

*Violet E. McFadyen*

## Elk Point Hospital Reunion 1928 – 1990



Dr FG Miller



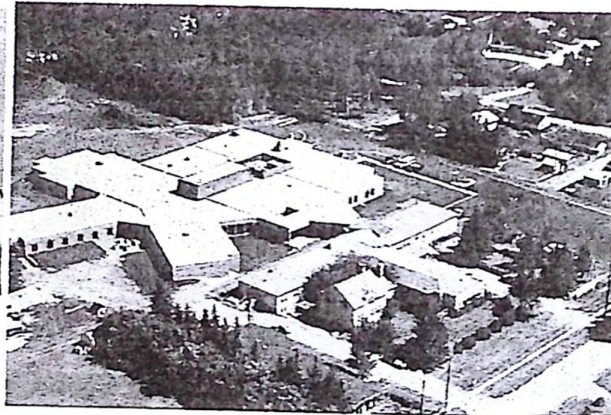
Elk Point Hospital 1928 to 1970



Dr AG Ross



Dr Anne Weigerlneck



Elk Point's Hospitals in 1976



Dr KC Miller

**This book is dedicated to the Doctors and all Elk Point Municipal Hospital Staff from 1928 to 1990.**

**We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Reunion. We hope you have the opportunity to renew old friendships and treasured memories. Thanks to all of you who have shared stories and pictures for this book. Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ELK POINT MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL REUNION  
*HELD*  
JUNE 21, 2008 at the ELK POINT SENIOR CENTRE

HONORING YEARS OF SERVICE FROM 1928-1990

A special "Thank You" to everyone who made this reunion possible.

**Organizing Committee:**

Diana Anderson  
Amelia Bowen  
Norma Berg  
Peggy Maas

**History Book:**

Myrna Fox  
Diana Anderson  
Kathy Foster

**Slide Presentation:**

Gwen Morris

**Music:**

Debbie Lawrence  
Gwen Morris  
Mathilda Morrison/Furger

**Pyroggy Making:**

Jean McGinnes, Erma Yewchin, Amelia Bowen, Helen Gulayec, Ann Gulayec, Peggy Maas, Lois Shepalowy, Shirley Kvill, Lena Stepa, Helen Trach, Elsie Oryschuk, Diana Anderson

**Donations:**

Town of Elk Point - \$500.00  
County of St. Paul #19 - \$500.00  
Hospital Auxiliary - Cameras

**Guests:**

Hon. Ray Danyluk, Minister off Municipal Affairs  
Elk Point Town Councilor Bernice Capjack  
County of St. Paul #19 Div. 2 Councilor, Tom Kurek  
County of St. Paul #19 Div. 1 Councilor, Glen Ockerman

Everyone who shared their pictures and albums and helped in so many ways to make this day such a special event!

## Historical Background of the Elk Point Hospital

By Grace Barwick (this paper was done as a course assignment by Grace on July 31, 1971 and kindly shared for this book by her Daughter, Karen)

The original Elk Point Hospital dates back to two years after the end of World War I. A young medical student, Dr. F.G. Miller, whose studies had been interrupted by the war, returned to Canada from the battle fields of France. He completed his medical training at McGill University and came west to seek a place to set up his medical practice. He practised in central Alberta with a senior doctor for a year. Then he decided he should move on and go north. The place he chose to settle was in Elk Point. At that time, this was little more than a crossroads between two Indian Reservations and settled by a few white people who had come to claim good farm lands being offered free to those courageous enough to live and clear and cultivate the land. They came from Great Britain, the United States, and Eastern Canada. The Ukrainian immigrants also were leaving their troubled homeland in search of a new start in a free country. The post-war influenza epidemic was striking young and old in those years so the young doctor was a busy man.

He set up his own private hospital which was part of the large old house he obtained for his own family.

Two rooms were used as the hospital with four beds. It was staffed by one nurse, one housekeeper, the doctor and his wife. Only the most urgent cases were treated in the hospital. Babies were born at home and often surgery was performed on the kitchen table of the farm home when deep snow would not permit a patient being taken to the hospital. The doctor spent many nights on the road travelling to his patients because he had a good team of horses for winter and a car for summer. His patients could not boast such luxuries.

These circumstances prevailed until the Canadian National Railroad came through this area and Elk Point became a village and a municipal hospital was built in 1928. The first municipal hospital had twelve beds, a full time staff of nurses and a housekeeping staff. The doctor now had a partner and a clinic was set up in the village.

More additions have been added to this first municipal hospital, one in 1942 and again in 1952. until it is now a fifty one bed active hospital with many modern conveniences for surgical, medical, and obstetrical patients. We have a staff of

seventy-five. Three doctors and a dental surgeon have admitting privileges from the clinic down town.

The Board of Governors of the Elk Point Hospital form the hospital policy and delegate management to the Administrator, who in turn, delegates to each department head their responsibilities.

The Joint Conference Committee serves as a liaison between the medical staff, the Board of Governors, and the Administrator. The Medical Record Department is rarely called upon to assist in any way with this committee unless it is for various disease studies that can be compiled from medical records.

The Medical Record Department is called upon frequently to do a study for one of the doctors. We do a study once a year on post-operative infections. We have made graphs from our statistics showing variation in birth rate for the last ten years. We have done a comparison chart on the ratio of tuberculosis cases among the Indian people compared to the white people. Similar studies have been done on venereal disease. Tuberculosis is not treated in this hospital but a routine Mantoux test is done on all patients except infants. Chest x-rays are done on all adults. Tuberculosis patients are sent to a special sanitarium in a near-by city.

The Medical Record Department here is not quite in an ideal location. It possibly would be more convenient if it were adjoining the main office at the front of the hospital. But the provisions were not made for this at the time of the latest renovation of the building. We have an office consisting of two rooms situate away from the main part of the building. It is quiet and has a desk that doctors can use for their paper work and also a dictating machine for putting their case summaries on tape for us to type on the summary sheets of patients charts. As the charts come to us from the nurses' station, they are checked and stapled together. They are placed in the respective doctor's compartment for him to work on at his convenience.

There are two of us working in the department, one full time registered Medical Record Librarian and one part time assistant. That is me. I spend most of my time working in the admitting office as well.

