to share concerns.

The venereal disease clinic was first operated in the Health Office, with personnel nursing staff, some assistance from the Director of Nursing. The office at that time was on 200 North Annex (over the former laundry). That autumn, the Personnel Office was moved to the building adjacent to the parking lot, known as the West Annex. The clinic was later held in the Emergency Department in cooperation with a designated health nurse.

The 15-bed Alcohol Treatment Center, housed in the former nurses' residence, opened as a hospital department in 1973. Sister Jean Doyle, Director, had extensively studied sociology and treatment centers in preparation for the setting up of the program.

Its purpose is, through rehabilitation, to free the problem drinker from his lifethreatening dependence on alcohol. It is to help the alcoholic help himself to live a comfortable, normal and useful life without the use of chemicals.

Many factors played a role in the founding of the Center: a keen interest on the part of the Board of St. Joseph's General Hospital in seeking a new approach to the problem of alcoholism; the co-operation and guidance of the medical staff, the availability of a suitable building adjacent to the hospital; the encouragement of Alcoholics Anonymous; and the dedication and concern of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Its Recovery Program - the "whole person" treatment approach embraces the medical, nutritional, psychological, social, spiritual and rehabilitation needs of the individual. Recovery is hastened by formal and informal group therapy, relevant lectures on living as well as individual interviews with counsellors on alcoholism, clergymen and other professionals as the need indicates. This entire rehabilitation takes place in an atmosphere that provides time to think, time to read, time to make friends, time to relax and time to reflect realistically.

The Center Family Programme is designed to provide relations and friends of the alcoholic with a better understanding of addiction, and with the comfort they can derive from increased awareness of themselves in relation to the addict's problem.

The Center under the direction of Sister Jean Doyle, later Jeannette Brisson, has played an important role in educating the hospital staff and public as to the nature of alcoholism. As they reiterate, "it is an illness, not a weakness, not a sin".

Physiotherapy would be involved with handicapped children. An exercise program for cardiac rehabilitation would be developed with Dr. John Andrews and Dr. Sam Stewart. Nurses from coronary care would donate teaching time. Later the project would be taken over by Dr. John Andrews.

The Personnel Department in the seventies would become increasingly involved in labour relations and salary changes. The part-time service employees, and the clerical employees would have contracts. While the Registered Nurses would not belong to O.N.A., their salary structure would be comparable to the nurses at the North Bay Civic Hospital. Detailed personnel policy manuals were prepared for all departments to ensure fair treatment for all. A system of recording the hours of part-time workers facilitated an equitable system of pay increments.

The employees recognized their good fortune in having Velma McLeod, a Personnel Director who had expertise in the field of labour relations, and who "always went the extra mile" for their welfare.

For the Finance Department, changes in the system of government funding would add to the complexity of budgeting. During the decade an organized system of reporting of their spending to department heads would be initiated. Pay cheques would be deposited into bank accounts, and the computer age would arrive. Don Milligan was Finance Director.

Nursing Office – availability of staff in the seventies allowed master scheduling to be possible. When in 1971, 2 classes of students* graduated, the nursing market was "flooded". The two year graduate, a subject then of controversy in other areas "fitted in well". It was, of course, possible to be very selective. Head nurses were now charged with interviewing prospective nurses who had been screened by personnel. Other changes regarding time included the thirty-seven and a half hour week and in some areas the 12-hour shift.

The main thrust of the seventies was introduction of the nursing process and of quality assurance. Each would complement the other. The number of meetings increased in this decade. Muriel Setchell, Assistant Director of Nursing chaired the Procedure Committee, and Betty Linkie, Associate Director of Nursing chaired the Nursing Policy Committee. A Nursing Audit Committee had been active in 1973-1974 chaired by the Director of Education.

In 1975, Sister Marie McGirr appointed Sister Frances Dignan as Special Projects Coordinator. More than auditing, this became the Quality Assurance Program, and it involved the entire nursing department. A committee of staff nurses with a chairman on each unit developed standards of procedure, environment, patient care, and recording. Each staff member was urged to audit. This tool was to evaluate the care, not the nurse. Recording became more precise, and the standard of nursing care provided reflected the efforts of Sister and her committee.

