

STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE

385 State Street, Albany 10, New York

NEWS



LETTER

Vol. VI, No. 3

— JULY, 1959 —

Mr. R. Gerhard, Editor

:- MATHER WINS!! :-

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Some 2,000 Student Nurses, all part of the 76,000 students who make up the National Student Nurses Association, watched as New York's **Evelyn Mather** was elected Second Vice-President of the six year old organization.

The nursing students heard reports on nursing around the world, with special attention to nursing in Russia and the World Health Organization.

NSNA took its final steps toward becoming an independent organization when the Executive Board signed papers of incorporation during the Convention.



Social affairs, a talent show Saturday evening, May 9th, and uniform morning when the students attend in the varied uniforms of their Schools of Nursing, May 11th in Convention Hall, were other highlights of the Convention.

New York State made a fine showing, with over 200 students attending. Its display, conceived by Mr. William Marsh, SNANYS President, was a real eye catcher with its slide projector showing scenes from New York State synchronized with a narrative on tape.

New York State delegates met in an informal dinner, Sunday evening, May 10th which helped to promote good relations.

New York also sponsored a coffee hour for voting delegates on the morning of the election.

In business as well as social functions, New York State stood out as a leader. New York's voice was heard over the Convention Hall. Its active participation in the Convention again proved what we from New York have always known - "WE MAY NOT BE THE LARGEST STATE, JUST THE BEST".

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"THE ROLE OF A NURSE: DEFINED"

Have the advances in nursing changed the role of the nurse or have they merely made the nurse more qualified to perform the duties which were outlined by the needs of society so long ago? We are still dealing with a person who performs according to the needs of her patients with her advanced education acting only as a guide and supplement. If every nurse were to define her role according to the duties she performed each day the variation would stagger the imagination. If the nurse must be labeled, let us look back to the past and the unchanging needs of humanity in need of a . . . what shall we call her . . . "NURSE".

New York State League for Nursing

SNANYS FINANCIAL REPORT - MAY

To: The members of SNANYS
 From: Roland McCleary, Treasurer, SNANYS
 Ref: SNANYS Financial Report for Month of May, 1959

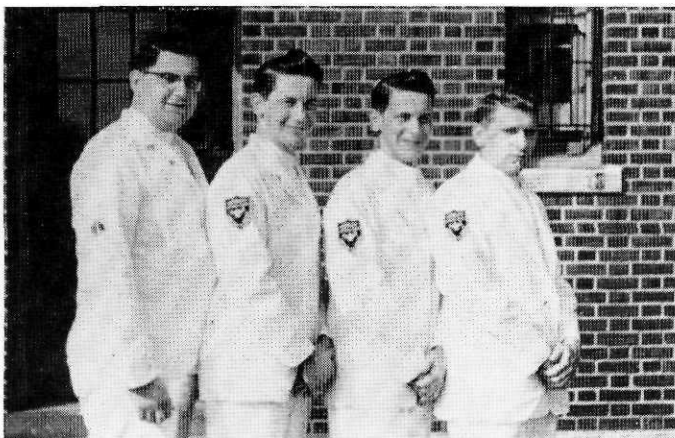
The following is submitted for your information concerning SNANYS financial movement during the month of May.

Receipts:

Total 1958-59 receipts dated 5/1/59	\$13,299.27
Receipts for month of May 1959	
Area Dues	408.40
NSF contributions from Area's 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13	40.00
Cash returns from Voting Delegates to the National Convention	117.74
	<u>\$13,865.41</u>

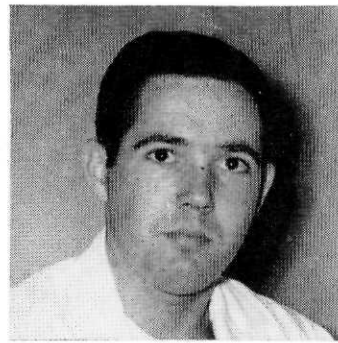
Disbursements:

