

# ENS

## FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE

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### QUARTERLY BULLETIN



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**COVER:** Deanna Severance, in the spirit of the history of FNS, prepares to mount horse "Bill" at last year's Mary Breckinridge Festival. Until the mid-1960's horses were the primary means of travel for FNS care providers.

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## FNS FUTURES:

### The Past as a Vision of the Future

*The future:*

We fantasize about it.

Anticipate it.

Worry about it.

Advance our education to try and plan for it.

Stay with our jobs

Leave our jobs

Yet with all our planning, we are constantly surprised by it.

I don't have a crystal ball. What I would like to do is talk about blending our history with our present and our future.

Mary Breckinridge's desire was to improve the lives of children. As she began her work in the mountains of Kentucky, she came to believe this was accomplished best through providing health care to the entire family. Hence, the creation of the philosophy of family-nurse midwifery. Although FNS may be known for the school of family-nurse midwifery, the school did not begin until 1939. FNS was created in 1925 as a health *service* for the people of Leslie County. Guided by both intuition and insight, Mary Breckinridge created a public health care system in the private sector which lends itself to replication in both the private and public sectors today.

The future of health care in both rural and urban America may mean getting back to basics. FNS has been demonstrating since its inception that the combination of well qualified family nurse practitioners, caring for people in a holistic, comprehensive way, backed up by competent physicians with links to secondary and tertiary care, reduces the infant mortality rate and improves other health indicators.

The FNS system created by Mary Breckinridge had the following elements:

- It was based on the philosophy of family nurse midwifery.
- District outpost clinics were staffed by family nurse-midwives.

- Physicians backed up the nurse midwives and were called in to provide care for high risk women.
- Tertiary linkages were created and implemented with Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the University of Louisville.
- Regardless of where the patient was referred, the family nurse-midwife remained as the families' link with these other systems.

We know that this kind of caring works. It has been documented. Even knowing all this, we at FNS face challenges. We face barriers established by ourselves, the legislature, credentialing bodies, universities, and other agencies and institutions. These barriers are not unique to FNS. All providers face some or all of them.



FNP examines infant at FNS's Community Health Center.

### **Health Care—Cosmos or Microcosmos?**

Do you think of health care as the Cosmos or as a microcosm of a strong productive society? Do you believe that one symptom of a mediocre society or perhaps even a society in the throes of decay is the unwillingness, lack of desire, or inability to care for the less fortunate, the most needy of that society? And within health care what is the cosmos

and what is the microcosm?

What is the relationship between the lack of health care during the preschool years and the fact that Johnny can't read, can't write. Forty million of the 280 million people in the United States are illiterate—about one in five. Who are our future physicians, ARNP's, RN's, nutritionists, dentists, pharmacists, social workers? We buy transportation, cars, engineering, steel, electronics, and nearly all the other trappings of civilization from other countries. Would we, if we could, buy health care from other countries? If a growing segment of our population can't read, can't write who will provide not only our health care, but the leadership of our country? I ask you again, what is the Cosmos and what is the microcosm?

I have been thinking about saving lives, and especially about the professionals who save lives. I have been trying to put myself in their shoes. And when your world, day-in and day-out, is saving life, cheating death, then that becomes THE WORLD. That is the work of the tertiary care centers, these centers of salvation for so many. These centers are associated with our great universities, places of higher learning and research, institutions which attract the great minds of our industry, health care. Hence, I have a glimmer of insight into that world. THE WORLD, as portrayed in our movies, on television, by newspapers. A complex world of technology and caring. A difficult world where the technology sometimes, oftentimes, has advanced beyond our society's attention to the ethical questions which that technology raises.

I have been thinking about jogging, mineral water, and grain cereal. I have been thinking about the desperation of being homeless, of being fifteen and pregnant, addicted to cocaine, sitting in the large and ever-crowded waiting room of the city health clinic. These public health clinics, these centers of prenatal care, attract nurses, physicians, nutritionists, social workers, etc. with a missionary zeal, dedication and commitment to helping individuals. Individuals whose lives are often desperate and disorganized. Hence, I have insight into their world, THE WORLD of day to day caring where no one dies in the office, people and communities just seem to wither and die slowly. No miraculous cures occur in the office. THE WORLD where there are never adequate resources.



The cry of a healthy FNS newborn.

What is the future of this health system which saves babies and then returns them to a society where adults can't read, can't write? If one of every five people can't read, how helpful are the pamphlets in the clinic? If 28 to 29 babies born in Cincinnati each month are born to drug ad-

dicted mothers what is the likelihood that newborn clinic appointments will be kept if that mother is the child's primary caregiver? What is the likelihood that this baby will have his diaper changed when wet, fed when hungry, touched, stroked and smiled at when this baby signals now is the time for touching, stroking and smiling? What is the likelihood that this baby will have the physical, social and emotional nourishment his brain needs to develop optimally through the first two years of life? If this baby does not encounter a life taking disease or injury, what is the likelihood this baby will be able to read? If this child does not learn to read, what is the likelihood that this adult will be able to obtain a job earning wages above the poverty level? What is the likelihood this adult will have children who can't read?

### Courage and Barriers

To restructure the health care system to meet the needs of the future will require courageous leadership. Courage is the "mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear or difficulty." Even minor restructuring of the health care system will require the strength to venture, persevere and withstand danger, fear and difficulty.

What are the barriers to restructuring the health care system?

There are many. I will discuss legislative and bureaucratic barriers, and related issues.

Often, legislators are elected on platforms reflecting their personal beliefs about education and taxes. I have known people in the health care community to become extremely frustrated because their elected representatives “know nothing” about health care. What do they expect from legislators who have grown up on Marcus Welby and Medical Center? And who have continued to be fed by Doogie Howser and Nightingales? Many elected representatives, the men and women who write the laws of our states, earn less than \$20,000 a year. Who could expect them to react in an enlightened way upon hearing that obstetricians in someone else’s district will not accept women whose payment source is Medicaid?

Major policy shifts occur when either legislators are elected who reflect a strong community belief, or when they are influenced by a group of constituents organized around an issue. Of course, great men and great women—Florence Nightingale, Louis Pasteur, and on and on—have influenced policy at critical times. People can change policy. Nurses and others who expect to have credibility with legislators must provide *evidence* that the expanded use of advanced registered nurse practitioners will not lead to a second class of health care, but a better class of care.

When you hear the word *bureaucrat*, what image is conjured up in your mind? The dictionary definition is: “a government official who follows a narrow rigid formal routine or who is established with great authority in his own department.” Is your image of a bureaucrat a man wearing a rumpled white shirt, sitting behind a desk at a city hall, shuffling papers, thwarting community and individual projects and, in general building barriers, which prevent getting things done?

I ask you to think of bureaucrats in terms of:

- someone who doesn’t want to rock the boat.
- someone who wants to retire from their position.
- someone rigid and inflexible
- someone who wants to protect the work they do
- someone satisfied
- someone who wants and tolerates no interference in doing their job as they perceive it should be done

- someone who exercises tight control over their “piece of the action”.

If any or all of these definitions fit the image the word *bureaucrat* conjured up for you then I suggest the setting must be applicable to many institutions beyond the government—to universities, private non-profit agencies, professional organizations, credentialing bodies, and on and on.

If we are to meet the challenges of the future, we must have national leadership which rises to a higher plane. If we are going to carve out a new, future direction in health care delivery, the national leadership must communicate to the faculties, health officials, standard bearers, and credentialing bodies the expectation that barriers to quality health care must be torn down and that new barriers—professional elitism and educational turfism, to name two—will not be tolerated.

