

NC Association of Colored Graduate Nurses/Negro Registered Nurses, Inc | North Carolina Nursing History

**North Carolina Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NCACGN)
/North Carolina State Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc.
(NCSANRN,I)**

Presidents:

1923-1931 Carrie Early Broadfoot

1932-1934 Blanche Hayes Sansom

1934- 1941 Ruby Woodbury Scarlett Hilton

1942- 1944 Geneva Collins Hunt

1944- 1946 Flora Blanchette

1946- 1949 Elizabeth McMillan Thompson

The Associated Alumnae of the United States and Canada (AAUSC, the antecedent to the American Nurse Association) was founded in 1896 as an organization of the alumnae societies of select nursing schools to exchange ideas and work to standardize and upgrade the new nursing profession. Only four African American schools of nursing were founding members of the AAUSC, Provident in Chicago, Lincoln in New York City, Freedmans in Washington, D.C. and Mercy in Philadelphia. A few more were added before 1911. Therefore, while membership in the AAUSC was limited, it did include a few African American nurses. In 1911, the association renamed itself the American Nurses Association (ANA) and replaced membership criteria from alumna associations to membership in state nurse associations. Unfortunately, sixteen state associations in the old Confederacy as well as the nurse association in Washington DC refused to admit black members. Therefore, most African American nurses were barred from membership in the ANA until 1951 when the ANA voted to accept individual members even if they were not state associate members. Until 1942, the National League of Nursing Education (NLNE) also required membership in the ANA for membership in the NLNE, therefore most African Nurse educators were barred from participation in the NLNE before WWII. Only the National Organization of Public Health Nursing, founded in 1912, was founded as open to all nurses regardless of race.

In 1906, Connecticut nurse Martha Minerva Franklin surveyed African American nurses to see what challenges they faced. One of the biggest obstacles was their inability to join the largest professional nursing organization in the country, the American Nurse Association (ANA). Two years later, in 1908, fifty-two African American nurses led by Martha Minerva Franklin and Adah Belle Samuels Thoms, met in New York City and formed the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. Franklin was elected president at the first meeting. The new organization

had three main goals: “to advance the standards and best interests of trained nurses, to break down discrimination in the nursing profession, and to develop leadership within the ranks of African American nurses. Charlotte Rhone of New Bern, a 1903 Freedman's Hospital graduate was the only North Carolina nurse to attend the founding meeting of the NACGN. She was elected the first national secretary. In 1912, the NACGN had 125 members. By 1920, that number has risen to 500.

At the 4th annual meeting of the NACGN in 1912 in Washington, DC, Miss Sarah Leonora Hargrave of Wilmington gave a paper on “Feeding the sick” and Durham nurse Julia Latta spoke on “How can the Association be made beneficial to its members” as well as another talk on “Nursing ethics” (Of interest to nurses" JNMA 3(4) p.399). The national organization held its 8th annual 3-day meeting in Raleigh on August 17-19, 1915, in the Chapel of Shaw University. The nurses toured St. Agnes Hospital. were given a trolley ride around Raleigh, and enjoyed a reception hosted by Mrs. Lottie Jackson, RN, Matron of St. Agnes Hospital. Miss S. Leonora Hargrave of Wilmington was elected Corresponding Secretary. (Raleigh News and Observer 8-19-1915, p. 8) (Of interest to nurses" JNM 7(4) p.326)

At the 1916 meeting in New York City both Mrs. Lottie Jackson, of Leonard Hospital and later St. Agnes Hospital in Raleigh spoke in the “Welcoming” session and Durham public health nurse Julia Latta “presented a very spicy paper” on “Public health nursing and sanitation in the south”. Nurse Lula G. Warlick, born and raised near Charlotte but then serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Provident Hospital in Chicago “enthused the entire audience with a well prepared and well delivered paper entitled ‘Use what is in thy hand?’. At that meeting Miss Sarah Leonora Hargrave of Wilmington, NC was re-elected as the Corresponding Secretary. (Clark, M.F. (1916) "Of interest to nurses" JNMA 8(4)pg 203

North Carolina nurses participating in the 13th Annual Convention in Tuskegee, Alabama included Carrie Early Broadfoot of Fayetteville, who gave the invocation and was elected as the Assistant Corresponding Secretary, Committee Chair Elizabeth Miller of Charlotte and Lottie Johnson of Raleigh served on the nomination committee.

At the 1921 meeting in Washington, D.C. five North Carolina nurses founded the North Carolina Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NCACGN).

The first meeting of the NC Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NCACGN) was held at 1:30 pm on August 19, 1921 during a meeting of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NACGN) meeting in Washington, D.C. Carrie Early Broadfoot called meeting to order. At the time she was the National Secretary of the NACGN and the Superintendent of Nurses, and Director of the Nursing School at the Negro Section of the NC Sanitarium in Sanitarium, NC, a state funded tuberculosis hospital. Broadfoot called together the other four North Carolina nurses who were attending the NACGN convention and they decided to form a state chapter of the national organization. These 5 founding members were Carrie Early Broadfoot, Charlotte Hall McQueen Faison , Miss Anna Sanders, M.L. Taylor (elected Secretary of the new group) and Elizabeth Miller. The group agreed annual dues would be \$1.05 per year.

The first five nurses contacted other African American Registered Nurses across

NC. At that time registration occurred in each county with a county Registry of Nurses kept in each county's clerk of court office. There was no statewide, central registry (that would happen in the early 1930s), so trying to contact every African American nurse in the state was a somewhat haphazard effort. They did their best they could before the days of telephone, state registration records or the internet.

The first meeting of the NCACGN held in NC was held at 3 pm on January 18, 1923 in Winston-Salem at the YMCA building. 21 nurses were present. Those attending included Gertrude Salter (High Point), Miss Nellie McKenzie (later Sanders) public health nurse from Charlotte. Mrs. H.B. (Lois Rice) Cunningham, Asheville, Elected Vice President, Anna H Moorehead, elected corresponding secretary, Mrs. E. B. Anderson, Mrs. Sadie Price, Mrs. Katie Corbett Jenkins (Aberdeen), Miss Lucy Dillard (Winston-Salem), Miss Foster (Wilson), Miss Sadie E. Eaton (Raleigh), Miss Girlie Jones (later Strickland, Winston-Salem), Miss Tallian, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. N.B. McCallum (President of the Winston -Salem Chapter), Mrs. McCall, Mrs. A.K. Brown (Winston -Salem), Mrs. Claudia White Tucker (High Point) Miss A.E. Harrell (Raleigh), Anna E. Sanders, Flora Gray and Vardelia Johns.

The meeting opened with the singing of the first verse of "All hail the power of Jesus's name" followed by a recitation of the 23rd Psalm and then the Lord's Prayer.

Dues were set at \$1.00 to join and \$1 a year.

The group voted that only RNs could join – retired nurses who were not registered could be honorary members.

Speakers were:

Miss Salter spoke on the Problems in private duty

Mrs. Claudia White Tucker spoke on the Problems of Institutional nursing

Anna E. Sanders spoke on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Hospital Work

Mrs. Anderson spoke on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Private Duty Nursing

Mrs. Moorehead spoke on the Problems of Public Health Work

Miss Girlie Jones - spoke on the Advantages and Disadvantages of Public Health work

Mrs. Flora Gray and Mrs. Vardelia Johns also spoke.

The treasury had \$14.20

It was decided that nurses must be members of their local chapter in order to become members of the state organization.

The 1st Annual session was held on May 2, 1923 in Raleigh at the 1st Baptist Church.

The nurses voted that they would meet independent of NC Chapter of the National

Medical Association meetings (the national organization of African American doctors, dentists and pharmacists). The Vice President and Assistant Secretary were not Registered Nurses so they were voted out of office. Registered Nurse Julia Latta of Durham was elected as Vice President, and Mrs. Henderson was elected as the new Assistant Secretary.

The group voted that all nurses who graduated before 1912 could be members whether they were registered or not.

(The first RN in North Carolina to become registered by examination was Mary Briscoe Fernandez, a St. Agnes graduate. in 1916. (It is thought that the State Board of Nursing Examiners refused to administer the test to African American nursing school graduates before that time) However, nurses who graduated from nursing schools before 1904 were registered at their county clerk's office by presenting their diploma and 2 letters of recommendation. Freedman's Hospital School of nursing (Washington, D.C.) graduates Charlotte Rhone and Annie Lowe Rutherford were registered in North Carolina in 1903.)

The Keynote speaker at the 1923 meeting in Raleigh was Dr. J.W. Walker of Asheville on the topic of Tuberculosis Sanatoriums. Miss Maye Irwin the Director of Nursing of Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C. presented a paper. Dr. McCauley of Raleigh gave talk on the education of colored children in NC. Julia Latta was voted to represent group at the national meeting of the NACGN.

The 2nd Annual Session was held on May 1, 1924 in Charlotte at the Grace AME Zion Church

14 new members attended.

There were discussions on the importance of state registration, uniforms, midwives, practical nurses and small hospitals turning out unprepared nurses.

A Publicity Committee was formed with Mrs. A.K. Brown of Charlotte, Miss E. Miller, Miss Blanche Hayes, Miss Price of Durham, Miss C. Foster of Wilson, Miss Hill Robinson of Raleigh as members.

Chapter reports:

The Winston-Salem chapter reported 10 active members, regular monthly meetings and "a deep interest in helping the unfortunate"

The Greensboro Chapter disbanded because they had only 2 active members.

The Charlotte Chapter, also known as The Florence Nightingale Club, was organized in 1923 and had regular monthly meetings. There were 15 members. The Club contributed to charity, especially "the unfortunate, underweight school children", they also took bed sheets to the county managed old folks home.

The Raleigh chapter reported 10 members. "Their attention is turned towards helping the hospital" (St Agnes Hospital in Raleigh)

The Durham Chapter was organized in 1923. There were 9 active members. The club furnished a room in the new Hospital (Lincoln Hospital in Durham was rebuilt around this time) and cared for a sick member of the club.

Miss Sadie Eaton of Raleigh was appointed "journalist" with the task of getting notices of meetings in local newspapers

Blanche Hayes was elected Vice President

Dr. J.W. Walker gave a talk on Tuberculosis in the school child.

Miss Blanche Hayes talked on School Nursing and "she brought a number of children who put on a health play".

Treasurer's report:

Balance on hand \$29.72

Collected at meeting \$76

Check from Mrs. Spaulding \$5

Total \$108.72

1925 – Minutes of white North Carolina State Nurse Association (NCSNA) meeting, page 24 state:

Miss Ross told about the nurses attending the meeting of the Colored Nurses Association and coming back very enthusiastic. It was suggested every aid possible should be extended to the colored nurses.

The 3rd Annual Session of the NCACGN was held on May 7, 1925 in Durham at King David's Hall

10 new members:

*Miss Kate Corbet Jenkins

Mrs. Mamie Hill Oxlie

Miss Henderson

*Claudia Tucker from Greensboro

Mrs. Eula Julia David

*Lucy Dillard from Winston-Salem

Mercie D. Wheeler from Raleigh

M. Gabriel from Charlotte

Miss Savage from Winston-Salem

* These nurses attended the 1923 meeting in Winston-Salem, but maybe they did not officially join the organization at that time.

Many old members unable to pay dues but the association voted NOT to drop them from the rolls.

The membership voted that nurses who had graduated between the years 1912 and 1920 could be members if they graduated from a 2 year program from a hospital with at least 25 beds.

After 1920 members must have graduated from a 3 year course in an accredited program in a hospital with over 50 beds which required a high school diploma for admission to the nursing program

A letter from Mary P. Laxton (President of the white NC State Nurses Association) was read which discussed affiliation between the NCSNA and the NCACGN. Miss Blanche Hays made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Robinson to write to Nurse Laxton approving affiliation between the 2 organizations. The merger would not happen until 1949.

Blanche Hayes spoke about School nursing, other topics included National Negro Health Week, Tonsils & Adenoid clinics, the Mecklenburg Milk contest, preschool clinics and an anti-typhoid campaign.

There was a panel on the necessity of Public Health. Speakers were Miss French, Nellie McKenzie (Charlotte public health nurse), Blanche Hayes (Charlotte public health nurse) and Miss Hill from Raleigh

There was also discussion about the problem of practical nurses being hired as Registered Nurses.

Miss Miller from Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte spoke on private duty nursing

The members agreed on private duty prices to advertise and charge the public:

Medical cases 12 hours on duty= \$35/week

Obstetrical cases 12 hours on duty =\$40/week

Contagious diseases 12 hours on duty = \$45-50/week

Some of those attending were:

A.E. Harrell Raleigh

Miss Mary Henry Winston -Salem

Miss Douglas,

Miss M.D. Wheeler Raleigh

Miss F Price

Miss Robinson Raleigh

An executive committee composed of nurses Latta, Sanders, Wheeler, A.K. Brown and Robinson was formed, as was a finance committee composed of nurses Latta, Tucker, Savage and Eaton.

March 1926

At the direction of nurse Jane VandeVrede of the American Nurse Association, NCSNA President Mary P. Laxton wrote to President Broadfoot of the NCACGN on March 11, 1926 saying she was forwarding a questionnaire from Jane VandeVrede, chair of an American Nurse Association committee to establish an affiliation between the American Nurse Association and the NACGN. Below are the questions and President Broadfoot's (CEB) answers:

Q: What schools are listed with the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses

CEB: Lincoln, Good Samaritan, St Agnes

Q: Are graduates of these schools admitted to the state registration?

CEB: Yes

Q: Is there a state Association for Colored Nurses?

CEB: Yes 4 years old

Q: Are there local Associations of colored nurses? If so, where?

CEB: Yes, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Greensboro, High Point

A week later, on March 19 1926, NCSNA President Laxton wrote this to Nurse VandeVrede of the ANA:

We feel that affiliation with our state organization [the NCACGN] would be wiser than accepting that organization as a section, that however is only the opinion of a few. You may also be interested to know that at our last annual meeting an advisory committee for the Colored Nurse Association, consisting of the State President, President of the Board of Examiners and the Education Director was appointed after some correspondence with the President of the Colored Nurse Association. As yet, we have not been called upon but signified our willingness to help them in any way we could.

As far as can be determined, no concrete action came from this correspondence.

The 4th Annual Session was held May 5, 1926 in Greensboro at the St. James Presbyterian Church

President Broadfoot spoke on "The moral, literal, religious and professional training of the nurse"

Dr. S.P. Sebastian, of Greensboro, gave the keynote address on "Managing and governing our own hospitals"

Nurse Girlie Jones Strickland (Winston-Salem) and Nurse Emma Evans (Greensboro) gave a talk on "Malnutrition"

Mrs. J.E. McDonald presented a paper for Nurse Salome Taylor (Head nurse and nursing school director at Community Hospital in Wilmington who could not attend the meeting) on "Nursing as a calling".

Mrs. Sadie Eaton spoke on "Pneumonia and the nurse".

Mrs. Anna Moorhead gave a demonstration of a pre-natal home visit and delivered a paper on the benefits of public health nursing to the community.

Dr. Rivera spoke on “Oral health”

Local chapter officers were:

Raleigh - Addie E. Lane - President, R. Sawyer -Secretary

Durham - P. Henderson - President, K.C. Jenkins – Secretary

High Point – Mrs. Robbins – President, Anna.E. Sanders – Secretary

Greensboro - Emma Evans – President, M.L. Taylor – Secretary

Charlotte - H. French -President, Nurse Mathews - Secretary

Also present were Mrs. J.E. McDonald of Greensboro, L. Booker of Greensboro, Nurse Robinson of High Point, Nurse Teer and Mrs. Smith of Winston-Salem, and from places that were not named: M. Ragan, Miss King and A.J. Freeman

The group voted to increase the conference fees to \$5. They also discussed founding a home for sick nurses (similar to Dunnwyche, a home for sick nurses founded by the white NCSNA in the 1910s). It was suggested that each of the 5 chapters raise \$50 to start this project.

The meeting ended with the singing of the Negro National Anthem (Lift every voice and sing)

Members (with Presidents and secretaries of local chapters listed) in 1926 were:

Charlotte

French - President of Chapter

Blanche Hayes

Nelliw McKenzie

E. Miller

Mrs. Brown

M. Gabriel

Mathews - Secretary

18 total members

Raleigh

Addie E. Lane -President

R. Sawyer - Secretary

A.E. Harrell

Sadie Eaton

Mrs. M.D. Wheeler

Mamie Oxley

Mrs. L. Robinson Savage

Winston-Salem

Mary E. Henry
Cunningham (Vice-President)
A.E. Saunders -Treasurer
A.K. Brown
Lucy Dillard

Durham

Patty Carter - President
Julia Latta (VP of state organization)
Katie Jenkins secretary
Spann
F. Price
P. Henderson

Greensboro

4 members including:
Emma Evans - President
M.L. Taylor

High Point

Robinson - President
A.E. Sanders Secretary
Claudia Tucker

Other places

Miller
E. Douglas
Foster - Wilson
Mayes
Julia Teer
Eula David
Varedelia Johns
Anderson

The 5th Annual Session was held on May 4, 1927 in High Point at the 1st Baptist Church

There were 17 members present

New members

R.C. Hennie - Franklinton

Mabel Miller - Raleigh

Mabel Lee - Greensboro

Allene Pettere (spelling?) - Raleigh

Ardelia Compton - Chapel Hill

Mary E Holt - High Point

Other members

Nellie McKenzie Charlotte

Lillyn P. Newsome Durham then New Bern M. Tucker

Sadie Eaton Raleigh

Annie Harrell Raleigh

Marie Carper

Local club treasuries reported Greensboro= \$43, Winston-Salem = \$50, High Point = \$50

Mrs. W.M. Greer spoke on Tuberculosis patients

Lucy Dillard spoke on School Nursing

Nurses Robbins, Holt and Hennie spoke on Venereal Disease (STDs)

A round table discussion on numerous topics was conducted by nurses Robbins, Holt, Hennie, Dillard, Cothran, Harrell.