Total disbursements of 1959-59 dated 5/1/59	\$6,657.23
Disbursements for May 1959	
Dues Remittance to National (8113 members)	164.00
State Board Meeting	50.00
1959 National Convention	121.58
Committees	
Student Nurse	21.44
Office Needs for Board Members	100.48
	<u>\$7,114.73</u>
Balance in SNANYS Account 6/1/59	\$6,750.68

"NURSING FAMILY"

Four of a kind. The Specht brothers, Bob, Al, Arthur and Ted make a fine picture of a family tradition which has paid off for the Nursing profession. The first installment came in 1953 when Bob, the oldest of the "Nursing Brothers" was graduated from Central Islip State Hospital School of Nursing. The second came in 1958 when Ted was graduated from Pilgrim State Hospital. This year Nursing will make a "twinkilling" as Arthur and Allan, identical twins, graduate from Pilgrim State.

Bob is presently a supervising nurse at Central Islip while Ted is an instructor in the Inservice Program at Pilgrim State Hospital. Arthur and Allan both active in school and area activity, Arthur is presently on the Board of Directors of Area Nine, look eager to follow in their brothers' footsteps.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The May issue of LEAGUE LINES, the official paper of the New York State League for Nursing, directs the attention of the reader to two striking words:

"We Believe"

The entire paper has been devoted to a statement of basic beliefs we all share in our common goal; nursing.

We, in the student stage, cannot afford to pass by and not read this paper. We are in the process of adding the first bricks to our houses of maturity in professional nursing.

An understanding of the professional organizations open to graduates of the nursing curriculum is essential. Membership in a professional organization is not a social amnity to be met, nor is it a compulsory, deadend endeavor. Membership is a serious responsibility to our patients, our communities and ourselves.

The ANA and NLN are the organizations of nursing. It is through these organizations that standards are constantly being raised, better methods of patient care and teaching devised, and recognition accorded to the professional nurse.

Does the student who complains of "high dues" or "no activities" really understand the professional organizations? We have now, a wonderful opportunity to learn and prepare for our membership in these organizations.

The graduate hand that touches a patient without the warmth of professional membership is most certainly a cold one.

WILLIAM MARSH, SNANYS President

NEWS

SNANYS Convention, October 4th to 8th, 1959, New York City.

Mr. Manning elected Senior Advisor, has turned over the Chairmanship of the Membership Committee in favor of Miss Margaret Quinn, Director from Plattsburg.

The Area Kit compiled by Area IX has been recommended for distribution to other Areas. Write President, Area IX.

We need photographs of the 1958 SNANYS Convention. All photos will be returned.

At the June meeting of SNANYS Board of Directors, it was ruled that voting delegates will be given only one vote each, schools with multiple votes must send an equal number of delegates or the votes will be lost.

"League Lines", May 1959. Read it.

Next year's Board members will find orientation to their new jobs a little easier due to the handbooks now being prepared by each member of the present Board.

TODAY, SCHIZOPHRENIA IMPRISONS 250,000 AMERICANS IN MENTAL HOSPITALS

By - John P. Moskovites, Senior, Binghamton State Hosp.

Edited - Dr. Schutzer, M.D., Dir., Binghamton State Hosp.

The greatest single problem of Psychiatry in general and hospitals in particular, is Schizophrenia. Its importance lies in three areas. First, the great number of people so afflicted; second, the fact that most cases occur in young adults between 20 and 40 years of age; and third, that it is the cases of Schizophrenia that slowly but steadily make up the chronic wards of a mental hospital.

What is a Schizophrenic? There are some who feel that it is hereditary or that, at least, the tendency to Schizophrenia is hereditary. Some feel that it is due to some disturbance of body chemistry. Others incline toward the opinion that Schizophrenia results from a combination of factors, the hereditary or constitutional, disturbances in the body chemistry or disturbances in the environment in which the patient was brought up. Finally, there are those who feel that this disorder is entirely determined and caused by psychological factors only.

We at Binghamton State Hospital subscribe to the various opinions as to the cause of Schizophrenia. However, we tend to agree that when the patient comes to us, the problems are primarily emotional and that, because of serious emotional conflicts, the patient is no longer able to gain any degree of satisfaction from being with, living with and dealing with people. More than that, the patient has become exceedingly fearful of people and doesn't know what to do about it. Life has become so frightening that it can be made livable and tolerable by seeing and experiencing the world through the patient's eyes only. When this happens, we see that he has lost contact with reality. The signs and symptoms of what we call Schizophrenia may be understood, then, as attempts to see the world in a less frightening light.