In 1976, Sister Marie McGirr introduced the Nursing Process - the assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating of nursing care. She first provided intensive workshops for care groups, and continued with the program until it involved the entire nursing staff. New Kardex, chart system, and references were supplied.

* one of 2 year & 1 year internship and one of 2 year program

Nursing in the seventies was vastly different in organization from nursing in the thirties and forties when one nurse might care for a patient during his entire hospital stay. The "care plan" was then in the "nurses head". The coordination of services and staff now required more sophisticated planning and recording systems.

By the end of the seventies, the orderly had disappeared from job description. The classification now was only Registered Nursing Assistant. The nursing categories were now only to be recognized by a name bar as the cap was seldom to be seen. A symbol of great pride to nursing over the years, the cap quickly fell from favour. Was it because, for the combination of plastic cap and short hair style one almost needed to secure it with a thumb tack? Or was it seen as a barrier to rapport with patients? For whatever reason, the demise of the cap seemed to have little significance in an institution that was justifiably proud of well groomed nurses in pastel uniforms.

In Respiratory Technology, pulmonary function testing was refined and Technicians were certified to perform arterial puncture. There was a marked increase in the number of outpatients.

In the E.C.G. Department exercise testing increased. New equipment in Medical Technology, the 76 Pho Gamma IV reduced the time required to do a test and provided different views. Bone scans were now possible. Patients came from many points in Northern Ontario for Radioisotopes and E.E.G. testing. Helen Tripp, Reg. N., and Joan McCallum, Reg.N., respectively, provided these services.

In the X-Ray Department ultrasound equipment was installed in 1979 and Rachel Buckner was trained in this area. Other innovations included C.T. Scanning and Digital Radiology.

For the coronary patient, the ambulance was provided with a portable defibrillator. Monitors and a two-way radio allowed the coronary care nurse to relay directions to the ambulance attendants. Inservice training and a certification program made it possible for attendants to initiate intravenous or defibrillation. In hospital, telemetry was used to monitor patients remote from C.C.U.

The funding for the Infant Development Program was made available by the Ministry of Community and Social Services in 1978. The program was designed to assist parents/guardians in providing stimulus necessary for the baby when developmental delays, low birth weight, prematurity, physical, mental or environmental handicaps are present. A specially trained person visited the home to help select toys, activities, and equipment which help stimulate the baby. Information, emotional support and guidance was given to the parent.

THE SCHOOL

The life of the student in the seventies was different from that of her predecessor. Compulsory attendance at school activities was to change. The married student could now fit into the program more easily. The "Clarence Street" apartments housed many of the students. The curfew was a thing of the past.

For nurse education to be in the stream of general education had been the dream of Directors in the sixties. It was Sister Sheila Anne Spooner who was able to grasp the wheel of progress and "make it happen".

A year earlier, planning had begun in cooperation with Nipissing University College, North Bay Teachers' College, Cambrian College and the School of Nursing to build the College Education Center. The four institutions were housed under one roof, each had designed classroom space and shared facilities such as library, gym, cafeteria, etc. Projected budget was \$6 million with all monies coming from the Ministries of Education, Colleges and Universities, and health. The project was unique in Ontario. Construction of the College Education Center began in 1970.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Health announced the end of the "2 + 1 program." As a result, the third class of 29 interns included the first man, and the first class of 36, (two year students,) graduated at a single ceremony in the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption.

A committee representing the three hospitals had spent many hours organizing the controversial intern year. Was it to be service or education? Only in the last few months of its existence, word was received from the College of Nurses that the range of intern experience was limited to one-half year in each area. The program then seemed to have merit but, across the province, Directors of Nursing rejected it. Another ten years were to pass before the two-year program would be lengthened.

The first meeting of the Task Force for the transfer of St. Joseph's School of Nursing to Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology took place. Represented on the Task Force was: St. Joseph's School of Nursing and its Management. The Committee included: St. Joseph's General Hospital, North Bay Civic Hospital, North Bay Psychiatric Hospital and Canadore College. Mr. John Hobbs of the Board of Directors of St. Joseph's General Hospital was elected Chairman of the Task Force.

