

Inventory of the

**District Two**  
**Illinois Nurses' Association**

Records

In the  
Regional History Center

**RC 144**

## INTRODUCTION

Maxine Zamecnik, President, Second District, Illinois Nurses' Association, deposited the associations' records in the Northern Illinois University Archives on August 28, 1973. J. Joseph Bauxar, University Archivist, transferred the collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center in June 1978. Addenda were added at later dates.

Property rights in the collection belong to District Two of the Illinois Nurses' Association; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 5.00; 3 digital files (44.5KB)  
Number of containers: 7 + 1 volume  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 144

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The District II, Illinois Nurses' Association records (1914-2004) are organized in five series: 1) administrative records, 2) financial records, 3) membership records, 4) publications, and 5) other organization's records. The district includes nurses from DeKalb, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, and Will Counties. Administrative records comprise the largest series and contain constitutions and by-laws, regular and board meeting minutes, annual reports, correspondence, committee and section records, and histories of the association and hospitals and nursing education programs within the district. The section records document specific nursing divisions within the association such as general duty or mental health nurses. Although distinct from the financial records series, some budgets and treasurer's reports can be found in the regular meeting minute books or the finance committee file. Annual meeting minutes also are interfiled in the regular meeting minutes. Records for Nurses Week in 1978 and awards and commendations complete the series.

Materials from the District II Student Nurses' Association, the Illinois State Nurses Association (I.S.N.A.), the Illinois Nurses' Association (I.N.A.), and the American Nurses' Association (A.N.A.) comprises the other organizations' records series. There is a detailed history of the I.N.A. for the years 1901 to 1935 in Box 6, folder 3. Of particular interest is the file containing state nursing acts (1931-1965) indicating the associations' concern for registration and certification laws. The expansion of the I.N.A. as well as office changes and digital access is noted via a series of newsletters (1995-2004) in box 7.

The collection provides substantial information on the development of the nursing profession and it is especially useful for women's history research. Indications of advancements in medicine may also be gleaned from the documents. In particular, the minutes detail the effect World Wars I and II had upon the nursing and medical professions as well as the struggle for

standard nursing education requirements.

A 3.5" floppy containing historic documents created in 1995 and 1996 can be found in the Historical Committee folder (box 7). The documents included a list of officers (1982-1997), presidents (1914-1996), and contact information for the Regional History Center, where INA District Two Records were donated. These e-records may be accessed on the computer in the Center's reading room. Print copies of the documents are in the collection.

### HISTORICAL SKETCH

A group of nurses met in 1901 to form the "Graduate Nurses Association of the State of Illinois." The group worked for acceptable standards of instruction for nursing schools. In 1911 the association decided to form subdivisions, called districts, determined by railroad facilities. District Two held its first meeting in Retan Hall, Sherman Hospital, Elgin, on November 4, 1914. The by-laws stated the associations objectives--"... to advance high standards of ethical and professional and education advancements in every proper way." Originally, DeKalb, Kane, Kendall, McHenry and Will Counties comprised District Two; today, McHenry County has been replaced by Grundy County.

Throughout its history the association strived to better nurses working conditions and improve the medical profession. During World War I, despite a shortage of nurses, the association sponsored a bill stating that nursing education requirements should not be lowered. A Tuberculosis and Relief Committee formed in 1920 and by 1925 twenty-five nurses received free cards at the "Tuberculosis Shack" in Naperville. This later became Edwards Sanitarium for Tuberculosis and today, following reconstruction, the building is used as Naperville's legislation on both the State National levels.

Many of the medical laws familiar today were sponsored or supported by the association. In 1933 nurses lobbied for the bill stating that all babies have silver nitrate drops put in each eye immediately after birth to prevent blindness. A 1937 bill raised the requirements for nurses' registration. In 1955, after fourteen years of continual effort by the American Nurses' Association, Congress passed a bill to provide a Commission in the Reserve Nurses' Corps of the Army, Navy, and Air Force for mail nurses. Female nurses had been commissioned since World War II.

