



Laura L. Simms, EdD, RN First Foundation President RIP

Laura L. Simms, EdD, RN, died peacefully on January 31, 2009 at her cherished home in Kent, Connecticut, with loving friends at her side. Dr. Simms celebrated her 90th birthday on January 4, 2009.

An Incorporator of the Foundation of New York State Nurses, Dr. Simms served as its first President and subsequently as a Trustee-at-large. She spearheaded the drive to construct the Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing and shepherded development of the Foundation's program centers for nursing history, public education and nursing research. Upon her resignation as an active Trustee, the Board of

Trustees designated her as a Trustee Emeritus. At the ceremony to celebrate early retirement of the mortgage on the Center for Nursing, the Board of Trustees recognized Dr. Simms' extraordinary and enduring contributions to the Foundation.

Dr. Simms was a towering leadership figure in the nursing profession. Those of us who were privileged to work with her and witness her extraordinary leadership can attest that her passion for and dedication to excellence in nursing were boundless.

Dr. Simms chaired the 1969 New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) Special Committee to Study the Nurse Practice Act. That Committee's work resulted in the 1972 landmark revised legal definition of professional nursing practice which, for the first time in history, specified the diagnostic privilege and autonomous nature of nursing practice. The definition became a model for practice acts in other states and countries and was incorporated into the American Nurses Association's "The Social Contract." Dr. Simms later served as President and Director-at-large of NYSNA.

Prior to entering nursing through the Cadet Corps program, Dr. Simms taught high school English. Her initial nursing preparation was at Parkland Hospital School of Nursing Dallas, Texas, and she earned her Masters at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. She came to New York to seek additional education at Teachers College, Columbia University, where she earned her Doctorate of Education Degree.

While serving as Director, Department of Surgical Nursing at New York – Cornell University Medical Center and Professor of Surgical Nursing, Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing, Dr. Simms pioneered the role of the Clinical Nursing Specialist. Her doctoral dissertation, *"The Clinical Nursing Specialist,"* details the significance of this role in the delivery of quality nursing and health care.

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Cecilia F. Mulvey receives the 2008 Driscoll Award

The Foundation Board of Trustees confers the Driscoll Award annually upon an individual who:

- Gives evidence of sustained dedication to the Foundation of New York State Nurses and attainment of its mission and goals;
- Demonstrates commitment to increasing public knowledge and understanding of professional nursing;
- Is recognized by peers as demonstrating advancement of the nursing profession through leadership in meeting health care needs of the community, scholarship, research and/or activities pertinent to his/her profession;
- Reflects the standards and values of Veronica M. Driscoll who epitomized vision and creativity in advancing the nursing profession.

In a letter to Dr. Mulvey advising her that the Board of Trustees had selected her as the 2008 Driscoll Awardee, FNYSN Executive Director Susan Fraley noted,

"You personify fulfillment of the Driscoll Award criteria. You knew Veronica M. Driscoll well and, in all your distinguished leadership positions, have supported and worked to implement her vision of advancing the nursing profession. Your multifaceted support of the Foundation and its mission has been extraordinarily

(continued on page 3)

The St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Center for Public Education Planning Committee Convenes

The St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Center for Public Education Planning Committee met in March and is actively collaborating with the Capital Region Patient Advocacy and Navigation Project (CRPANP). The immediate goal is the development of four teaching modules for proposed workshops. The first workshop will focus on the various aspects of preparation for an office visit to your primary care provider (PCP).



Members of the Planning Committee are (l-r): Row 1: Ann Karl, Ellen Howie, Susan Fraley; Row 2: Marieke Burt, Mary Edgar, Lee Carr, Beth Allison, and Anne Schott. Missing from photo are Virginia Phoenix and Judith Wines.

Jean Heady to be honored

The Foundation will host a Tribute Dinner honoring Jean Heady on July 17, 2009 from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Bonnie Castle Resort, a luxurious resort located along the beautiful St. Lawrence River. Cost for dinner will be \$60.00 per person and will include a cash bar, cocktail reception and dinner.



Ms Heady has a long and distinguished Public Health Nursing career in New York State and nationally. She is very active in the Jefferson Co. Public Health Service (PHS) and serves on the Board of Directors of the Home Care Association. Under her leadership, Jefferson Co. PHS participated in the NYS Department of Health Outcome-Based Quality Improvement [pilot] Project simultaneously with the U. S. Center for Health Care Policy and Research. The result of this effort – Outcome-Based Assessment Set (OASIS) – enables patients and their families through education to manage their ongoing health care issues and prevent other complications.

During the 1993 meningococcal outbreak in Jefferson Co., Ms Heady managed the immunization clinics and the disease investigations.