President Broadfoot gave her annual address

State officers elected for 1928 were:

Carrie Broadfoot - President

Annie K. Brown VP

Annie E. Harrell Secretary

Emma Evans - Assistant Secretary

Lucy Dillard - Corresponding Secretary

Mamie Oxley - Treasurer

The 6th Annual Session was held in Winston-Salem on May 2-4, 1928 at the AME Zion Church

39 members were present

6 new members joined including:

Ruby Woodbury.

Edith McNeil

Lillyn P. Newsome (she attended 1927 meeting)

Ruth Brown

Augusta Grady

Flora Gray sang the opening song

Dr. Callas from Tuskegee Hospital spoke on "Pathology pre and post birth"

Miss Idle and Miss Stafford brought greeting from the Ameican Red Cross.

Salome Taylor, Superintndent of Community Hospital in Wilmington, sent \$5.00 and a letter of regret that she could not attend and sent Miss Wood and Miss Burey (Busey?) in her stead.

It was agreed that no public dances would be given in the name of the association.

Other attending were

Booker
Saulters
Ballentine
Love Hill

The 7th Annual Session was held on May 1-3, 1929 in Charlotte at the Grace AM Zion Church

Day one was a business meeting. Mrs. Annie K. Brown of Winston-Salem opened with a devotion

Day 2 was devoted to continuing education.

Petra Pinn, former President of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses spoke on "The gretest need of the nursing profession - Understanding" followed by a discussion led by Lillian Savage.

Lillyn Newsome, State Nurse, Craven County Health Deparrtment of New Bern addressed "Maternity, Infancy Nursing and Control of Epidemics" Followed by a discussion led by Mrs. Nellie McKenzie of Charlotte.

Eunice Douglas Heilig and Mary E. Wall gave a talk on Well Baby stations and pre-school work.

Campbell talked about the improvements at St. Agnes Hosptial in Raleigh where she was Superintendent

Louise Mason presented a paper about private duty nursing followed by a discussion led by Emma Evans of Greensboro

Miller talked about Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte

Mrs. L.A. Oxley of Raleigh and Mrs. Freedland Price of Durham gave a talk on the Rural aspects of Public Health Nursing

Annie M. Wheeler of Charlotte gave a talk about Office Nursing.

Dr. H.R. Greene spoke about the relationships between doctors and nurses.

Dr. A.G. Daley of Gastonia talked about tuberculosis.

Mary Lewis Wyche (founder of the NCSNA) wrote to the organization saying she was compiling a history of nursing in North Carolina for a book. She asked the group to contribute information.

President Broadfoot gave an annual address

An executive committee was elected with nurses Peebles, Heilig, Mathews, Brown, Oxley, Robbins and Taylor as members.

There was discussion of affiliation with the white NC State Nurse Association. A letter was sent to its president Dorothy Conyers asking for an update on the idea of a merger.

Officers elected for 1929 were

Mrs. Carrie Broadfoot – President from Sanitarium

Mrs. Annie K. Brown – Vice President from Winston -Salem

Annie Harrell – Secretary from Raleigh

Emma Evans - Assistant Secretary from Greensboro

Lucy Dillard from Winston-Salem

Mrs. L.A. Oxley – Treasurer

Anna H. Moorehead - State Organizer from Winston-Salem

Mary E. Holt - State Organizer from High Point

Attending were Miss Emma R. Evans, Mrs. Annie K. Brown of Winston-Salem, Miss Mercie Wheeler of Charlotte, Mrs. Nellie McKenzie Sanders of Charlotte, Mrs. Robbins of High Point, Mrs. Lillian Savage of Durham, Miss Louise Mason, and Emma Evans of Greensboro

New Members: Gladys Holmes and Olise Campbell, both St Agnes graduates.

The group chose blue and gold as their colors

Each member was served coca-cola and chewing gum by Mrs. Nell McKenzie Sanders.

The 8th Annual Convention was held on May 7-9, 1930 in Raleigh at the Nurses Home at St. Agnes Hospital, The St. Paul AME Church and the Raleigh City Auditorium

State Officers:

Mrs. Carrie Broadfoot – President

Mrs. Annie K. Brown – Vice President

Miss Eunice Douglas Heilig – Secretary

Miss Lucy Dillard – Assistant Secretary

Mrs Mamie Hill Oxley – Treasurer

Chapter presidents were presented and were Olise Campbell of Raleigh, Ruby Woodbury of Greensboro, Mary Peebles of Winston - Salem and Lillyn Newsome of Durham.

Officers and members of the Raleigh Chapter (the Edith Cavell Club), the hosting chapter were

Olise Cambell – President,

Versie L. Hobbs -Secretary -Treasurer

Elizabeth Bailey

Geneva Collins

Sadie Eaton

Aggie Freeman

Annie Harrell

Lila Haywppd

Effie Lytle

Mamie Hill Oxley

Annie Palmer

S. Bruce Simpson

Mary Street

Addie Wall

Mattie D. Westcott

Zenobia Swails

Willie Gus Williams

Ethel Mae Young

Other attendees included:

Mrs. Henry (Mercie Douglas) Edwards of Charlotte

Mary Peebles of Winston-Salem

Mrs. Ruby A.F. Woodbury (later Scarlett and Hilton), the Superintendent of L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro

Salome Taylor - Superintendent and Director of the nursing school at Community Hospital in Wilmington

Registration fee was 50 cents

Papers in 1930 included

The place of nurses in Public Health programs by Miss Mary Peebles of Winston-Salem followed by a discussion led by Ruby Woodbury of Greensboro.

Nursing standards and requirements by Dorothy Conyers, President of the white NCSNA

Tuberculosis and the Negro by Dr. A.L. Jackson of the US Public Health Service and several other presentations by physicians on public health topics.

Mrs. Lytle (one of the first 2 African American nursing graduates in NC from St. Agnes Hosptial School of Nurisng in 1896) and Olise Campbell of Raleigh gave a history of St. Agnes Hosptial

Mrs. Lytle of Raleigh agreed to make a survey of African American graduate nurses in the state.

The 9th Annual Convention was held May 6-8, 1931 in Wilmington at the Central Baptist church, public meeting at New Hanover High School and a formal reception at Payne's Hotel

State Officers in 1931

Carrie E. Broadfoot – President

Annie K. Brown – Vice President

Miss Eunice D. Heilig – Secretary

Lucy Dillard – Corresponding Secretary

Mrs Mamie Hill Oxley – Treasurer

Wilmington Chapter officers and members:

Miss Salome Taylor - (Superintendent of Community Hospital) Wilmington Chapter President

Alice Lomax Carper - Wilmington Chapter Secretary - Treasurer

Nancy S. Armstrong,

Alice Crawley,

Leonora S. Hargrave

May Poitier

Eva Reddrick

Mrs. Clifford Richardson

Others attending included:

Ruby Woodbury of Greensboro,

A. H. Moorehead of Winston-Salem

Miss Faison of Wilson

Miss Steadman of Greensboro

Mrs. Sellers of Rockingham

Mrs. Allen of Dunn

Avesh Edwards of Raleigh

Lila Haywood of Raleigh

Elizabeth Bailey of Raleigh

Bettee Broadhead

Papers given were:

The role of the nurse in communicable diseases

Oral Health

Advantages and disadvantage of small hospitals by Salome Taylor

Necessity of rural nurses in schools - by Columbia Munds- the white Supervisor of the New Hanover County Health Department.

Mrs. A.H. Moorehead also addressed the convention.

There was a sight seeing tour to Fort Fisher and other points of interest.

Elected officers for 1932 were:

Blache Hayes Sansom of Charlotte - President

Mrs. A. Brown of Winston-Salem VP

Ethel Young of St. Agnes Hosptial in Raleigh - Secretary

Eunice Heilig of Charlotte- Assistant Secretary

Lucy Dillard of Winston-Salem- Assistant Secretary

Charlotte Faison of Wilson - Assistant Seecretary

Mamie Hill Oxley Treasurer

Carrie E. Broadfoot - President Emeritus

A Board of Directors was elected and included:

Pearl Henderson of Durham

Alma Ballentine of Winston-Salem

Elizabeth McMillan of Fayetteville

Aurora Hill Moorehead of Winston-Salem

Eva J. Adams of Henderson

Other members present were:

Mrs. Allen Dunn

Avesh Edwards of Raleigh

Lila Haywood of Raleigh

Elizabeth Bailey of Raleigh

Bettee Broadhead

1931 – There were 20 African American Public Health Nurses in NC

September 27, 1931 A specially called meeting was held in the new \$100,000 Rosenwald Nurses Home at St. Agnes Hospital. **North Carolina State Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc. became the legal name of the organization.** The NC Association of Colored Graduate Nurses met at St. Augustine College to formally receive the Articles of Incorporation from the Secretary of State, adopt bylaws and elect officers. Mrs. Blanche Catherine Hayes Sansom was elected President of the Association to begin in 1932.

NO MINUTES FOR 1932 are in the state archives - perhaps the meeting was cancelled due to the severity of the Great Depression.

11th annual meeting of the NC Negro Registered Nurses, Inc. was held June 8, 1933 in Fayetteville at the State Normal School (now FSU) 15 members were present, 4 new members joined

Elizabeth McMillan of Fayetteville and FSU coordinated meeting

The officers were

Blanche Hayes Sansom, President

Ruby A.F. Woodbury Scarlett (Hilton) Vice President

Eunice D. Heilig Secretary

Anna Moorehead

Eula Saffrit

Miss Young of St Agnes gave a talk on “New methods of training school and record keeping”

Officers elected for 1934 were

A.F. Woodbury Scarlett of Greensboro president

Elizabeth McMillan of Fayetteville 1st Vice President

Estelle Young of Raleigh 2nd Vice President

B.E. Jackson Durham Secretary

E.D. Heilig of Charlotte - Corresponding secretary

Geneva Collins of Raleigh Assistant Secretary

Others attending were:

B.E. Jackson of Lincoln Hospital

Eunice D. Heilig Public Health Nurse Charlotte

Anna Sanders

E. Richardson

Beatrice Brown

The group decided to put out a quarterly paper “The Gazette”. Ruby Scarlett was named editor. Unfortunately, The Gazette was never printed.

The 12th Annual Convention was held in 1934 Wilson

22 members present

Speakers:

Dr. W.H. Phillips gave a talk on oral hygiene

Anice Sanders, RN of High Point, spoke on “Loyalty to the profession”

Local clubs were active in Winston-Salem, Wilmington, High Point, Durham, Fayetteville, Greensboro, Raleigh, Charlotte, Weldon, Clinton, Rocky Mount, Goldsboro, Jamestown and Tarboro.

Annie Mae Wheeler – Charlotte

Emily L. Johnson Greensboro

Miss Sykes of Goldsboro

Dr. Wade of Wilson spoke on Pellagra

Mrs. Richardson of Wilson gave a talk on “The Public Health Nursing bag”

President Emeritus Broadfoot urged nurses to go to the polls and vote

There was a general discussion on the poor showings of African American student nurse scores on N.C. Nursing Board Examinations

Anna H. Moorehead gave a Public Health Nurse home visit demonstration

Ethel Ward spoke on "Ward teaching"

New members

From Wilson, NC (probably nurses from Mercy Hospital)

Marion Chambers

Mabel Ellis

Izette Green

Annie McCarran

Catherine Bynum

From Goldsboro (These two nurses worked at the State Hospital for the Colored Insane – now called Cherry Hospital)

Mae H. Portier

Susie Boaden

Emily Johnson

Pollie Ann Raeford

Ethel Harriston- worked at the Guilford Sanitarium in Jamestown

M.E. Grey worked at Lincoln Hospital in Durham

NC Nurse Edith McNeil was on a panel at the National meeting of the NACGN on the infant and maternal mortality rates. She addressed the continuing need for trained midwives in reducing the infant and maternal mortality rates and advocated health education for both midwives and expectant mothers

The 13th Annual Convention held in at the First Baptist Church High Point on June 6 & 7 1935

http://www.genealogycenter.info/search_assncolgradnurses.php

21 members were present

Elizabeth McMillan, who had been appointed as the state organizer for the organization gave an "organizers report"

Lucille Moore reported 47 letters had been sent to nurses

11 chapters held meetings in 1935

A paper was given about successful surgical techniques

Miss Mills (probably Mary Mills of Watha, who later was a Captain in the US PHS and worked in 5 countries around the world) talked on Private Duty Nursing

President Emeritus Broadfoot reported on Rosenwald funds which were being used to build several nurses homes at African American hospitals in NC, and to supply scholarship for African American nurses to get advanced training in northern nursing schools

Mrs. J.D. Hawkins of Hendersonville gave a report.

Officers were:

Ruby Scarlett President

Elizabeth McMillan 1st Vice President

Estelle Young 2nd Vice President

B.J. Jackson Treasurer

E. Heilig Secretary

Geneva Collins Asst Secretary

Lorena B. Hill Corresponding Secretary

Board of Directors - A. Moorehead, E. Safrit, B. Hayes, Anna Saunders, Mrs. Clifford Richardson

Presentations were give by:

Geneva Collins - Hospital Duty

Miss M.R. Searcy - Hospital Technique

Miss M.L. Mills - Private Duty nursing

Miss K. M. Long of the State [pstchiatric] Hospital presented a case study

B.J. Jackson spoke about the supervision of hospitals

Ruby Scarlett gave a Presidential address and Carrie Broadfoot, president emeritus gave some remarks

Girlie Strickland talked about public health nursing

A demonstration of Prenatal care and and bag technique were given by Ines Bethel and L.R. Barber

The 14th Anuual Convention was held on June 3, 1936 in Winston-Salem.

70 members present

There was a discussion on getting an African American RN on Board of Examiners
Elizabeth McMillan suggested getting legal council

New chapters were started in Henderson, Kinston and Gastonia

Maggie Greenlee of Asheville joined the organization

NC Board of Nursing passing rates by race:

1936 White- 70% African American 35%

1940 White 70% African American 50%

15th Annual meeting was held in Charlotte on June 9, 1937

50 members were present

Ruby A.F. Woodbury Scarlett, President, gave a talk on a local radio station

Patty Carter of Durham gave a personal history talk "A pioneer of the state association"

A talk was delivered on the topic of "The Negro nurse and the Red Cross"

16th annual meeting was held on June 7, 1938 in the Tarboro High School in Tarboro

50 members present

President Ruby Woodbury Scarlett announced she was moving to be the Supervisor at Prairie View State College in Prairie View, TX

Edith McNeill Holmes of Henderson gave the welcoming address

Dr. Quigless, the founder of the Quigless Clinic (hospital) in Tarboro addressed the nurses.

Mabel Stamper, President of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses spoke at the meeting.

Elizabeth McMillan was elected to continue as the state organizer of the association. Blanche Sansom was named Relief Chairlady to see to the needs of the members of organization during the Great Depression

17th Annual Convention was held on June 17th, 1939 in Greensboro

President Scarlett was now the Dean of Women at Kittrell College in Kittrell, NC

The Wilmington chapter had glasses fitted for every school child that needed them, and took "flowers and greetings" to the sick

The Raleigh chapter provided milk to underprivileged nursery school students.

New Members

Della Raney (Jackson) – later a distinguished and pioneer African American US Army nurse in WWII and beyond

Laura Chambers of Morganton

In 1940 only 2% of African Americans were registered to vote in NC. The NC Board of Nursing Examiners pass rate was for White test takers = 70% for African American test takers = 50%

In 1940 there were 481 African American Registered Nurses in NC (474 women and 7 men) (Osborne, 1949, Journal of Negro Education, p. 264-369)

The 18th Annual Meeting was held in 1940 in Durham

The 19th Annual Convention was held in 1941 at St. Agnes Hospital in Raleigh

25 members attended, there were also 12 new members

Mabel Ellis of Wilson reported their club had 22 members.

M.E. Gary, President of the Durham club reported the club offered several educational programs during the year.

Flora Blanchette, President of the Greensboro club, also known as the Adah B. Thoms Nurses Club had 33 members. They took 15 baskets of food and clothes to the needy. The club also maintained a student loan fund. M.W. Evans was the Secretary of the club.

Lucille Zimmerman, President of the Raleigh Club reported they had a barn dance and a bridge tournament as fundraisers. The Raleigh club donated Christmas baskets to needy families at a local nursery school, donated \$20 for a baby incubator for St. Agnes Hospital and gave a banquet for Mrs. Mabel Staupers, President of the National organization and for Mrs. Oxley.

Lucy Dillard, President of the Winston Salem chapter reported that the group made donations to the local milk and ice funds and the American red Cross. the group took flowers to the sick and children in the wards at Kate B. Reynolds Hospital.

Mary Simmons, president of the Wilmington chapter reported that they had an annual ball. The group donated flowers to the sick and to the American Red Cross. R.B. Smith was the chapter secretary.