The final proposal for the transfer was submitted to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

St. Joseph's School of Nursing ceased to exist as a separate post-secondary institution in North Bay. The Director and faculty transfer to Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology became effective on September 1st, 1973.

Canadore College enrolled 44 students in its 22 month nursing program. Students who enrolled September 1972 would graduate as St. Joseph's School of Nursing although they had registered as Canadore College students that year. Students paid full tuition and were responsible for all expenses. They lived at the residence of their choice.

Because the School of Nursing had been in the new facilities for a year, the transition to community college management was a smooth one. For hospital personnel, trust in the faculty facilitated acceptance of the new school.

In 1974, a reunion of the graduates of the School of Nursing that year celebrated the 40 years of the school's existence.

This year marked the end of an era. A total of 784 nurses had graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing. The numbers in the past ten years equalled those of the first 30 years. Teachers in the seventies included: Lillian Morel, Sister Alma Thorne, Sheila Parrish, Anne McGinn, Marnie Vannanin, Betty Swicker, Barb Toivanen and Hugette Leacy. Rosemary McNulty watched over the nursing library.

In the seventies, hospital activities and departments increased until the institution literally outgrew the building. Joint planning and master plans required much administrative attention at the end of the decade. Creative thinking and bold actions would be required for the fine traditions of the past to progress in the eighties.

MEDICAL STAFF

Entering the seventies, the medical staff members were: Dr. W.F. Armstrong, Dr. K.M. Asselstine, Dr. R. Bazinet, Dr. K.B. Brown, Dr. W.N. Coombes, Dr. G. Diren, Dr. H.B. Eckler, Dr. F. Fazzari, Dr. R.A. Ferguson, Dr. R.A. Gravel, Dr. J.E. Griffin, Dr. P.S. Grose, Dr. G. Hancharyk, Dr. R.D. Hunter, Dr. G.A. Jackson, Dr. R.M. Jackson, Dr. J.S. Jamieson, Dr. P.S. Karnauchow, Dr. W.A. Keech, Dr. G.J. McIntyre, Dr. F.A. McKinnon, Dr. A.D. McMurchy, Dr. W.M. Mitchell, Dr. D. Ouchterlony, Dr. A.M. Pace, Dr. D.T. Paine, Dr. W.B.

Rendell, Dr. M.G. Rivet, Dr. J.M. Rochefort, Dr. G.T. Ross, Dr. A.R. Scappatura, Dr. M.G. Schryer, Dr. R.A. Sinclair, Dr. G.R. Spencer, Dr. J.G. Stackhouse, Dr. S.G. Stewart, Dr. T.A. Thompson, Dr. C.B. Wall, Dr. G.M. Wallace, and Dr. H.M. Wallace.

During the decade Drs. Ouchterlony, Stackhouse, Grose, Paine & Coombes would leave to practice in the United States. Dr. R.M. Jackson would accept a position with the Ontario Medical Association. Drs. Mitchell & Sam Stewart would leave later to take further education and Dr. M. Thompson, Radiologist, would retire. The deaths of Dr. F.A. McKinnon, noted Surgeon; Dr. W.S. Butler, retired Surgeon; Dr. W. Johnson, family practice Physician; Dr. E.J. Brennan; Dr. J. Hall; Dr. K.Y. Sinclair; Dr. Lorne Crowe; Dr. H. Lowery; Dr. G. Guest; and Dr. J. Turvey were great losses to the hospital community.

The decade would see an active Admission and Discharge Committee, a Coronary Care Committee, Medical Nursing and Liaison Committee. Dr. George Jackson would be honoured for his years of Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Dr. N.H. Bowers would retire.

At the end of the decade there would be a Chief & Deputy of each department and service. There also would be a Dental and Psychiatry Service.