Some of the awards conferred on Ms Heady are the NYSNA Legislative Award, the Home Care Association of NYS Ruth F. Wilson Award and the ANA Pearl McIver Public Health Nurse Award. She has served NYSNA at the district and state levels as well as serving on the national level as a member of the ANA Council of Community Health Nurses and as a delegate to the ANA House of Delegates. An early and steadfast Foundation supporter, Ms Heady currently serves on the Leadership Team of the Central New York Nurses Drive to endow the Foundation's Center for Nursing Research.

SAVE THE DATES:

- May 5, 2009: Dinner honoring Cecilia F. Mulvey as recipient of the 2008 Driscoll Award at LeMoyne College, Syracuse, NY.
- June 19, 2009: "NY Garden Reception" Fundraiser at the NY Wine & Culinary Center in Canandaigua
- July 17, 2009: Tribute Dinner honoring Jean Heady at Bonnie Castle Resort, Alexandria Bay, NY
- August 29, 2009: Travers Day, Saratoga Race Course
- Oct. 8, 2009: FNYSN Research Awards Dinner
- Oct. 10, 2009: Super Drawing



SPOTLIGHT ON NURSING RESEARCH AWARDEES

Please join us on October 8, 2009 at the NYSNA Convention in Saratoga Springs to honor the Foundation's 2008 and 2009 Nursing Research Awardees. The evening will feature conferral of awards to the 2008 and 2009 awardees, a presentation of her research program by Dr. Patricia W. Stone and a dinner with friends and colleagues. NYSNA membership and convention registration are not required to attend. Watch the Foundation's website and NYSNA Convention information for registration details.

Patricia W. Stone, RN, PhD, MPH
2008 DISTINGUISHED NURSE RESEARCHER



Dr. Stone is an outstanding researcher in the area of nurse workforce issues in relation to cost and quality outcomes. Specifically, Dr. Stone has examined such topics as the relationship between Intensive Care Unit work environment and healthcare associated

infections, and the relationship between flexible shifts and RN job satisfaction and retention. Currently she is the Principal Investigator of two federally funded studies: 1) "Prevention of Nosocomial Infections Cost-effective Analysis," funded by National Institute of Nursing Research, and 2) "Using Queuing Theory to Improve the Effectiveness of Nurse Staffing," funded by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She is a Co-Principal Investigator with Ann Bartel, a labor economist, on a study entitled, "Human Capital in Nursing Workforce and Its Impact on Patient Outcomes," funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Dr. Stone received her undergraduate nursing education at the University of the State of New York, the M. S. from Syracuse University and a PhD from the University of Rochester. She is currently an Associate Professor of Nursing at Columbia University. She received a Masters of Public Health as a Post-doctoral

Cecilia F. Mulvey (cont'd)

generous and steadfast. Your current service on the Leadership Team of the Central New York Nurses Drive to endow the Center for Nursing Research with a minimum gift of \$1 million dollars is of immeasurable significance.

The many roles you have held testify to your concern for health needs and professional nurses in your "communities." These include, but are not limited to: Professor and Interim Dean, Syracuse University School of Nursing; Past President and continuing supportive member of the Central Counties Professional Nurses Association, District #4; Board member of the Visiting Nurse Service of Onondaga County; diverse service to the American Nurses Association, Past President of the Foundation of the American Nurses Association, Past President of the American Nurses Credentialing Center and currently Co-Chair of the Credentialing Center's international work. Your contribu-

Trainee at Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Nursing Research Institute. Dr. Stone is an Elected Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and is a member of several other organizations and societies such as the Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy, Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology and many others. She has numerous publications in national and international journals.

Christina Koulouglioti, PhD, RN
2008 NOVICE NURSE RESEARCHER



Dr. Koulouglioti is the first recipient of the Foundation's Novice Nurse Researcher Award. Her doctoral dissertation, entitled "The Relationship of Supervision, Routines, and Injury Among Preschool Children," explored the mediating and moderating role of children's routines on unintentional injuries. In her dissertation she also examined the relationship of maternal fatigue to children's everyday routines, supervision, children's sleep and injuries. She continues her interest in the relationship between children's routines and their health in her post-doctoral work and hopes her findings will inform the development of cost-effective health promotion interventions to reduce unintentional injuries.

Dr. Koulouglioti is currently a post-doctoral Fellow as a recipient of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, University of Rochester School of Nursing, Rochester, NY.

Nominations for the 2009 Distinguished Nurse Researcher, Novice Nurse Researcher, and Evidence-Based Practice Awards are now being accepted. Nomination packets can be found on our website: <http://www.FoundationNYSNurses.org> and click on "Nomination Packets."

tion to the growth and development of the Magnet Program and its resultant standard of ever-increasing excellence in nursing practice and care is invaluable.

Clearly, your service to local, statewide, national and international communities of health and nursing is remarkable and enduring. The Foundation is proud and privileged to enroll you in the circle of Driscoll awardees."