Edith McNeill Holmes, a public health nurse in Tarboro, was President of District 9 from 1936-1941. There were 36 members in 1941. They "contributed to those in need" and sent flowers to shut-ins. Other nurses in District 9 included Gwendolyn Sykes and Miss Ellis. District 9 included Goldsboro, Wilson, Sanitorium, Fayetteville, Tarboro and Rocky Mount.

Carrie Early Broadfoot of District 9 and Sanitorium, NC won the national Mary Mahoney Award from the NACGN that year.

Miss Wall of the Charlotte club reported the group had 35 members. Louise Mason was the club President and Cora Stevenson was the club secretary.

Mrs. Oxley a former member moved to Washington DC

Former President Scarlett was then in Atlanta

Miss Pudie was the Educational Director at Kate B. Reynolds Hospital

Lucy Dillard was then a public health nurse in Winston- Salem

Mrs Ellis was then in Wilson

Generva Collins was then the Superintendent of L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro

A brief memorial service was held for both Hallie French of Charlotte and Odessa Moore of Durham.

Others present were:

Heilig, Hill, Richardson, Jackson Floretta Johnson, Mrs. Cowan, Henrietta Colvert (she was doing poorly), A.K. Brown, Mary Taylor and Annie Sanders.

Marion Seymour, Vice President of the NACGN spoke on the Negro Nurse and national defense.

Flora Wakefield, the white nursing supervisor of the Wake County Health Department gave a talk on public health nursing.

She reported that white public health nurses earned \$100-110 a month and African American public health nurses earned \$75-90 a month. "This matter ended in heated discussion".

A.H. Moorehead and Salome Taylor were honored as charter members of the association.

Blanche Sansom, Elizabeth McMillan and A.H. Moorehead were appointed to draw up a letter asking for equalization of nursing salaries.

Student nurses from St Agnes, Kate B. Reynolds, Lincoln and Good Samaritan provided a forum on "Nursing in Diabetes Mellitus"

Mrs. Ellen Woods Carter of Wilson (she lived in NC only a short time) was to receive the Mary Mahoney award the next year.

Officers elected for 1942 were

President - Geneva Collins,

Gary - Vice president

E.I. Pudie - secretary

D. Hussey Corresponding secretary

Lucille Zimmerman - recording secretary

C.E. Richardson - Secretary

Edith McNeill - Treasurer

20th Annual Convention at held in Wilmington on June 10, 1942 at Community Hospital.

32 nurses were present

Geneva Collins Hunt elected President (Superintendent of L. Richardson)

Edith McMillan Holmes was elected Treasurer

There were 35 African American public health nurses in NC

Salome Taylor gave the welcoming address

It was announced that Edna I Purdie, the Educational Director of Kate B. Reynolds Hospital was elected president of the southeast region.

Marie Gary Rice resigned as Vice President since she was moving to the Bronx.

National League for Nursing Education (NLNE) re-wrote its by-laws so any qualified nurse could join – before 1942, members had to be a member of ANA so most African American nurses were denied membership in the NLNE

Attending were" Mrs. Clifford Richardson, Mrs. Parker, L.E. Artis, Edna Purdie, Mabel Ellis, Annie M. Cowan, M. Smith, Rosa Lee Brown, V.M. Mitchell, Gwendolyn Sykes, Mary S. Powell, Rosa B. Smith

Miss B.E. Jackson of Durham reported they had 17 members and had sponsored several speakers during the year

Emma Evans of Greensboro reported they had 19 members, that Flora Blanchette was studying at NYU and that they had helped send students to a meeting

The Winston Salem chapter had given health talks on the radio during National Negro Health Week, contributed to the library at Kate B. Reynolds Hospital and had donated to the British Ambulance Fund

It was announced that Ruth Feider was the Superintendent at St. Agnes, Beulah E. Jackson was the Acting Superintendent at Lincoln and Eutha K. Goins was the Director at the Morrison Training School in Hoffman, NC

There were 35 Negro Public Health Nurses in the state.

Mrs. Frank Avant led a memorial service for Miss Freeman

Others present were: Lila Haywood, Mrs. Sellers. Mrs. C. E. Richardson and Mabel Ellis, a public health nurse from Wilson.

21st Annual Convention was held in Winston-Salem on June 9, 1943 at Kate B Reynolds Nurses Home

Estelle Massey Riddle of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses

(NACGN) addressed the convention

Della Raney Jackson, pioneer African American US Army nurse addressed the convention

Elizabeth Jones, NACGN Field Secretary spoke the the delegates about the goal of streamlining a merge between the white NC State Nurse Association and the NC Negro Registered Nurses, Inc.

The 22nd Annual Convention was held in Charlotte on June 15, 1944

Flora Blanchette of L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro was elected President for 1945

Viyella Mitchell was elected recording Secretary for 1945

Miss Eugenia Jones of the NACGN addressed the convention delegates

Ruth Council addressed the convention

Lt. Della Raney came from Tuskegee to talk about Army Nursing

Ruth Taylor spoke about wives of men in service

NCACGN wrote NCNA asking for a merger of the two organizations

Other present were: A.H. Moorehead, Cora Stevenson, Sadie Eaton, Strickland, Simmons, Richardson, Crisp, Gibson, Jojhnnie D. Hooper, Nora T. Allen, Mary Stratford, Lula Harris, Dunn, Clara B. Lawrence, Anderson, Steward, C. Craves, Thelma Cobb, Inez Bethel, President of the Edith cavell Club in Winston-Salem

Viyella Mitchell, Lucinda White, V.C. Dudley, Jenny Washington, Catherine Bynum, Marhorie Wheeler, Virginia Dare Joyner, Mrs. F.D. Martin, Victoria Shepherd, E. Hickson, Mattie Donnell (Hicks), Pearl Parks, Cleo Young, Betty Broadhurst. Nora Thaxton, Manilla Schoffner, Lillie Forte Barber, Nora Allen,

A memorial service was held for Zelma Malone, a 1928 graduate of St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing

The Winston Salem chapter reported 42 memberes

The Charlotte chapter reported 34 members

The Greensboro Club reported 22 members.

There were also active chapters in Durham, Raleigh, District 9 and District 1.

The 23rd Annual Convention was held in Durham on June 22-23, 1945

32 present

Flora Blanchette presided

Pattie Carter, President of the local club welcomed the attendees.

A memorial service was held for Carrie Early Broadfoot, founder and President Emeritus, Anna Moorehead and Nurse Dean

Active chapters and their presidents were:

District 9 - Edith McMillan Thompson

District 1 - Anna Saunders

Winston-Salem - Lorena Hill

Greensboro - Martin

Charlotte - Cleo Young has 32 members 20 active members

Raleigh - Lula Harris

Durham - E.F. Hargrove has 15 members, 10 active members

Wilmington - Ada Cavell

Public Health nurses present were Mrs. F.D. Martin Goldsboro, Girlie Strickland Winston-Slaem, Mattie Donnell - Greensboro, M.P. Wheeler Wilmlington, P. Henderson ?, Cleo Young, Charlotte

Others present were Eason, Mebane, L. White, Julia R. Smith and L R Betts of Durham

Speakers were: Blanche Sansom of Charlotte on public health , Flora Blancheete - presidential address, and Mary Mills

Amy Fisher, a white nurse from the state Department of Public Health gave a talk on nursing issues before the state legislature

The 24th Annual Convention was held at Fayetteville State College (now University) on June 21, 1946

42 present

Godley was elected Vice President

Flora Blanchette had moved to the US Virgin Islands so Elizabeth McMillan Thompson was elected president

Active chapters were present in District 9, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, Durham, Wilmington, Raleigh, Asheville and High Point.

Attendees included: F.D. Martin, G.S. Carney, E.C. Dudley, Amanda Eason, Hazel Blake, Lydia Ruth Betts, Olga Cunningham of Asheville, Verna Privott

Ruby Anderson, Edith Holmes and Geneva Collins Hunt were appointed to gather facts about the history of Negro nurses in North Carolina.

WWII veterans and NCNRRN, I members Hallie Mae Brown who served in Africa and Gwen Sykes Carney who served in England were honored.

1947 – NCSNA removed word “White” from its by-laws

The 25th Annual Convention was held in Asheville on June 5-7, 1947 at Allen high School

32 present

Officers were:

Elizabeth McMillan Thompson - President

Mai Godley - VP

V. Mitchell - Recording Secretary

L.R. Betty (?) - Corresponding Secretary

Gwendolyn Carney - Treasurer

M.R. Wheeler - Parliamentarian

The group was welcomed by M. Bynum - Superintendent of the Asheville Negro Hospital and Mattie Sears, President of the local chapter.

Attendees included: E. Tart, E. Thickland, Helen Holmes, Rose Jones, Sellars, Helen Taylor, Miss G. Carter from Lexington

January 9, 1948 – Edna Heinzerling of the white NCNA met with Elizabeth Thompson, Mai Godley, Geneva Hunt, Lucille Williams, Lydia Betts, and G.K. Battle, officers and members of the Board of Directors of the NCNRN, and asked them to submit a formal letter to the white NCSNA requesting to integrate the organization

An executive Board meeting was held before the annual convention on June 24, 1948

The 26th Annual Meeting was held on June 24-26, 1948 at Bennett College in Greensboro

72 members present, Mrs. Alida Dailey of the NACGN was attended the meeting

Maime Batchelor presided.

Nurses in Lexington formed a new chapter of the organization

New members were Tapscott, Houston, Greenlee and Cannady

Read letter from Heinzerling asking them to make a formal request to integrate

Blanche Sansom moved to dissolve the organization; the motion passed unanimously

1948 - NCSNA (white professional nursing organization) voted Monday October 18, 1948 to integrate

1949 The NCANRN, Inc dissolved May 13, 1949 and merged with the NCSNA

Maria B. Noell, executive secretary of the NCSNA, praised the actions of the NCANRN, Inc by saying:

Since all citizens of North Carolina need adequate nursing care and since the professional nursing organizations are to a great degree responsible for such care. I believe the action taken this morning by the N.C. Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc. to dissolve its organization of 27 years standing and to associate itself wholly with the NC State Nurses' Association will be a great asset in promoting nursing service for all North Carolinians.

Elizabeth M. Thompson, President of NCANRN in 1949 closed the last meeting of the organization with these words:

The final chapter has been written by the North Carolina Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc., but the activities of nurses and nursing must go on. As professional women, we all have a great part to play in furthering the progress and elevating the standards of this work. The integrating of the associations gives opportunity for great service, and by so doing, humanity will be better served.

The North Carolina State Nurse Association, in their pamphlet "Highlights in Nursing in North Carolina 1935-1976 recalled the merger this way:

1948

The NCSNA Board of Directors voted to recommend that the Association admit black nurses to membership and issued such an invitation to the members of the North Carolina Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc. Black nurses discussed the invitation of their convention in June of that year and voted to make formal application for membership in NCSNA. In October the NCSNA House of Delegates approved the Board's recommendation to admit black members. In June 1949, the Negro nurses voted unanimously to dissolve the North Carolina Association of Negro Registered Nurses.

By 1949 African American nurses occupied positions in key American Nurse Association committees.

1951 – On January 26, 1951 the NACGN dissolved and merged with the ANA.

In 2019, North Carolinian Ernest Grant, RN, PhD of Black Mountain was elected the first African American male president of the ANA.

Brief Biographies of the 6 presidents of the organization

Carrie Early Broadfoot – 1st President of the NCACGN and 2019 NC Nursing Hall of Fame Inductee

Carrie Early Broadfoot was born on June 13, 1870 in Lynchburg, Virginia. Virtually nothing is known about her young life until she entered Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital (FDMH) in Philadelphia, in the fall of 1896 graduating in its third class in 1899. After nine months of private duty nursing in Philadelphia she returned to FDMH as Head Nurse, a position she held for the next 5 years. In 1905, Broadfoot moved to Raleigh, NC where she served as Superintendent of Nurses at

St. Agnes Hospital. St Agnes Hospital opened in 1896 and was the second hospital for African Americans in North Carolina (the first was Leonard Hospital which opened in 1885 on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh). It was also the home to the first nursing program for African American women in the state. Broadfoot served for two years until her marriage to Thomas Broadfoot on June 30, 1908. He was a postal clerk on the railroads. She then retired from nursing until the first World War. Broadfoot joined the American Red Cross nursing service and planned to go overseas during World War I. Instead she was directed to work at home to help control the influenza epidemic sweeping the country at the time. Broadfoot immediately returned to nursing service doing private nursing at Fayetteville, NC, until 1923 when she took the position of head nurse in charge of the Negro Division at the NC Sanatorium in Sanitarium, NC for the treatment of people with tuberculosis. Broadfoot had been a member of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses for 15 years acting as recording secretary for 4 years. Mrs. Broadfoot was the primary organizer of the NCACGN, and was its president for 8 years (1923-1931). During that time its organization with five original members grew to 55 members. She was an RN in the State of NC and a member of the American Red Cross Nursing Service.

In 1921, she and four other North Carolina African American nurses attended a meeting of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses in Washington, DC. In 1923, these five nurses founded the North Carolina Colored Graduate Nurses Association (later renamed the North Carolina Association of Negro Registered Nurses, Inc). This professional organization continued until 1949 when it merged with the North Carolina State Nurses Association. In 1923, North Carolina opened a Negro Division of the State Sanatorium for tuberculosis patients and Broadfoot served as the Nursing Superintendent of the African American division of the Sanatorium as well as Director of its African American nursing school. She directed this Division until 1944, when a stroke forced her to move in with her sister in Roxbury, MA.

Upon her "leave of absence" from the State Sanitarium, the Board of Directors passed the following resolution (from the June, 1944 issue of the Sanatorium Sun, p.2)

"The Board of Directors of the North Carolina Sanatorium learns with deep regret of the sickness of Mrs. Carrie E. Broadfoot and desires to express their earnest wish for her speedy and complete recovery. For twenty years, Mrs. Broadfoot has been the Superintendent of Nurses of the Negro Division of the North Carolina Sanatorium and she has labored unceasingly and oftentimes at the expense of her health for the welfare of the institution. We were exceedingly fortunate in securing her services in the organization of the North Carolina Sanatorium Training School for Negro Nurses, the second Tuberculosis Training School in the United States. Her outstanding ability, splendid character and lofty ideals and her prestige as organizer of the Negro State Nurses Association of North Carolina in 1923 and as president for the first eight years and as recording secretary of the National Association of Negro Nurses have done much in establishing the Sanatorium and the Training School in the confidence of the Negroes over the State and in getting them to take advantage of the facilities offered for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis.

Be it resolved That the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Sanatorium express their appreciation for the outstanding services Mrs. Broadfoot has rendered the

institution and the cause of tuberculosis in the state."

Despite the esteem she received from co-workers and other nurses, she showed some weariness caused by establishing and building an organization in the face of racism, lack of money and lack of other institutional support. On April 2, 1934 she wrote a letter to Lula West, President of the white NCSNA saying:

"I have been President [of the NCACGN] for 9 years, long enough for the Association to Incorporate and with a few hundred dollars in the treasury, and so I do feel that I did accomplish something for the good of the Association. Of course, in organizing the Association and being its President for 9 years was not smooth sailing and no doubt I made errors."

Carrie Broadfoot passed away on January 8, 1945 in Boston, at her sister's house and was buried in Fayetteville's Elmwood Cemetery. In 2016 she was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the North Carolina Nurses Association.

Blanche Catherine Hayes Sansom – 2nd President of the NCACGN 1932-1934

Sansom was born in Lumberton, NC to William P. Hayes, a Methodist Episcopal minister and

Her father drove a horse and buggy on his pastoral visits and often took Blanch with him. Through this, she became interested in helping the sick. She entered the St. Agnes school of nursing in 1907 and graduated in 1910. Sansom began her nursing career as a private duty nurse in Maxton, where her parents were living, but soon took a job on the Green River Plantation in Rutherfordton. There was not a doctor within 10 miles and everyone on the plantation, white and African American called on her to help them when they were sick or injured. For four years she practiced a kind of public health nursing and health education in the area. After doing some more private duty nursing, in 1919 she went to Tarboro, NC as a Red Cross nurse to work during the epidemic of "Spanish flu" that killed thousands in our state.

In 1920 Sansom accepted the position as the first African American school nurse for the Charlotte, NC school system. In 1928 she took special training in public health and school nursing and nursing administration at Columbia University in New York City supported by the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Health Circle (who sponsored Blue Circle Nurses)

A tribute to [Nurse Sansom](#) is on page 38 of the December 1959 Tar Heel Nurse.

Throughout the state recently several nurses have received plaudits and recognition in various ways from their own communities where they live and work. Because accomplishments of an individual nurse reflect honor on the entire profession, we believe all NCSNA members will be interested in the recognition which has come to these nurses.

Mrs. Blanche Hayes Sansom recently retired after 39 years in public health nursing with the Charlotte Health Department and was the subject of a feature article in the *Charlotte Observer*. As senior nurse, Mrs. Sansom was supervisor of midwives and had charge of the birth control clinic. She was employed by the City of Charlotte in 1920 as its first full-time Negro school nurse.

On the day of her retirement, the City and County Health Departments paid tribute to her with a party, presents, and speeches. A former supervisor of public health nurses said of her: "While she climbed in status she never lost contact with her people. She remained a true humanitarian."

Mrs. Sansom sent to members of NCSNA a special message of appreciation for the cards and letters sent to her on her retirement and these gems of wisdom gleamed from nearly 40 years of nursing: "Patients are people; learn to listen – don't talk too much; and don't know everything."