Various branches of nursing became important in 1947 when the association formed sections. The first sections, public health, institutional staff, and private duty, had their own governing rules complying with district by-laws. Later sections formed included industrial nurses, (now known as occupational health), general duty nurses and education, administration, consultant, and teachers section, (both formed out of the institutional staff), institutional nursing service and administrators, office nurses, and psychiatric nurses. A Student Nurses' Association organized in 1950 with a professional nurse appointed as an advisor.

Over the year the association made several contributions to different groups in an effort to improve programs of benefit to nurses. They worked for job security and special insurance programs. Today, the District Two nurses continue to strive for improving nursing skills, their purposes, and their usefulness to society. In 2002 they officially gained a website for their association, broadening access to their cause.

Note: This historical information was taken from Heritage: District Two, A Past to Remember by Elizabeth A. Hallet, R.N. (1976).

### SUBJECT TRACINGS

Copley Hospital  
 Community health clinics  
 DeKalb County (Ill.)  
 Delnor Hospital  
 Geneva (Ill.)  
 Grundy County (Ill.)  
 Hospitals  
 Illinois Nurses' Association  
 Kane County (Ill.)  
 Kendall County (Ill.)  
 Medical Care  
 Mercy Hospital  
 Morris (Ill.)  
 Nurses  
 Professions, Women  
 Sherman Hospital  
 St. Joseph Hospital  
 Sycamore Municipal Hospital  
 Will County (Ill.)  
 Women--Societies and clubs  
 World War I  
 World War II

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Series I. Administrative Records		
1	1a	Archives Deposit, 1973
	1	History, 1951, 1976
		Histories of Health Facilities and Nursing Education Programs:
	2	Copley Memorial Hospital, Aurora
	3	Delnor Hospital, St. Charles
	4	Elgin Mental Health Center - Local Unit of District II, INA
	5	Geneva Community Hospital and Nursing School
	6	Joliet Junior College Nursing Program
	7	Kishwaukee College School of Practical Nursing
	8	Mercy Center for Health Care Services, Aurora
	9	Morris Hospital and Alumni Association, Morris
	10	N.I.U. Student Health Center, DeKalb
	11	St. Joseph Hospital, Elgin
	12	St. Joseph Hospital, Joliet
	13	Sherman Hospital School of Nursing, Elgin
	14	Sycamore Municipal Hospital
	15	Waubensee Community College Nursing Program
	16	Nurses' Week - Mayors' and Governor's Proclamations, 1978, 1981
	17	Awards and Commendations, (1962-1977)
	18-19	Constitutions and By-laws, (1922-1986)
	20-29	Regular Meeting Minutes, (1914-1994) Note: Folders 21-22 contain Board Meeting Minutes, 1928-1939
	30-38	Board Meeting Minutes, 1940-April 1994
2	1-4	Annual Reports, 1952-1995
	5-7	Correspondence, 1947-1985
3	1-5	Presidents' File, (1953-1968)
	6	Board of Directors, (1950-1957)
4	1-2	Board of Directors, (1958-1968)
	3	Officers, Boards, and Committee Lists, Manuals, 1964-1990
	4	Officers, Boards, and Committee Manuals, 1977, 1982, 1989-1990

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
4	5	District Two Officers and Board Members, (1982-1993) Committee Reports and Minutes:
	6	By-laws, 1990
	7	Finance, 1958, 1964-1971, 1984-1991
	8	Historical, 1977-1978
	9	Legislative, (1958-1965), 1988-1990
	10	Membership, 1958, 1984-1989
	11	Nominating, 1958, 1966
	12	Nurses Week, 1987-1990
	13	Program, 1962-1963
	14	Public Relations, 1957-1958, 1989-1990
	15	Study Committee on Functions of the ANA, 1964
		Section Reports and Minutes:
	16	Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers Sections, 1954-1958
	17	General Duty, 1961-1962
	18	Industrial Nurses (Occupational Health), 1949-1963
	19	Institutional Nursing Service Administrators, 1954-1960
		Section Reports and Minutes:
5	1	Institutional Staff, 1949-1950
	2	Mental Health Nurses (Psychiatric Nurses), 1953-1961
	3	Private Duty Nurses, 1948-1963
	4	Public Health Nurses, 1947-1972
	5	School Nurses, 1955-1964
	6	General Duty Section, 1957-1965
Series II. Financial Records		
	7-8	Treasurer's Book, 1941-1952
	9-12	Financial Audits, (1957-1972)
	13	Financial Statements, May 31, 1986-May 31, 1989
	14	Financial Reports, 1953-1961
	15	Treasurer's Reports, 1987-1991
	16	Audits, Tax Returns, 1965, 1967, (1970-1980)
	17	Semi-monthly Transaction Reports, 1969-1970
	18	Treasurer's Membership Reports, 1958-1966
	OV Vol.	Financial Ledger, 1954-1964
Series III. Membership Records		
	19	Membership, 1954-1957