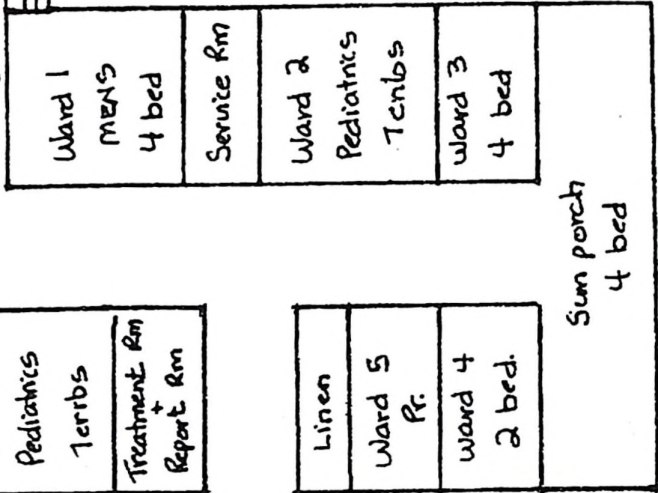
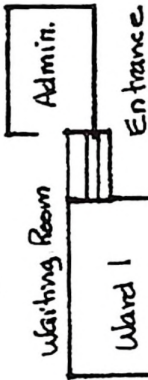
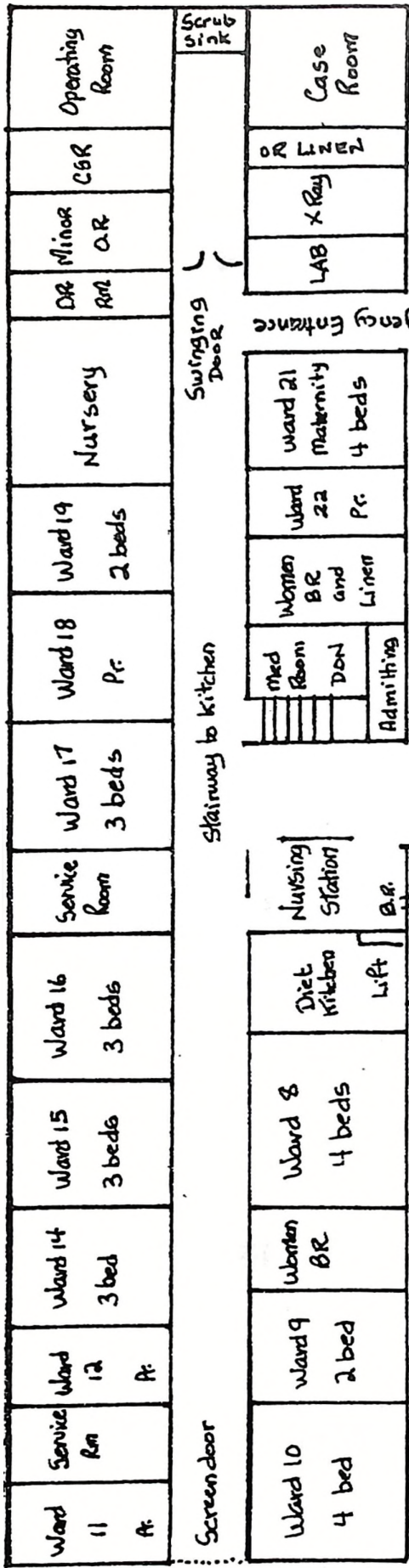
Our filing system is not complicated. We have a master file which contains a cardex for every patient. Each new patient receives a card with his name, address, birthdate, and name of next of kin. When he is discharged, his card is typed with the date of admission, date of discharge, and name of doctor attending him. His number is transferred to his chart and when his chart is complete, it is filed in the file room where he is given a pack that is filed by number in the terminal digit system. Each time this patient returns to the hospital as either an inpatient or outpatient, it is entered on his card and his chart numbered with the same number and filed in his same pack.

**A death file is kept and twice a year death charts are pulled and placed in the obsolete file downstairs. They are filed there by the same system.**

**Our hospital is participating in the program of Professional Activities Study and, therefore, an abstract is completed for every patient and these are sent in batches of 100 to Ann Arbor, Michigan to be computerized. From this we get a complete monthly statement which includes a disease index, operations index as well as a complete index for each doctor and for the business office. Semi-annual reports of more concise information are included in this P.A.S. program.**

**Our chief duties are to carry out all the above procedures and keep the work flow moving steadily. We sometimes need to encourage the doctors to keep their charts done up and try to assist them in any way we can to make their load as light as possible. It is also our duty to protect all records and treat them as confidential property of the patient, safeguarded by our department for future reference by the physician.**

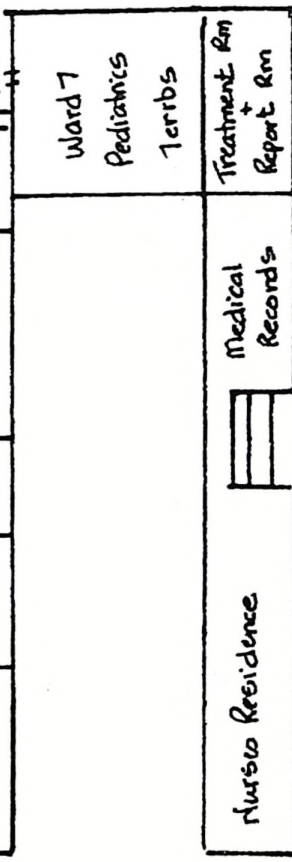
NORTH



ELK POINT MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL

Most wards designated for 4 beds actually held 5.

SOUTH



EXIT

## WORKING IN THE “OLD HOSPITAL”

How often do we reminisce about our years of working in Elk Point Hospital? How often do we talk about “the good old days”, the friends we made, the life experiences we had, the patients we cared for, the treatments for illness that seem so simple when compared to the CAT scans of today. Yet we did treat, we did heal, we did do surgery, set broken bones, and delivered over 400 babies a year- all in this small 51 bed rural hospital.

It is a heritage that we can all be proud of. Elk Point Hospital had a reputation of delivering excellent care. Our medical pioneers, Dr.'s F.G. Miller, A.G. Ross, Ann Wiegerink and K.C. Miller all contributed to why people came as far away as Edmonton to seek treatment. The staff had a reputation for delivering safe, compassionate, friendly nursing care. Our hospital was old; the roof leaked and the sunporch screen wouldn't close; but we had a very low infection rate because it was kept clean. Everyone practiced good technique. We were dealing with infectious diseases such as pneumonia, hepatitis, T.B., staphylococcus, streptococcus, influenza, you name it!.....along with scabies and fleas. Antibiotics were barely on the horizon, so we made mustard plasters (1/4 mustard powder to 3/4 flour, mixed H2O to make a paste that was spread on old newspaper, wrapped in gauze and heated on top of the bed pan sterilizer) to put on the chest of those suffering pneumonia along steamers that we put under the patients face and covered their heads with a drawsheet to keep the steam in. Gave them chicken soup stock to drink; aspirin for the temp., F.G. Miller's 1-2-3 mixture, or Benylin for the cough and the rest was up to God.

Do you get sore throats?.....treat them with wycillin and tetracycline and when the infection was gone....out with the tonsils! Got a tummy ache? ( a little tender on your right side?).....to the OR, under the ether mask and your appendix was out! It took 5-7 days to recover from the ether and the 4" of stitches in your side because we didn't even let you get out of bed for 3 days! If your joints ached we rubbed in rubafacial till our hands burned, put poultices on your abscess and spread merthiolate on any exposed skin. Women came at all times to deliver their babies, many in labour for hours; no such thing as an epidural - just a small dose of heroin that we prepared over a tiny bunsen burner at the nursing station. Remember the twins that weighed 8lb 6oz. and 8lb 14 oz. respectively? The delivery was uncomplicated and they soon joined their 6 brothers and sisters at home. Everyone had large families. Many times deliveries came in a “rush”. I remember 5 one night shift. We ended up putting some newborns (3 to a large adult bed) because we ran out of room in the nursery. The nursing staff not only had to give care but they also sharpened needles on night shift, washed all the med bottles and sterilized bedpans and urinals.

We said that we were a 51 bed hospital but most time the sunporch was full and some patients were lined up on beds in the hallway. Nobody was turned away.