Doctors who joined the staff in the seventies would include: Drs. J.E. Andrews, A.A. Aylett, D.G. Ball, D.G. Bryer, D.M. Clark, A.O. Davies, J.L. Duffy, H.B. Eckler, K.A. Enright, F.A. Farlinger, I.W. Fettes, G. Franko, D.W. Haist, W.R. Hodge, J.E. Holmes, E.A. Hopkins, W.H. Kaul, W.E. Kyle, M.C. Low, R.C. Moffat, R.L. O'Halloran, E.A. O'Toole, V.A. Pusey, T.J. Richardson, A.A. Sauks, R.J. Shemilt, J.R.L. Spencer, J.E. Stewart, P.C. Thornback, C.F. Wallace, C.M. Whiting, M.P. Yadav, and G.J. Zeman.

Board of Directors - the hospital was fortunate that dedicated citizens shared their time and expertise to give "over all" direction to the affairs of the institution. Those serving in 1970 were: Most Reverend A.G. Carter, Reverend Mother M. St. Edward, Sister M. Patricia, Reverend R.J. VanBerkel, Dr. W.F. Armstrong, Mr. H.E. Brown, Mr. Stanley Cerisano, Mr. F. Falconi, Mrs. John D. Hobbs, Mr. Curtis Johnson, Mr. M.J. Kennelly, Mr. A.E. Klein, Dr. W.A. Keech, Mr. R.A. Lecours, Colonel J.D. Lindsay, Mr. A. Lafrance, Mr. Roger G. Pitre, Dr. A.R. Scappatura, and Mr. A.T. Smith.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

The auxiliary has been a mainstay for the institution over the years, providing equipment and services to the Hospital. The tuck wagon and the tuck shop have been important to both patients and visitors. The Presidents during the fifty year period were: Elizabeth Paquette, Opal Stevens, Ruby Fraser, Connie Zimbalatte, Mary Dupuis, Kay Dignan, Kathy Justice, Joan Lehto, Ann Wallace, Joanne Sokolowski, Betty Dennis and since 1981, Anne Renton. Active members over the years (in addition to the Presidents), include Betty McKinnon, Theresa Duffy, Alma Fortier, Julia Hewitt, Mrs. R.H. Vezina, Lou Demers, Evelyn Clayton, Una Ambler, Marie Kelly, Tess Tongue, Ruth Fazzari, Pearl Franko, Lottie Frenssen and Angela Zorzini.

Among the major items of equipment donated by the auxiliary were an operating room table, cardiac arrest machine, baby's isolette, fetal monitors, operating room lights, television and V.C.R. for patient teaching, equipment for the coronary care unit, and a second ultrasound scanner.

ORGANIZATION AND SERVICE CLUBS

Many large items of equipment not within the hospital budget were purchased with assistance from the North Bay community.

ENTERING THE EIGHTIES

At this time in history, all the hospital departments reported to the Associate Executive Director, Mr. O.B. Gillespie, with the exception of Nursing, Education, Infant Development, Pastoral Care, and St. Joseph's Center.

TIDBITS FROM ANNUAL REPORTS 1979 - 1981

In 1979 the Nursing Department Director was Sr. Sheila Anne Spooner. That year she also assumed organizational responsibility for Admitting.

June Schiavone, Head Nurse, Operating Room, and Roberta Myers, Head Nurse, Emergency, continued to cooperate in the pre-operative care of outpatients booked for day surgery. A palliative care program was developed by Sister Frances Dignan. Increased sensitivity to the needs of the dying patient and dialogue between patients, family, nursing, and medical staff were important benefits.

On 400 Floor, Dr. M. Pace, Chief of Obstetrics, and Sheila Parrish, Head Nurse, and staff continued to oversee care for high risk mothers from the region. Lorena Montgomery, Head Nurse in the nursery retired after thirty years. She was replaced by Lillian Morel, Head Nurse, Pediatrics, who had completed a fifteen week course on perinatology. The nursing staff organized a support group for parents of premature infants.

On 300 West, a new intensive care unit was built. JoAnn Walker was Head of this as well as the coronary care area. She and Narumi Hyatt, Head Nurse on 300 East planned for the care of post coronary and other medical patients.

Helen Christie, Assistant Director of Nursing on evenings, retired after twenty-four years of service.