Who will influence the leadership? The funders? The policy makers? We will. We can. We must.

### **Money, Rules, and Education**

We can't allow the hodgepodge of funding to continue. Linkages must be mandated before contracts are forged. For instance, should anyone receive Title V, Medicaid, and/or state general revenue money for prenatal care if delivery, postpartum and primary care linkages are not in place?

But what, you may ask, about local autonomy? I am saying each state working with its local constituencies must have the right to forge linkages in the unique fashions required by cultures, values, and populations. But the fact that the linkages must be forged is not up for debate. I also suggest serious consideration must be given to linking funding, both federal and private, to standards of care. Finally, I am so bold as to recommend that our policy makers rethink and rebuild reimbursement linked to levels of care. Perhaps we should call these levels:

- Teaching everyone: Health Promotion/Education/First Aid/  
CPR
- Primary care
- Secondary care



- Tertiary care.

There must be more creative ways to expand educational systems. FNS, in cooperation with the Maternity Center Association, the National Association of Childbearing Centers, and the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University, has made a significant contribution in this direction. The Community-Based Nurse-Midwifery Education Program (CNEP) will prepare nurse-midwives primarily for birth center practice. Using a modular approach, learning will be individualized to permit most of the required course work to be completed through off-campus study. Clinical experience will be individually arranged in community-based nurse-midwifery programs.

#### Technology and Toe Shoes

I am impressed that technology is exciting and fun. I am also impressed that no technology can replace my daughter's grace and beauty and my thrill as she dances in her first pair of toe shoes. I am impressed that technology must have a place, but a place somewhere beside human relationships--caring, compassion and the furthering of civilization.

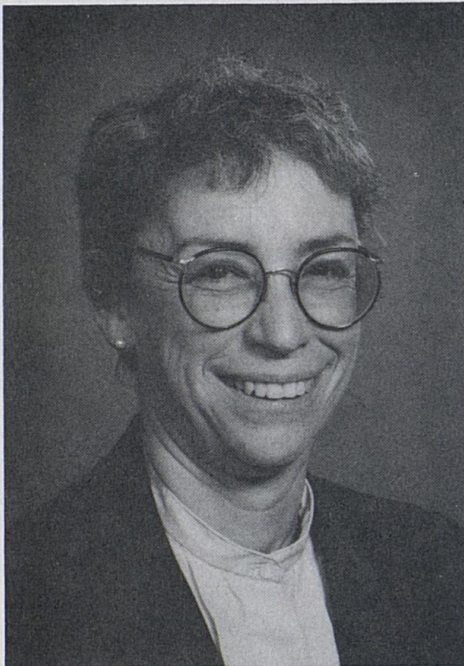
*-Deanna  
Severance*



Deanna Severance with daughter Sarah at last year's Mary Breckinridge Festival parade.

## FNS WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES

### Judith M. Treistman



Judith Treistman President of the Frontier Health and Education Corporation.

FNS is pleased to announce that Judith Treistman has been appointed President of the Frontier Nursing Health and Education Corporation, the component of FNS that operates the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing.

Much like women everywhere, Judith has had many "careers". She first studied anthropology at Columbia University, where she received her PhD with a focus on the prehistory of early Asia. She spent two years in Taiwan and Thailand researching indigenous cultures. After more than ten years of graduate teaching at Cornell University and the City University of New York she took a slightly different turn and entered the Yale School of Nursing where she earned her MSN in Maternal and Newborn nursing and became certified as a Nurse-Midwife. She never thought of anthropology and nursing as contradictory or mutually exclusive but sees the two fields as remarkably similar and enriching each other.

The next ten years saw more teaching, this time as Chair of the Department of Parent Child Nursing at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She was also very actively engaged in practice in the Suffolk County Department of Health Services where she supervised the Prenatal and Family Planning programs. Judith and several other Certified Nurse-Midwives led a long but disappointing struggle to gain full-scope midwifery privileges in New York's Suffolk county hospitals. The midwives urged the legislature and physicians to allow them to practice as they knew best - serving the mothers and babies of the community.

Even in New York the mission of Mary Breckinridge and the FNS is alive!

Judith is well known on the national level, one of her peers comments:

"I am delighted to be able to report that Judith Treistman, PhD, CNM, has just come on board at the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing and will be devoting a major portion of her time to the Community-Based Nurse-Midwifery Educational Program. She is very excited about the CNEP and wants to play a major role in helping to test the pilot and further develop the program. We are thrilled to have her expertise as an experienced academic, international anthropologist and nurse-midwife who just finished what she has called a 'vacation' with the Indian Health Service where she attended over 200 women at birth."

*-Edited by Meriwether Wash*

### Charlie Wilson

Frontier Nursing Service is pleased to announce the appointment of Charles Edward Wilson as administrator of Mary Breckinridge Hospital. Charlie, as he is known, was born at the old Pine Mountain Hospital and is a lifelong resident of Leslie County. He graduated from Leslie County High School, received his bachelor's degree from Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Kentucky, and his master's degree from Union College in Barbourville, Kentucky. He did additional work at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky.

Charlie brings to Mary Breckinridge varied personnel and human relations experiences. As an educator, he has been a teacher, counselor, and vocational administrator at the local and regional level. He also has administrative experience in the coal industry and has worked as a social worker in Leslie County.

Charlie served a four-year term as Leslie County Judge Executive. Responsible for the management of county government services he budgeted, planned, purchased and supervised personnel with a three

million dollar annual budget. He is pleased to note that while the county was in the red at the beginning of his term it was firmly in the black when he left. Charlie also has broadcasting experience, which he considers fun, not work. He has hosted a weekly call-in talk show on a Hazard, Kentucky radio station, and he is currently doing a weekly commentary on WYMT-TV in Hazard. His 90-second commentary centers on issues that affect Eastern Kentuckians.



Charlie Wilson at work as new administrator of Mary Breckinridge Hospital.

Charlie says he took the job as administrator of Mary Breckinridge Hospital "because I care about Leslie County and I enjoy a challenge".

Charlie is no stranger to the FNS and Mary Breckinridge Hospital organization. He has served on the hospital's Board of Directors in the past. One of the things that has always amazed him is the dedication of staff members that have worked for FNS for years.

Charlie's goals as administrator include building a stable medical staff and building community confidence in the quality of care provided by a smaller facility such as Mary Breckinridge Hospital and the district clinics. He feels it is important to continue the mission as a regional birthing center and a demonstration project as a prenatal care and midwifery example for the world.

Charlie looks forward to getting down to work. He is working on a plan of action where Mary Breckinridge Healthcare staff will work as a team under creative and aggressive leadership to move forward and explore new alternatives for quality care.

*-Meriwether Wash*

**NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL:****Frontier Nursing Service to Have Pilot Class  
at University of New Mexico**

In a move termed "unusual and innovative," by many in the nursing education profession, the Frontier Nursing Service Board of Governors authorized finalization of the agreement and approved implementation of a Pilot Rural Nurse-Midwifery Program at their quarterly meeting held at Wendover on June 15, 1990. This program will assign faculty from the Frontier Nursing Service's Hyden-based Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing (FSMFN) to Albuquerque, New Mexico where they will initiate a midwifery training program in the College of Nursing at the University of New Mexico. Eleven students, all from Southwestern states, have already been accepted to the class. The program has received accreditation from the American College of Nurse-Midwifery and the approval of the Federal Division of Nursing.

FNS will be there for one year, at the end of which the University of New Mexico has the option of adopting the program as its own. In this way, FNS will act as a spearhead, using the skills and "know-how" developed over the years to help initiate midwifery education in an underserved region.

The Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, the oldest continuously operating school of its kind in the United States, will remain headquartered at Hyden under the direction of Dr. Judith Treistman, newly appointed President of Frontier Nursing Service's Health and Education Corporation.

In addition to basic midwifery instruction, FSMFN also offers a Precertification Program for foreign-trained midwives, and a Community Based Nurse Midwifery Program (CNEP) a revolutionary approach for training record numbers of nurse-midwives.

While it is true that for every nurse-midwife we graduate, there are up to 30 positions to be filled, the future has never been brighter. Our Precertification Program has been able to tap a source of practitioners that until recently has been largely ignored. There have been many calls from hospitals, birth centers and county health departments around the country requesting us to give "on-site" programs for foreign-trained midwives. The Frontier School just enrolled two groups of precertifi-

cation students; one group in Hyden, Kentucky and one group in Miami, Florida. Both have six students. Our past group of six students sat for their certifying exams in June.

We are planning a feasibility study to look into expansion of the precertification program. When the current students pass the ACNM Board examinations, FNS will have placed thirty-five newly certified nurse-midwives in practice through the Precertification Program in only two years!

The forty-one students of the first CNEP class are moving toward completion of the Levels I and II of the modular program. The students will gather in Perkiomenville, Pennsylvania in June for Level III, a two week "on-campus" seminar and skills evaluation. As part of the transition to Hyden I will become course coordinator for one module and will be faculty during the Level III seminars. We are currently preparing to undertake the Program Evaluation and I am developing a computer program to accomplish this task. The next step in preparing for the relocation of CNEP to Hyden is to recruit and hire faculty and additional support staff.

The entire faculty attended the convention of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in Atlanta, May 13-17, 1990. Administrative Secretary, Jeanette Woods, and Registrar, Charleine Beatty, were present for two CNEP workshops. Dr. Ernest Boyer, President of the Carnegie Foundation highlighted the CNEP program in his keynote address "Innovation in Education"

*-By Judith Treistman*

## FNS IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

The Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing (FSMFN) Precertification Program, directed by Sr. Martha Walsh, MSN, CNM, remains unique in this country. It is the only program that prepares foreign-trained nurse-midwives to take the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) certification examination. Since its inception in March, 1988, it has attracted literally hundreds of inquiries from around the world, without advertisement.

In March, 1990, and in true FNS pioneering tradition, this program took a step into the Caribbean world of nurse-midwifery. In 1989, FSMFN was approached by the faculty of the University of the Virgin Islands stating their interest in collaborating with the Kentucky program to update their professional staff of nurse-midwives.

Although St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John are considered American territories, they have only recently considered requiring American certification for their nurse-midwives, most of whom are trained in Great Britain or Jamaica. Thus, the nurse-midwives have years of excellent training and experience in the British model while practicing under an American flag; perhaps much like the original British nurse-midwives on horseback in the mountains of southeastern Kentucky, recruited by Mary Breckinridge! These highly skilled women manage over half of all deliveries in the St. Thomas and St. Croix Hospitals. They also coordinate the prenatal, postnatal, and family planning services provided by the Division of Health on St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John. Despite their efforts, and because of many complex sociopolitical factors, infant mortality statistics within the territory of the Virgin Islands remain about twice as high as the U.S. average. Obviously, efforts to improve pregnancy outcomes may be logically directed toward the nurse-midwives who are willing and eager to share their expertise and sharpen existing clinical skills.

After initial discussions between Sr. Walsh and representatives of the many concerned parties in the Virgin Islands, coordinated by Dr. Judy Grybowski of the College of Nursing there, it was decided that a three-week Physical Assessment course be offered on the Islands by FSMFN faculty would be a reasonable pilot project to set the stage for



FSMFN Faculty members Rhonda Johnson and Debbie Browning with St. Thomas students.

further collaboration. It would also provide a first opportunity for FSMFN faculty and the Virgin Islands nurse-midwives to work together. On March 18, Debra Browning, MSN, CFNP and I (Rhonda Johnson, CFNP) left for St. Thomas and St. Croix to teach the Physical Assessment course--which is normally conducted within the first six weeks of our precertification course in Hyden. Post-Hurricane Hugo communication difficulties (it was not uncommon to lose electricity or telephone contact) made it difficult to estimate the actual numbers of participants prior to departure. Early estimates indicated that perhaps ten of the twenty-two eligible nurse-midwives would take the course. Course materials were planned for that number. Dr. Grybowski indicated we should bring ophthalmoscopes and otoscopes but other medical supplies would be available.

Dr. Grybowski opened her home to us for three weeks, even though a portion of her roof had been lost to Hurricane Hugo and had only recently been replaced. A local car dealership, Bayard Motors, provided a complimentary car to us because its owner, Mr. Danny Bayard, strongly supported this opportunity provided for their nurse-midwives.



The vehicle proved invaluable by greatly easing long daily commutes and adding the essential flexibility to meet a harried schedule. It did take a while to adjust to driving on the left side of the road and to the winding island roads!

Upon arrival, we learned that interest in this course had greatly exceeded initial estimates and we would have ten students on St. Thomas and eleven on St. Croix. We were pleased at the interest but also wary as this course is normally limited to six or seven full-time students in Kentucky and team taught for six weeks by three faculty members. Debbie and I were about to teach three times that number of part-time students with full-time jobs and family responsibilities the same material in half the time in a totally new location. A REAL CHALLENGE. . .

Travel was an amazing undertaking. To fit the scheduling needs of the nurse-midwives, it was decided to hold morning classes on St. Croix and afternoon classes on St. Thomas. This daily commute, once made convenient by sea planes now defunct because of Hugo devastation, was accomplished via a small commuter flight between Island



Rhonda Johnson and Debbie Browning with St. Croix students.

airports. Unfortunately, the airports were on opposite ends of the Island from the classroom sites which always added an extra hour onto the schedule. We truly relied on the kindness of strangers as each day we were met by one of the students and shuttled back and forth between airport and class.

St. Croix was literally devastated by Hurricane Hugo and this was grossly apparent as we flew across it each day. Although Hugo had passed six months previously, about half of all homes were still without roofs and huge piles of debris littered the landscape. Few in our class were unaffected by Hugo and many had lost their homes. One nursing faculty member at St. Croix joked that her trailer site got the "Clean Home Award" as everything had literally been swept from the foundation with the exception of the toilet fixtures.

The nurse-midwives on St. Croix currently work out of MASH-style tents provided by the National Guard. They are eerie, half primitive, half space age contraptions that provide "temporary" housing pending necessary repairs to the actual hospital which was judged unsafe and unsuitable after Hugo. They hope to return to the hospital within two years. Their daily work is a struggle on top of dealing with the demands of rebuilding their own homes. Construction has replaced tourism as the number one industry on St. Croix.

These are the women who chose to add a three-credit, 30-contact hour course to their burdens. The youngest was 39; the oldest 62 with an average age of 50. Most had graduated from England and Jamaica but a few graduated from Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago. The most recent graduate finished midwifery in 1985; one finished her training in 1958. All continued their work schedules during the course which included ten three-hour sessions, eight tests, three written assignments and a final complete physical assessment conducted. Realizing the extent of the course, several women chose to audit and participate as possible. Fully two-thirds completed the course for credit; most excelled and none failed.

Eleven of the midwives are actively interested in pursuing the full precertification program in Kentucky. Debbie and I were able to complete the requisite interviews with each, saving them all additional trips to Kentucky. The earliest possible entry for these midwives would

be the January, 1991 class.