The greatest single concern of the Schizophrenic patient is fear. His fear is that he will be hurt, even destroyed, if he lets himself experience close tender and warm feelings for others. From past experience he expects to be hurt, to be rejected, to be ignored and to be unloved. He expects the same treatment at the hands of everyone and can no longer differentiate one person from another . . . all people are alike to him. Because he expects such treatment, he is not only fearful but also defensive and angry. Thus it is that so many Schizophrenic patients are irritating to those about them. Their fear, anger and defensiveness put them in the position where they are always on the attack. So often this is an outright physical attack; more often it is the kind of subtle attack that tends to antagonize others. Certainly every student nurse, staff nurse and doctor have had such experiences with these patients. So often we may become discouraged when all our good efforts seem to come to naught. To understand what the patient is up against so far as he is concerned will serve to lessen our discouragement and redouble our efforts.

From the point of view expressed here, it follows that whatever we can do to lessen the fear will serve to help the patient see people as they really are; some all good, some all bad, but most of us, a mixture of both. The patient has to learn to deal with people as he finds them not as he expects everyone in keeping with earlier and repeated sad experiences.

COLEMAN TO SHOOT CONVENTION

At the March meeting of the SNANYS Board of Directors \$1,900 was appropriated to cover the cost of filming the 1959 State Convention in New York City, October 4th to 8th.

Mr. Ronald Gerhard, Chairman of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee presented the plans for the filming which will be done by Coleman Productions of New York City.

The film will center around the 1959 "Outstanding Student Nurse" and all Area candidates for the title should send their names and addresses to the Editor immediately, as the success of the filming will depend in part on the preconvention planning made with the candidates.

Events to be photographed will be, the business meeting on Tuesday morning, the workshops Tuesday afternoon and the Outstanding Student Nurse contest Tuesday evening. Also included will be uniform business meeting on Thursday morning and the luncheon on Thursday afternoon.

With the approval of the Board in March, New York State became the first state association to undertake such a project. Copies of the film will be available to Schools or other organizations for rental or permanent purchase. It will be narrated in part with live voice dubbed in from tape recordings taken there.

The preconvention planning committee, headed by Miss Gloria Raimondi, of Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing, is making every possible effort to obtain a long list of "headline" speakers for the occasion. All in all, it looks like the 1959 State Convention is going to be one of the best in the history of SNANYS.

Statler Hilton Hotel, October 4th to 8th.

ADDED ATTRACTION

This years "Outstanding Student Nurse" of New York State will receive, in addition to the year's subscription to A. J. N., Chairmanship of the Student Nurse Week committee and a trip to the National Convention, membership on the New York State League for Nursing, Committee on Carrers, and a, as yet unnamed, position with the New York State Nurses' Association.

These positions in the graduate professional organizations are something that all student nurses of the New York State can be proud of, for they not only offer the winner of the contest an opportunity to work with the graduates but may be considered a vote of confidence given by the graduate organizations to the Student Nurses' Association of New York State and the ability of its members to function as mature adults in a professional organization.

With this added responsibility the "Outstanding Student Nurse" of New York State shall have to be chosen carefully from our ranks. Let us on all levels, school, area and State keep this in mind when making our selection for the position.

"INQUIRING REPORTER"

This is the first in a series of two articles which were started to stimulate student interest in present day issues in Nursing which are under consideration by the Professional Organizations.

Question: Should students be allowed to work in the hospital on a part-time basis?

MICHAEL MAZZARELLA -
Central Islip State Hospital, Area 9

On first impulse my answer to this question was no. However with further consideration my opinion is somewhat altered. I think we have to consider the type of program the student is enrolled in. The two year program offers little opportunity for part time work, in addition these students have had little or no chance to develop practical skills. The three or four year programs offer the senior student who has had much experience and who has assumed a great deal of responsibility during the prior two years, a possible opportunity at part-time work.