The professional nursing staff had been working the twelve hour shift on 500 West where Kay Barnes was Head Nurse since 1979. By 1981 this extended tour of duty was in effect on 300 East, 300 West, Nursery, and Obstetrics.

An 18 month program to encourage the staff to use the Nursing process as a basis for nursing care was concluded.

PASTORAL CARE

The work of this department is clearly pictured in the report of 1981, written by Sister Nona Dennis, Director. "We continue to minister to those who suffer - the patients, families, and staff. Through their experience, we attempt to support and help them live with the meaning and purpose of life and death with what is unknown, to recognize their strength and power that comes from beyond."

MEDICAL STAFF

The community was saddened by the untimely death of Dr. Ranger.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Don Milligan reported that inpatient accounts were put on computer. Barb Belanger was promoted to Financial Assistant.

MAINTENANCE DEPT.

Bryan Evans reported that a new telephone system had been installed, a new garbage room had replaced the incinerator and the lighting and fire alarms were updated.

MATERIAL MANAGEMENT

This department included courier, stores, photocopying, purchasing, messenger, and porter. The cart exchange system for medical surgical supplies was operational on all units except emergency.

INFANT DEVELOPMENT

Sr. Beatrice Galipeau reported that 235 infants were served this year. A center-based component with a large volunteer group had been added to the original home based program.

HOUSEKEEPING

Director Doreen Berry continued to carry out the hospital public relations duties in addition to her own work. Her staff maintained their usual high standard of cleaning.

MEDICAL RECORDS

Diane Maillé, Director, reported that the documentation for operating room and medical technology was now completed.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Rendell reported that some procedures were added, such as Hepatobiliary scanning. Difficulties were experienced with old equipment and crowded quarters.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Part of the outpatient department moved to the main floor of the west annex. In her report, Fran Wilson, Director, speaks of staff shortages, inadequate facilities and a 40 patient waiting list. An occupational therapist for crippled children was hired. Rehabilitation rounds under Dr. M. Mitchell had commenced.

RADIOLOGY

Larry Bayley, Technical Director reported that ultrasound growth made it necessary to increase staff in that area.

UNIFIED LABORATORY

Dr. Schryer reported that outpatients had increased 97% in 1979.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Louise Gauthier, Director, said that her department was increasingly involved in Nursing Assessment conferences. Homecare and Public Health represented community care givers at these conferences.

PHARMACY

Les Wilkinson, Director, and staff completed a major project in the rewriting of the Parental Drug Handback. The hospital community was saddened by the untimely death of Ron Harris.

RESPIRATORY TECHNOLOGY

Colin Wallace-Tarry reported that a home care program was implemented in April 1981.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A Christmas social and childrens' party were organized by the committee. The President was Louise Gauthier and Glenda Dart was Treasurer.

DIETARY

Nori Sugimoto returned as Director in 1979. Excellent day to day food, diet counselling, and food for many festive occasions are some of the features of this department.

EDUCATION

Underlying the function of this department was concern for the climate within the hospital. Respect for the wholeness of persons was promoted through employee programs, a weekly newsletter and the use of bulletin boards. In 1979 the departments' role had expanded to include coordination of patient education.

PERSONNEL DEPT.

Director Velma McLeod was pleased to see long term disability become an employee benefit. Mrs. McLeod was involved in many community programs as well as Central Bargaining for the Ontario Hospital Association.

The yearly recognition of long term employees at an Awards Dinner, always a gala occasion was carried off in fine style by Velma and her staff.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Eileen Holmes coordinated the many services such as the taking of baby pictures, patient escort, helping patients make menu choices, helping in physiotherapy, decorating at Christmas, flower arranging, crafts, mail delivery, hairdressing, working on the information desk, helping to transport patients, gathering news for "Notes & Quotes", and providing library services for patients. Volunteens helped in the evenings, in summer and on weekends. Many, many volunteers were exceptional, but none more so than Win Rosseter who was commended by Dr. McMurchy, Chairman of the Medical Library Committee for her dedication to the library.

* * * * *

The picture of the past flashes by and the time comes around to the 50th Anniversary again. The Public Relations committee had planned many events - Awards night in June, a barbeque in July, an Anniversary Ball at Pinewood Park, and an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service.