We also were asked to do two inservice education programs for the professional staff of each Island hospital. These programs were very well received. Debbie gave a family planning update; my topic was hormone replacement therapy. Between fifteen and thirty-five staff attended each session. Discussion was lively and the questions were thorough and informed. Course evaluations were completed by all participants and were consistently favorable. Most agreed that the time frame was too short but they would welcome additional opportunity to work with the FSMFN staff in the future.

Local television covered the final day of class on St. Thomas. I think we were able to dispel the camera man's initial belief, held by too many, that "midwifery is a thing of the past". If this pilot project is any indication, and if the caliber of most practicing nurse-midwives equals that of the Virgin Islands nurse-midwifery student, there is no doubt that Mary Breckinridge's dream of adequate health care "for mothers and babies" provided by nurses with advanced training will continue to be the frontier of tomorrow.

*-Rhonda Johnson and Debbie Browning*

### **Kate Ireland Named Chairman of Cincinnati Board**



Kate Ireland, National Chairman of the Frontier Nursing Service Board of Governors, has been appointed chairman of the board of directors of the Cincinnati Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Ireland joined the board in 1986.

## First at the County Fair

*The following story, which was prompted by a recent visit to Wendover, was written by J. Laurie Byrne and her mother Jean W. Byrne.*

Wendover, Kentucky is a storytelling mecca. The tales materialized from the vision of Mary Breckinridge in the late 1920's, filtered through those who helped make the Frontier Nursing Service a reality and trickled still further to people who are in some way affected by the services rendered today.

The power and importance of these stories can't be underscored in terms of their impact on the hundreds of women and men who have contributed even brief periods of their lives to the families of Leslie and the surrounding counties. Simple, seemingly insignificant stories become almost magical when they've taken place at Wendover and in the surrounding hills.

FNS stories are among the earliest that I remember. Those were the real-life tales that captured my attention as a fidgety four or five year old. The escapades of the nurses on horseback were right up there with Brer Rabbit and Tom Sawyer.



Jean W. Byrne visits with Sheila Allen during recent trip to Wendover.

The difference was that those stories didn't come out of a book. The narrator was my mother who reeled off one adventure after another that happened during her stint as statistician and assistant bookkeeper for FNS between September 1941 and

March 1946. She took a seven month hiatus, during that time she married and then immediately saw my Dad off to a newly instigated world war.

Jean White, a young Massachusetts woman who had just finished Maryville College in Tennessee, returned to Wendover as Jean Byrne, but her co-workers always knew her as Jerry.

"Mrs. Breckinridge had warned me via letter that with four 'Jeans' already on staff, I would have to use a nickname or change my name, which I didn't relish," my mother explained. "Never having a nickname, and liking my name, I thought surely she would understand. So I gave the matter no further thought.

"Some four days after my arrival, as I came down from my temporary quarters in the guest room, I saw someone sitting in Mrs. Breckinridge's chair. She had an unforgettable face, piercing blue eyes, white hair in a boyish cut, a kindly manner, and a dominant presence. We were introduced and she asked me my nickname. I had never had one. What would I like to be called? 'Jean, if possible', I replied. It was not possible! Would I prefer Jerry or Jay? I thought quickly, knowing there was no appealing, and was known thereafter as 'Jerry'.

The stories that were told in the Byrne family involved swinging bridges; a river that occasionally raged over its banks; horseback rides through stormy mountain nights; babies born by candlelight in isolated cabins; a roaring fire that swept through the Garden House; enduring friendships; and Mrs. Breckinridge—an early Minerva whose memory elicits unerring respect.

Some of the many horses owned by the FNS and used by nurses and staff in the early 1940's always seemed to be in or near the heart of any story told by my mother. These animals were her heroes. They all had names and definite personalities. Sometimes these blended and sometimes they clashed with those of their riders in scenarios that took place at Wendover, in the mountains, or in and around Hyden, an hour ride via horseback or a 30 minute ride in "Edsel the Ford" down a narrow, curvy, rutted dirt road.

The following story by my mother involves her favorite horse.

"The FNS job application asked whether the applicant rode horseback," she said. "The thought of riding horseback filled me with delight, and after all, I had been on a horse probably three times in my life! So I said, "Yes."

"I could tell of many experiences, on and with horses, funny and frightening, exhilarating and exciting, but the most satisfying was the time Puck won first prize in the three-gaited class at the annual Leslie County Fair.

"Puck's mistress, a nurse, had left the service and Puck had been ridden by so many different people with little or no experience in horseback riding that he had lost his gaits. At least, so it was thought. At any rate, I found riding him such a pleasure and after tea most afternoons we exercised the various horses housed in the Wendover barn. If Puck was available, I would ask for him.

"Our favorite ride was through the beech grove a couple of miles down the road. Having been tutored by Jean Hollins and Fannie McIlvain, the resident couriers, I would work with Puck, trying to help him find his gaits. The running walk was especially important if he was even to be ridden by a district nurse again. We would ride to the beech grove and there we worked and worked, particularly on the running walk.

"One beautiful spring day he did it! I was so elated I could scarcely wait to let it be known that Puck did have a running walk. My elation was short-lived when most of those at the dinner table that evening scoffed at my news. Inside I thought, "We'll show them."

"Shortly after that I went home to Wakefield for my six weeks'



Jean W. Byrne on "Puck".

annual vacation. I returned to Wendover two evenings before the county fair in Hyden. Jean Hollins asked me what horse I wanted to ride. Although I wanted it to be Puck, I was a bit thin-skinned from all the ribbing I'd taken and replied that it really didn't matter. I think Jean understood because she asked if I would like to ride Puck, and, of course, I said yes.

"Puck and I went to the beech grove the next afternoon and he got into his running walk. So—I hoped! The following morning we were all up in good time, dressed for the occasion in our best riding habits, and went to the barn for our mounts. We rode down Pig Alley, along the Wendover road, crossed the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River, up Muncy's Creek and along the river road to Hyden.

"I was riding beside Kermit Morgan, farrier, who was on Convoy. He picked up speed and as he did so, I nudged Puck, who responded with a running walk. Great! Kermit looked over, amazed, and said 'By Gawd, a running walk!' There could have been no greater praise.

"As we came toward the parade grounds at the high school, the band was playing, crowds were all around, a small up-hill bank lay just ahead and I was a bit nervous. After all, I had never handled Puck in noise and confusion and I didn't know how he would respond. Not to worry. He did a running walk up that bank and I felt so good.

"Each horse and rider were entered in several events. The one I remember is the three-gaited. We did fine with the walk and the running walk and he cantered beautifully. We waited with high hopes for the announcement of the winner. And Puck was it!

"After that, all it took to squelch the unbelievers was the remark, 'Who won first at the county fair?'"

*-Jean W. Byrne and J. Laurie Byrne*

## Reminiscences of the First FSMFN Graduate:

### A Nurse Called Mitch

*Prior to England's entry into World War II in 1939 FNS staffed its clinics with British or British trained midwives. England's entry into the war meant Americans training abroad were no longer safe and British midwives were needed in their homeland. The solution, which Mary Breckinridge had been wanting to implement for several years, was to establish a midwifery school as part of the Service. The first students were enrolled in November of 1939.*

I was the first graduate of the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery, now named the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing. The school accepted two students to the first class, however during the course, Jennie Burton was ill for 10 days, so I graduated first! She and I plus Audrey Dyer took the first Kentucky state midwifery exams for certification. Two doctors from Louisville, a man and a



Miss Mitchell in her garden beside one of her huge native azaleas.

woman, gave written, oral and practical exams. While Jennie and I had attended the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery, Audrey Dyer had just finished a course in nurse midwifery at the Maternity Center in New York City.