In 1995, NYSNA conferred on her its highest award – Honorary Recognition. In 2002, she received the ANA Distinguished Membership Award.

Dr. Mulvey will receive her award at the Annual Awards Dinner meeting of District #4 NYSNA at LeMoyne College, Syracuse, NY, on May 5, 2009, 5:30-8:30.

For information about the May 5 Dinner, please contact M. Janice Nelson at topnurse@twcny.rr.com.

Oral Histories



Oral Histories are a rich resource for historians because sound engages not only our imagination but our senses as well. One can hear the nuances, the excitement or agitation, the elation or grief that cannot always be conveyed through the written words. The

BACNH is fortunate to have a growing collection of oral histories. Carol Wavrin, a Public History Graduate student at the University at Albany, SUNY is completing research utilizing the 1993 World Trade Center Nurses Oral Histories.

We also collect oral histories from military nurses obtained through the direct efforts of our staff and family members of military nurses. Two

Mary on the Farm



examples are histories of Mary Jean LiBritz Deasy, RN, Lieutenant, NNC (Retired) and Ellen T. Dunne, MS, RN, Captain, NNC (Retired). Susan Deasy Cardinal interviewed her mother and Cathryne Welch and Mary Finnin interviewed Ellen Dunne.

Mary Jean LiBritz

graduated from Edward J. Meyer Memorial Hospital in Buffalo, NY, and entered the Navy in June, 1943. In her words, "My brother

couldn't go in, cause he was the only male child. I was going in the Army, then I transferred to the Navy, because of my mother's dissent." She arrived in



Mary at Aiea Heights

Hawaii and served at Aiea Heights Hospital for 14 months and finished her tour at Kaneohe. While at Aiea Heights,

"We got eleven survivors from the Bataan Death March. Mostly Army. One was English and the others were Army, Navy ... belonged to the United States. And they did survive. They were under constant care."

Ellen T. Dunne graduated from St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City and earned her Masters Degree from NYU. She decided to become a military nurse "right at the beginning of World War II. I registered immediately." She chose the Navy because of a "family tradition of Navy people. My grandfather was a Captain in the Navy."



Ellen T. Dunne

Miss Dunne served stateside during the war supervising, educating and training nurses and corpsmen. She also worked for the National League for Nursing and the Board of Nurse Examiners and influenced "my niece Lorraine to go into nursing." Miss Dunne remembered a veteran nurse, Mary Finnin,* and she closed with "I remember a lot of them ... all who served in the service."

These are but two of the rich histories available at the Bellevue Alumnae Center for Nursing History Archives. Visit our Oral History Programs on our Center for Nursing History webpage at <http://www.FoundationNYSNurses.org>

Scrapbook Pages



* This Mary Finnin is not our Foundation Vice President; however "our" Mary Finnin knew the Mary Finnin Miss Dunne remembered.

Laura Simms (cont'd)

Dr. Simms was an untiring community leader in Kent, Connecticut. She assisted in establishing a nutrition center for senior citizens, served on the Kent Scholarship Committee, chaired the Kent Garden Society (leading a Daffodil Festival which resulted in the planting of more than 10,000 bulbs throughout the village) and was a member of the Kent Quilting Society. A beautiful quilt she hand-stitched in her 80th year graces the front wall of the Board Room at the Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing.

Among Dr. Simms' numerous honors and awards are: Honorary Recognition, NYSNA's highest award; The Driscoll Award, FNYSN's highest award; and, The R. Louise McManus Medal, the highest award of the Nursing Education Alumni Association, Teachers College, Columbia University.

"We will sorely miss Dr. Simms' earthly guidance as we endeavor to strengthen and advance the Foundation's work, but we, and those who follow us, will be forever guided by her singular vision and commitment," said Joan Madden Wilson, Foundation President, upon learning of Dr. Simms' passing. Memorial services are being planned. Watch for information on the Foundation website.

For those who wish to remember our beloved "Laura" in a special way, contributions to the Foundation or one's charity of choice are suggested.

The Foundation of NYS Nurses 2nd Annual SUPER DRAWING!



Grand Prize - \$10,000

2nd Prize - \$1,000

3rd Prize - \$500

~ \$100 per ticket ~



GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY
We have 175 remaining to sell!

**Drawing will be on October 10, 2009
at NYSNA Convention, Saratoga Springs, NY**

Please complete the necessary information on this order form and mail to:
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Welcome to Sage Students

The Sage Colleges nursing students and instructors Glenda Kelman, PhD, RN and Karen Dyer, MS, RN, Department of Nursing toured the Center on March 25th and attended a presentation on the History of Nursing in NYS given by Archivist Gertrude Hutchinson.