Staffing?? On afternoon shift you had 1 RN and 2 aides on the North wing and the same for South. On nights there was one less aide and during the summer months many times only 1 RN and 3 aides to deal with whatever came through the door. How did we manage? Well, for starters everyone pulled together as a team and you stayed working until all patient care needs were met. Then you sat down to eat and have a coffee. The RN's started their charting and the aides rinsed out all the soiled diapers (no pampers!) and linens; packed them into big bags and dragged them downstairs to the laundry. The food was great! The kitchen always served excellent meals made with locally grown vegetables.....homemade soups, pies, steak.....better than what you ate at home.....all at no cost to the employee.

Was there ever any slack time? Of course there was, and that's when we had fun, playing crazy jokes on each other, or planning the next hospital party. It is this team spirit that I think everyone remembers the most. That; and taking pride in a job well done, in a life saved; and the respect that the community at large had for everyone who was part off the "Hospital Team". I know that I am very glad that I had an opportunity to be part of it.

Diana Anderson



## **My Memories of Working At Elk Point Municipal Hospital**

**- Violet E. McFadyen -**

**It was on April 20, 1969 that I became a member of the Elk Point Hospital Staff and I have never regretted it. We were very busy with lots of patients in those years and I certainly enjoyed my work and found it to be both very interesting and rewarding. I found that the knowledge I had of nursing along with the training from Mrs. Tredger could be put to good use daily. The patients were most responsive to our care and kindness.**

**The Staff were friendly and we worked together and helped one another. When time permitted, we could go where extra help was needed.**

**Maternity was an interesting area. The ladies would come in usually not feeling too great but as soon as their baby arrived, happiness and excitement abounded with parents making decisions about the baby's name, how to dress the baby and all kinds of nice activities.**

**Surgery was another interesting area for me. What a pleasure to see the patients recover from painful surgery and become well again. Relating the details of a person's surgery was often a topic of discussion amongst patients in the surgical wards.**

**There was the Pediatric Ward and all those dear little children. Bless their little hearts! There were no dull moments with so many little folk who needed feeding or changing not now but right now. I remember a male patient going past the Pediatric Ward door just as meal trays were being delivered. He stopped long enough to comment, "It sounds like feeding time at the zoo". He may have been quite right but I was never at the zoo at feeding time but I do know that, after the children's hunger was satisfied, they would settle down to their nap. All would be quiet until hunger or wet diapers created unrest again.**

**During my early years at the hospital, the RN's and CNA's wore white caps and white uniforms. The laundry staff, cleaning staff and cooking staff wore green uniforms. In those days, the hospital gowns, pyjamas, etc. were cut from huge bolts of material and sewn right at the hospital. Drapes and room divider curtains were also sewn at the hospital. Much mending was done and, on occasion, uniforms were altered to meet individual requirements. On one occasion, several of us had new uniforms which needed to be shortened. When I came in to see the seamstress, she carefully started pinning the hem to the proper length and, then quite suddenly, stopped and said to me, "Why am I doing this? You probably know more about hemming than I do." (I had just shortened her coat for her a few days earlier.) She did, however, do my uniform and did a fine job. While the hospital had a regular seamstress, there were times when others such as the person in Medical Records might be asked to lend a hand with the sewing, if her time permitted.**

**We enjoyed close friendships with our colleagues at work and had lots of fun and happiness while doing our work. In the earlier years, the Cooks cooked for both patients and employees. What good meals we had for a very small fee.**

**In 1976, the big day came when we moved from the old hospital to the new one. Off duty staff, doctors, hospital board members, friends and community turned out to help with the move. Dr.K.C. Miller brought the first patient into the hospital - bed and all. The main move was mostly completed in one day. It was also the birthday of our Matron, Mrs.Wilmer so we all sang "Happy Birthday" to her in the new hospital. The Staff all had a tour of the building prior to our move so it did not take too long for us to find our way around. Prior to the move, members of the staff came over to the new hospital to assist with the cleaning. I was lucky - the bed sheets and crib sheets needed to be lengthened to fit the new longer beds and cribs - as I was able to take them home and sew them on my own machine between my work shifts. I always enjoyed sewing so I was pleased to do this for the hospital.**

**It was a real pleasure to work in the new hospital with everything so new, shiny and modern but, as we looked back, we had appreciated and enjoyed working in the old hospital which had been built in 1928.**

**It was in March of 1976 that the Elk Point Hospital Auxiliary was formed. Over the years, we have bought many special items for the Hospital and are still doing so even though our membership has dwindled over the years. I am one of the Charter members of the Auxiliary. It has been rewarding experience and I am proud and happy to have been part of it.**

**There were many interesting experiences I recall while working at the hospital. Before we left the old hospital, we had a terrible dust storm. When I went to work about 10:00 PM, it was windy with a little dust blowing about but we thought it would calm down. We were wrong! By midnight, we had a terrible wind and the dust was really moving. It had been a hot day and the windows had been left open to keep the rooms cool - that was the air conditioning system of that time. We raced around to get the windows closed upstairs then dashed to the basement to close the windows there - it was too late as the dirt was already in. The lights went out all through the hospital and the children in Pediatrics were terrified of both the darkness and the howling wind. We scurried about and got some light with available flashlights. After awhile, our own plant cut in and restored lights before the flashlight batteries expired. It was then that we saw how much dirt we now had in the hospital. We washed window ledges and floors over and over again throughout the night shift as time permitted. Even the beds were dusty! That was one time you could see your footprints on the floor! Extra staff was called in for the day shift but the wind and dust persisted all day and only towards evening did the storm begin to abate. Truly the worst dust storm I had ever experienced.**

**One elderly gentleman used to come in as a patient and always brought lots of artificial bugs and little animals which he would place in the most unexpected places at the most unexpected times. He enjoyed pulling these pranks and taking us by surprise.**

**Ladies often shared their crochet and knitting patterns with us as they convalesced. It always brings back special memories to me when I go through some of my work and recall a patient who gave me that pattern.**

**One night shortly after we moved to the new hospital, a mouse slipped under the patio door and evidently intended to spend the night with us. The staff did not feel so inclined and one person grabbed an Edmonton Journal, rolled it up, and terminated Mr. Mouse's hospital visit. Needless to say, the open space below the door had let in more than cold air!**

**We had our ups and downs but, overall, it was a wonderful career for me and I so enjoyed the friendship of Staff and patients along with the challenges of my work. I retired because of age regulations in 1981. It was indeed a sad change for me personally - I loved my work and have missed the work and the friends, both staff and patients. A lovely party was held in my honour in the Elk Point Legion Hall and that certainly will always be remembered fondly. As I reflect, it was great to have been a member of the Elk Point Hospital Staff.**

## Memories of Cooking in the Old Hospital

By Norma Berg

I wish to share my memories when I cooked at the hospital in the early 1960's.

One year we were able to get fresh oysters to serve the staff. We rolled them in flour and fried them. At first, people were uncertain if they would like them. The next time, they looked forward to them.

We had beef steak at least once a week.

I made pies several times a month for the staff and for the patients who were on a regular diet. I had a very good recipe for the lemon pie filling. There were no packages of lemon pie filling in those days. You squeezed the juice of the lemons, etc.

One of the patients, Fin Martin from Clandonald, enjoyed the pie and wanted to know who made it and sent her thanks. Many years later, when my husband and I celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, she sent us a card with her greetings and in the corner of the card she wrote "Lemon Pie" – after all those years, she never forgot!