Johns Hopkins sent three nurses to FNS to experience rural nursing. I supervised one of the girls (now Ruth Ingerson). This was the first time FNS had taken in nurses for field experience.

Six years after I graduated Mrs. Breckinridge pushed me out of the FNS nest. The Children's Bureau



had a request from the Pan American Sanitary Bureau asking for a nurse midwife to set up a teaching program in the Republic of Panama to include nurses from several Central and South American countries. I wrote them that because of the war, I was frozen on the job and was happy where I worked. They asked me to re-consider and I replied the same. Then, they approached Mrs. Breckinridge who phoned me to come see her. I rode over on horseback and after a five minute interview, Mrs. Breckinridge said, "Mitch, you have to go, it's a first in nurse midwifery history" So I went. I was away for nearly two years.

When I left South America, I flew directly to New York City to study for a degree at Teacher's College at Columbia University. (Later, I obtained my M.P.H. at the University of Michigan.)

While I was in New York, the Georgia Public Health Department asked me to be their first nurse midwife at the state level. They aspired to set up a nurse midwifery study, the first of its kind funded by the Children's Bureau. We had three different types of service: 1) home delivery, Thomas County Health Department, with Audrey Dyer and Ethel Gonzalez 2) hospital delivery, cooperative with the Walton County Hospital and Walton County Health Department, with Ruth Davis and Ruth Penninger, and 3) maternity shelter, with Lamar County Health Department and the doctors of Barnerville. Some of those who worked there were Minnie Geyer, Gwen Buchanan, Bertha Bloomer, Thelma Blackburn, and Josephine Kinman who also operated a small maternity home in Clayton, Georgia (not under the study). The object of the study was to determine the cost of such projects and the effects of the nurse-midwife programs on the maternal and infant statistics during a ten year period.

The greatest surprise was the high regard and interest expressed by the doctors and officials in the counties of the Nurse Midwifery Services. Presently, Emory University has a program of teaching nurse midwives as the result of the hard work done by the F.N.S. nurse midwives mentioned above.

Children's Bureau asked Georgia to make a film for the purpose of educating local midwives. I was asked to be the technical advisor and the job lasted several months including shooting, cutting etc. Marian

Cadwallader, who had joined the State staff, relieved me for two weeks while I kept an important out-of-state speech engagement.

The year the film "All My Babies" was produced it won the Flaberty Award at the Film Festival in Geneva, Switzerland. Another first!

Twenty five years later, I had a cable from the World Health Organization in Geneva asking me to be a consultant representing North America. The Conference, with consultants representing the rest of the world, would attack, by study, the maternal and child health problems in undeveloped countries, developing countries and developed countries. They asked me to bring "All my Babies" and hand carry the film (not trusting it to Air Freight). I was then retired and had to get a doctor's permission to fly via wheel chair with 3 reels sitting on my lap!

I don't know if this is a first or not but I kept count of my deliveries over the years until I had a 1000 to my list (700+ in Central and South America). Then I quit counting!

I'm the first to say, I was sick at 60 years of age. My doctor ordered me to retire and suggested that I probably had a life expectancy of six months. That was 18 years ago! My life is still busy but of an entirely different style: teaching at the church, flower gardening at my wee house on a half acre, having fun knitting, cooking etc. The Lord has been so good and still is at 78 years.

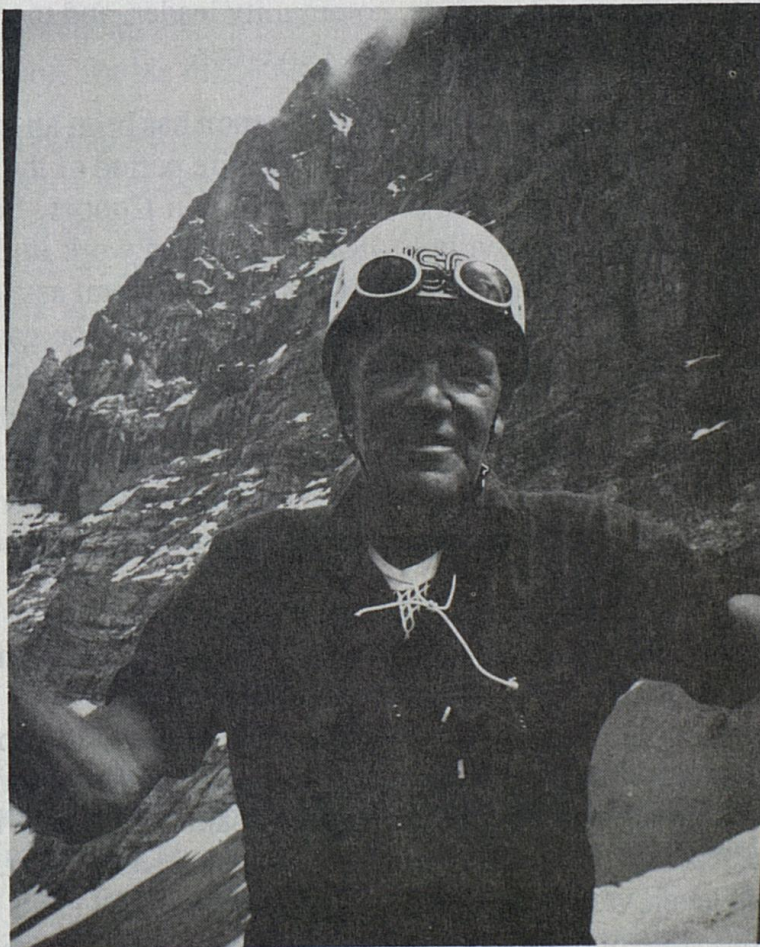
*-Hannah Mitchell*

## Meet the Board of Governors

*The FNS Board of Governors is responsible for establishing the policies by which FNS is governed, as well as approving the annual budget and overseeing expenditures. Each member of the board brings unique gifts and a personal history of involvement with FNS to his or her position of leadership; and each has a key role to play in the governance of the Service. This is another in our series of profiles on the members of the Board of Governors.*

### C. Vernon Cooper, Jr.

Exploring the high places is what Vernon Cooper is all about. His house on the peak of Gorman Ridge, above Hazard, Kentucky, twenty miles to the east of Wendover, gives hints of this. Approach slowly, in low gear. The narrow road winds up the ridge, the thickly forested flanks of the mountain dropping steeply away on both sides, lying in wait for the careless. Best to come at night, when you can't



see how dangerous it is.

Near the summit, you notice a house with an attached astronomical observatory. This is Vernon Cooper's house. Come in and discover the hearth and walls festooned with the trappings of an alpinist—multicolored coils of rope, pitons, crampons, ice axe, compass, photos commemorating the dozens of ascents. Did you notice the kennel full of howling Siberian Huskies next to the driveway? They go with the dog sled on the back porch. Did you notice the portrait of the President of Argentina? It goes with the gaucho equipment, more or less. Has Vernon been to Argentina? He's had babies named after him in Argentina.

Inside the shiny steel dome of the observatory the most powerful telescope in eastern Kentucky is mounted on the bedrock of Appalachia: At its controls is C. Vernon Cooper, Jr., banker, mountain climber, businessman, astronomer, community leader, and member of the Frontier Nursing Service Board of Governors.

Born in Hazard in 1923, Vernon has been an integral part of the Hazard community throughout the entire period of the Frontier Nursing Service's history. His father, C. Vernon Cooper, Sr., had moved to Hazard from Louisville in 1920 and started work in the First National Bank. In 1928, the elder Mr. Cooper and several associates formed the People's Bank of Hazard. The Great Depression came, and People's Bank was the only bank in Hazard to survive. Mr. Cooper, anxious to instill in his son Vernon Jr. a sense of the value of hard work, employed him in the bookkeeping department at the age of fourteen. His salary was thirty dollars a month. It was at about this time that Vernon set his sights high, and decided he would rather be president than bookkeeper.