I do not mean to imply that these students should function as graduate nurses. But, if a position were made available, such as "Part-Time Student Nurse Employee", where supervising nurses were aware of the students' limitations they could place them in positions where they could function with little difficulty.

These part-time positions may fulfill several needs; first it would provide a much needed supplement of nursing service; and secondly, many students could use the funds to good advantage. Why force them to seek part-time work elsewhere, why not in their own profession?

KAY O'MAHONEY -
St. Clare's Hospital, Area 8

A very important problem to every student nurse is the dollar and cent one. How does a student survive the tuition bill, the uniform bill, the fashion change, the hunger pangs and the increase gasoline rate?

Let us take into consideration the various types of men and women who enter into the portals of a wonderful profession. From the new high school graduate, to recent white collar worker, to the young married person. Their goal is common to all "They tend the patient when the doctor goes". They are all part of that young spirit eager to meet life and its challenges.

No doubt about it, those nursing years are concentrated ones. It is the years where a storehouse of knowledge and information are syphoned into our brains. Recreation is sorely needed; yet extracurricular activities are not included in the tuition bill. Of course I refer to the pizza pie with the crowd, the movie with your date or the get-together with other married couples. How does one cover the expense? What about a job on your off hours (now that nursing has modernized to a forty hour week)? A receptionist or switchboard operator within the hospital; an assistant in the library or laboratory. It can be done and has been done successfully by others without infringement on the primary objective. The medical student, the engineering student, the law student are only a few examples of those who have completed a difficult course and balanced the budget for pizza.

The next issue of the NEWSLETTER will contain answers to the question: "What stand should Nursing take with relation to a union for Nurses?"

Send your answer to the Editor on or before August 15th, 1959.

FINAL REPORT OF —**"STUDENT NURSE WEEK"**

Dear SNANYS Members:

A dream became a reality with the successful completion of New York State's first -

"STUDENT NURSE WEEK"

I say successful because we accomplished each goal we set out to reach:

1. We became acquainted with the agencies in our community and gained an awareness of their role through our own voluntary service.
2. The agencies became aware of our ability to function as a member of the community.
3. We gained much personally through giving of ourselves to others.
4. We promoted our profession by working with and talking to those who might not have had previous contact with those in Nursing.

Committees throughout New York State did a fine job in contacting the agencies, recruiting volunteers and seeing that the project was adequately publicized.

Reports indicate that those who participated in Student Nurse Week experienced satisfaction known when a good job has been done and is appreciated.

I hope that those who were not able to be part of Student Nurse Week this year will find it possible to know the benefits of this project should the members of SNANYS undertake it again next year.

May I take this opportunity to humbly thank all the committee members, volunteers, Area Presidents, Advisors, those responsible for publicity and our own officers for their invaluable help and assistance in making this dream a reality.

I am very grateful to all Areas for the kindness and warm hospitality shown me during the past year. It was my pleasure to meet you and be part of your program.

May this pioneer SNW become a permanent SNW!

Sincerely,

MARY CRONEMEYER

SNANYS TO THE FAIR

Miss Molly Cronemeyer, Outstanding Student Nurse of New York State, will represent SNANYS at the New York State Fair in Syracuse, September 4th and 5th.

The theme of the fair, which will last from September 4th to 12th is "Opportunities - present and future". Representatives from many of the agricultural, industrial, area, trade and professional organizations of New York State will be presented with Miss Cronemeyer.

Molly will be seen in the dress uniform of Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing for the formal festivities but will appear in evening attire for other occasions.

All students in the Syracuse area are urged to visit the fair and talk to their representative and see the many other attractions available.

-: AREA BRIEFS :-

— AREA II —

Area II's attendance at Area Meetings is improving! The Area chartered seven buses on the 18th of March to go to Craig Colony for an Area Meeting. Two hundred and fifty-two students attended.

In January about twelve students from our Area worked with the Future Nurse Clubs in our area who sponsored a Workshop. Four students spoke on the morning panel concerning nursing educational opportunities and the remainder served as ushers. Both the student and future student groups benefited from this experience.

