

## SYNOPSIS OF THE MINUTES OF THE NCACGN 1921-1949

Note: This summary of the minutes of the NACGN, found in the state archives, reflect the variations in the actual minutes. Some years have comprehensive accounts of the events and people attended the annual session of the NCACGN/NCANRN, others are scant and use only last names or no names at all. No minutes for 1932, 1936 or 1940 were found. Boldface denotes information added by the author of this Sourcebook for contextual purposes, regular font is used for information taken from the actual minutes.

An organizational 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. They were: 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. Edith 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. Saunders, 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. Saunders 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 independently of the 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 replaced. Registered Nurse Julia Latta of Durham was elected as Vice President, and Mrs. Henderson was elected as the new Corresponding Secretary.

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

NOTE: The first African American nurse 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 prior to that time).

The Keynote speaker at the 1923 meeting in Raleigh was Dr. J.W. Walker of Asheville on the topic of Tuberculosis Sanitoriums.

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 - 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 and spoke on School Nursing and "she brought a number of children who put on a health play".

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

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, p. 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 was held on May 7, 1925 in Durham at King David's Hall

10 new members were listed as joining at this convention: \*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 be graduates from a 3-year course in an accredited program in a hospital with over 50 beds which required a high school diploma for admission.

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 (later Sansom and future President of the NCACGN) 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. The following public health nurses spoke on the panel: Miss French, Nellie McKenzie and Blanche Hayes of Charlotte and Miss Mamie 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 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 of Raleigh, Miss Mary Henry of Winston -Salem, Miss Douglas, Miss M.D. Wheeler of Raleigh, Miss F Price, Miss Robinson of Raleigh

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

The American Journal of Nursing published this account of the meeting:

Nursing News and Announcements. (1925). *The American Journal of Nursing*, 25(7), 602-628. Retrieved February 17, 2021, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3409272>

March 1926 -The American Nurses Association (ANA) showed interest in affiliation with the NACGN. At the direction of nurse Jane VandeVrede of the ANA, 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 ANA committee to establish an affiliation between the two national organizations. 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:

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 - Pearl Henderson - President, K.C. Jenkins - Secretary

High Point - Mrs. Robbins - President, Anna E. Saunders - 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

Nellie 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. Saunders - Secretary  
Claudia Tucker

Nurses from unknown hometowns

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

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

There were 17 members present. Six new nurses joined the organization. They were: R.C. Hennie – Franklinton, Mabel Miller – Raleigh, Mabel Lee – Greensboro, Allene Petteere – Raleigh, Ardelia Compton - Chapel Hill. Mary E Holt - High Point

Other members attending the convention were: Nellie McKenzie of Charlotte, Lillyn P. Newsome of Durham later from New Bern, M. Tucker, Sadie Eaton of Raleigh, Annie Harrell of 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 and 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 - Winston-Salem on May 2-4, 1928 at the AME Zion Church

39 members were present, 6 new members joined including:

Ruby Woodbury, Edith McNeill, Lillyn P. Newsome, 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 American Red Cross.

Salome Taylor, Superintendent 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.

Others attending were: Booker, Saulters, Ballentine, Love and Hill

The American Journal of Nursing carried this report of the meeting:

News. (1928). *The American Journal of Nursing*, 28(6), 619-633. Retrieved February 17, 2021, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3408627>

The 7th Annual Session - May 1-3, 1929 in Charlotte - Grace AM Zion Church

The first day was a business meeting. Mrs. Annie K. Brown of Winston-Salem opened with a devotion. The second day was devoted to continuing education.

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

Lillyn Newsome, State Nurse, Craven County Health Department 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 Hospital 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.

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 of Greensboro, 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 to the delegates and were Olise Campbell of Raleigh, Ruby Woodbury of Greensboro, Mary Peebles of Winston - Salem and Lillyn Newsome of Durham (This is probably an error since Newsome lived in New Bern).