Another early influence in Vernon's life was his uncle Dewey Daniel, also a banker and insurance man, who told him, "Son, you have to pay for the space you occupy in this community." Vernon took this admonition to heart, and estimates that he currently spends about three quarters of his time in community service. He serves on a total of twenty-nine governing boards of agencies dealing primarily in health, library services, senior citizen services and area development. He is chairman of eleven. Positive results keep him hooked: "I can't quit being active on boards of organizations that are accomplishing something," he says.

Vernon attended Hazard High School and completed one semester at the University of Kentucky before World War II intervened. He soon found himself as an aviation radioman aboard naval dive bombers and patrol planes in the South Pacific. He returned from the war to attend Navy R.O.T.C. at Auburn University, then transferred back to U.K. and completed a degree in business, graduating in 1949. He rejoined People's Bank and also became involved in the insurance business. In 1982 he became president of the bank, a lifelong goal since the age of fourteen.

Mountaineering is a recent passion. He became interested at the age of 53, and has since climbed mountains on every continent. In 1979, while on an expedition in the Andes, he saved the life of an Argentinian Army officer, Lt. Roberto Daniel Parra. For his heroism Vernon was awarded the Order of the Condor, the highest award of the Argentine government. He became an instant celebrity in Argentina, which (and which alone!) accounts for his many namesakes in that country.

Vernon first became involved with the Frontier Nursing Service in 1949, when he visited Wendover to review FNS's insurance program with Mary Breckinridge and Agnes Lewis. They met in the Garden House, then moved to the Big House for the first of what proved to be many, many lunches at the familiar long table. He became firmly committed to the work of FNS, and was asked to serve as a Trustee. He was later elected to the Board of Governors. "FNS serves a great need," he says, with customary directness. "I hope it will continue its mission forever."

*-Carl Severance*

### **Dr. Anne Wasson**

When Dr. Ann Wasson speaks at meetings of the Board of Governors, she speaks with the voice of experience, having held nearly every conceivable position in Frontier Nursing Service. The few jobs she didn't actually hold were the ones for which she filled in from time to time, as the need arose. Now retired and living in Sutton, New Hampshire, Dr. Wasson continues to give FNS the benefit of her experience through her

service on the Board.

At various times "Dr. Anne" has been Director of FNS, Chief of Clinical Services, Dean of the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, District Doctor, and Medical Director, just to name a few. One time when the surgeon left, she became the surgeon. When the O.B. left, she became the O.B. On occasion she was called upon to do an autopsy. In between clinics, surgeries, and deliveries she taught at the School and served in a variety of administrative roles until her retirement in 1983.



In 1951, she entered general practice in Bradford, New Hampshire, after completing her medical degree at the University of Buffalo and further studies at the Eastern Maine General Hospital in Bangor. She continued in practice in New Hampshire for eighteen years.

What brought her to the mountains? The same thing that has brought so many others—a commitment to service, a conviction that FNS was special, and a pioneer's willingness to undergo a dramatic change of scenery.

Dr. Wasson had long known of FNS. Wanting at this point in her career to do something different, she wrote to FNS in 1969 and inquired about the possibility of working for the Service. She spent the summer of that year as the Service's only physician. The following year Dr. Beasley asked her to return. She told him she would, if he would hire two other physicians to share call. The deal was done, and she returned in late 1970 for what was to be a very busy capstone to her distinguished

medical career.

In 1971 she helped organize the family nursing curriculum for the School when family nursing was added to the midwifery program. Accreditation of the new hospital became a priority, and as Chief of Clinical Services she coordinated x-ray, lab, physical therapy and other ancillary services in preparation for the move to the new facility. She developed an interest in clinic design, and was instrumental in formulating the design of the Beech Fork and Community Health Center (Big Creek) clinics, as well as in the redesign of the Pine Mountain clinic.

Dr. Wasson misses medical practice, but has her doubts about the direction it has taken in recent years. "We used to do everything," she says. "Orthopedics, surgery, trauma, dermatology. Physicians won't do that now. They're scared to death they'll get sued."

Dr. Wasson was one of the first physicians certified by the Academy of Family Practice. What does she think about the effects of hyper-specialization and the legal necessity to practice "defensive" medicine? Not much. "It affects the kind of care people get," she says, in her blunt New England way. "There isn't any common sense to it. People have forgotten the adage: 'Common things happen commonly.'"

Dr. Wasson now operates a craft shop and spends her time creating sweaters, quilts, and dolls. She is treasurer of the Sutton Historical Society and serves on the advisory board of the New London Hospital, the same hospital in which she practiced as a G.P. during her days in Bradford. Although her lifestyle has changed, her energy level clearly has not.

*-Carl Severance*

## BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS

I recently went back in the Quarterly Bulletins to read the "Beyond the Mountains" columns written by Mary Breckinridge. "What was the reason?" you may ask. Tradition. I have been touched by the magnificent benefits Frontier Nursing Service receives from our splendid committees and friends. I always feel privileged to travel beyond the mountains to meet with the many supporters of FNS.

Easter weekend the Daughters of Colonial Wars met in Washington for their Fifty-Seventh Annual Assembly. Mrs. Stanleigh Swan, National President of the DCW, graciously invited me to speak at the annual FNS breakfast Sunday morning, April 15. I experienced the most incredible sense of tradition. Mrs. Breckinridge attended the DCW meetings. These meetings are of great importance to us at FNS. The DCW have long been friends to the Service. The current President's Project is raising funds to purchase a vehicle for the home health nurses. I have attended many conferences and conventions. As I sat watching Mrs. Swan chair the annual meeting, I was extremely impressed with her skill as presiding officer. I shall always cherish the fact that I had the opportunity to experience this elegant tradition. On a very special note, Mrs. Winstead T. Buckner, Kentucky State President of DCW and her sister, Mrs. David M. Watts, graciously invited me to dine with them and escorted me to Washington, D.C. sites. It is my pleasure to have met these wonderful Kentucky women! The DCW will hold their Semi-Annual Assembly meeting at Wendover in October. This is the seventh time the DCW has been to Wendover. Mrs. Buckner and Mrs. Whitney Dunlap II visited Wendover, June 4, to meet with Sheila Allen and me to discuss final plans.

Once again, I have had the special privilege to be the guest of Mrs. Jefferson Patterson. My husband Carl, daughter Sarah, and I stayed in her home in Washington for Derby Day Weekend. While we were there Mrs. Patterson hosted a dinner for the Clinton Kelly family and us. Mrs. Kelly is Treasurer of the Washington Committee, and both she and Mr. Kelly are FNS Trustees. After dinner we attended a performance of the "Pirates of Penzance" put on by the St. Alban's and National



Cathedral Schools. This was most fascinating to Sarah. She was escorted by Clint Kelly, the Kellys' son. Later, the Washington Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Theodore Sedgwick, sponsored a highly successful Derby Day Benefit held at Mrs. Patterson's home.

Indeed, each of the Derby Day Benefits was a great success! Miss Kate Ireland attended the splendid Boston Derby Day party where she was the guest of Mrs. Burgess Standley. Ms. Sheila Allen was the guest of Mrs. John Hodge in Philadelphia for Derby Day.