I made buns several times a month. Mrs. Olsen, our dietician, always enjoyed the buns and sometimes ate more than her share. One evening, about eleven o'clock, she went to the nursing station and asked for something for indigestion. The next morning, she was found dead in her suite. Everyone said to me, "Norma, it is your fault – she ate so many of your buns".

On a lighter note, I have many memories of the annual hospital balls held at the Elks Hall. Staff members board members, doctors, and their invited guests attended. I was on the planning committee and, as hostess, I welcomed everyone to an "Evening in Paris" theme. Mr. Ron Barwick, who was on the decorating committee, transformed the stage with black and gold wallpaper and concealed lighting, blue carpet, and a black wrought iron railing – a perfect setting for his orchestra "We Three" in their handsome uniforms – they provided the music. At midnight, a supper of southern fried chicken was served. The dancing continued with novelty dances and draws for door prizes.

### **Thursday Cookies (Ice Box Cookies)**

**Donna (Holliday) Babcock's Mom (Ma Holliday) made these cookies for the staff on Thursday – hence the name. It is not known if the patients were treated to them.**

**1 lb. margarine  
2 cups white sugar  
3 eggs  
2 tbsp. molasses  
1 cup raisins  
1 cup nuts  
2/3 cups chopped dates  
1 tsp. baking soda dissolved in ¼ cup hot water  
4 cups rolled oats  
3 cups flour  
½ tsp. salt**

**Cream margarine with sugar and molasses. Beat in eggs. Break up oats a bit with your hands. Mix in flour and soda mixture. Form into rolls, wrap in saran wrap, and chill in fridge. Slice and bake at 350 degrees for about 8 minutes.**

**The entire hospital staff in 1940 including kitchen staff:**

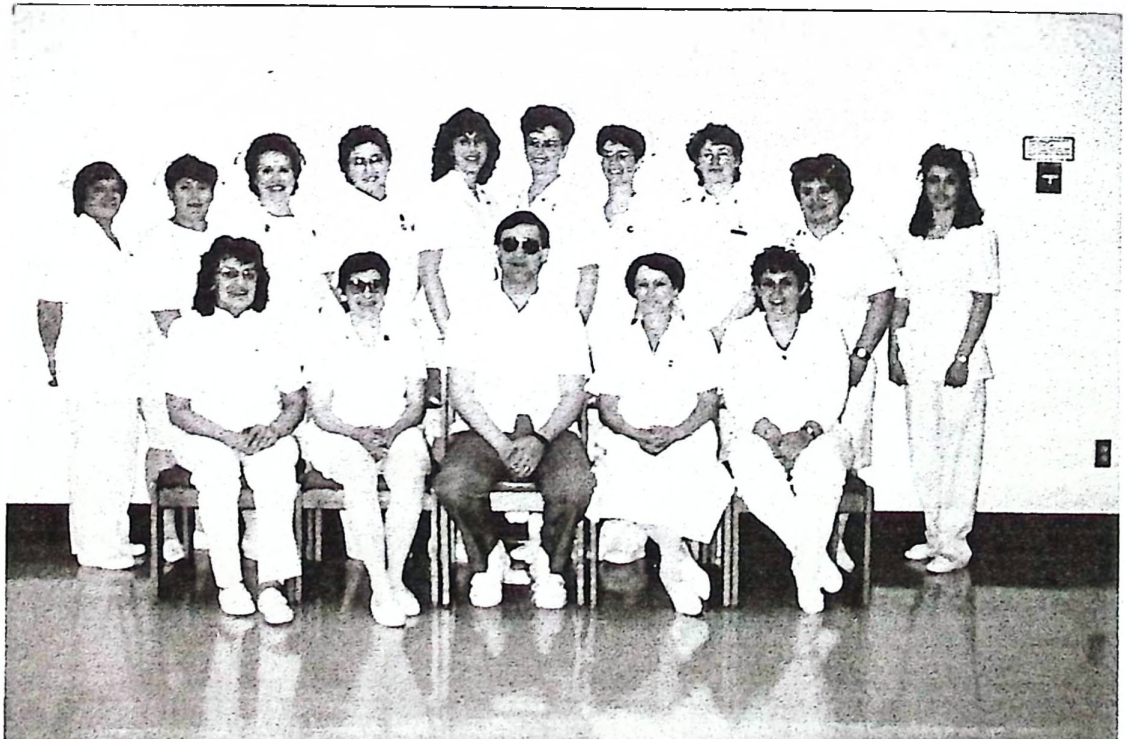
**L-R**

**Molly Tchir Waltze, Iryne Kozak Buck, Buzzy Pelechosky, Betty Kopp Millar, Freda Vaughn  
Bowtell, Dagne Wilson, Miss Henry, Miss Trudy Caskey, Dell Beebe**



**A more recent Staff picture:**

**Loretta Paquette, ....?...., Lise Bussiere, Donna Fakely, Jackie Whiffen-Peters, Sandra Oester,  
Charlene Bintz, Roseann Dutchak, Lucille Robinson, Linda Dorey, Ann Uchman, Polly Fontaine,  
Jerome Keichinger, Carolyn Onusko, Debbie Hahn**



# *Hospital History*

*By*

*Amelia Bowen (Zarowny)*

*1950 - ?, 1957 - 1989*

## *My Working History:*

I first worked in the Elk Point hospital for a short time in 1950 in the kitchen and laundry. We worked split shifts, which I disliked with a passion. One week we would get 1 whole day off, the following week we got ½ day off. If I remember correctly my pay cheque was \$52.00 per month. I think Mr. Arnott was the administrator then.

I quit my job at the hospital several months later got married and started our family. We were living across the road from the hospital in Hank Jacobson's house. My mother came to live with us then.

One day in the spring of 1957 there was a knock on the door. It was Dorothy Pelachowsky (better known as Buzzy) and her position was Head Nurse & Acting Matron. She told me that my mother was there to look after my 2 girls, there was no reason for me not to be working and that they were short of staff at the hospital. Within a few days I became a N.A. and spent the best and most enjoyable years of my life there. For years we worked the 8-hr. shifts, the staff was wonderful, like one big happy family.

In the spring of 1965 I resigned, hoping to stay home and raise the child I was expecting. Our son Kendall was born June of 1965. Times were really hard back then so several months later I went back to work part-time permanent evenings. Before long they were so short staffed I was back full time. Two years later when Kim was born I took maternity leave and continued working permanent evenings for several more years.

I continued to work until Thanksgiving of 1989. I often think about my wonderful years at the Elk Point Hospital and wish I could turn back the time to those good old days.

## *Some of my memories:*

One day as I was drying dishes after lunch I walked out into the hallway (of the old hospital) just as the staff was wheeling a male patient towards a south ward. I went back to clean the kitchen and get ready for supper; I was off duty till 4:00 PM. I walked over to see who the patient was and what had happened, to my horror I found out it was my brother Metro. The neighbors, my dad and Metro were thrashing at my parent's farm. The men were going in for dinner and I understand my brother's team of horses was going too slow so he used his pitchfork and poked one of the horses with it. The horse kicked back real

hard, the fork handle was forced into Metro's stomach. The skin and flesh on his stomach weren't punctured on the outside but the force ruptured his intestines. Dr.'s F.G. Miller & Dr. Ross operated and repaired the damage. Apparently when they opened him up there was wheat all over inside amongst the intestines. My sister in law tells me he remained in the hospital for 23 days. Today if something like that happened he would have been flown to the city as our local hospitals and Doctors couldn't cope with something that major.