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

Olise Campbell – President,

Versie L. Hobbs -Secretary -Treasurer

Elizabeth Bailey, Geneva Collins (future President of NCACGN), Sadie Eaton, Aggie Freeman

Annie Harrell, Lila Haywood, Effie Lytle, Mamie Hill Oxley, Annie Palmer, S. Bruce Simpson

Mary Street, Addie Wall, Mattie D. Westcot, 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 Scarlett (future President of NCACGN), 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 Hospital School of Nursing in 1896) and Olise Campbell of Raleigh gave a history of St. Agnes Hospital

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. There was a 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 Redrick, 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, Bettie Broadhead

Papers given were on the topics of:

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 sightseeing tour to Fort Fisher and other points of interest.

Elected officers for 1932 were:

Blanche Hayes Sansom of Charlotte – President

Mrs. A. Brown of Winston-Salem VP

Ethel Young of St. Agnes Hospital in Raleigh – Secretary

Eunice Heilig of Charlotte- Assistant Secretary

Lucy Dillard of Winston-Salem- Assistant Secretary

Charlotte Faison of Wilson - Assistant Secretary

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, Anna Hill Moorehead of Winston-Salem, and Eva J. Adams of Henderson

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

NOTE: A special, called meeting of the executive committee of the NCACGN met at the new \$100,000 nurse's home of St. Agnes Hospital on the campus of St. Augustine College in Raleigh to formally receive the Articles of Incorporation for the newly renamed North Carolina Association of Negro Registered Nurses from the North Carolina Secretary of State.

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 Association of 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 (later Thompson and later President of the NCANRN) of Fayetteville and FSU coordinated and hosted the meeting.

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

The officers were

Blanche Hayes Sansom, President

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

Eunice D. Heilig Secretary

Anna Moorehead

Eula Saffrit

Officers elected for 1934 were:

A.F. Woodbury Scarlett of Greensboro President

Elizabeth McMillan of Fayetteville 1st Vice President

Ethel Young of Raleigh 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

B.E. Jackson of Lincoln Hospital in Durham was elected Secretary.

Eunice D. Heilig public health nurse of Charlotte was elected Corresponding Secretary.

Geneva Collins (later Hunt and later President of the organization) of Raleigh Assistant Secretary

Others attending were: Anna Saunders, E. Richardson, Beatrice Brown

The group voted to put out a quarterly newsletter to be called "The Gazette". Ruby Scarlett was named editor. Unfortunately, the Gazette was never printed.

The 12th Annual Convention was held in 1934 in Wilson

22 members present including Annie Mae Wheeler of Charlotte, Emily L. Johnson Greensboro, Miss Sykes of Goldsboro

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

Speakers:

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

Anna Saunders, RN of High Point, spoke on "Loyalty to the profession"

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 nurses probably 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

1934 - Nurse Edith McNeil was on a panel at the National meeting of the NACGN discussing 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.

NOTE: On April 2, 1934 Broadfoot reflected on her years as President of the organization in a letter to Lula West, President of the white NCSNA saying:

"I have been President [of the NACGN] 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."

The 13th Annual Convention held in at the First Baptist Church High Point on June 6 & 7 1935. (See Annual Session brochure later in this Sourcebook)

21 members were present.

Elizabeth McMillan, who served as the state organizer for the organization gave an "organizers report."

Lucille Moore reported 47 letters had been sent to nurses

11 local chapters held meetings in 1935.

A paper was given about successful surgical techniques.

Miss Mills 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 scholarships 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

Ethel Young - 2nd Vice President

B.E. Jackson Treasurer

E. Heilig - Secretary

Geneva Collins - Asst Secretary

Lorena B. Hill - Corresponding Secretary

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

Presentations were given by:

Geneva Collins - Hospital Duty

Miss M.R. Searcy - Hospital Technique

Miss M.L. (Mary Lee) Mills - Private Duty nursing



Miss K. M. Long of the State [psychiatric] Hospital presented a case study  
B.E. Jackson spoke about the supervision of hospitals  
Ruby Scarlett gave a Presidential address and Carrie Broadfoot, president emeritus gave some remarks

Girle Strickland public health nurse from Winston-Salem talked about public health nursing

Ruby Anderson, Edith Holmes and Geneva Collins Hunt were appointed to gather facts about the history of Negro nurses in North Carolina to be included in a history of nursing in North Carolina book being prepared by Mary Lewis Wyche.