Finally, our Louisville Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Edward Dumesnil, held a lovely luncheon June 6, at the Louisville Country Club. More than 60 people attended from Louisville, Lexington, Cincinnati, Owensboro, and surrounding areas. Miss Kate Ireland gave the opening remarks. I spoke about the current hopes, dreams, and challenges faced by the Frontier Nursing Service. The plan is to rotate the luncheons with 1991 in Lexington and 1992 in Cincinnati. Sheila Allen and I wish to thank Mrs. T. D. Lockett for a restful evening spent in her home. While in Louisville, Sheila and I breakfasted with Mrs. James T. Christie. A special thank you for such delightful hospitality. We had the a most pleasurable visit with Mrs. John Harris Clay in her home. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to ask her questions about the past and to seek ideas about the future of the Frontier Nursing Service. Mrs. Gavin Hamilton Cochran received us at the Episcopal Home where she resides. It was an inspiration to talk with this lovely woman who has such a delightful sense of humor.

On the road to Louisville, Sheila and I stopped to visit with Dr. John Bryden of the Steele Reese Foundation in Lexington. Dr. Bryden was candid and spoke with much common sense regarding foundation funding. We also visited Mrs. Elizabeth H. Kramer and her mother Mrs. Lettie Hensley. Both Mrs. Kramer and her mother are originally from Hyden. Mrs. Hensley spoke of the days she was in Hyden and knew Mrs. Breckinridge. This was an unexpected treat!

This ends my first year at Frontier Nursing Service. In one year I have had experiences for a lifetime. Thanks to each of you, not only for your hospitality and support, but also for sharing the tradition of Frontier Nursing Service with me.

*-Deanna Severance*

### Field Notes

Wendover is a constant hub of activity throughout the year, but I think it is safe to say that the spring months bring more visitors and overnight guests than any other season. Spring is the time when more people travel through these hills to visit our facilities and learn about the history of the Frontier Nursing Service.

Our first big event of the spring was to host a dinner for the local Chamber of Commerce. Fifty people gathered in the Big House for a country dinner and an awards ceremony. Soon after this we began a series of tours from Kentucky nursing schools. A trip to the Frontier Nursing Service has become routine for the students of several schools throughout the state. The students and faculty visit the Mary Breckinridge Hospital, the Kate Ireland Women's HealthCare Center, the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, and then come out to Wendover to see our historical headquarters and eat lunch. We have had students from the University of Louisville, Prestonsburg Community College, Eastern Kentucky University, Hazard Community College, and from several departments of the University of Kentucky in Lexington. High school students from Kentucky Country Day School and from Laurel County High School have also come to visit us. Each group had read about the life of Mary Breckinridge and why she decided to start a nursing service in the mountains. I was happy to be able to show them where it all began.

In the early days of FNS, out-of-town visitors and new employees came first to Wendover to learn about the area and meet the staff. This tradition of introducing new employees to the home of Mary Breckinridge welcomes them to our organization and also helps them gain perspective on the entire Frontier Nursing Service. We have re-started this tradition by temporarily housing more newcomers in the Big House and giving them time to browse through old photos and newspaper clippings while spending time with the couriers and other visitors. This has kept the home of Mary Breckinridge full to capacity several nights. It has also allowed the couriers to learn more about the healthcare field through our incoming staff.

We have had several volunteers at Wendover who have done work outside the traditional courier role. One couple joined us for two weeks and spent hours each day reupholstering pieces of furniture. We are so grateful to Melvin and Joan Rasmussen for all their time and effort! Another volunteer, Judy Zamzow from Minnesota, joined us for several days to work at our clinics and help out with various projects at Wendover.

All of these guests happened to be here for our Wendover Working on April 28th. The day was a huge success! In an effort to invite the people of the area to visit Wendover and also to clear out our grounds, we held a Working--in keeping with Mary Breckinridge's tradition. Fifty-some people gathered at Wendover with their garden tools and a whole lot of enthusiasm. We spent the morning chopping down dead trees and brush, cleaning out ditches, raking up debris, and re-planting flower beds. We covered about half of the Wendover grounds and completed a tremendous amount of work. After the work was done we all ate a picnic lunch with food donated by local grocery stores and listened to banjo music. Several people volunteered to form a Garden Club to help us keep things in order. The weather forecast for the day was against us, but the rains held out until precisely the moment when the last tool had been put away. Thank-you to all those who joined us that day! And thanks to those who contributed to our urgent needs request for garden tools and seeds. The Working was such a success that we plan to have another before the end of summer.

We had the annual April Board of Governors meetings here at Wendover. For two days the Big House, the Barn and the Garden House were full of people and the couriers were busy helping to prepare meals. This is always a fun time for us all to visit with the Board members we see only a few times a year.

In April we housed the keynote speaker of the Leslie County Board of Education's "Spring Into Life Week". Nationally-known public speaker Drew Brown stayed with us while giving two presentations at the Richard Nixon Center about student motivation, drug awareness, and the importance of education. We were happy to be able to accommodate him.

The activities of FNS and Leslie County have kept the couriers

busy. They continue to work in the hospital and clinics, and now spend time in the Hyden Manor Nursing Home, the Hyden Headstart classroom, and occasionally work in different departments of the Leslie County High School. Their enthusiasm remains high--we are lucky to have them!

### Courier News

The couriers have been busy with their usual tasks of working in the hospital and clinics, hosting Wendover functions and making an unusually large number of trips to Lexington. With all the guests we have had in recent months, the couriers have had opportunities to meet and talk with people from all over the world. More and more Leslie County programs have requested their services, and with the variety of projects we now have available there is really something for everyone!

The following couriers have kept in contact and let us know their whereabouts. When you find a moment please drop us a line and tell us your news.

**Janet Brown Jussel '71** and her husband John proudly announce the birth of their son David Scott, born on January 25, 1990. Congratulations!

**Sally Little '52** writes "We packed up last June and settled here [Cannon Beach, OR] in a kooky three-floor house just off the beach with a 360-degree view of the Pacific Haystack and the coastal range. It also has lots of room for friends so on your way up to Canada, down to Mexico, or to or from Japan come and see us!"

**Jane Schneider '89** has been working in Minneapolis for Norwest Banks since she left Wendover. She has recently started a different job scoring benchmark tests for high school students in the South Carolina schools.

*-Cari Michaels*

**IN MEMORIAM**

*These friends have departed this life in recent months. We wish to express our sympathies to their families, and our gratitude for their interest in our work.*

Mrs. Robert B. Carney  
Washington, D.C.

Former member of the FNS Washington Committee.

Mrs. A. Travers Ewell  
South Miami, FL

Loyal supporter and cousin of Mary Breckinridge.

Mrs. Horace P. Fishwick  
Hanover, MA

Mother of Nancy Fishwick, FNP, valued former member of our faculty and staff.

Miss Anne Fox  
Santa Fe, NM

Through the courtesy of Dr. J.P. Voute, we learned of the passing of Miss Fox, an English-trained nurse-midwife, who worked with FNS from 1938 to 1945.

Ms. Elissa Spinner  
Stony Brook, NY

We were saddened to learn of the death of Elissa, courier in the spring of 1984, as a result of an automobile accident in Israel.

Mrs. Sewell C. Williams  
Cincinnati, OH

Hazel Meyer Williams served as secretary (1940's) to Mrs. Breckinridge, doubling as Wendover Postmistress.

Mrs. C. Parker Wood  
Tampa, FL

Courier (1940), Edith "Edie" Verbeck, mother of couriers, Wendy and Phoebe. Wendy wrote of her mother's strength, courage and spirit, "Her two greatest concerns were that she be allowed to die with dignity - and when the time came, that her family and friends would celebrate her life, not mourn her death. Hospice played a vital role in our ability to honour those wishes - what a remarkable organization."