There were many good and fun times but we also saw many tragedies and when that happened we all felt like it happened to one of our own.

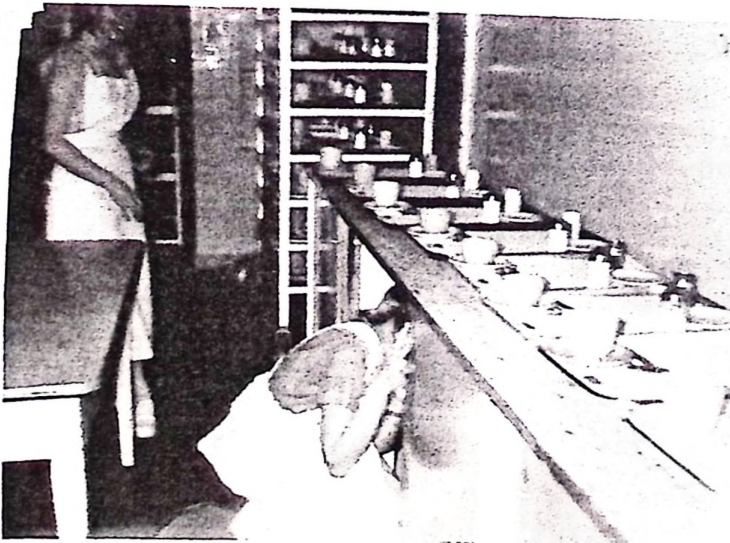
For several years we held our x-mas parties at the Elks Hall, we would think up different themes each year. The one x-mas we went with a Hawaiian theme and I remember making a palm tree using gunnysacks for the trunk, I spent days in the basement of the hospital making it. Donna Fedorus helped me.

I vividly remember Mrs. Papowich that lived just north of the hospital who grew a huge vegetable garden supplied veggies to the hospital. She had high blood pressure and when she delivered the veggies Buzzy would check her blood pressure. If it was high Buzzy took her into ward 16 and had her lay on the bed. Then she would put a needle into the vein of her arm and a long tube that drained into a jar, she would then drain some of her blood, check her blood pressure again then send her home again. Probably back to work in her garden. I saw that take place so many times, but I don't remember if she did eventually pass on of a stroke. Back then Buzzy didn't need a doctor's order to do that.

We never heard of disposable supplies then, we rinsed diapers in a big hopper and drug them downstairs to the laundry at the end of our shift. Then someone got a brain wave and made up a laundry chute that we used for dry soiled laundry but we couldn't lift the big bags of wet soiled laundry so we still drug them down the hallway and downstairs. On the night shift we washed syringes, needles and medicine glasses. On days we washed and boiled bottles and nipples. Occasionally we boiled the nipples dry; there was quite a smell when that happened. At least back then we had windows that we could open to air out the diet kitchen. We also made up different formulas for Pediatrics and enough to last till the next morning.

I remember spending 4 or 5 nights in the nurse's residence before x-mas 1964. There was so much snow, travel was impossible. The winter of 1982 wasn't a very nice one as well. The snowdrifts were  $\frac{3}{4}$  up to the top of the windows; the maintenance men had to remove it very carefully for fear the snow would push the windows in.

FEB 56



MAR 66





### **Day Shift:**

**Got report from Night Nurse.**

**Served breakfast and helped with the feeding then picked up trays.**

**Started bathing and bed making followed by treatments, diabetic snacks and diabetic foot care.**

**Answered call bells whenever one rang.**

**Then it was almost time for dinner again and the same routine started all over again.**

**Once every week we picked up bed pans, washed and returned them to the patients.**

**Back rubs, straightened beds, treatments again.**

**Took temps, admitting patients any time of day or night whenever there was an admission.**

**On Peds, all shifts, it was non-stop bathing, diaper changing, feedings, treatments, formula making.**

**At the end of each shift, the final diaper change, clean up, rinse diapers, and drag them downstairs.**

### **Evenings:**

**Much the same as days except in the evenings we made lunches, sandwiches, then we passed them, cookies, and juice to the patients.**

**Then it was back rubs, changing draw sheets, and refreshing beds for bed time.**

**The bells never stopped ringing but we always had time to spend with our patients.**

### **Nights:**

**Washed medicine bottles and med glasses, syringes, needles every night.**

**Washed thermometers and shook them down on each shift, having them ready to use again.**

**Peggy Maas remembers a new nurse doing the thermometers but wasn't told to hold her hand over the spinner, needless to say, they all flew in every direction ending up in hundreds of splinters. The poor nurse was very upset with herself.**

### **Maternity:**

**All shifts, bed making, helping in the case room with deliveries, cleaning up the case room. Rinsing bloody sheets and washing walls. Taking out the babies every four hours. On nights, if they weren't breast fed, we let the mothers sleep and would feed the babies in the nurseries ourselves.**

**On the night shift in the old hospital we were frequently invaded by mice. The hospital finally graduated to live mouse traps. This particular night, Barb Milholland, Anne Krawchuk, and I were on duty. There was a mouse caught in Ward 10, keeping the patients awake. We brought the live mouse trap out to the service room between Wards 8 and 9 but we had to get rid of it and neither Ann nor I would touch it and were afraid it would get away. I went to the Case Room with a glass, got some ether and snuk it past Barb sitting at the Nursing Station and proceeded to pour it on the mouse in the trap. He finally went to sleep, then to**

**Mousy Heaven, so we were able to dispose of him without getting caught or letting it run loose again.**

**The big news!**

**Then came the news of a new hospital being built. When it was built and completed, we moved in the summer of 1976 with excitement and anticipation. But it was with sadness that we watched the demolition of the old hospital. The new hospital was very nice but some of us felt that, along with the demolition of the old hospital, we also lost the personal touch and felt things weren't quite the same with only having the wonderful memories left. Along with modern advancement and disposable everything major changes happened, people became busier and rushed and it seemed like people don't take the time for each other like we did back then.**



## Remembering Elk Point Hospital Staff

### Mary (Flasha) Vogel

- worked in 1944 for two years, got married, came back twelve years later, and worked a total of 27 years. Did cooking some week-ends, laundry, and a nursing attendant.



### Erma (Roman) Yewchin

- worked in Housekeeping 1936 and 1965



### Marie (Babenek) Lesyk

- worked in the kitchen and laundry



**Irene (Boraytync) Gadowsky**

- worked 1951-1952-1953 as cleaning staff, then ward aide

Lots has happened since I left Elk Point. I got Married and Edward and I celebrated our 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We have three children and six grandsons. Together we have travelled a fair amount – cruised to the Mediterranean and the South Pacific. We live on an acreage near Devon and retired in 1991.



**Doris (Ewasiuk) Capjack**

- still living in Elk Point in own home
- daughter is living with her
- not able to do the things I used to but still doing all right
- have been blessed with five grandchildren and three great grandchildren
- still enjoy family get-togethers with my family and we have always been together on special occasions
- Bingo is still one of my interests



**Lil Buksa**

- worked in kitchen and housekeeping 1960-1982.



**Agnes (Gadowski) Madu**

- worked in laundry and housekeeping until leaving in 1980 to go to the U of A.



**Almerette (Smith Vance) Lister**

- worked in all departments mostly obstetric and newborn nursery and relief in O.R. from 1958-1965.