IN MEMORIAM

The Foundation notes with great sorrow the passing in January of 2009 of two extraordinary Foundation friends: Margaret Hobson and Glorianna Johnson. While sad, we acknowledge their selfless giving to our profession.

Glorianna R. Johnson, RN 1926-2005



Glorianna R. Johnson, RN, a native New Yorker, died on January 5, 2009 at the Van Rensselaer Nursing Home among her family. Miss Johnson graduated from Hudson City Hospital School of Nursing in 1948 and during that time she was also a member of the U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps and earned degrees in Nursing Education and Liberal Arts at Syracuse University and American University respectively. She served domestically and internationally as an Occupational, Public Health and Community Nurse. Miss Johnson provided leadership in clinical settings at the NIH in Bethesda, MD, and as a missionary nurse to the people of Iran (1960-1963) as a member of the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations of the United Presbyterian Church.

Miss Johnson was a member of NYSNA, NLNE, the American Public Health Association, the National Home Care Association, and an ANA constituent. We echo the words of her stepsister Jeannine Davis, "You lived for others and you will be missed by one and all."

Margaret Hobson, MPH, RN, CNM, 1921 – 2009

Margaret Hobson passed from our presence on January 8, 2009. Although slight in stature, Miss Hobson possessed a large heart and passion for nursing. Encouraged by Sir Alexander Fleming, she trained at Walton Hospital in the North of England. Graduating in 1942 and, as many women coming of age during "The Blitz," she developed inner strength and a witty sense of humor. She studied and was certified in Midwifery and Anesthesia and expanded into her role as a Public Health Nurse.




Miss Hobson crossed the Atlantic and found her way to the Frontier Nursing Service Midwifery School in Kentucky. After serving women in the Kentucky hills, she came to New York City and worked at Maternity Center of Metropolitan Hospital doing home deliveries in the Bronx and Manhattan. She believed in the importance of professional organizations and the valuable part they played in enriching nurses. She belonged to NYSNA, and other international groups attending conventions worldwide. Miss Hobson was a devout Foundation supporter and NYSNA Convention attendees made their way to the Foundation's exhibit booth where Margaret's "jams and jellies" were available as tokens of fund raising appreciation. She wrote, "Nursing makes many friends, and I have been very fortunate." We too have been very fortunate to call you our friend.



IN SERVICE OVERSEAS - HONORING OUR NURSES

Again this year, in celebration of Valentine's Day, the Foundation sent "Hearts Galore" to nurses stationed in Iraq. Two hundred and fifty hand made hearts, containing tubes of Lip Ice, were sent to Col. Deborah Spencer to be distributed to her colleagues in Baghdad and Tallil, Iraq. The hearts arrived in time to celebrate the February 2nd, 1901 founding of the Army Nurse Corps.

We extend deepest appreciation to: Cindy Gurney, former Foundation Research Specialist, her mother Charlotte Gurney and sister Pam Gurney for their dedicated and generous creation of the Hearts, Helen Vartigian for procuring from Mara's Pharmacy in Cohoes the tubes of Lip Ice inserted in the Heart's pockets, and Capital District #9 Nurses Association for its support of the "Hearts Galore" project.



Foundation President, Joan Madden Wilson, MA, RN addressed the Capital District Nurses Association, District #9 NYSNA on April 2, 2009. Her topic for the evening was "International Nurse Recruitment." Thank you, Joan, for sharing your first-hand knowledge and keen insights.

A NEW LOOK TO OUR WEBSITE COMING SOON!!!

Follow our progress on <http://www.FoundationNYSNurses.org>



In an effort to continue widening our accessibility, we are establishing an "Email Address Book" containing as many Foundation members, donors, and friends as possible to provide you with Foundation news and updates in a much more timely way than in Communiqué. If you desire to join our electronic mailing list, please send an email to: ghutchinson@foundationnysnurses.org.

Back issues of Communiqué are available on our website starting with the Spring 2008 issue. If you wish to continue receiving Communiqué and other mailings via "snail mail," please complete the form below and return it to the Foundation of New York State Nurses, 2113 Western Ave., Suite 1, Guilderland, NY 12084-9559.

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Come to the Beautiful Canandaigua Wine Country

On June 19, 2009 from 4-7 p.m., the Foundation will host a "NY Garden Reception" at the NY Wine and Culinary Center in Canandaigua. Participants will enjoy a view of Canandaigua Lake, visit the Culinary Center, sample wines, visit the Food Arts Culinary Boutique and receive updates on important issues from distinguished nursing leaders. Please join us for a lovely evening of collegueship in the outdoor tent.

Cost for the hot and cold hors d'oeuvres reception is \$45. A cash bar will be available in the tent. Visit the Foundation website <http://www.FoundationNYSNurses.org> for further information and to register for this event contact lsickler@foundationnysnurses.org.

Communiqué



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