In September, 300 graduates of St. Joseph's School of Nursing gathered from across Canada for a sentimental homecoming weekend. There were tears and laughter as "training days" were recalled. In the light of today's comforts, it was strange to remember the austere days in 1940 when the hospital was so short of funds. Dawn Unger said she would name those times "Three Years Without Toast". However, from then on, everything was better and the "girls" remembered a progressive school and Sisters whose ideals shaped their lives.

The highlight of the anniversary year for many patients and staff was the birthday party in the cafeteria. Everyone could come to view the pictures and share a few reminiscences of this much loved institution.

In September 1981 the Joint Planning Committee commissioned Peat, Marwich & Partners to study the feasibility of the one hospital concept. Administrative staff would invest hours of time and energy, but there would be no early answers.

As this journey into the past draws to a close, one memory has lasting significance. In 1981 all levels of staff were involved in workshops on the hospital philosophy.

It is reassuring to believe that the spirit of St. Joseph's Hospital will live on in the work of its staff as they continue to provide a very special quality of health care.

SOURCES CONSULTED

- 1) St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing Yearbooks "Omnia in Caritate"
Pictures from Yearbooks - 1949, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1968 are used with permission.
- 2) Scrapbooks of clippings from the North Bay Nugget.
- 3) The archives of St. Joseph's Motherhouse.
- 4) St. Joseph's Hospital Records: Minutes of the Official Board; Department Annual Reports 1979 - 1981; and St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing records.
- 5) Interviews with former staff members.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Thelma (Chapman) Patterson graduated from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1943. She served as an instructor 1946 - 1947; As Associate Director of Nursing Service 1958 - 1970; and as Director of Educational Services 1970 - 1984.



ST. JOSEPH'S GENERAL HOSPITAL

St. Joseph's General Hospital in North Bay was founded in 1931, and is owned by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie. This health care ministry is permeated by a Judeo-Christian Philosophy, based on the belief that man is a unique composite of body and spirit, created by God to know, love, and serve Him and his fellow man.

Our Philosophy

- 1) We believe that health care is a vital mission of the Catholic Church and of Christianity, because it is concerned with man in the process of redemption.
- 2) We believe that through this ministry, Christ continues to exercise his priestly and healing powers.
- 3) We endeavour, as Sisters, Directors, and Staff of this Hospital, to bring the Father's healing love through the action of the Holy Spirit to each other and to the people we serve.
- 4) We believe that all creation should be held in reverence and that human life in all its aspects is essentially and absolutely sacred.
- 5) We believe that Life is the dynamic state of being, and man's life is unique, in that each individual is endowed with an immortal spirit and the capacity for free thought, and man has a responsibility to God, his Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, to his fellow man, and to himself.
- 6) We believe that suffering is an integral part of the human condition, and that suffering has redemptive quality when accepted in union with Christ's suffering; however, following Christ's own example of compassion, we strive to alleviate suffering where possible, or to support the sufferer when this is all we can do.
- 7) We accept death as a crucial moment in man's existence because, through death, man returns to his Maker. We endeavour to assist the dying to accomplish this passage in dignity and peace.
- 8) We believe that death is not the end for man in God's plan of redemption. This belief directs our endeavours to support the family and friends of the deceased, at this time of separation.

Purpose

Since our philosophy embraces the social dimension, our purpose, as a Catholic Health Care Institution as stated in our By-Laws, is as follows:

- 1) To serve in cooperation with other health agencies the people of the Community in which we are situated;
- 2) To give care and treatment to the sick and injured during the acute, chronic and rehabilitative phases of illness;
- 3) To maintain and help improve the quality of life and community health by education, early diagnosis, and treatment;
- 4) To promote research in health and related areas in meeting the health needs of the people we serve; and
- 5) To provide an atmosphere of acceptance by stimulating each person in the belief in his own and others' value as a person, and of each one's ability to contribute to the health care ministry, based on this philosophy and these objectives.

The
First Fifty Years
1931 - 1981



St. Joseph's General Hospital
North Bay, Ontario

by
Thelma Patterson