Mrs. William A. Galbraith  
Sewickley, Pa.

FNS bids a sad farewell to Mrs. William A. Galbraith, a loyal friend who began her support in the 1930's. She became a Trustee in 1949 and joined the Pittsburgh Committee in 1966. In 1989 Mrs. Galbraith was elected Honorary Trustee as tribute to her dedication to the mission of FNS. In addition to her personal support, Mrs. Galbraith, along with her late sister Mrs. William W. Collin, Jr., was also instrumental in FNS obtaining grants from the Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust.

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

We wish to express our deep appreciation to these friends, who have shown their love and respect for the individuals named below by making supporting contributions in their memory to the work of the Frontier Nursing Service:

**Mrs. Olive Begley**

Mrs. Cloma Moore

**Mr. Harvey Chappell**

Mrs. Cloma Moore

Miss Danna Larson

**Mr. Ira J. Combs**

Mrs. Cloma Moore

**Mrs. J. Herbert Stouffer**

Mrs. Richard C.L. Moncure

**Mr. Lamar Otis**

Mrs. Alva M. Gregg

**Mrs. Gaylord Stewart**

Mrs. Ralph Sheets

**Mr. Theodore L. Lapierre**

Ms. Marjorie L. White

Anne A. Wasson, M.D.

Mrs. Alice E. Whitman

**Mrs. Horace P. Fishwick**

Mrs. Alice E. Whitman

**Mrs. Sewell C. Williams**

Miss Lucille Knechtly

**Mrs. Arch L. Riddick**

The Staff of NALC Health

Benefit Plan

**Edith Verbeck Wood**

Mr. C. Parker Wood

**Mr. John Lazar**

Miss Danna Larson

**Mary Dow Novotney and**

**Larry N. Dow**

Patricia S. Dow

**Dr. Stuart Graves, Jr.**

Dr. John Ware

**Bernice C. Zorn**

Mr. Theodore E. Zorn

**Lois Tanner Begley**

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Kerr, Jr.

**Esther Thompson**

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hanson

**Myrtle Baker**

Mrs. Alberta B. Keen

Mr. Bradley Baker

Mrs. Elbert Kuhn

Ms. Louise Wethington

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hunt

Mr. and Mrs. Perle Asher

Mrs. Forest F. Campbell

**J. Gibson McIlvain, II**

Mrs. William H. Ashton

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Hodge

Mrs. Suzanne K. Lammers

Ms. Jane Nicholson Mangrum

**Willetta DeLong Tucker Klaren**

Mrs. Alva M. Gregg

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Patient Accounting: Pam Shepherd

Purchasing: Nannie Hornsby

Medical Records: Mallie Noble, ART

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Manager: Eva Morgan

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Wendy L. Wagers, MSN, CFNM

Educational Coordinator

Debra Browning, RN, MSN, CFNP

Family Nurse Instructor

Rhonda Johnson, MS, CFNP

Family Nurse Instructor

Sarah Ragalyi, RN, CNM

Nurse-Midwifery Instructor

Sr. Martha Walsh, RN, MSN, CNM

Nurse-Midwifery Instructor

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Laboratory: Ruth Rushby, MT (ASCP)

Maintenance: John C. Campbell

OR Supervisor: Betty McQueen, RN

Pharmacy: Joe R. Lewis, BS, RPh

Quality Assurance: Betty H. Couch, ART

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Social Work: Ruth Ann Dome, BSW

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Head Nurse, Med / Surg: Marie Mitchell, RN

Head Nurse, OB: Sidney Baker, RN

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Chief of Staff:

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Ira Azizpour, M.D., Obstetrics/Gynecology

Ernesto D. Cordova, MD, General Surgery

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**Jessie Preston Draper Memorial Nursing Center (Beech Fork)**

Sue Lazar, RN, MSN, CFNP, Project Director

**Community Health Center (Big Creek)-successor to The Caroline Butler Atwood Memorial Nursing Center (Flat Creek),**

The Clara Ford Nursing Center (Red Bird), and The Betty Lester Clinic (Bob Fork)

Sharon D. Koser, BSN, CFNP

**Wooton Center:**

Sr. Joan Gripshover, RN, BES, CFNP, Project Director

Sr. Katherine A. Donohue, RN, MS, FNP

**Pine Mountain Center**

Gertrude Morgan, BSN, CFNP, Project Director

**Home Health Agency**

Susan Snider, RN, Director

Sandra Gross, RN

Clara Jefferis, RN, BSN, CFNP

Sandy Mathis, RN

Frontier Nursing Service, Wendover, Kentucky 41775, 606-672-2317  
 Mary Breckinridge Hospital, Hyden, Kentucky 41749, 606-672-2901  
 Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, Hyden, Kentucky 41749 606-672-2312

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FNS has an urgent need for the items listed below and hopes that its friends will wish to contribute toward their purchase. Donations should be sent to the Development Office, Frontier Nursing Service, Wendover, Kentucky 41775, where they will be gratefully received.

### For Medical Surgery:

Mattress (5)	Estimated Cost:	\$523
IUAC Thermometers (2)	Estimated Cost:	\$498
Wall B/P units (9)	Estimated Cost:	\$720
Stethoscopes (4)	Estimated Cost:	\$180

### For the OB:

Doppler (1)	Estimated Cost:	\$500
Portable color TV for lobby	Estimated Cost:	\$300
Curtains for birthing room	Estimated Cost:	\$200
Flowmeters with O <sub>2</sub> gauges	Estimated Cost:	\$550

### For Radiology:

24 X 30 Grid Cassette	Estimated Cost:	\$650
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### For Respiratory Therapy:

Flowmeters with O <sub>2</sub> gauges	Estimated Cost:	\$550
O <sub>2</sub> analyzer	Estimated Cost:	\$475

### For Wendover:

Large Braided Area Rugs (4)	Estimated Cost:	\$400
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### For Dietary:

Microwave Oven	Estimated Cost:	\$275
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### For Financial Counseling:

Chairs (2)	Estimated Cost:	\$380
Calculator	Estimated Cost:	\$100

### For Admitting:

Calculators (2)	Estimated Cost:	\$200
Receipt Machine	Estimated Cost:	\$385

### For Laundry:

Automatic Washing Machine	Estimated Cost:	\$499
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WE THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION



The Frontier Nursing Service  
Wendover, Kentucky 41775

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Please send me more information about:

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## FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE, Inc.

Its motto:

“He shall gather the lambs with his arm  
and carry them in his bosom, and shall  
gently lead those that are with young.”

*Isaiah 40:11*

Its object:

To safeguard the lives and health of mothers and children by providing and preparing trained nurse-midwives for rural areas where there is inadequate medical service; to give skilled care to women in childbirth; to give nursing care to the sick of both sexes and all ages; to establish, own, maintain and operate hospitals, clinics, nursing centers, and midwife training schools for graduate nurses; to carry out preventive public health measures; to educate the rural population in the laws of health, and parents in baby hygiene and child care; to provide expert social service; to obtain medical, dental and surgical services for those who need them, at a price they can afford to pay; to promote the general welfare of the elderly and handicapped; to ameliorate economic conditions inimical to health and growth, and to conduct research toward that end; to do any and all other things in any way incident to, or connected with, these objects, and, in pursuit of them to cooperate with individuals and with organizations, private, state or federal; and through the fulfillment of these aims to advance the cause of health, social welfare and economic independence in rural districts with the help of their own leading citizens.

From the Articles of Incorporation of the  
Frontier Nursing Service, Article III  
as amended June 8, 1984