House Call

A publication of the Medical Heritage Center at The Ohio State University



St. Anthony's Hospital, circa 1940

THE MHC MISSION:

The Medical Heritage Center preserves, promotes, teaches and celebrates the health care legacy of central Ohio as the essential foundation from which the future of the health sciences are born.

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Note from the Curator

by Judith Wiener, MA, MLIS

I am happy to share that the Medical Heritage Center staff and collections have returned to the 5th floor of Prior Hall and we have reopened to the public for regular collection hours. Based on past data of our busiest times, we are now open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am-1pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4pm and by appointment at all other times.

We are excited to share that the floor has undergone some very positive renovations during our absence. These include new fire suppression and

environmental controls in our collection areas and the addition of casual seating to the floor's large meeting space (room 550). The area will continue to host special and educational events for the library and MHC but now also welcomes students to study and collaborate in a comfortable environment. Displays featuring the MHC collections have



The redesigned room 550 is a popular new study space for students.

been added to the room and the Center has plans for the extension of heritage exhibits in the future. The space has already proven popular with students and we have received many positive comments about the historical displays present in the area.

In addition to returning to the floor, we have been busy gearing up for our spring programming season. Our 2012 Friends of Nursing History Lecture featured Pam Dickerson, PhD, RN-BC and Barbara Nash, MS,

Note from the Curator, continued on page 2



Note from the Curator, continued from page 1

RN, C, CNS. Their presentation, "Pioneers of Advanced Nursing Roles in Ohio," described the leadership in pioneering advanced roles in nursing and was co-provided with The Ohio Nurses Association.

We are also excited to host the national traveling exhibit, *Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health* from May 7 through June 16, 2012. This exhibit is brought to you by the National Library of Medicine. Along with the exhibit, the 2012 Warren lecturer, Diane L. Gorgas, MD, will present "Reflections from Haiti: A View from the Ground" on May 17, 2012 at the Medical Heritage Center, room 550. The event will take place from 4:30 to 6pm. Gorgas is Associate Professor and Residency Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine at The Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center. Her lecture will discuss her experiences in delivering medical care in this challenging setting and some of the future directions for international health initiatives in the country. More information about the exhibit is included in this issue and we are hopeful you can join us for this special exhibit and event!

Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health Exhibit Coming to the MHC



The Medical Heritage Center, in partnership with the Health Sciences Center for Global Health, is hosting the exhibit *Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health*. The exhibit will run from May 7 through June 16, 2012. This exhibit is brought to you by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, and the following is taken from the National Library of Medicine press release.

Against the Odds: Making a Difference in Global Health is a banner traveling exhibition highlighting the role of communities in improving health at home and all around the world. The exhibition explores the shared basic needs required for a good quality of life, including nutritious food and clean water, a safe place to live, and affordable health care.

Using historical and contemporary photographs, the banners tell stories of collaboration between families, scientists, advocates, governments, and international organizations, all taking up the challenge to prevent disease and improve medical care. The journey begins in Pholela, South Africa, where husband and wife team Sidney and Emily Kark developed a holistic approach to community health. Traveling on, the exhibition showcases the

work of the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee to teach mothers across the country Oral Rehydration Therapy, a lifesaving treatment for childhood diarrhea.

Other destinations include Brazil, where the Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (MST), or Against the Odds, continued on page 3



Against the Odds, continued from page 2



D A Henderson, courtesy of the World Health Organization

Landless Workers' Movement is empowering poor citizens to begin subsistence farming on land left idle by agricultural corporations, and Central America, where the Pan American Health Organization launched Health as a Bridge to Peace to put an end to conflict and rebuild health care services.

As well as recent developments, the exhibition also focuses on historic campaigns that have changed today's attitudes. The role of activists in the United States during the early years of the AIDS epidemic, for example, includes the work of the AIDS Coalition to

Unleash Power (ACT UP) and the battles of Ryan

White, the teenager who fought to attend school after contracting HIV through a blood transfusion.

This exhibition raises awareness of the sources and effects of health inequalities and invites each of us to join the global campaign for health and human rights. The experiences described constitute a legacy of success, often based on the simplest means. The exhibit's message is, working together, we can make a world of difference.



Oral rehydration, courtesy ICDDR, B

Recent Donations (November 1, 2011 – April 16, 2012)

Material

Dr. Bob and Mrs. Leslie Buerki (books and journals) • Dr. John Burnham (books and journals) • Dr. Richard Darling (Photograph: Phi Delta Medical Fraternity, 1904) • Estate of John Stang, MD (Portrait of Harry C. Powelson, MD) • Mrs. Kitty Kisker (Three photocopied scrapbook pages about Cum Cura, Torch Club Pledge Pin, Cum Cura Pendant, Rosa's Torch Story, and nursing uniform information) • Dr. G. E. Mitchell (books and material about Dr. W. C. Vigors) • NYU Medical Library (Catalogue and Annual Announcement of the Willoughby Medical College of Columbus, 1847) • OSU Department of Psychiatry and Harding Hospital (books) • OSU Friends of Library (books) • Dr. George Paulson (books and journals) • University Hospital East (Portrait of Philip B. Hardymon, M.D.) • Dr. William Whitehouse (three doctor's bags)

Monetary

Dr. Donald and Mrs. Teresa Bowers • Dr. Bob and Mrs. Leslie Buerki • Dr. Garth Essig • Mr. Jack and Mrs. Kathi Faulstich • Drs. Lou and Nancy Goorey • Dr. Arnold and Mrs. Marilyn Johnson • Mrs. Kitty Kisker • Dr. Paul Metzger • Mrs. Sally Morgan • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson (in memory of Dr. Michael H. Mishkind) • Ms. Carol Prince • Dr. John Sauer • Col. Kevin Spillers and Mrs. Lucia Ann Wooley • Mr. Michael and Mrs. Judith Wiener • Mr. Chris Wooley • Mrs. Lucia Wooley



Health Sciences Library

No Ordinary Nurse

by Deborah Freece, MS, RN, CNS

Karen Deken Kish was born in Evansville, Indiana and moved to Columbus during high school. Since then, Kish has spent her entire professional career serving the central Ohio community.