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
5	20-26	Membership Lists by Section, (1957-1966)
	27	Membership Directory, November 1969
	28-29	Membership Lists, 1974, 1978, 1990-1991

Series IV. Publications

	30	Newspaper Clippings, 1952-1986
	31	Media Coverage-Clippings, 1987-1988
	22-37	Newsletters, (1953-1990)
6	1	Newsletters, (1990-1994)

Series V. Other Organizations' Records

	2	Student Nurses Association, District II, 1958-1964
		Illinois State Nurses Associations (ISNA):
	3	History of the ISNA, 1901-1935
	4	Constitution and By-laws, 1939-1977
	5	Annual Reports, 1950, 1954
	6	Convention Excerpts, 1948-1949
	7	Convention Programs, 1954, 1977, 1981
	8	Membership Directory, 1941
	9	Illinois State Nursing Acts, 1931-1965
		Illinois Nurses Association (INA):
	10	Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, 1901-1968, 1987, 1989
	11	District President's Meetings, 1988-1994
	12	President's Report to INA Board, 1993
	13	Correspondence, 1987
	14	Strategic Planning, 1984-1991
	15	Brochures, 1976, 1984, n.d.
	16	Insurance Programs, 1955
	17-18	Membership Campaign, 1960's
	19	Membership Statistics and Information, 1991
	20	American Red Cross, 1955-1956
	21	Schools of Nursing in District, n.d.
	22	Convention Programs, 1960, 1989, 1991, 1993
	23	Economic Security, 1957-1958
		American Nurses Association (ANA):
	24	Certificates of Incorporation and By-laws, (1934-1958), 1987, 1989
	25	ANA, 1989-1991

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	7	
6	26	Correspondence, 1987		
	27	ANA Foundation, 1989-1992		
	28	Brochures, 1982-1990, n.d.		
	29	Convention Programs, 1958, 1960		
	30	<u>A Discussion Guide on Public Funds for Nursing Education, 1957</u>		
	31	Peplau, Hildegard E., <u>Interpersonal Relations in Nursing</u> , 1952		
	32	"What To Do About the Nursing Shortage," 1989		
	33	Photographs, 1980		
	34	Photographs, 1980-1981		
	35	Scrapbook, 1977-1981		
	<u>ADDENDUM</u>			
		36	Correspondence, 1991-1995	
		37	Newsletter Receipts, 1980-1987	
38		Grant Proposal and Reports: Outreach Urban Clinics Help Immunize Everyone (OUCHIE), 1994-1995		
39		Illinois Nurses Association, Convention Programs, 1993, 1995		
40		American Nurses Association, "How to Recruit New State Nurses Association Members," 1990		
<u>ADDENDUM</u>				
7	Illinois Nurses Association (INA), District Two:			
	1	History		
	2	Correspondence (1986-2002)		
	3	Board Meeting Minutes, August 1994-2001		
	4	Officers and Board Members, 1982-2003		
	5	Historic Committee, 1977		
	6	Financial Statements, 1978, 1980, 1984-1996		
	7	Financial Records (1998-2000)		
	8	Membership (1994, 1999)		
	9	Newsletters, 1995-2002, 2004		
10	American Journal of Nursing (AJN) Subscription (1982-1988)			