She is a graduate of St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing, Raleigh, and had post-graduate work at Columbia University, North Carolina College, and the University of Michigan.

The St. Agnes Hospital Training School for Nurses was established in 1895. It was under the care of physicians and was registered in the State of North Carolina. Some of its outstanding graduates include: **Blanche Catherine Hayes** who graduated from the school in 1910. In August of that year, she was called to Rutherfordton, North Carolina on Green River Plantation to nurse an old colored Mammy. Miss Hayes found work on Green River Plantation very interesting. She was the only person with medical knowledge within 11 miles. Public health nursing was almost unknown in North Carolina at that time, but Miss Hayes did much educational work among the tenants of the plantation. She was later called to nurse the daughter of one governor-elect of North Carolina. In 1919 she did Red Cross nursing in Tarboro, North Carolina. In 1920 she was appointed to the school system in North Carolina as the first colored school nurse. In 1928 she was given a scholarship to do special work at Columbia University by the National Health Circle for Colored People.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2611690/pdf/jnma00516-0005.pdf>

\$225.00 was used under the colored public health nursing appropriation to pay the salary of Blanche Hayes, a colored registered nurse attached to the Health Department of Edgecombe County, immediately under the direction and instruction of Miss Clara Ross, Public Health Nurse for Edgecombe County, for a period of three months. This enabled the Health Department to provide visiting nursing service for the colored patients during the influenza epidemic of last year. Financing this work was of a temporary nature and was done to demonstrate the usefulness of colored public health nursing and aid the county until funds could be secured to continue the work. Blanche Hayes is now on the staff of the Charlotte Health Department.

[1920 Annual report of the NC Tuberculosis Association](#)

From the Afro American newspaper 10-17-1931 p.18 article "Nurses elect":

The NC Association of Colored Graduate Nurses met at St. Augustine College to formally receive the Articles of Incorporation from the Secretary of State, adopt bylaws and elect officers. Mrs. Sansom was elected President of the Association.

Blanche Hayes Sansom was a NC native. Her father was Reverend W.B. Hayes and he served in the NC Reconstruction Legislature. Her brother, Reverend W.B. Hayes, Jr served the Mt. Olive Baptist Church. She graduated from St. Agnes

School of Nursing in Raleigh, NC in 1910 and did post graduate work in public health at Columbia University in New York City in 1928 paid for by the National Health Circle for Colored People. Her first job was at the Green River Plantation in Rutherford County. In 1919 she worked for the American Red Cross Town and Country Nursing Service in Tarboro, NC. After a career in parts of NC and Fla. she became the first African American school nurse in NC in Charlotte, NC in 1920. On November 26, 1930 she married Reverend David H. Sansom in Maxton in Robeson County, NC. He worked for the American Bible Society based in Charlotte, NC.

The August 27, 1920 Charlotte News (p.3) in an article titled "Plans are for more careful examination of pupils than heretofore" states that Blanche Hayes will inspect the health of the Negro School Children in Charlotte.

The Freeman newspaper in Tampa Florida reports in its May 18, 1915 issues on p.10 "Blanche Hayes, a graduated trained nurse is quite an acquisition to Tampa's young society".

From the book Pathfinders by Adah Thoms (1985):

St. Agnes is well represented in the work of one of its outstanding graduates - Blanche Catherine Hayes. Miss Hayes, R.N. was born in Lumberton, N.C. Her father, William P. Hayes was a Methodist Episcopal minister with a family of 11 children. He owned a horse and buggy and when he went to make his pastoral calls it was always a great pleasure for Blanche to accompany him. It was during her childhood days while accompanying her father on his visits, especially to the sick, that she was inspired to become a nurse. In the fall of 1907 she entered St. Agnes Hospital, Raleigh, N.C. to begin her course in nursing. She was graduated from the school in 1910. She did private duty nursing a short while in her hometown, Maxton, N.C. In August 1910 she was called to Rutherfordton, N.C. on Green River Plantation to nurse an old colored Mammy who had nursed the Coxe family for forty years ... there was not a doctor within 11 miles and everyone on the Plantation, white or colored called the nurse for aid. Public health nursing was almost unknown in NC at that time but Miss Hayes did much educational work among the tenants of Green River Plantation. Four years were spent there ...

After returning to her home for a week's rest she was called to nurse the daughter of Angus Wilton McLean who was then chairman of the Democratic Party of NC and later became governor of NC ... in 1919 she went to Tarboro NC to do Red Cross work. A generalized program was carried on there touching the schools, city and county. The work was very hard in Tarboro as the people did not understand what a public health nurse meant to them and resented having her come into their homes ... Another piece of work attempted was the training of midwives ... In 1920 she accepted a position as school nurse in Charlotte, N.C. the first colored nurse ever employed by the school system so the entire work had to be organized.

Ruby A.F. Woodbury Scarlett (later Hilton) 3rd President 1934-1941

From the *Pittsburgh Courier* (1972)

"HONORED FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE: -- Mrs. Ruby A. F. Woodbury Scarlett Hilton, R. N., Head Nurse of a private long-term unit at the Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, Brooklyn, will be feted by her colleagues in the department for 20 years of outstanding service to the department, the hospital and its patients at an

anniversary and testimonial dinner in her honor on Sunday evening, March 5th in Kingsbrook's Leviton Auditorium.

The evening is being arranged by a committee of nurses, of which Pearl Robinson, R. N., Supervisor, is chairman.

Mrs. Hilton has a long and distinguished record in the field of nursing care. She was graduated from the McClennans Hospital and Training School, Charleston, S. C. and did post graduate work at Harlem Hospital in Manhattan. She also did graduate work at New York University in methods of teaching in hospital administration and ward management.

She founded and operated the first hospital in her hometown, Georgetown, S. C. Subsequently, she served as Director of Nurses at the Arthur B. Lee Hospital, Summerville, S. C., the Good Samaritan Hospital and Training School, Columbia, S. C., the Blue Ridge Hospital and Training School, Asheville, N.C., the L. Richardson Hospital and Training School, Greensboro, N.C.

The Richardson Hospital received its accreditation during Mrs. Hilton's tenure, where she was instrumental in securing the gift of a nurses home through the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Her late husband, Dr. H. Scarlett, was an attending physician at the hospital.

Following her service at Richardson, Mrs. Hilton served as Director of Nurses at Prairie View College Hospital and Training School, Prairie View, Texas. Subsequently, she was named Dean of Women and School Nurses at Kittrell College, Kittrell, N.C.

During the Roosevelt Administration, she was a State Health Supervisor for the National Youth Administration for Georgia. She also served as President of the North Carolina State Nurses from 1933-37, and from 1929-37 was Supervisor of the District Nurses Association covering Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem, N.C.

Mrs. Hilton was invited by the Alumni Association of L. Richardson Hospital to be an honored guest at the dedication of their new hospital. She was also honored at the Bi-Racial State Meeting in Raleigh, N.C., following the merger of the white and black State Nurses organizations.

She is a member of the Bridge Street AME Church, and is presently serving as Second Vice President of the Laymen's Organization. She is also a member of the South Carolina Club and Booster's Club, and the Hildebrand Club.

Ruby Woodbbury Scarlett Hilton died on June 14 1992 in New York City

Superintendent of Nursing Ruby A. F. Woodbury, R.N., had a long and distinguished career in nursing education and practice. She was born in July 1985 in Georgetown, South Carolina to Frank and Chloe Woodbury. An article in the *Pittsburgh Courier* (1972) reports she graduated from the Hospital and Training School in Charleston, South Carolina (now known as MCClellan's Hospital). After moving to New York City, she did academic work at Harlem Hospital and New York University in methods of teaching in hospital administration and ward management. Woodbury founded and operated the first hospital in her hometown, Georgetown, South Carolina. Subsequently, she served as Director of Nurses at the

Arthur B. Lee Hospital in Summerville, South Carolina, and according to the 1920 U.S. Census, by age 25, she was the Head Nurse at the Good Samaritan Hospital and Training School in Columbia, South Carolina, before taking the Superintendent position at Blue Ridge Hospital and Training School in Asheville, NC. In 1928, after leaving Blue Ridge Hospital, in 1931, she took the Superintendency at L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. Woodbury oversaw both the hospital and the nursing school there. She met and married a local Greensboro physician, Dr. Henry Clay Scarlett who tragically died in a car wreck in 1940. Mrs. Scarlett was instrumental in getting the hospital accredited, and in securing funds from the Rosenwald Foundation for the construction of a new Nurses Home for the nurses and student nurses working at the hospital (Elkins, 1969). Woodbury was very active in the state and national Associations of Colored Graduate Nurses, serving as the regional president for the area covering Greensboro, High Point, and Winston Salem, North Carolina from 1929 through 1937. She was elected President of the North Carolina State Association of Negro Registered Nurses for the 1937 to 1941 term of office. Following her service at L. Richardson Hospital, she served as Director of Nurses at Prairie View College Hospital and Training School, Prairie View, Texas. Subsequently, she was named Dean of Women and School Nurses at Kittrell College in Kittrell, North Carolina. Woodbury-Scarlett was honored at a bi-racial banquet commemorating the North Carolina State Nurse Association and the North Carolina State Association of Negro Registered Nurses merger ("Association celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary," 1952). After she was widowed in 1940 she soon moved to New York City. (Woodbury, n.d.). She married a Mr. Hilton by 1952. Her life's work showed consistent attention to advancing her skills and working to improve the health of her community. During her time in Asheville, Woodbury helped to promote the Blue Ridge Hospital. In a pamphlet about the hospital, she wrote:

The hospital is prepared to care for all the colored work in the city and county. The Mission Hospital is the only white institution in the city having colored wards. To be consistent in our aims and institutional life, we feel that the Blue Ridge Hospital is the logical place for all Negroes needing hospital treatment in the city and county. As a rule the colored nurse is better qualified by nature to minister to her own race; with her there can be no thought of prejudice. (Woodbury, n.d., p.2)

Geneva Sitrena Collins Hunt 4th President 1942-1944

Mrs. Hunt was born in 1907 in Asheville. In 1929 she graduated from the St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing and was Assistant Superintendent from 1929-1933. In 1934 she received a Rosenwald Scholarship to study hospital administration at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD. From 1935 to 1948 she was Director of Nursing at L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro, NC. In 1949 she became a 1st Lt in the US Army Nurse Corps at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C and later was in supervisory positions in Norfolk, Philadelphia and Welfare Island, NY.

From her Obituary:

Mrs. Hunt was the daughter of the late Will Greenlee and the late Mrs. Nellie Collins Harper. She was the widow of the late Rev. Jesse A. Hunt, former pastor of Grace Lutheran Church. She was a graduate of the 1925 class of Stephens-Lee High School. She graduated from Saint Agnes Hospital, Saint Augustine College in Raleigh. She received a Julius Rosenwald Scholarship to attend the University of Maryland School of Hospital Administration. She later interned at Providence and

John Hopkins Hospitals in Baltimore. She attended the Nun Occasions Hospital Administrators School, University of Chicago. Her varied nursing career included supervisor of nurses for the Department of Hospitals for New York City; supervisor and nurse-in-charge of the Lucian Moss Home for the Chronically Ill; Albert Einstein Medical Center, northern division, Philadelphia; director of nurses, Norfolk Community Hospital, Norfolk, Va.; assistant superintended at Saint Agnes Hospital, Raleigh; and superintendent and director of Nursing School at the L. Richardson Hospital, Greensboro.

She joined the Army Nurses Corps and served her tour of duty as a first lieutenant at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. She was licensed professionally in eight states, was a past president of the N.C. Black Nurses Association, past treasurer of the Tri-State Professional Nurses Association. She was listed as an outstanding and distinguished American in the 1971 edition of Community Leaders of America.

Flora Blanchette 5th President 1945-1946

Flora Lenore Blanchette of Greensboro was elected President in 1945. She was born on September 25, 1899 in Basseterre on the island of St. Kitts in the Carribean to Charles Bernard and Ada Emmaline Blanchette. Shortly after immigrating to the Unites States in 1923 she moved to Greensboro, North Carolina to enroll in the L. Richardson Memorial Hospital (LRMH) nursing school. After graduating in 1926, she worked at the hospital as a registered nurse. In 1939 she became a nursing supervisor at LRMH and then then was promoted to the position of educational director at the LRMH Nursing School in 1941.

In the mid-1940s, William Hasties, governor of American Virgin Islands appointed Blanchette to the position of the Director of Nursing Education on the island of St. Croix. She began her new duties in January of 1948. By 1950 she had organized and been elected President of the NACGN Virgin Island Chapter



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Elizabeth McMillan Thompson 6th President 1946-1949

Elizabeth McMillan Thompson was born on September 29, 1908, in Tarboro, North

Carolina. She was an early African American public health nurse in North Carolina. She attended Shaw University in Raleigh, and in 1929, she received a B.S. in nursing from Freedmans Hospital in Washington, D.C. Through her alumna association she was a long time member of the American Nurse Association. A year later, she obtained a public health nursing degree from Howard University. She got her first job with the Cumberland County Health Department, and she continued to work there for thirty-eight years, the remainder of her career. For some time, she worked simultaneously at the health department and at Fayetteville State Normal School (now Fayetteville State University) as the college nurse. This arrangement paid for her room and board at the university. Thompson helped to organize the Midwife Institutes held at Fayetteville State University in the 1930s. She became president of the North Carolina Negro Nurses Association in 1946 and of the National Colored Nurses Association in 1942. She married in Luther Thompson in 1943 and adopted a daughter in 1959. She died on April 27, 1982.

In this interview, Thompson describes her childhood, family background, early interest in medicine, and education, and decision to go into public health nursing. She explains the tasks she performed as a public health nurse. She was first appointed during a smallpox epidemic, so she gave immunizations, dealt with quarantine requirements, and cared for patients. As her career progressed, she continued to give immunizations and inoculations to the public, made visits to schools, administered treatments for patients with venereal disease, and provided women with birth control. She educated midwives and oversaw maternal health issues in her area. She dealt primarily with the African-American community in Cumberland County, but she also worked with Native Americans. Thompson discusses her own routine and way of life as a public health nurse, as well as her eventual strategies for balancing her work and family life.

Thompson makes observations about the way of life of black tenant farmers in the 1920s and 1930s. In her work, she created a rapport with the African-American community and acted as an intermediary between white doctors and their black patients. As she explains, racism and segregation sometimes formed obstacles in her work, and she also faced antagonism from a local black practitioner of folk medicine. However, it was the rewarding response to her work within the local black community that convinced her to stay in what was originally a short-term assignment for the rest of her career.

An interview with Elizabeth McMillan Thompson can be found here:
<https://archive.org/details/ElizabethMcMillanThompson>

NEGRO NURSES' MEETING ENDS

**Urge Admission of Qualified
Negro Physicians to State
Medical Associations.**

The admission of qualified Negro physicians to membership in state medical associations and to the North Carolina Medical Care commission were asked here yesterday in resolutions adopted at the concluding session of the annual Southeastern regional convention of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Other resolutions approved by the 109 delegates from the Carolinas and Virginia would:

North Carolina in the care of tubercular and mental patients.

The Negro nurses, lauding the recent action of the North Carolina State Nurses association in voting to admit them to membership, commended the South Carolina State Nurses association which recently invited the Negro nurses to attend the association's convention as visitors.

At the concluding business session Mrs. W. Lucille Z. Williams of Durham was re-elected president of the regional NACGN. Mrs. Rosa May Godley of Charlotte was elected vice president.

Other officers: Mrs. Julie R. Reeves of Raleigh, recording secretary; Miss Mamie Batchelor of Greensboro, assistant recording secretary; Miss Veyella Mitchell of Durham, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Clifton Richardson of Wilmington, treasurer; Mrs. Viola Turner of Charleston, S. C., member at large to the national NACGN board; Mrs. Edna Purdie James of Richmond, member of national NACGN nominating committee.

Brief biographical information on the nurses mentioned in the North Carolina Association of Colored Graduate/Negro Resistered Nurses 1920-1949 (in alphabetical order)

Edith B. Anderson was from Durham. She graduated in 1937 from St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing in Raleigh. Anderson was the Operating Room nurse manager at St. Agnes from 1939 through the 1940s.

Mrs. E. B. Anderson - attended the first meeting in Winston-Salem in 1923 and spoke on Advantages and Disadvantages of Private Duty Nursing

Nancy Smythe Armstrong was from Aberdeen, (or Hamlet depending on the source) She graduated in 1929 from St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing in Raleigh. The 1930 census shows her working in a hospital in Martinsville VA. She attended the Annual Convention in 1931 in Wilmington.

Elizabeth Bailey was from Raleigh. She graduated from Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing in Durham and passed the state Registered Nursing examination [state boards] in 1918. She attended the first meeting of the NCACGN in Winston-Salem in January 1923. She also attended conventions in 1930 and 1931. She worked in Raleigh.

Mamie Batchelor was born around 1910. She passed the state boards in 1936. The 1940 census lists her as the Head Nurse at L.Richardson Hospital in Greensboro. In 1948 she was elected assistant recording secretary of the southeastern region of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Birdie Lee Beatty was from Chapel Hill. She graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Charlotte and passed the state Registered Nursing examination in 1922. She was elected Treasurer of Charlotte chapter of the NCACGN in 1935 and 1936.

Gertrude (E. E.) Blackman was from Charlotte and worked at Good Samaritan Hospital. At the 15th Annual/1937 NCACGN Convention she gave a talk on "Laboratory Technique". Blackman was elected Vice President of the Charlotte Chapter (also called the Florence Nightingale Club) of the NCACGN in 1925.