I moved to Elk Point in July 1958 with my two children to begin work at the Elk Point Hospital. In 1960 I went in training for my LPN. Upon Completion, returned to resume work until August 1965 when I married Leslie Sloan at which time I moved to St. Paul. In 1978 we moved to Westbank, BC where Leslie passed away in 1989. In 1991, I married Stanley Lister who passed away in 1993. I returned to St. Paul in 2001 and reside in Sunnyside Manor.



**Tillie (Evtushevski) Eliuk**

- worked four years in housekeeping and four years as ward aide from 1961 to 1970.



**Lillian (Warawa) Krawchuk**

- Married Walter Krawchuk in 1959
- worked 12 1/2 years in Elk point Hospital
- have three children
  - Cindy (Dennis), Cheryl (Glenn). Brent (Patti)
- have seven grandchildren
  - Chad, Shane, Crystal; Amanda, Melissa; Dylan, Kristen
- currently working in St. Paul St. Theresa Hospital in the CSR department – 19 years
- favourite past time – enjoying Bingo and trips to Casino
- CRS – surgical processor certification
- travelled to Mexico, Las Angelas, Florida. Las Vegas.



**Cheryl (Johnson) Wentz**

I have been married to my husband, Brian, for thirty four years. We met and married (1974) in Edmonton. Our son, Mark, was born in August of 1977. We moved from Edmonton to Kitscoty (followed the Oil Patch). In 1985, we moved from there to our present location - SV of Bonnyville Beach on Moose Lake. We are self employed. We lease and operate a steam truck with S+T Mobile Wash in Bonnyville.

I worked in the kitchen at the Elk Point Hospital for a couple of months in 1971-72.

**Hazel Johnson**

I married Johnny in 1966. That year my four children and I moved to his farm along the North Saskatchewan River (Cheryl, Terry, Ric, and Gary). Boyko was our neighbour. In 1967, Alan was born. In 1971, we moved to a farm in the Ferguson Flats area (Roads End – Black Angus Johnson and Sons x/p ).

In 1975 we moved to Edmonton. Alan continued his education. I worked until I was 65 and Johnny retired and started to cycle again. We travelled all over the States and Canada for years in one race after another (most of which he won). He cycled until his untimely death after being hit by a car in June 2002.

I worked at the hospital in the kitchen from 1965 to 1975.

**Leona Moneta**

**I started my employment in Elk Point Hospital as Nursing Attendant in 1948 after finishing school in Willow Range School.**

**I married Paul Moneta in 1949, raising two children – daughter Gail and son Don. Paul was also employed in Elk Point Hospital for 25 years.**

**I then went back to work in 1956 in the same department to pursue my career. Nursing was very interesting and compassionate. Training was mostly on the job – mainly by Buzzy Pelechosky and Marion Tredger.**

**Working with F.G. Miller, A.G. Ross, A. Weigerinck, and K.C. Miller. These four doctors. These four doctors are best known for their perfection in major surgeries, obstetrics, etc. Soon we had patients coming to our hospital from near and far. Surgery every day, nursery was always busy with newborns. Never recall it being without babies. We had three sets of twins born here. Still see them, all grown up, and children of their own.**

**Hospital was 52 beds. At times ran over capacity.**

**I retired in 1989, at present doing volunteer work at Parkview Senior Centre, Royal Purple Lodge, and “Red Hat Society” which is no work, all fun, and get together.**



**Eleanor (Albrecht) Cousineau**

**Worked in surgery, medicine, and peds from 1963-1964.**



**Valerie Jane (Rupchan) Poitras**

**Worked in the Lab and X-ray from 1980 to the present.**

**Started work in the Elk Point Hospital on January 7, 1980. Moved from Melville, SK with my three daughters. I married William Poitras in 1984. I have worked here for twenty-eight years FT and still continue working. William and I raised four children altogether. They are all married now. We have eight adorable grandchildren. We spend our time with our grandchildren. We enjoyed going down south this past winter to get away from these cold Alberta winters. I have worked with a lot of different staff at the Elk Point Hospital and have enjoyed most of the time spent here.**





**Gail (Nelson) Krysta**

**Worked 1974 – 1993 as RNA**

**I was born March 25, 1945 at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital. Dr. Weigerinck was my doctor. Hazel (Botting) and Leonard Nelson of Lea Park are my parents. Mom stayed with Doris Aarbo, Loretta Pinder's Mom, before I was born because they lived close to the hospital.**

**I took my nursing in 1962-63 in Edmonton, AB.**

**Married Don Krysta October 30, 1964. We moved to Kelowna.**

**In 1974 we bought a farm in the Landonville area and I started working at EPMH until 1993. Cookie Arnason, DON, hired me. Then Audrey Willmer and Diane Anderson were the DON's. I have fond memories of my working years.**

**In 1997 we moved to Crane Lake, NE of Bonnyville.**

**In 2007, we bought a house in Osoyoos, Bc – population 5000.**

**Grace Barwick (submitted by daughter, Karen)**

**Worked in Medical Records from 1966-1978**

**Norma berg, co-worker and friend, told me, that Mom was extremely good at her work. Her handwriting was close to perfect, and seldom, if ever, made mistakes. Mom loved her work and her work family. She was an independent woman!**

**Mom was not only good at her work, she was a great person. I don't think I ever heard her judge or put anyone down. She was community-minded and would do whatever she could to be helpful. To her family, she was unselfish, forgiving, kind and, most of all, loving. When Mom was needed (and she was), she was "there". To us, yes Dad, she was "Amazing Grace"!**

**Then there was her daughter.....**



**Karen (Barwick-Pelechosky) Coulter**

**Worked as ward Aide trainee for three months of terror.**

**I could write a short book on this seventeen year old's short nursing career. First of all, I was the daughter-in-law of Dorothy (Buzzy) Pelechosky who thought I should work for my keep. I did not succeed! But it was an experience I shall never forget, and fun! Thanks for the memories.**



**Eleanor (Olsen) Holliday**

**Worked in Nursing from 1956 to 1957**

**Erna and I, as two new Grads from the Royal Alexandra Hospital, arrived in Elk Point on a cold and bitter night – per bus, picked up and taken to the home of Leitha Ramsbottom who had agreed to keep us for awhile. Next morning, we walked to work and became part of the staff of a very busy hospital. Needless to say, we learned fast. The activity in obstetrics, the operating room, paediatrics, and always full medical beds was typical of rural hospitals at that time. I was fortunate to have my nursing years in rural hospital moving with John – great guy I met in Elk Point. Rural hospitals covered a wide range of opportunities for staff and patients.**

**Most of my years were spent in Smoky Lake as a general duty nurse in the active, a few years as Director of Nursing, and ending as general duty in Long Term Care. I am now retired – I believe nursing was good to me and I was good to nursing.**



**Maureen (LaGore) Anderson**

**Worked from July 1962 to March 1964.**

**This was my first job out of High School – was to be for the summer only, then off to nursing school. That was not what transpired but it was the most enjoyable time of my life – apart from my husband and family.**

**Ruby (Lowe) Vijayakumar**

**Worked from May 1961 to August 1964 in Nursing.**



**Marge (Sanche) Desaulniers**

**Worked in extended, peds and out patients from 1977 to 1988.**

**We moved to Phase II apartments in St.Paul in 2004. We were both sick and needed to be close to our doctor. I still bowl, swim, and walk. Armand carpet bowls and floor curls. We also play Bocceci.**