The Area Board sponsored a dance for member students as an Area gift to members.

There was genuine enthusiasm and cooperation between schools in planning for the Mardi Gras held April 17th, 1959. Booths, raffle, orchestra and refreshments were all included.

Five members of the Buffalo area attended the February Board Meeting and discussed committee problems and also programs for the area meetings.

— AREA III —

In January, many student nurses of Syracuse profited from a wonderful program offered to them called, "Progress Against Prejudice". The panel was composed of various people namely, a rector from an Episcopal Church, a Sociology Professor, and Journal Professor Robert Root, author of the book "Progress Against Prejudice".

Our March 19th Area Meeting was made interesting by George Daniels, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for SNANYS. He presented the State nomination forms and "What the Nominating Committee Wants". We also enjoyed the movie "Ann Rutledge - Sweetheart of Abe Lincoln".

A Mock Convention was held at our May meeting and enjoyed by all.

— AREA VI —

In April Area VI was visited by Miss Mary Cronemeyer, who helped plan the Area's Student Nurse Week program, which has added to the spirit of the students in the Area. Another means of increasing spirit utilized in this Area is the Area-wide Basketball League with the winning team receiving a trophy. How about a student nurses' team in the NBA next year?

— AREA VII —

At the February 21st meeting, Dr. Winklestein, a hypnotist from Mt. Vernon, was guest speaker. All who attended felt that this was one of the best programs of the year.

On March 19th, Miss Frances Turek, a Junior student at White Plains Hospital was chosen as the outstanding student nurse in Area VII.

A variety show was held at Rockland State Hospital on April 10th for the psychiatric patients and on April 11th for the general public.

The Future Nurse Club met on April 9th at White Plains Hospital to organize the format for a meeting with the guidance counselors of Westchester County.

A contest was held to decide on a name for the Area Newsletter. Miss Constance Marcheze of White Plains Hospital won \$5.00 for her idea THE PULSE.

— AREA VIII —

On April 8th at Metropolitan Hospital in New York City, Miss Shirley O'Jon from Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing was selected by the judges as the winner of the Outstanding Student Nurse contest.

Area VIII is also handling the Convention plans for the 1959 State Convention to be held in the Statler Hilton Hotel in October.

— AREA IX —

A committee was formed for the revision of our Constitution at the Business Meeting.

A revision of our Area Kit has been completed and distributed to members of the Board, our Advisors, Presidents of Student Nurse Organizations and their school libraries.

A Portable Television was raffled off at our March meeting for the purpose of sending delegates to the National Convention.

At our last Business Meeting, we were privileged to have Miss Mary Cronemeyer speak to us on Student Nurse Week.

— AREA XI —

The Finance Committee reports 100% membership! Each school has its own money-making project.

At our last general meeting, Mr. George Daniels, Chairman of the State Nominations Committee, gave an interesting and stimulating talk.

Area handbooks were prepared and given to Freshmen.

Student Nurse Week. The Area planned a Post-Graduate Institute held during this week. The theme was - "Area XI looks to the future". It consisted of exhibits, a panel discussion by five representatives from various fields of nursing, a dinner with a key-note speaker, and a fashion show of uniforms. Miss Mary Cronemeyer attended.

— AREA XII —

A successful roller skating party was held in January. A nearby roller rink was rented for an evening and students came from the three hospitals in private cars and even a rented bus.

A mass meeting was held at Binghamton State Hospital with approximately one hundred students in attendance from the three member schools. After the forty minute business meeting, Dr. Schutzer, Administrator of Binghamton State Hospital was presented to the group by the President, Dr. Schutzer welcomed the students to the hospital, and introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Mayor John J. Burns of the City of Binghamton, to the the group. He gave a very interesting speech on "Public Health Facilities Available in Our Community". Refreshments were served following the meeting. Publicity of this meeting was in the local newspaper, on the radio and over television.

— AREA XIII —

The student nurses offered their services as clerks during Student Nurse Week, at the Friendly Red Door and Columbia County Tuberculosis and Health Association. In a communication received from the Executive Secretary of the Tuberculosis and Health Association the students were praised for their fine contribution.