Susie Boaden - in 1934 she was a nurse at Cherry Hospital, a state psychiatric facility. That same year she attended a NCNRN, Inc meeting in Wilson, NC.

Lovie Elizabeth Booker was from Greensboro. She both graduated from St. Agnes and passed the state boards in 1918. She attended the 1924 and 1926 NACGN conventions.

Carrie Early Broadfoot – See Presidents biographies

Annie Keith Brown was a graduate of Dixie Hospital in Hampton Virginia. She passed the NC state boards in 1922 and worked in Winston-Salem. She attended the first meeting in NC in 1923 in Winston-Salem. She served on the publicity committee and the executive committee in 1929 before she served as Vice President of the state association from 1928 - 1932.

Beatrice Brown - attended the 1933 convention in Fayetteville.

Ruth Brown joined the organization at the 1928 Winston-Salem convention.

Catherine Bynum joined the organization at the 1934 convention in Wilson.

Olise Louise Campbell was born on October 10 1902 in Brunswick GA. She graduated from St. Agnes Hospital and

passed the state boards in 1928. The 1930 census show Campbell's working at St. Agnes Hospital where she served as Superintendent of Nurses. She joined the NCACGN in 1929 and gave a talk at the 1929 convention about upgrades at ST. Agnes Hospital. Campbell later moved to Savannah GA and held positions as a public health nurse and then instructor and Superintendent at Charity Hospital in Savannah. She later worked for the Georgia Tuberculosis Advisory Committee and worked for a short time with the West Virginia Tuberculosis and Health Association Negro Division. She was elected President of the Georgia Association of Negro Registered Nurses. Campbell died in Savannah 1984.

Alice Rebecca Lomax (Carper Teller) was born on Decemebr 11, 1914 in Durham and died on November 18, 1996. She was secretary of the Wilmington chapter in 1931.

Patricia (Pattie) H. Carter was born in 1875 and was the daughter of Hawkins W. Carter who served Warren County as a representative and state senator during the Reconstruction era. She obtained her education from Shaw University, St. Agnes Hospital and Lincoln Hospital in New York City. She graduated from the St Agnes Hospital School of Nursing in 1909 and two years later became the Superintendent of Nurses at Lincoln Hospital in Durham NC. She was registered via a waiver in 1918. From 1911-1935 her title was SUPERintendent of Nursing Services and the Nurse Training School. From 1935- 1947 she was promoted to Assistant Superintendent of the hospital. During her 37 years at Lincoln she served in nearly every leadership capacity. She was known to prepare meals in the kitchen, dispense medicines from the pharmacy, mop floors and help out where needed. In 1927, William K. Boyd in The Scalpel attributed the success of the institution to her dedication and countless hours of work. From "A record of 50 years, 1867-1917" St. Augustine College. She died in 1950 in Durham at age 75.

Laura Chambers was from Morganton NC. She both graduated from St Agnes Hospital and passed state boards in 1934. Chambers worked at Kate B. Reynolds Memorial Hospital in Winston-Salem. She attended the 1939 Annual Meeting in Greenboro.

Malessia (Maliesa) (Malissa and other spellings) Marion Chambers

Brown, was born on the 4th of July, 1906 in Salisbury NC. She graduated from the L. Richardson Hospital School of Nursing and passed boards in 1932. Chambers worked in Wilson in 1935. In 1940 she married William Brown and moved to NYC. There she worked at the Sea View Tubercular Hospital. After she was widowed and retired Brown returned to Salisbury where she died on December 5 2000

Ardelia D. Compton was from Albemarle NC. She both graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed state boards 1923. She later worked in Chapel Hill.

Alice Inez Crawley – was from Wilmington. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed NC state boards in 1929. Crawley was one of 3 African American nurses in Wilmington hired by the local American Red Cross chapter in January 1919 during flu epidemic. She attended the 1931 meeting in Wilmington

Mattie B. Conley In 1940 Conley was President of the Raleigh Chapter of the NCACGN also known as the Edith Cavell Club.

Lois Rice (?Mrs. HB) Cunningham – was a graduate of Blue Ridge Hospital School of Nursing in Asheville NC she passed the state boards in 1929. She attended the first meeting in 1923 in Winston-Salem and was elected as first Vice President of the state organization but had to give it up the next year due to not being an RN. She gave a talk at the 1925 NCACGN meeting in Durham. She lived in Winston-Salem.

Eula Mae Julia David – David graduated from Lincoln Hospital in Durham in 1919 and passed state boards in 1920. She attended the 3rd and 4th Annual Conventions in 1925 and 1926.

Lucy A. Dillard was from Winston- Salem. She both graduated from St. Agnes and passed state boards 1923. She attended the 1st meeting in 1923 in Winston-Salem, spoke on School Nursing at the 5th Convention in 1927. She served as an assistant or corresponding secretary of the state organization from 1927-1932.

Eunice Douglas Heilig from Concord. In 1922 she both graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte and passed the state boards. By 1924 she was a public health nurse in Charlotte. She was elected Treasurer of the state organization in 1925 and gave talk on “Communicable Diseases” at the 1925 meeting, She was elected to the state executive committee in 1929. In 1935 she was elected as the recorder of the local club and was the contact person for the 1931 and 1937 NCSANRN Conventions She is mentioned in the following articles in the Charlotte Observer: Feb 12, 1924 p. 9, Oct 12, 1927 p 11, May 30, 1922, p. 7, Jan 8, 1925, p. 12, May 29, 1922 p.5, Jan 22, 1928 p. 28.

Sadie E. Eaton – lived and worked in Raleigh, Graduated from Freedman’s Hospital in Washington, DC in 1912. She passed boards in 1917. In 1923 she was the Entertainment President of Raleigh group – holding the state -wide meeting Private duty in Raleigh

Mabel Weaver Ellis (Taylor). was born on September 10, 1902 and died on February 8, 1995 in Wilson and she joined the organization in 1934, She was a school nurse in Wilson and was remembered this way:

“A nurse would come there, one of the county nurses, Mable Ellis, and when everybody would see her coming, they would know she was coming to give a shot.”<https://afamwilsonnc.com/tag/school/>

Emma R. Evans – was born in 1895 in Georgia. Greensboro city directories from 1926- the 1940s list her as a nurse. She was President of the Greensboro chapter of the NCACGN in 1926. She led a discussion about private duty nursing at the 1929 annual session. She was the Assistant Secretary of the state organization in 1931. The 1930 and 1940 censuses show her working as a city nurse (public health nurse) in Greensboro.

Charlotte Hall McQueen Faison – She graduated from St. Agnes in Raleigh in 1914 and passed state boards the same year. She attended the 1921 NACGN Annual Convention in Washington DC where she was at the founding meeting of the NCCGNA. She worked in Rocky Mount, Wilson and Fayetteville. She was elected to the state executive committee in 1929 and as the corresponding secretary of the group in 1931. In 1933 she and Carrie Broadfoot compiled a list from county clerk of court files of the African American Registered Nurses in NC. In 1943 she worked for a federal program to improve the health of migrant farm workers, managed by the Farm Security Administration called the Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association. She may have worked there through 1947 when the program closed.

Henrietta Alline Foster (Mebane) August 4 1901 – June 2, 1950 parents -Walter and Nettie Young Foster Wilson and Tarboro Born 1900, Graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed boards in 1921, 1930 census places her as a trained nurse in a hospital in Wilson 1920 census has her as a student at Lincoln Dur 1940 census (Mebane) has her nursing in Tarboro, died 1950 Married Rev John A Mebane

Aggie J. Freeman born 1902. In 1924 she both graduated from St. Agnes and passed state boards. The 1930 census shows her working at St Agnes Hospital.

Catherine Ardelia French Freeman – June 16, 1906 from Troy, Dad- William H French mom- Doris Agnes French Simmons, Husband - Perfect O. Freeman St A graduate, passed boards 1931 worked in Charlotte died April 17, 1974

Hallie French The 1920 census shows her at 30 years old living with her sister Mary and both of them working as nurses in a hospital (presumably Good Samaritan). She spoke on a panel about public health nursing at the 1925 Convention. In 1926 she was the president of the Charlotte Chapter/ Florence Nightingale Club in Charlotte

M. Gabriel – Was a member of the Charlotte Chapter and attended the 3rd and 4th annual conventions.

Rosa Mai Godley - Charlotte, 1948 elected VP of Southeastern region of NACGN From the 1942 “Pioneer” the yearbook of St Agnes
Director of the School of Nursing: Mrs. Rosa May Godley, R.N.. who hails from Harlem School
of Nursing, New York City, and has hopes of raising the curriculum and the nursing technique of

St. Agnes to equal that of Harlem School of Nursing. Where the nursing profession is concerned.

she knows the answers for she is a Twentieth Century Florence Nightingale.

Augusta Iola Grady -Joined at 1928 meeting in Winston-Salem_ Graduated from St Agnes and passed state boards in 1926 From Wilson's Mills

Mary Elizabeth Gary – from Portsmouth, Virginia. She was a graduate of St Agnes and passed the state boards in 1931 She taught at Lincoln Hospital in Durham in 1937. In 38 she became the Operating Room supervisor at L. Richardson Hospital in Greensboro. From the St. Augustine's Record. /October 01, 1935 /Image 2

Flora Gray attended and gave a presentation at the first NC meeting in Winston-Salem in 1923. She also sang the opening song at the 1928 convention.

Izette (Mrs. William) Greer -Attended the 5th annual convention and spoke on care of tubercular patients. Attended the 1934 convention in Wilson.

Maggie McAdams Greenlee - She was from Due West, SC and graduated from McVicar Hospital in Atlanta. She passed the state boards in 1922 and became a public health nurse in Asheville in 1923

In 1926 the Asheville City Directory lists her as a Trained Nurse. She taught the American Red Cross Home nursing course to African Americans in western North Carolina. When she died in a car wreck in 1957 she was honored in the Asheville Citizen Times newspaper Asheville Citizen-Times 05 Oct 1957, Page 4

Service

Asheville lost one of its most valued Negro citizens in the death of Mrs. Maggie Greenlee in a South Carolina city several days ago.

For more than three decades she had been a public health nurse, living a life of dedication to the ill, the aged, the suffering and the needy among her people.

The influence of her kindness, compassion and understanding reached hundreds of people, both white and Negro. Many of the hundreds who remember her feel that their lives were enriched by her example.

She chose a life of service while still a young girl. After completing nurses' training

partment for many years until her own ill health caused her to retire.

"Nurse Greenlee," long a familiar sight in her blue uniform, was one of those who go about quietly doing good, ministering to the infirmities of the body and setting an example of Christian service.

Well-Baby Conferences Will Be Held Today

The West Asheville well-baby conference sponsored by the Asheville Business and Professional Women's club will be conducted this afternoon from 3 to 4 o'clock at Aycock school. Dr. Irma Henderson will be the physician in charge, assisted by Miss Daisy Patterson, city health nurse. Mrs. Wade H. Reinhardt will act as club hostess.

A well-baby conference for negro

Willie Gus (Williams) Attended the 1930 meeting in Raleigh and was listed as a member of the Raleigh Chapter.

Leonora Sarah Hargrave (sometimes Sarah Leonora) Was born on March 28, 1888 in Wilmington. Hargrave graduated from Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. in 1903. She returned to Wilmington and was a private duty nurse (The Wilmington Morning Star 22 Sep 1915, Page 8). At the 4th annual meeting of the NACGN in 1912 in Washington, DC, Hargrave gave a paper on "Feeding the sick" In 1915 she was elected Secretary of NAGGN at its 8th convention in Raleigh. She was re-elected to the position in 1916. The 1919-1920 Bulletin of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College lists Hargrave as a faculty member teaching "Nurse Training". By 1921 she was working as a Blue Circle Nurse in Fort Valley, Georgia ([The New York Age](#) 07 May 1921, Page 11).

Due to the racist/segregationist policies of the American Red Cross, African Americans organized the Circle for Negro War Relief in 1917. The organization raised \$50,000 and bought and sent an ambulance to France during the war, while also raising money for other war related activities and later for social services in African American communities in the US. Part of thier program, started by nursing leader Adah Thoms, was hiring Blue Circle nurses to provide public health nursing, similar to Red Cross programs in white communities, In the 1920s 8 nurses here supported through the Blue Circle/ Circle of Negro Relief organization. Leonora Hargrave was one of these 8.

The 1930 census shows Hargrave was working as a school nurse in Wilmington, NC. She attended the 1931 Annual Convention of the NCACGN in Wilmington. She died on February 11, 1970.

Rosena Hall was the Secretary of the Charlotte Chapter in 1936.

Annie E. Harrell was born in VA circa 1890. She graduated from St Agnes in 1916 and then worked at St Agnes for many years. She was elected President of the Raleigh Chapter in XX. The 1930 census shows her at the Negro Division of the State Sanitarium, By 1935 she was at Seaview Hospital (a TB hosp) in New York City.

Ethel Harriston – Worked at the Guilford San in Jamestown NC

J.D. Hawkins Henderesonville

Mildred Haygood In 1933 Haygood graduated from Lincoln Hospital in Durham and passed state boards. She was a public health nurse in Charlotte. In 1935 she was elected president of the Charlotte Chapter.

Lila Haywood (Ward) was a nurse in Raleigh. She Attended the 9th Annual Convention in Wilmington.

Eunice Douglas Heilig from Concord. In 1922 she both graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte and passed the state boards. By 1924 she was a public health nurse in Charlotte. She was elected Treasurer of the state organization in 1925 and gave talk on "Communicable Diseases" at the 1925 meeting. In 1935 she was elected as the recorder of the local club and was the contact person for the 1931

and 1937 NCSANRN Conventions She is mentioned in the following articles in the Charlotte Observer: Feb 12, 1924 p. 9, Oct 12, 1927 p 11, May 30, 1922, p. 7, Jan 8, 1925, p. 12, May 29, 1922 p.5, Jan 22, 1928 p. 28

Pearl Henderson was from Durham. She was born around 1899. The 1910 census shows her living at Lincoln Hospital in Durham. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1911 and soon began a career as a public health nurse in Durham. She attended the 1925 meeting of the NCACGN and was elected to the statewide finance committee. In 1919 Pearl Henderson was working as an industrial nurse in the segregated African American department of the Durham Hosiery Mill. That same year she attended the NACGN Convention in Boston. She wrote about this experience as "a fine trip [where she] gained new ideas, especially regarding efforts to improve the home life of colored people. The next year she is listed as the president of the Durham Chapter. In 1931 she was elected to the state wide executive committee. In 1922 a report from the Durham County Health Department shows a white visiting nurse earned \$125/month and she (a visiting nurse) earned \$83.00/month. In the 1940 census she is listed as a head of household, living alone and being employed as a city public health nurse.

Rebecca Clotilde Hennie was born on July 15, 1901 (or 7-22-1902) in Jamaica, West Indies, She came to the US in 1920 to attend nursing school. She both graduated from St Agnes and passed boards in 1926 She was a school nurse at St. Mary's College in Raleigh and worked at Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte, By 1933 she was a nurse at the Negro Division of the State Sanitarium. From there, by 1929, she was the Head Nurse of the Good Shepherd Hospital in New Bern. In the 1939 Journal of the 56th Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, page 46 states "Miss Hennie, our United Thank Offering nurse who serves as Superintendent is naddling her difficult job well, and will study at New York University for six weeks this summer" <https://archive.org/details/journalofannualc10epis/page/n8>. She became a US Citizen in 1935. She served in the Army Nurse Corps in WWII. After the war she earned her BS in Nurisng in New York City and then held several jobs in the north. She was honored at a luncheon in 1953 which is described in this newspaper article: [The New York Age](#) 13 Jun 1953, Sat • Page 20. Other articles from the New York Age also have information or photos of nurse Hennie and include: 21 Nov 1959, Sat • Page 10, February 12, 1955, p. 8, January 28, 1956 p. 20, January 24, 1959, p. 5, She died in 1980.

Mary E. Henry from Wadesboro. She graduated from 1921 Lincoln Hospital and passed state boards. She worked in Winston-Salem

Ruby A.F. Woodbury Scarlett Hilton See Presidents biographies.

Versie Hobbs – 1926 grad St. A from Princeton NC, in 1933 at state Hospital in Goldsboro (Cherry)

Gladys L. Holmes – From Graham, St A grad passed boards 1927

Mary E. Fisher Holt – High Point, spoke at the 1927 convention and was named State Organizer in 1929 -1931 (at least) St A grad passed board 1926

Geneva Sitrena Collins Hunt See Presidents biographies

Della Hayden Raney Jackson Nurse [Della Hayden Raney Jackson](#) was born in Suffolk, Virginia on January 10, 1912, the 4th of twelve children born to George H

and Willie V. Raney. Nurse Raney chose to attend nursing school in North Carolina and became a proud graduate of Durham's Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1937. After graduation, she worked as the operating room supervisor at Lincoln Hospital. When the United States entered World War II, Nurse Raney was anxious to serve her country and applied for a position in the Army Nurse Corps. Initially her application was denied due to her race. Until 1941, the Army only employed white nurses. Despite this rejection, Nurse Raney persisted in her efforts to become an Army nurse. A nurse needed the endorsement of the American Red Cross to be considered for military service. She wrote in 1983 :

"When I entered nursing more than forty years ago, it was serious business with me. It was a commitment to give my life for a cause – that of caring for those who were ill ... It was this strong desire to elevate my profession that led me to volunteer for military service in 1940 with the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. Getting accepted by the Red Cross was difficult for graduates of black schools of nursing in the south, but I persisted in overcoming this barrier to the point of writing Miss Mary Beard, who at that time was director of nursing for the American Red Cross, telling her of my desire to serve my country and practice my profession. Miss Beard replied with my membership card, certificate and pin.