**I am looking forward to seeing everyone.**



**Antonio (Flasha) Gozjolko**

**Worked 1945 and 1946, married in 1947. Came back to work in 1960. Worked as a ward aide in the wards and in peds.**



**Madeleine H. (Tomkow) Morrison**

**Worked spring of 1953 at the hospital as a ward aide and until march 1954 when I left to train as a Nursing Aide. After my graduation, I worked as a Nursing Aide in Women's, Men's, Surgical, Children's, and Maternity from December 1954 to July 1956.**

**In July 1956, I resigned from the hospital and went to Regina, SK and was employed by the General Hospital there for one year. It was then that I met a handsome Air Force pilot named Willis Morrison, who was stationed at Moose Jaw. We were married in the fall of 1957.**

**We have had postings in the USA, Europe and several places in Canada. Our last posting was to Cold Lake, Alberta, where we presently reside. We have two daughters, one son, seven grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.**

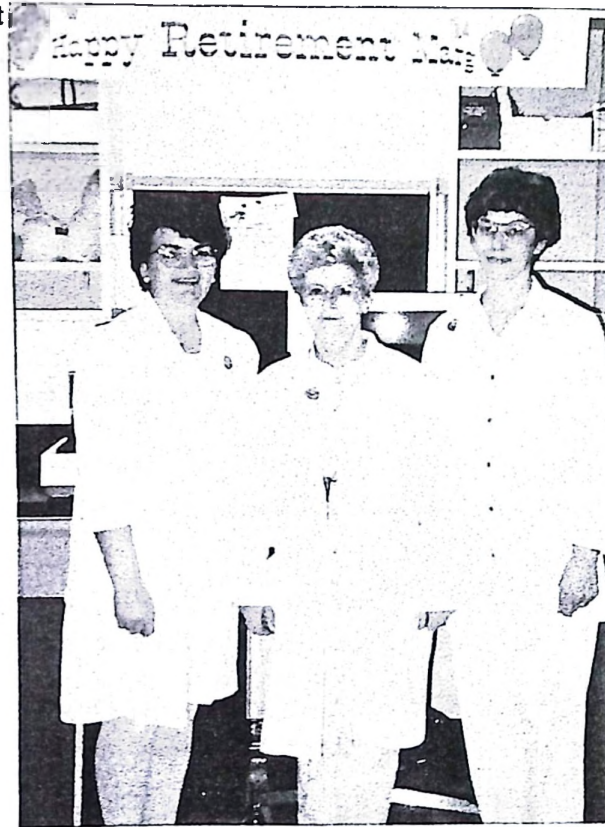
**We are now retired, celebrated our fiftieth wedding anniversary in November 2007 and are involved in numerous volunteer activities and our church.**



**Agnes (Fertig) Moroziuk**

**Come to work as a CLXT in the old hospital in November 1975.  
Still working full time. But thinking about retirement  
after 33 years of service.**

**Married Marshal Moroziuk I October 1976.  
We have two sons: Robyn (Myrna), and their  
two children, Vanden and Halle, Shaun (Sheryl)  
and their little girl, Cassidy.**



**Caroline (Sumislawski) Shankowski**

**I worked for about twenty years in between children.  
I started in the kitchen and then trays and then ward aide.**



**Margaret (MacIntosh) Berard**

**Worked from 1958 to 1960 and from 1962-1965 – nursing.**

**I arrived in Elk Point in November 1958. A nursing classmate (Margot Kerr) and I answered an ad in the “Scotsman”, Scotland’s national newspaper. We had absolutely no idea where we were coming to other than it would be cold!!!!**

**We had done our nursing training at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and our midwifery training at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. We sailed from Greenock to Montreal. It took a week. Everyone was seasick. We then flew from Montreal to Edmonton on an old North Star prop. It took more than twelve hours! We then finished the journey by train, having to change at St. Paul. Barry Keck met us and took us to the hospital. It was snowing and we thought we had come to the end of the earth! The nursing staff, at the time, was a veritable “United Nations” and Dr. F.G. Miller, Dr. Ross, Dr. Weigerinck, and Dr. K.C. Miller made up the medical staff. I gained valuable nursing experience, made some very good friends, and learned to curl and to square dance.**

**Margot left after a year but I stayed until the summer of 1960 when I returned to Scotland. Carmen Lee, who was Director of Nursing, persuaded me to return to Elk Point in October of 1962 – this time I flew to Edmonton! I became Director of Nursing when Carmen left in 1963. I went on to a career in nursing administration in Fort Saskatchewan, Revelstoke, BC, and, finally, Vancouver, until retirement.**

**I have now made Canada home for forty-eight years and have Elk Point to thank for starting me on that path.**



**Donna (Holliday) Babcock**

**I worked at the Elk Point Hospital in the diet kitchen in the summer and fall of 1957.**

**The duties in the diet kitchen entailed washing up whatever dishes came in there, delivering and collecting meal trays, wiping off bedside tables, and over bed tables.**

**We used a lot of Detol.**

**People that worked there at that time were Larry Ramsbottom, Barry Keck, my Mom (cook at that time), Barb Milholland, Buzzy Pelechosky, Mrs. Bauman, Lillian Bartole.**

**I worked from 6:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. I earned about \$80.00 per month.**

**Larry Babcock and I were married in November 1957. We have four children: Leigh married Debbie Kummetz. They have three daughters – Diane, Candace, and Amber.**

**Sandra was married to Joe Gaylord. She has two daughters – Krystin and Maria.**

**Murray married Judi Penz. They have one son – Cory.**

**Carol married Randall Kryz. They have two sons and one daughter – Dmitri, Liam, and Jewel.**



**Bernie (Van Eck) Kozicki**

**I came to Elk Point in 1977 as a new grad with my friend and classmate Irene Stobert. I lived in residence for a few months (with Barb, Claudia (lab tech), Merci, and someone else, I think). I moved to the Ference 4-plex in September 1977 after it was completed.**

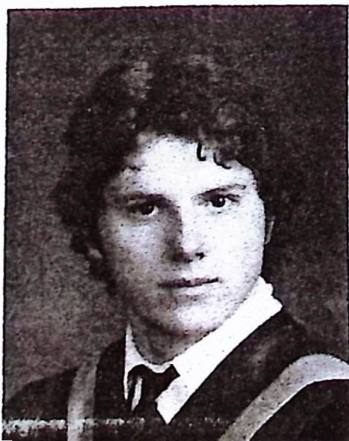
**I met Rudy Kozicky and married him in 1981. We had four children in short succession....Greg, Jan, and the twins, Sara and Lisa.**

**I quit Elk Point Hospital soon after returning from maternity leave in 1989. In 1990 I became the TB nurse in Frog Lake and stayed on in Home Care until 2004. It was great for me as I was able to work part time and have my hours coincide with those of my children.**

**In 1994, Rudy passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack so I raised my children (then 8, 6, and 5) on my own.**

**In 2004, I accepted a position in Extendicare in St.Paul. I am now the Director of Care and have plenty of challenges with everything happening in health care today. My three girls are attending the U of A. Greg is working in the oilfield in Bonnyville.**