Kish's career path was shaped by her mother's desire for her to become a nurse. Driven by that desire, she didn't pursue any other career opportunities and graduated from The Ohio State University School of Nursing in 1976 with a BSN. Defined as a "new nursing program" the curriculum was based on Peplau's theory of interpersonal relationships.

Kish's first position as a registered nurse was as a General Surgery nurse at Riverside Methodist Hospital. She wanted to be a critical care nurse in order to gain as much clinical experience as possible to position her for future employment. Kish then sought employment with the American Red Cross (ARC) after it became apparent that Riverside would not transfer her to other areas, as it was difficult to obtain critical care nurses. She began working for the ARC as a staff nurse, responsible for phlebotomy and health histories at blood collection locations. At that time there were only four blood drives a day and it was a small, intimate group of nurses. Many of these nurses had been with the ARC for 30-40 years and were preparing to retire. Kish was

mentored by this group of seasoned nurses and stated that her career was very much molded by their professionalism, dedication and mentorship.

At the ARC, Kish then began "in charge training" as the seasoned nurses prepared to retire. She supervised LPNs and was responsible for incorporating their position into the ARC structure. As blood donors were abundant, she focused on developing other nurse staff members. During this time, she began studies in health education towards a master's degree, but a Clinical Instructor role became available at the ARC and she was promoted to that position. As Kish explained, "It's a matter of fact that I never finished my master's in health education because I felt I had arrived at exactly where I wanted to be." Kish served in this position for 16 years and



conducted community outreach programs, professional presentations and transfusion therapy presentations for hospitals and schools and colleges of nursing. She served the ARC in a variety of positions, including: Training Specialist (1996-1999); Team Leader Operation Support (1999-2000); Manager of Collections (2000-2002); and Director Donor Services Process and Compliance (2002-present).

Kish experienced first-hand the transformation of blood collection. Hepatitis was the first major influencing factor related to blood collection services, and screening and testing initiatives were implemented to keep the blood products safe. Between 1980 and 1996, however, blood collection services changed markedly due to the discovery that the AIDS virus could be transmitted by blood. The ARC had the leading edge on information



concerning the AIDS virus, so Kish was frequently called upon to provide AIDS education. Prior to this epidemic, blood collection was viewed as a service. After, it was viewed as manufacturing, with the ARC producing this safe blood product according to the Food & Drug Administration guidelines.

A significant change to the blood collection process was the introduction of computers, which both complicated and streamlined the blood collection process. There are 35 blood collections each day in central Ohio. Research indicates that the most honest history is collected when the donor inputs their own answers into the computer. By doing so, however, nurses do not always see the best ways to sustain the patient, in contrast to their subjective experience.

Another huge transition occurred in the composition of blood collection staff. Originally the collection agents were all RNs, but with the continuing shortage of registered nurses, it became impossible to staff each site with trained RNs. In order to accommodate for this shortage, LPNs became involved with blood collection in the 1980s, and then unlicensed assistive personnel comprised blood collection staff in the 1990s. Hospitals began training phlebotomists and the ARC followed suit to keep the cost of blood products within a range that the hospital would reimburse. This was a challenge in training and supervision for all staff.

In her career with the ARC, Kish has interfaced with many influential people. General Jimmy Ross presented her with a pin commemorating her service at the national level. She served under Elizabeth Dole, who was president of the ARC. Kish received the National Tiffany Award in 1998 for her outstanding contributions to the blood collection services program. In 2002, she was promoted to the Director of Donor Services and continues to serve in this capacity. In the central Ohio community, Karen Kish, RN is THE resource for information regarding ARC blood services.

(Summary from Medical Heritage Center, Nursing Oral History interview May 19, 2010)

Collection Highlight: Tooth Key

by Kristin Rodgers, MLIS

A tooth key, also known as a dental key, is an instrument that was used in dentistry to extract diseased teeth. Modeled after a door key, the tooth key was used by first inserting the instrument horizontally into the mouth, its claw tightened over a tooth and then rotated to loosen the tooth. The original design, dating back to the 1700s, featured a straight shaft, which caused it to exert pressure on

the tooth next to the one being extracted. This led to a newer design in 1765 by Ferdinand Julius Leber, in which the shaft was slightly bent. The tooth key pictured here is one of the newer designs with a slightly bent shaft.

This tooth key is found within the MHC Artifact Collection. It is made of wood and metal and was produced in the 1820s. It was a gift from COSI.



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MHC 2012 Lecture Series

All lectures are free and open to the public, and will be held in Room 550 of Prior Hall. Visit the MHC website for more information.

- May 17, 2012; reception at 4:30pm, lecture at 5:00pm James V. Warren Lecture "Reflections from Haiti: A View from the Ground" by Diane Gorgas, MD, in partnership with the Health Sciences Center for Global Health
- September 13, 2012; time TBD Robert Louis Stevenson's Dentist by Dr. R. Stevenson, in partnership with the College of Dentistry
- October 11, 2012; time TBD Conestoga Club Lecture by Dr. Steven Gabbe, in partnership with the Ohio Historical Society
- October 25, 2012; time TBD John C. Burnham Lecture by Dr. George Weisz, in partnership with the OSU Department of History
- Barbara Nash (left) and Pamela Dickerson, speakers at the Friends of Nursing History lecture on April 19.



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