[Nurse Raney's](#) determination paid off. In April, 1941 she became the first African American nurse accepted into the US Army Nurse Corps, at the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.

Because of the war time emergency, in January 1941, the Army opened its Nurse Corps to African American nurses but established a limit of 56 nurses. African American nurses were only allowed to care for African American service men. In April 1941, twenty four African American nurses were assigned to Camp Livingston, Louisiana and another twenty four to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The Army had recently established segregated African American hospital wards on these two bases to treat ill and injured African American soldiers. Nurse Raney was chosen to lead the Fort Bragg nurses.

After serving six months at Fort Bragg, Nurse Raney was given the chief nursing examination. She passed and was promoted to First Lieutenant. In March of 1942, 1st Lieutenant Raney led the first five African American nurses assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama, home of the Tuskegee Air Men, becoming the first African American ever appointed as a Chief Nurse in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. The quota for African American nurses rose to 160 in 1943 and was dropped all together in 1944.

In June of 1944 she transferred again to become Chief Nurse at Fort Huachuca, Arizona and shortly moved on the Camp Beale, a new Air Force facility created out of the rolling hills of central California. Camp Beale had a hospital that included 100 buildings and one thousand beds. Raney was promoted to Captain in 1945 and in 1946, Raney was promoted again to the rank of Major and served an extensive tour of duty with the occupation force in Japan. When she returned to the United States, she returned to Camp Beale, as Director of Nursing for the base hospital. Major Raney retired in 1978 after earning the highest rank of any African-American nurse who served in World War II. When the war ended in September 1945 just 479 black nurses were serving in an Army Nurse Corps of 50,000 because of the rigid quota system imposed by segregation.

[Here](#) is a picture of a young Capt. Jackson.

Lottie R. Jackson Graduated from Frederick Douglas Hospital in Philadelphia and passed the NC state boards in 1918. She worked at Leonard Hospital on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh before becoming the Superintendent of Nurses at St. Agnes in 1915. She organized and hosted the 8th Annual Convention of NACGN in Raleigh ("Of Interest to Nurses" JNMA 7(4) p 326). During the 1918 flu pandemic, Jackson was the head nurse at the Red Cross Emergency Hospital (Colored) in Raleigh at the Washington School. In 1920 she served on the nominating committee NACGN (Thomas, S., 1920, "Nursing Section" JNMA 12(4) p 71).

Katie Tiney Corbett Jenkins – Graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1916. Passed boards 1919. She attended the first meeting of the NCACGN in 1923. In 1926 she was the secretary of the Durham chapter of the NCACGN. later she worked in Greensboro

Emily Louise Johnson from Georgetown SC, graduate of L. Richardson G'boro passed boards 1933

Vardelia Johns attended the first meeting of the NCCGN in Winston-Salem in 1923.

Addie E. Lane of Raleigh worked as a public health nurse through the Associated Charities in Raleigh through 1920s and 1930s. She graduated from Dixie Hospital in Virginia and passed the NC state boards in 1917. She was the President of the Raleigh chapter in 1926.

Julia A. Latta was born in 1867 in Hillsboro and was the sole graduate of St. Agnes School of Nursing in 1900. In 1901 she was hired as a nurse at the new Lincoln Hospital in Durham and soon became the Matron there. By 1903, she was one of two employees - the other was the janitor. She took care of patients, cooked the meals, did the laundry and did whatever else was necessary to keep the hospital running. In the same year, 1901, she opened a nurse training program. During her tenure as the Head Nurse of Lincoln, 1903-1911 17 nurses graduated from the program. After she left Lincoln she became Durham's first African American public health nurse in July, 1915, (Durham Morning Herald, 11-21-1915, p. 8, 3-7-1916, 4-27-16, p. 10, p.7, 7-11-1917, p.7, 5-9-1917, p. 5, 3-4-1919, p. 7, 11- 30 - 1921, p. 6 and many more). She later worked for the American Tobacco Company (Durham Morning Herald, 11-11-1920, p.9) as an industrial nurse. and by 1920 she was hired by the American Red Cross, the first African American Red Cross nurse in NC. At the 4th annual NACGN meeting in 1912 in Washington, DC, Latta spoke on "How can the Association be made beneficial to its members" as well as another talk on "Nursing ethics". At the 1916 meeting in New York City Latta "presented a very spicy paper" on "Public health nursing and sanitation in the south". At the first Annual Convention in Raleigh in 1923 she was elected Vice President of the organization and was chosen to represent the group at the NACGN convention that year. In 1925 she served on both the executive committee and the finance committee.

In 1925, Latta married Lewis Tinnin, who was also born in Hillsboro, into slavery in 1860, but was residing/working in Chicago at the time of their marriage. She moved to Chicago with her new husband. The 1930 census shows they were living

in Los Angeles. However, she died in Chicago on August 31, 1939 and was buried there. She never had any children.

Clara Lawrence elected recorder of Charlotte Chapter in 1936.

Mabel Lottie Lee was from Greensboro. In 1927 she both graduated from St. Agnes and passed state boards. She attended the 5th Annual Convention in 1927.

Effie C. Wortham Lytle – Born approx. 1869 .. one of two in first class at St Agnes. She graduated in 1898 12-12-05 – married William H. Lytle Dad=Samuel Mom=Annie From Raleigh died 9-16-1951 in Philly??

McCall

Annie McCarran

Nettie Blackburn McCollum – She graduated from St Agnes in 1913. Worked in Winston-Salem and Atlanta.

J.E. McDonald – G'boro

Mary Elizabeth McMillan (Thompson) See Presidents biographies

Edith Corrine MacNeill (Holmes)

Edith Mac Neil Holmes was born in 1905 and grew up in Clarkton, North Carolina. She graduated from the St. Agnes Hospital School of Nursing in Raleigh, NC in 1923. She worked at a doctors office before joining the Halifax County Health Department in 1924. She began working in midwife supervision the following year and began training all 75 midwives in her county. She married briefly, divorced, and served as a role model and mother figure to several young people in her community. She retired in 1964. There is a piece about her in the Tar Heel Nurse June 1964, p.35.

In a 1980 interview with Jane Plyler, <https://archive.org/details/EdithMacNeilHolmes> Holmes discusses her childhood, family background, and education, and work as a public health nurse. Holmes was black, and a recurring theme in the interview is the role of her own race in connecting with African-American, Native American, and mixed-race patients. She faced challenges from discrimination and segregation. Holmes gave vaccinations, sometimes traveling to farms during the lunch hour to administer them to workers who lacked the time to visit her clinic. She dealt with tuberculosis and tuberculin testing as well as venereal disease treatments and midwife supervision. This task included educating the midwives and mothers about maternity health. Holmes talks about the role of poverty in public health issues and describes her efforts to secure resources for her patients. She discusses folk medicine and lay medical practitioners. Holmes covers the process of school visits and school screening. She discusses the way of life of black tenant farmers in the 1920s and 1930s, as well as that of the African-American community in general.

Ella Louise Mason – was from Richmond, VA but lived and worked in Charlotte, She presented a talk at the 1929 annual session on private duty nursing. She gave a talk at the 15th Annual Convention (1937) on “Nurses experiences in the flood areas” She both graduated from Lincoln Hospital in Durham and passed state boards 1924. She was the Recorder of Charlotte Chapter in 1925. Nurse Mason was

a part of a Civil Deference Medical Unit during WWII. She is mentioned in the following newspaper items in the Charlotte Observer

07 Jan 1948, Wed • Page 10, 07 Feb 1937, Sun • Page 15, Aug 9, 1935, pg 13, Oct 27, 1931 p. 11, Feb 18, 1937, p. 12, Jan 14, 1942 pg 1 and 15, Jan 8, 1925, p. 12, Nov 6, 1938 p. 16, May 3, 1950 p. 7, Jan 5, 1939 p.21

Eva Louise Mathews graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte and passed state boards in 1922. She lived and worked in Charlotte. She was secretary of the Charlotte Chapter in 1926 and was elected to the state executive committee in 1929.

Elizabeth Miller Was the Superintendent of Nurses at Good Samaritan Hospital in Charlotte, circa 1913-1925. In 1913 she gave a talk on "Nursing as a profession in America". In 1920 she served as the Auditing Chairman of the NACGN. More information about her can be found in an article titled "Lynching at Hosptial" in the August 26 1913 Charlotte Observer p. 2 and in the April 1920 issue of the Journal of the National Medical Association. JNMA. She received her NC Registration through reciprocity with Pennsylvania in 1922. On her appointment to the Head Nurse position at Good Samaritan Hospital, an article in the Charlotte Observer stated she had previous experience in nursing at government hospitals. At the 13th Annual Convention in 1920 of the National organization, she was elecetd as Chair of the Nominting committee. In 1924 at the 2nd Annual State meeting she joined the publicity committee. At the 3rd annual state meeting she spoke on private duty nursing. She attended the 4th annual convention and spoke about Good Samaritan Hosptial at the 7th annual state convention in 1929. See these articles in the Charlotte Observer: [21 Jun 1925](#), Page 5, [20 Jul 1915](#), p. 2,

Mabel Miller attended the 5th Annual Convention in 1927.

Mary Mills

One of the most inspiring yet little-known life stories of a minority nursing pioneer is that of U.S. Public Health Service nurse Mary Lee Mills, MSN, RN, MPH, CNM. Now 96 years old, Mills was born in 1912 and raised outside Watha, an impoverished rural area in North Carolina. She is one of 11 children and the granddaughter of slaves. Through education and determination Mills achieved an international nursing career that brought health and hope to medically underserved people around the world.

She received her early learning in a one-teacher schoolhouse in the days when racial segregation was the law of the land and educational opportunities for African American children in rural North Carolina were deplorable. Mills was an exceptional student and completed the limited public schooling that was available to her as a young black female in the early part of the 20th century in the Jim Crow south.

During the height of the Great Depression, Mills made her way to Durham, N.C., where in 1934 she graduated from the Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing and became a registered nurse. She worked as a public health nurse and then in advanced practice as a nurse-midwife while she completed her education. Mills earned a certificate in public health nursing from the Medical College of Virginia, a certificate in midwifery from the Lobenstein School of Midwifery in New York City, a bachelor's and master's degree in nursing from New York University and a graduate certificate in health care administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

In 1946, Mills returned to North Carolina to direct the public health nursing certificate program at historically black North Carolina College (now North Carolina Central University) in Durham. That same year, she was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS).

Going Global

Mary Mills began her distinguished career in global and transcultural nursing in February 1946, when she joined the Office of International Health and was assigned to the USPHS mission in Monrovia, Liberia. While in Liberia, she created some of that country's first health education campaigns, initiated a national public health library and advocated for legislation to strengthen nursing as a profession. A 1956 article in the American Journal of Nursing described Mills' work in Liberia this way:

"From 1946 until 1952 she served as chief nursing officer for the USPHS in Liberia, West Africa. In addition to trips into the interior with her colleagues to set up immunization stations and health centers, she helped organize and establish the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Children's Ward at the government hospital in Monrovia and she was instrumental in organizing the Tubman National School of Nursing. Liberia invested her as Knight Official of the Liberian Humane Order of African Redemption."

After a short period back in the U.S. for study, rest and family visits, Mills—who had been promoted from the USPHS rank of major to that of lieutenant colonel, then colonel and finally captain—received her next international assignment, to Beirut, Lebanon, in January 1952.

On her way from North Carolina to the Middle East, she represented the United States at conferences of the International Council of Nurses and the World Health Organization. In Beirut, CAPT Mills worked hard to establish Lebanon's first school of nursing. These efforts earned her the Order of the Cedars, one of that country's highest awards for service. A nursing dormitory at the school was named in her honor.

Throughout her 20-year career with the Office of International Health, CAPT Mills was an ambassador of good will representing North Carolina and the United States around the globe. In addition to her work in Liberia and Lebanon, she provided health education, nursing care and midwifery services to countless individuals and families in South Vietnam, Cambodia and Chad. In those countries, Mills worked on small pox and malaria eradication campaigns, sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, health education programs and the establishment of maternal-child health clinics. She is fluent in four languages: Arabic, French, Cambodian, and African dialects. Additionally, she was instrumental in initiating or expanding schools of nursing in all of these countries. Leaders of every nation in which she worked bestowed honors and awards on her for her untiring efforts to improve the quality of life and health for all citizens of the world.

Accolades at Home

In 1966, CAPT Mills returned permanently to the United States and took a job with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), the predecessor of today's Department of Health and Human Services. In her new position as nursing consultant in the migrant health program, she provided political, policy and program advice about migrant worker health care and other public health issues to the secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, a Cabinet member advising the president.

In this capacity, she went to Finland, Germany and Denmark to study their national health care systems and bring back ideas that might be put to use in the United States. She also represented the U.S. at international nursing, midwifery and public health conferences in Mexico, Canada, Germany, Australia, Italy and Sweden. In addition, Mills has been an active member and officer of many professional

associations, including the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the National League for Nursing, the Frontier Nursing Service, the American Public Health Association, the American Nurses Association, the North Carolina Nurses Association (District 11) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

During her 10 years at HEW, Mills received many awards honoring her contributions to improving public health at both the national and international levels. These honors include a USPHS Distinguished Service Award, Princeton University's Rockefeller Public Service Award, the American Nurses Association's Mary Mahoney Award and North Carolina's highest honor, the Long Leaf Pine Award. She was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree from Tuskegee University and an honorary doctor of laws degree from Seton Hall University. Mills retired from government service in 1976 to her beloved Pender County, North Carolina. She is now in poor health, yet she remains an active volunteer in several local service organizations that help others and advance nursing. Although her story is summarized briefly in Dr. M. Elizabeth Carnegie's classic history book *The Path We Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide*, her contributions to the nursing profession are still relatively unknown. Mary Mills is an extraordinary role model who overcame barriers of race, gender, class and geography to become an international leader in nursing and an outstanding humanitarian. Her life story is an inspiration to all nurses to expand our horizons and recognize that we can be of service not just at home but to people all over the world.

Nannie Lucille Moore – Lived in High Point, Graduated from Good Samaritan and passed boards 1932. She is mentioned in an article in *The Charlotte Observer* (Charlotte, North Carolina) May 29, 1932 p. 9

Anna H. Moorehead – Winston-Salem. was a founding member of the organization in 1923. Was elected the first Vice President but although she graduated from ----- she hadn't yet passed her state board of nursing examinations. She was appointed as a state organizer for the NCNRS in 1931.

Lillyn P. Newsome - Was a public health nurse in New Bern. She attended meetings of the NCACGN in 1927-1929. At the 1929 NCACGN convention she and Mrs. Nellie McKenzie Sanders of Charlotte gave a talk on "Maternity, Infancy, Nursing and Control of epidemics"

Mamie E. Hill (Mrs. L.A.) Oxley – Graduated from St. Agnes in 1909 and worked in Raleigh as a public health nurse (at least 1921-1931). In 1924 Oxley was elected Secretary of the Raleigh Chapter (the Edith Cavell Club) of the NCACGN. In 1927, "Mrs. L.A. Oxley of Raleigh and Mrs. Freedland Price of Durham gave a talk on the Rural aspects of Public Health Nursing" She was elected to the state executive committee in 1929 and was the Treasurer of the state organization in 1927- 1932. She left NC in 1935 when her husband moved to Washington, D.C. where her husband worked for the US Department of Labor and was a member of President Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet".

Annie Palmer

Annie Groves Perkinson – One of first 2 African American nursing graduates in NC. She graduated in 1898 from St Agnes Hospital School of Nursing before there were state boards. She passed the state boards in 1917.

Annie Groves was born in approximately 1872 to Alstan and Margaret Groves in Raleigh, NC. By 1902 she was the Head Nurse at Leonard Medical School Hospital

in Raleigh. According to the 1910 census she was 38 years old and living at home with her mother and father. Her employment was listed as a trained nurse working with a private family (private duty nurse). In 1910 or 1911 she married Mr. Perkinson but was widowed by the 1920 census that she her living at home with her mother and working as a nurse with a "city charity nurse" (Associated Charities). She was hired by the Colored Auxiliary of the Board of Charities in Raleigh in 1916. Her work during the 1918 "Spanish Flu" pandemic was noteworthy. In 1930 when she 60 years old she attended the NC Association of Colored Graduate Nurses convention in Raleigh. Six years later she passed away at age 66. She is mentioned in these Raleigh newspaper clippings:

Colored District Nurse Named.
The Colored Auxiliary Board of Charities at a meeting held last night elected Annie Groves Perkinson district nurse for the colored people in Raleigh. She will go to work September 1. The employment of a district nurse for the colored people was made possible by the efforts of Thomas L. McCoy who made a canvass of negro individuals and organizations of the city for the purpose of securing contributions for charity work among the people of his race.

[The News and Observer](#)
[Raleigh, North Carolina](#)
31 Aug 1916, Thu • Page 3

RALEIGH, N. C.
Raleigh, N. C.—Mrs. Annie Groves Perkinson, district nurse for the colored poor of Raleigh, is seriously ill at her home on Cotton street.