No records were found for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 1936.

The 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

50 members attended the convention.

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

Edith McNeill Holmes of Henderson gave the welcoming address.

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.

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 attending the convention included:

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

NOTE: In 1940 the NC Board of Nursing Examiners pass rate was for white test takers = 70% for African American test takers = 50%

NOTE: 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 No minutes have been found.

The 19th Annual Convention was held June 11-12, 1941 at St. Agnes Hospital in Raleigh

[The News and Observer, Raleigh, North Carolina, 6-11-1941, p. 16](#)

25 members attended, and 12 new members joined the organization.

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 (Mamie Hill Oxley was an early and active member of the Raleigh and the state organization. She moved to Washington, D.C. where her husband worked in President Roosevelt's administration.)

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 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 made a donation 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 from District 9 and Sanitorium, NC won the national Mary Mahoney Award from the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses 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.

Former President Scarlett had moved to Atlanta.

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

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

Mrs. Ellis was then in Wilson

Geneva 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 Anna Saunders.

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) received the Mary Mahoney award the next year.

Officers elected for 1942 were

President - Geneva Collins,

Mary Gary (Rice) - Vice President

Edna I. Purdie - secretary to the President

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 (Superintendent of L. Richardson) was elected President. Edith McNeill Holmes was elected Treasurer.

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 of the NACGN.

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

The 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, Lila Haywood and Mrs. Sellers.

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

Emma Evans. President of the Greensboro Chapter reported they had 19 members. Flora Blanchette (future president of the NCANRN and the Caribbean

Association of Colored Graduate Nurses) was studying at NYU. The Chapter had helped send students to the Convention.

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 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 Aggie Freeman.

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.

Lt. Della Raney Jackson, pioneer African American US Army nurse came from Tuskegee and addressed the convention about Army nursing.

Elizabeth Jones, NACGN Field Secretary spoke the delegates about the goal of streamlining a merger between the white NCSNA and the African American NCANRN.

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.

Ruth Taylor spoke about wives of men in service.

NCACGN wrote NCNA asking for a merger of the two organizations.

Others present were: A.H. Moorehead, Cora Stevenson, Sadie Eaton, Strickland, Simmons, Richardson, Crisp, Gibson, Johnnie D. Hooper, Nora T. Allen, Mary Stratford, Lula Harris, Dunn, Clara B. Lawrence, Anderson, Steward, C. Craves, Thelma Cobb and Inez Bethel, President of the Edith Cavell Club in Winston-Salem, Viyella Mitchell, Lucinda White, V.C. Dudley, Jenny Washington, Catherine Bynum, Marjorie Wheeler, Virginia Dare Joyner, Mrs. F.D. Martin, Victoria Shepherd, E. Hickson, Mattie Donnell (Hicks), Pearl Parks, Cleo Young, Betty Broadhurst. Nora Thaxton, Manilla Shoffner, Lillie Forte Barber, Nora Allen,

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

The Winston Salem chapter reported 42 members

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 members were present, Flora Blanchette presided

Pattie Carter, President of the local club, and Superintendent of Nurses at Lincoln Hospital, welcomed the attendees.

A memorial service was held for Carrie Early Broadfoot, founder and President Emeritus.

Active chapters and their presidents were:

District 9 - Elizabeth McMillan Thompson

District 1 - Anna Saunders

Winston-Salem - Lorena Hill

Greensboro - Martin

Charlotte - Cleo Young is the president and the chapter 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 of Goldsboro, Girlie Strickland of Winston-Salem, Mattie Donnell (later Hicks and a Korean War Veteran) of Greensboro, M.D. Wheeler, Pearl Henderson of Durham, and Cleo Young of 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 Blanchette - presidential address, and Mary Mills (Captain in the US Public Health Service overseas branch)