[The New York Age](#)
[New York, New York](#)

Mrs. Annie G. Perkinson, district nurse for the colored poor of the city, is recovering from an illness which kept her indoors several days last week.

[The New York Age](#)
[New York, New York](#)

casuals.

LARGER COMMITTEE FOR COLORED WORK

**James H. Young Believes That
Cause Will Be Benefited
By Change**

Enlargement of the auxiliary committee for work of the district nurse among the colored people was announced yesterday by Col. James H. Young, its chairman. The purpose is to enlarge the scope of the committee.

"The monthly report of the Associated Charities shows that Annie Perkinson, the nurse, is performing her duties in a faithful manner," said Colonel Young. "The committee is thankful to the city for paying half of the salary of the nurse, and to the Associated Charities and other white friends for sympathy and help."

The new members of the committee are Plummer Devine, N. L. Jeffries, J. W. Holmes, Donald Stroud, Addie L. Alexander, Bettie Branch, Bettie Harris, Fannie Jones, Harriet Williams, Nora Jones, Sallie Mitchell, Julia Aikens, Julia Ames, L. M. Hunter, J. W. Hodge, Edmund Lewis, Willis Nivens,

Hinton.
The entire committee will meet next Friday at 7:30 in the Odd Fellows committee room on East Hargett street.

[The News and Observer](#)
[Raleigh, North Carolina](#)
29 Dec 1918, Sun • Page 8

officers will leave shortly for other places.

* * *

At a meeting of the ladies of the General Committee of the Associated Charities with the Superintendent, R. S. Stephenson, a committee composed of Mrs. S. Brown Shepherd and Mrs. B. H. Griffin was appointed to endeavor to have the Legislature pass certain laws to promote the interest and welfare of the poor. Arrangements were made for furnishing Thanksgiving baskets as is the usual custom and to ask the school authorities to make the request that the school children bring gifts as usual on Thanksgiving Day.

During the epidemic the Associated Charities answered hundreds of calls for help, being called upon by local organizations as well as individuals. Raleigh citizens contributed freely to the work and Superintendent Stephenson and his assistant, Miss Dora B. Foster and the two nurses, Misses Eva Palmer and Annie G. Perkinson were heartily applauded for the fine work of the organization. At the meeting of the General Committee Mrs. W. J. Andrews was elected an honorary member for life of the General Committee and the District Nurse committee. For years Mrs. Andrews has given a great deal of both time and money to the Associated Charities of the city and has been especially interested in the work of the public health nurses.

* * *

Mrs. P. L. Gainey and daughter, Janis Leigh, of Manhattan, Kansas, have arrived from New Haven, Conn. having visited Lieut. Gainey before

(Continued on Page 16.)

[The State Journal](#)
[Raleigh, North Carolina](#)
22 Nov 1918, Fri • Page 7

NEEDY WILL NOT GO HUNGRY TODAY

Associated Charities Distrib- utes 300 Baskets Thanks- giving Cheer

Three hundreds baskets of Thanks-giving cheer in the form of canned goods, vegetables, cakes, candy, groceries and fruit, were distributed among the poor of the city yesterday afternoon through the efforts of the Associated Charities. Miss Willie Foster has had charge of the work of collecting the contents of the baskets and stated last night that she wished to thank the many people of Raleigh whose generosity had made possible a happy Thanksgiving for the deserving but impoverished citizens of Raleigh.

The following workers assisted Miss Foster in the distribution of the baskets: Mrs. H. R. Lyon, Dan Hatch, Mrs. Raleigh Galloway, R. M. Albright, Mrs. W. G. Barnes, A. H. Mooneyham, Mrs. L. A. Shirley, Mrs. H. R. Stoker, Dr. T. W. O'Kelley, and Richard Coke. The distributors were aided by the loan of trucks from local business houses.

Last hour donations to the Associated Charities which swelled the baskets came from the Elks Club and from the Capital Club. The Woman's Club sent a quantity of canned goods

which were in the charge of Mrs. Harry Adams.

It is a far cry from the county jail to St. Luke's Home, but the workers declared that the most hearty response to their gifts came from these two places. Both the prisoners and the old ladies were delighted with the baskets.

Through the faithful work of Annie Perkinson, the colored nurse connected with the local Associated Charities, a large number of the baskets were distributed among the colored poor of the city. A group of public minded colored women aided her in the distribution.

LEADS IN PURE BRED SWINE.

Hog Cholera Expert Compliments Craven.

New Bern, Nov. 29.—Craven county leads Eastern Carolina in number of pure bred swine, according to Dr. C. C. Hunt, in charge of hog cholera control for this district, who complimented the county today on its great success in establishing pure bred stock by means of extensive pig club operations.

Justice Pitney to Retire

Washington, Nov. 29.—The Senate bill authorizing retirement of Associate Justice Pitney of the Supreme Court because of ill health was reported today by the House judiciary committee.

Increases Dividend

New York, Nov. 29.—The Stromberg Carburetor Company today increased its quarterly dividend from \$1 to \$1.25.

Allene Pettere was from Raleigh.of

Mary Peebles – Was a public health nurse in Winston-Salem. She was the president of the Winston-Salem chapter in 1926 and 1930. She was elected to the state executive committee in 1929 and gave a talk about public health nursing at the convention in Raleigh in 1930.

Mae H. Portier – was from Goldsboro and worked at the state psychiatric hospital (now Cherry Hospital) in Goldsboro. She attended the 1931 Annual Convention in Wilmington.

Sadie Price graduated from Lincoln Hospital in 1916 and attended the first Convention in Winston-Salem in 1923.

Willette Freeland Bailey Price – Graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed the state boards in 1918. She attended the 1929 NCACGN convention in Charlotte. She was a public health/school nurse in Durham and later an "Admitting officer" at Lincoln Hospital. In 1943 she worked for a federal program to improve the health of migrant farm workers, managed by the Farm Security Administration called the Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association. She may have worked there through 1947 when the program closed. In 1927, "Mrs. L.A. Oxley of Raleigh and Mrs. Freedland Price of Durham gave a talk on the Rural aspects of Public Health Nursing" She married on Dec 25, 1921.

Pollie Ann Raeford (Raiford) –was from Goldsboro. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed state boards in 1933.

Eva Mae Reddick was from Wilmington. She graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing and passed state boards in 1930. She attended the 1931 Annual Convention in Wilmington.

Julia R. Reeves – Lived and worked in Raleigh. In 1948 she was elected recording secretary of southeast region of NACGN.

Charlotte Rhone was from and lived and worked her whole life in New Bern except for her years at Freedman's Hospital in Washington DC where she graduated in 1903. She was the first Africa American Registered Nurse in North Carolina and probably the United States. She worked as a public health nurse and social worker. She attended the first meeting of the national organization in 1908 but was not active in the state association. Please see: https://libres.uncg.edu/ir/asu/f/Pollitt_Pheobe_2015_Charlotte.pdf

Sallie Elizabeth Richardson was from Spring Hope. In 1918 she graduated from St Agnes and passed state boards. She attended the 1931 convention in Wilmington.

Robbins – High Point

Eula Saffrit was from Charlotte. She graduated from Good Samaritan School of Nursing and passed state boards in 1930.

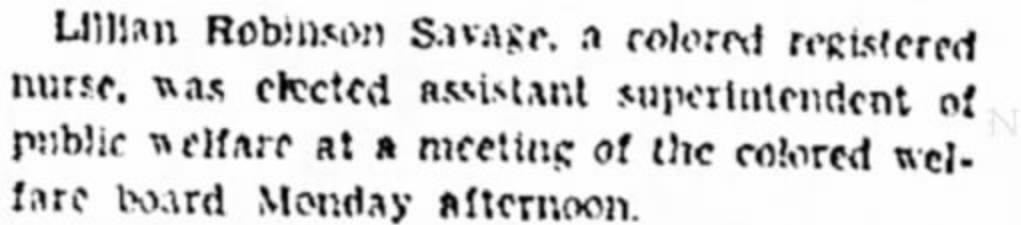
Gertrude M. R. Salter graduated from St. Agnes in 1903. She lived and worked in High Point and was at the first 1923 meeting in Winston-Salem.

Anna E. Sanders was born in 1900. She attended the founding meeting in, Washington DC in 1921. She never married or had children. She graduated from Benedict College Hospital in Columbia SC and passed NC Boards in 1920. In 1924 she worked in a hospital and then was a High Point City public health nurse. She was elected Secretary in 1925 Convention. Later she was involved in efforts to raise money for an air-ambulance service, helped with a "colored" Girl Scout troop in High Point. (High Point Enterprise 9-3-1941)

Nellie Saluda McKenzie Sanders - Was born on November 19, 1894, the daughter of Professor Rufus McKenzie and Lucy Ann Edwell McKenzie Greensboro. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1909. In 1918 she was a public health nurse employed by the Home Service Section and Negro Chamber of Commerce in Charlotte and was engaged in "general nursing of the Negroes" in Charlotte (see Charlotte Observer 8-2- 1919, p. 3 in an article titled "Want funds for public nursing"). She passed the state boards in 1925. She married May 10, 1928 to Professor Madison Sanders who taught at Florida A & M in Tallahassee. She hosted a meeting of the Charlotte Chapter of the NCACGN/Florence Nightingale Club in 1936. She was widowed by 1940 and never had children. Sanders died on May 10, 1953

Catherine Blanche Hayes Sansom – See Presidents biographies

Lillian M. Robinson Savage - Was born around 1898. She graduated from St. Agnes Hospital in 1916. The 1930 census shows her working as a public health nurse in Durham. She attended the 3rd Convention, at the 4th convention (1925) she joined the finance committee. She led a discussion at the 1928 NCACGN annual session.



Lillian Robinson Savage, a colored registered nurse, was elected assistant superintendent of public welfare at a meeting of the colored welfare board Monday afternoon.

[The Gastonia Gazette](#)
[Gastonia, North Carolina](#)
19 Oct 1951, Fri • Page 2

R. Sawyer – Lived and worked in Raleigh

Manella Schoffner (Love) was a school nurse in Charlotte from at least the early 1920s -the 1940s. She attended the 1944 Annual Convention.

Mattie Mae Sampson Sears -PHN Asheville gave talk at 15th convention in Char 1937 B 5-30-1899 graduated Dixie Hosp 1925 D- 3-30-1977 Superintendent Blue Ridge then school nurse in Asheville .. 1940 WPA school project ?? 1928 city directory lists her as a school nurse.

Mrs. Sellers from Rockingham attended the 1930 meeting in Raleigh.

Sallie Bruce Simpson - Attended the 1930 meetin in Raleigh and was listed as a member of the Raleigh Chapter

Estelle Blake Smith Rodrickques Worked as a public health nurse at the Charlotte City Health Department (see photo below). She gave a talk at the 15th Annual Convention in Charlotte in 1937.
? Smith – was from Winston-Salem.

A.E. Spears Worked as a public health nurse in Asheville and then Charlotte (see photo below) She gave a talk at the 15th Annual Convention in Charlotte in 1937.

Mary Ellen Griffin Street – graduated from St. Agees in 1917 and worked as a public health nurse in Raleigh. Attended the 1930 meeting in Raleigh and was listed as a member of the Raleigh Chapter. She is mentioned for nursing during the 1918 flu in this article: [Rockingham Post-Dispatch](#) [Rockingham, North Carolina](#) 24 Oct 1918, Thu • Page 1

Girlye (Girly) Lee Jones Strickland was born on June 20 1888 in Roxboro. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1916, winning the W.C. Strudwick prize. She passed state boards in 1917. In 1916 she became an early public health nurse in Winston-Salem. By 1917 she was the school nurse and in charge of "nurse training" at the Depot Street Colored School in Winston-Salem. She is mentioned in these newspaper articles: Durham Morning Herald May 21, 1916, p.2; Winston-Salem Journal Sept 10, 1916, p. 8 and 22 Apr 1917, Page 18

Naomi Hyneworth Swails was from Raleigh. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1927 and passed state boards in 1928.

Gwendolyn/Gladys Sykes – Was from Goldsboro where she was a public health nurse. Sykes graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed state boards 1931. She gave a talk in 1937 at the 15th annual convention in Charlotte.

Tailian

M.L. Taylor – Was one of the first 5 founders of the NCACGN. She attended the national convention in 1920 in Washington DC. She lived and worked in High Point Greensboro, and Winston-Salem. She graduated from LHSO and passed state boards in 1921. Taylor gave a talk at the 1922 Greensboro meeting of NCAGN. She served as the first state wide secretary of the NCACGN and the Vice President of the Winston-Salem Chapter.

Salome Taylor – Came to NC in 1922 to become the Nursing Superintendent of Community Hospital in Wilmington. She graduated from Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing in NYC. Taylor passed the NC state boards in 1925. She was elected Chair of the Ways and Means Committee of the national group and founded the Wilmington Chapter of the NCACGN. A pioneer Wilmington nurse, Salome Taylor came to Wilmington in 1922 to become superintendent of nurses at Community Hospital, the city's African-American medical facility in the segregation era, originally located at 415 N. Seventh St., Wilmington. She supervised the training of nurses at the hospital and oversaw the graduation of its first two nurses in 1924. In 1926, her duties were increased when she succeeded Dr. Foster Burnett as superintendent of Community Hospital. She remained with the institution through its move in 1939 to a larger building at 511 S. 11th St., Wilmington. Taylor resigned as hospital superintendent in 1940 but stayed on as superintendent of nurses until her retirement in June 1950. Under her supervision, the nursing student body greatly expanded. In 1942, the Community Hospital School of Nursing received high marks from the Standardization Board. "Some who worked with her over a period of many years went so far as to say that Community Hospital would never have survived had it not been for Miss Taylor," Dr. Hubert A. F later wrote in the Journal of the National Medical Association. Eaton credited Taylor with helping to organize black medical professionals in Wilmington. She founded a local association of graduate nurses in 1930, serving as its first president. Taylor retired to her home at 715 Red Cross St., Wilmington [Map this]. In May 1963, the city of Wilmington declared a "Salome Taylor Day" in her honor. She died Jan. 3, 1964, in Wilmington at the age of 83 and was buried at Pine Forest Cemetery.

Daisy Bell Teer was from Winston -Salem. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham in 1915 and passed state boards in 1920. Teer was the President of the Winston -Salem chapter of the NCACGN

Addie Wall Attended the 1930 meeting in Raleigh and was listed as a member of the Raleigh Chapter

Mary Elizabeth Wall - was from Charlotte. She graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing passed state boards in 1927. She, with Eunice Douglas, gave a talk at the 1929 Convention on Well Baby clinics and care of pre-school children. Wall was elected secretary of the Charlotte chapter/ Florence Nightingale Club in 1935.

Ethel Ward - gave a talk on "ward teaching" at the 1934 convention.

Mattie Douglas Westcott (Robinson) was from Powell's point NC. She graduated from SAHSON and passed boards in 1929. She worked at St Agnes Hospital from 1926-1940s teaching in the nursing school in the 1930s and 1940s. White married Mr. Robinson in 1938 in the Nurses Home at St Agnes Hospital.

Claudia Mae White Tucker – Was born about 1894 in Greensboro. She graduated from Lincoln in Durham and passed state boards in 1921 . She worked at Lincoln Hospital a while, then did private duty nursing.

Mercy Dorothy Wheeler (Edwards) – Was born about 1903, in SC. She graduated from SAHSON and passed the state boards in 1921. Edwards worked at St Agnes Hospital for 4 years. She joined the NCACGN in 1925. She married J. H. Edwards Sept 14, 1929, an Episcopal Priest and then moved to Charlotte and worked at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Annie Mae Wheeler – Lived and worked in Charlotte. She was President of the Charlotte Chapter/Florence Nightingale Club in 1925 and was the secretary of the chapter/Club in 1936. Wheeler presided at the public meeting of the 15th NCACGN convention in Charlotte in 1937. The 1930 and 1940 census show her as a trained nurse working at a private hospital (assumed to be the African American Good Samaritan Hospital) in Charlotte. She died of cancer in 1942.

Dorothy Wilkins Lived and worked in Charlotte. She was the President of the Charlotte Chapter in 1948. See photo below.

Martella M. York – York was from Illinois, and was a 1911 graduate of Freedman's Hospital in Washington D.C. She was a Superintendent of Nursing at St. Agnes. By 1921 she was serving as a school nurse in Washington D.C. The Raleigh City directory of 1935 lists her as a school nurse in Raleigh.

Ethel Mae Young – Young was from Mercersburg, PA. She was a graduate of Freedman's Hospital, Washington DC. Young passed the NC state boards in 1930. In 1933 she was elected Vice President of the NCACGN. In 1936 she studied nursing school administration at Columbia University in NYC. In 1937 she was named Superintendent of Nurses at St Agnes Hospital in Raleigh. See the: St. Augustine's Record. October 01, 1935 Image 2

Willie Lucille Zimmerman (Williams)

From: <http://chaamp.virginia.edu/node/3537>

Lucille Zimmerman Williams was born in 1907 in Anderson, S.C. to a set of parents heavily involved in their local church; her father was a Baptist minister, and her mother a missionary. Throughout her life, Williams' career as a field nurse took her up and down the east coast until she arrived at Lincoln Hospital (Durham, NC) in 1945. Adorned with her signature handkerchief, Williams' focus on bedside manners and etiquette influenced the way she was perceived by her students and patients. Lucille Zimmerman Williams was known for her hard work at Lincoln Hospital (Durham, NC), but she is remembered for her demeanor, and the way she interacted with those she came in contact with.

Williams' education began at Morrison College in Sumter, S.C. and continued on until she graduated from St. Agnes School of Nursing in Raleigh in 1934. She worked there as a lab technician and a nurse anesthetist. Eventually, Williams earned a B.S. in Public Health Nursing from North Carolina Central University in 1958. However, Williams' was excellent at her job not simply because she was well educated, but because she had a plethora of field experience as well. In 1934, Williams became a field nurse for the Farm Secretary Administration, and traveled the east coast working with immigrants. Even during the early stages of her career, Williams was known for the way she treated her patients with kindness and respect; she often took pleasure in afternoon tea with West Indian migrants. Her dealings would eventually bring her to Lincoln Hospital (Durham, NC) in 1945, where she finished her career. In 1948 she was elected President of the Southeast region of the NACGN.

Upon her arrival at Lincoln Hospital, Williams took on the responsibility of the nurses training program, and went on to become the Director of Nursing at Lincoln Hospital. Her emphasis on etiquette, manners, and attire made her a huge hit with the patients, but also with her nursing students; Williams was hard to miss always wearing a handkerchief in her breast pocket. Williams was involved in many ceremonies and social events with her students, like the Capping Ceremony of the School of Nursing, and being involved with The Santa Filamena, the nursing student's honor society. Also, Williams was known for broadcasting health education programs over the radio with one of her students every other week.

Lucille Zimmerman Williams would stay in her position as Director of Nursing at Lincoln Hospital until the nursing school closed in 1971. While her accomplishments are of note, the most redeeming aspect about Williams is the way she executed her job with quality unparalleled, and compassion for her patients. Believing that her patients just wanted a kind word and sympathetic ear, Williams worked her way into their hearts. Williams paid special attention to the small details of her profession that often go unchecked, like bedside manners and attire, and in doing so, solidified herself as one of the major players in the history of Durham's Lincoln Hospital.

Photographs and newspaper clippings

African American Charlotte City Public Health Nurses circa 1945. Many are members of the NCNRN.Inc.(names in **BOLDFACE**) Image from the Charlotte/Mecklenberg County public library.

Black city nurses of the Charlotte Health Department. Seated on the first row, from left to right: Helen Glenn, Birdie Moore, Ruth Byers, Rose M. Jones, Mrs. A. E. Spears, Mrs. Gertrude Blackman. Standing, from left to right: Amanda Eason, Lillian Jenkins, Shute, Virginia Trollinger, Polly Willston, Cleo Yongue, Mary Wall Grier, Blanche Sansom, Estelle Smith Rodrickques, Louise Mason. Back row, from

left to right: Hazel Blackeney (Director), Emily Nixon (Superintendent), Clara Lawrence, Dorothy Wilkins. Circa 1945-1950. Physical Description: 8x 10 glossy, black and white Publisher: Unknown

Nurses Association

To Meet In Raleigh

Raleigh, N. C.—The 8th annual convention of the North Carolina State Association of Colored Graduate Nurses will be held in this city May 7th, 8th and 9th. Business sections will be held in the New \$100,000 Nurses' Home, Saint Agnes Hospital with public mass meetings at the St. Paul A. M. E. Church, West Edenton street.

Many outstanding men and women in the medical and nursing professions will appear on the program. Among those who will be heard in special addresses and clinical demonstrations are Dr. Hubert A. Royster, chief surgeon of St. Agnes Hospital; Dr. A. L. Jackson, United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Charles O. Laughinhouse, State Health officer; Mrs. Dorothy Hayden Conyers, secretary North Carolina Board of

at one of the public mass meetings.

[The New York Age](#)
[New York, New York](#)
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Small
Carrying
Charge

WALL DE-
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OLD UNTIL
CHRISTMAS

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NEGRO NURSES PLAN TAG DAY

Negro nurses of the Florence Nightingale club will have a tag day Saturday, December 21, to raise funds to provide medical attention for negro school children whose parents are without means of providing it.

The New York Medical Society, at its meeting Tuesday night gave its unanimous endorsement to the tag day program. The endorsement followed the offering of a resolution to that effect by Dr. William Allan.

Many negro school children need operations for the removal of tonsils, examination and treatment of the eyes, and other minor operations or treatments of a corrective nature, the physicians agreed. Heretofore certain funds have been available for that purpose from the city Parent-Teacher association. It was pointed out, but this year funds have been restricted, and it was deemed advisable to have the tag day.

To End All Cough, I Recipe

Big Saving! No Cost

Here is the famous
sufficient of household
to the most delicate
ing up winter cough
remedy to prepare,
the, but it positively
quick, lasting relief
From any danger
of illness. From this
and all the little
sugar syrup, made
sugar and was sup-
few moments until a
tag needed—it's so
make a full pint of
you could buy one
get four times as so
is never again and
This home made
tag needed—its so
tag one. It is more
since the syrup is
really astonishing.
There is a small
bottle of this tag
syrup, enough to
cure if it doesn't
cure.

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whom it was distributed; and we, in addition to our own thanks, feel that we can, as a proxy, express those of the recipients."

NEGRO NURSES TO MEET

The negro branch of the Charlotte co-operative nursing association will hold its January meeting at the Second Ward high school tonight at 8 o'clock.

At the time, Mary E. Wall, negro nurse who was recently selected as a member of the city nursing staff, will be introduced and a report on the past year's work will be made.

How to Stop

Charlotte, North Carolina
Tue, Jan 17, 1928 • Page 7

NEGRO NURSES' MEETING ENDS

**Urge Admission of Qualified
Negro Physicians to State
Medical Associations.**

The admission of qualified Negro physicians to membership in state medical associations and to the North Carolina Medical Care commission were asked here yesterday in resolutions adopted at the concluding session of the annual Southeastern regional convention of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

Other resolutions approved by the 109 delegates from the Carolinas and Virginia would:

North Carolina in the care of tubercular and mental patients.

The Negro nurses, lauding the recent action of the North Carolina State Nurses association in voting to admit them to membership, commended the South Carolina State Nurses association which recently invited the Negro nurses to attend the association's convention as visitors.

At the concluding business session Mrs. W. Lucille Z. Williams of Durham was re-elected president of the regional NACGN. Mrs. Rosa May Godley of Charlotte was elected vice president.

Other officers: Mrs. Julie R. Reeves of Raleigh, recording secretary; Miss Mamie Batchelor of Greensboro, assistant recording secretary; Miss Veyella Mitchell of Durham, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Clifton Richardson of Wilmington, treasurer; Mrs. Viola Turner of Charleston, S. C., member at large to the national NACGN board; Mrs. Edna Purdie James of Richmond, member of national NACGN nominating committee.

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The Charlotte Observer
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01 Aug 1931, Sat • Page 19

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Asheville Citizen-Times
Asheville, North Carolina
06 Jun 1947, Fri • Page 1

OFFICERS ARE ELECTED BY NEGRO GRADUATE NURSES

The Florence Nightingale club, composed of negro graduate nurses of the city, started off the new year's work with the election of officers at a recent meeting. Those chosen were: H. Haywood, president; M. E. Wall, secretary; M. L. Beatty, treasurer, and Edna D. Heilig, reporter.

The program at the monthly meetings consists of health lectures and demonstrations given by doctors and nurses of the city. Seven new members were added to the club last year. The club was honored last year by being admitted to the council of social agencies of the county. The club is also a member of the North Carolina State association of Negro Registered Nurses, Incorporated.

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The Twin-City Daily Sentinel
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
09 Dec 1922, Sat • Page 9

The New York Age

New York, New York
28 Apr 1923, Sat • Page 2

Nursing News and Announcements. (1925). The American Journal of
Nursing, 25(7), 602-628. Retrieved from www.jstor.org/stable/3409272

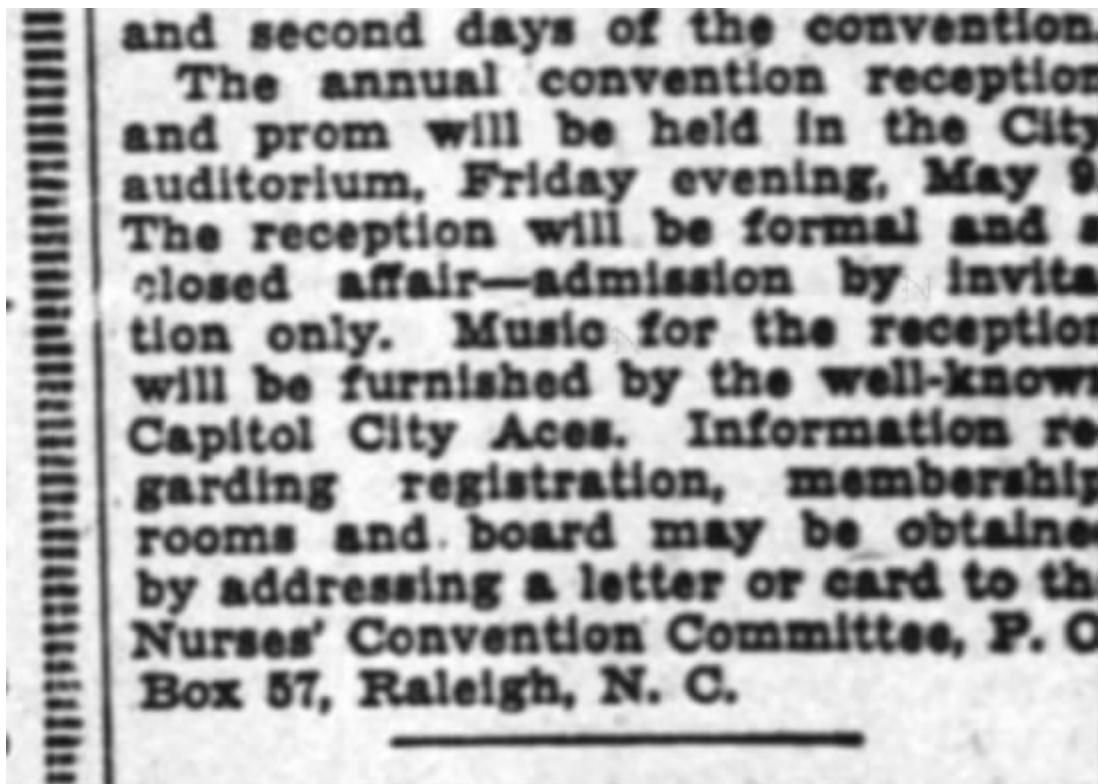
NURSES SET FOR MEET

RALEIGH, N. C., May 1—The eighth annual convention of the North Carolina State Association of Colored Graduate Nurses will be held in Raleigh, May 7, 8 and 9. Mrs. Carrie E. Broadfoot is president of the association. Business sessions of the convention will be held in the new \$100,000 Nurses' Home connected with St. Agnes Hospital, and the public mass meetings will be held at St. Paul A. M. E. Church. Many outstanding men and women in the medical and nursing

A. Royster, FACS., chief surgeon, St. Agnes Hospital; Dr. A. L. Jackson, United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Charles O. Laughinghouse, state health officer; Mrs. Dorothy Hayden Conyers, secretary, North Carolina Board of Nurse Examiners. Dr. L. T. Delany, Dr. L. P. Capehart and Dr. L. E. McCauley will represent the Negro professional men. Gov. O. Max Gardiner has promised to look in on the convention during one of the public mass meetings. Many important matters of business and constructive legislation will engage the attention of the nurses in the daily business sessions.

Music during the several meetings will be furnished by the Shaw University Glee Club, the St. Augustine's College Music Club, St. Paul A. M. E. Choir, the Trinity Jubilee Singers, and solo numbers will be rendered by Miss Ruby Mitchell and Miss Catherine Lewis. A cordial invitation is extended nurses, professional men and citizens interested in health problems, to attend the several group meetings and share in the discussions.

Many entertainment features have been arranged for the comfort of the many visitors expected. A luncheon will be given by the staff and students of St. Agnes Training School for Nurses; a reception and



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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
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New York, New York

March 18, 1940 pg 1 CarolinaTimes

The Charlotte Observer
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The Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
24 Oct 1953, Sat • Page 4

The New York Age
New York, New York

10 Jan 1948, Sat • Page 4
The Carolina times. (Dec. 18, 1954) pg 2

1948 – ANA House of Delegates votes to admit nurses as individuals – no longer have to be a grad of certain programs

Tag Day To Aid Colored School Children Is Set

December 21 has been designated "Tag Day" with the consent and approval of the city government and the proceeds from the sale of tags will be used by the Florence Nightingale club to provide medical assistance for the colored school children, it was announced yesterday by J. B. Marshall, city manager.

The statement issued by Mr. Marshall follows:

"The Florence Nightingale club has designated December 21 as Tag Day, with the consent and approval of the city government, the proceeds from the sale of the tags will be used by the club to provide medical assistance to colored school children whose need in this connection cannot otherwise be taken care of. In a number of instances dental work and glasses are necessary to enable these children to properly develop and the Florence Nightingale club proposes to handle these cases in the colored schools, as far as possible, in a manner similar to that of the Parent-Teacher association in the white schools.

"Mildred Haygood, one of the public health nurses in the city health department, is president of the Florence Nightingale club."

The Charlotte Observer
Charlotte, North Carolina
15 Dec 1935, Sun • Page 17
The Charlotte News
Charlotte, North Carolina
22 Dec 1935, Sun • Page 14

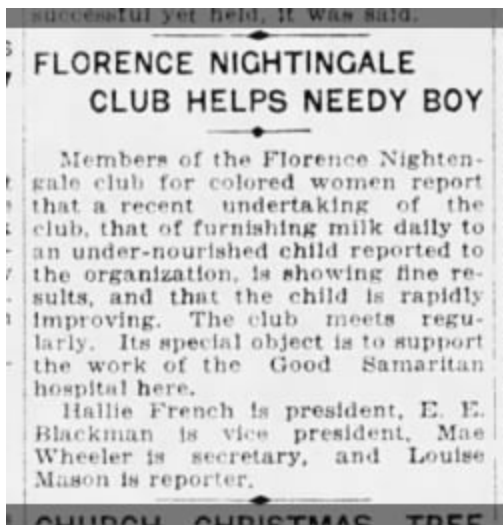
Charlotte Chapter of NCACGN was known as the Florence Nightingale Club
The Charlotte Observer
Charlotte, North Carolina
06 Jan 1935, Sun • Page 13

Install Officers Of Florence Nightingale Club

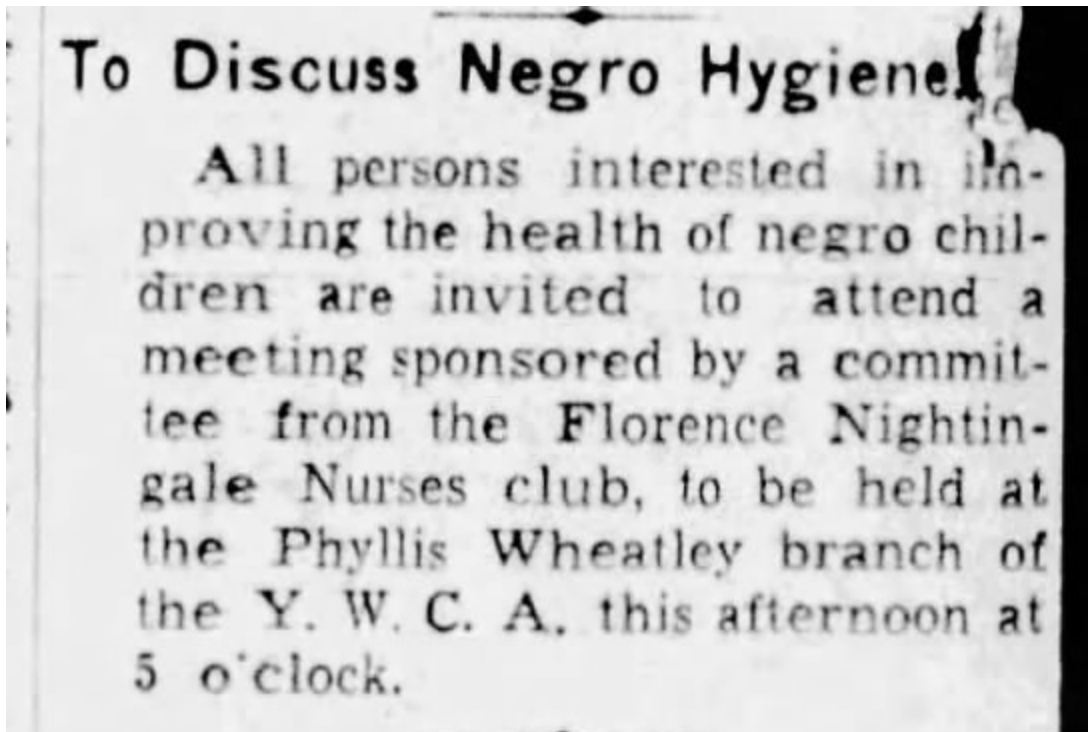
New officers of the Florence Nightingale club, an organization of negro graduate nurses, were installed at a meeting of the club last night at the home of Nellie Sanders, 912 East Hill street.

The officers who were installed are: Annie Mae Wheeler, president; Blanche Sanson, vice-president; Rosena Hall, secretary; Birdie Beatty, treasurer, and Clara Lawrence, reporter.

The new president presided over a brief business session at which plans for the winter activities were discussed.



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Charlotte, North Carolina
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Asheville Citizen-Times
Asheville, North Carolina
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