**I am enjoying the "almost empty nest" and am looking forward to what the next few years have in store for me.**





**Doris (Rorick) Gusnowski**

**Worked as a nursing aide from 1969 to 1972.**



**Rose (Buksa) Short**

**Worked in the Dietary Kitchen from 1963 to 1967 (part time).**



**Kay (Litwinski) Garska**

**Worked as Ward Aide from 1946 to 1955**

**Nettie (Gusnowski) Ilnisky**

**Worked five and a half years in nursing from 1945 -1948 and 1950 to 1952.**

**I, Nettie Ilnisky, was the third child of the late Paul and Helen Gusnowski. I worked at the Elk Point Hospital from 1945 to 1948 in the nursing department.**

**Took my LPN (CAN) training in Calgary. Graduated in 1949. Worked again for 1 ½ years from 1950 to 1952. Moved to Saskatchewan in 1954 to nurse at R.U.H.. Moved to Kindersly. Married in 1956. Moved to Melfort in 1958 – nursed in Parkland Hospital Long Term Care. Our daughter, Darcy, was born in 1962. Also have three chosen children. Husband was a police officer, moved in 1965. Final move to Watson, SK. Worked for twenty-three years at Quill Plains Centennial Lodge as Assistant D.O.C. The last 7 1/2 years as night supervisor. Retired in 1996.**

**One night on duty with Murie Spencer (Dodo) we heard a car drive in. Thinking it was a mother-to-be, we looked out the window. Who walked in but Dr. Ross (Uncle Sandy). He said to us “if there was an elephant coming, I would have let you know”.**





Edna Lasik 1956



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**Madeline (Bykowski) Stepa**

**Worked as Nursing Aide from 1941 to 1943.**



**Elizabeth (Rarog) McGinnis**

**Worked as a ward aide off and on prior to attending nursing school and becoming a certified nursing aide – worked from 1956 to 1957.**

**Elizabeth Rarog began working at the Elk Point Hospital in 1949. She was born and raised in Flat Lake, Alberta. In 1955, she contracted polio. After that, she went to nursing school and became a certified nursing aid. Once again, she worked in Elk Point Hospital where she met Don McGinnis when he was visiting his dying father. Elizabeth, or Liz, married Don in 1958. They had three children, Randy, Patrick, and Sherry. They lived in various places including Pincer Creek, Fort St. John, and then Sherwood Park. Don and Liz travelled extensively through the United States and Mexico. In 1988 they moved to St. Paul and enjoyed winters in Arizona and their seven grandchildren. Don passed away in 2002 and Liz still resides in St. Paul.**

**Esther (Goldsmith) Moneta**

**I came to Elk Point Hospital March 13, 1978 to get some experience before heading north. I ended up marrying Dwayne and we continue farming today.**

**We have two sons. Kevin took his Bachelor of Arts majoring in crime at Augustana and is presently in RCMP training in Regina. Devin completed his Chemical Engineering Technology course at NAIT and is heading to Lakehead University in Thunder Bay for his degree.**

**I have seen a lot of changes in the past thirty years and have worked with a lot of great people.**

**Pearl (Melnvk) Slywka**

**I started working in Elk Point Municipal Hospital in April 1938 as a ward aide. I lived in the residence and worked twelve hour shifts in those days and a stretch of two weeks of nights.**

**On September 1, 1940, I married Bill Slywka, a healthy young farmer. We lived on a farm in the King George area. Stayed home and raised three children – two boys and a girl.**

**In 1968, I started working again due to allergies on the farm.**

**September 27, 1969, my husband was brought into the hospital in a coma by a neighbour, Walter Shankowski. I was still on duty. They did tests here and then he was rushed to Edmonton by ambulance. Dr. Davies, Erna Holliday and I went with him. He was not responding at all, wasn't good. Bleeding internally. I stayed with him all night in the hospital. He passed away in the morning at the age of 49 years.**

**So after all that was settled, I came back and worked seventeen years in all.**

**I am still living in town in my own house.**



**Olga (Boratynec) Kitz**

**Worked in the kitchen and laundry and as ward aide from 1946 to 1952.**



**Annette (Kummetz) Krause**

**Worked in Housecleaning, dietary and cooking in 1956-1960 and 1963-1964.**



**Mary Anne (Dembicki) Young**

**Worked as a ward aide 1958-1961.**



**Olga (Boratynec) Kitz**

**Worked in the kitchen and laundry and as ward aide from 1946 to 1952.**



**Annette (Kummetz) Krause**

**Worked in Housecleaning, dietary and cooking in 1956-1960 and 1963-1964.**



**Mary Anne (Dembicki) Young**

**Worked as a ward aide 1958-1961.**



**Carolyn (Blair) Onusko**

**After being married for two years, we moved from Iron River. The year was 1969 and I started work at the Elk Point Hospital as a "Certified Nursing Aide". I worked until our son was born in 1972.**

**I returned to work in 1976, the year the new hospital was built. When a recreation Position became available in 1984, I took the position. This was a three month position and I had the option of going back nursing. That was twenty years ago.**

**I work full time in the Elk point Health care Centre in Long Term Care as a Recreation Assistant. I love my job and our thirty residents are all very dear to my heart.**

**My husband, Ron, taught school for many years and had a heart transplant in 1997. He passed away in 2006.**

**My son, Jim, and his family live in Airdrie and my daughter, Cassie, and her family live in Peace River.**

**I am blessed with three grandchildren and a fourth one to arrive in May.**

**I am very excited about this reunion coming up and I give my profound thanks to all the people that made it possible.**





**Sonia (Bjorneskaret) Onyschuk**

**I worked in the kitchen for only a short time in 1960 at the age of sixteen years.**

**In 1963 I met and married Nick Onyschuk. We live in the Lac Bellevue area. We have two children – Vivian and Dwayne – and three grandchildren.**

**When the children were eleven and thirteen, I went to work in the St.Paul Hospital. I worked for twenty seven years permanent part time. For the last three years, I work casual.**



**Julie (Hoard) Boyko**

**Worked 1969-70; 1972-73; 1974-77; 1981-1983 in dietary, nursing (RNA).**

**I married Gary Boyko and we moved to Bonnyville.**

**I worked with Home Care for a few years. Then I started work at the Sears Catalogue store. I managed the store for nine of those years. Finally, my back wouldn't let me do the heavy lifting any more.**

**Three and a half years ago, I started working at the Bonnyville Medical Clinic. It is a fast paced office and I love it. Our new computer system was a challenge but I am finally comfortable with it – I guess you can teach “old dogs” new tricks!**

**Gary and I have two children – Donovan and Rebecca. Donovan and his wife, Niki, bought a house a couple of years ago in Edmonton. Rebecca and her husband just bought a house in Spruce Grove. We have no grandchildren yet.**

**Gary and I have some property in Lindbergh and would like to retire there in the next four or five years.**



**Marion (Gusnowski) Juba**

**Worked at the hospital from 1943 to 1947 as a ward aide.**

**I am the oldest of six children born to Paul and Helen Gusnowski. Attended school at King George . Went to work at the age of seventeen at the Elk Point Hospital. These were wonderful years, lots of fun.**

**Met Paul Juba during that period – he happened to be a patient. About two years later we married, had two children – Sharon and Blaine who we lost at an early age of 49 years due to cancer which is still hurting.**

**Spent 43 years in St.Paul during which time I worked at St.Therese Hospital for twenty two years from 1962 to 1984.**

**Widowed in 2005, moved back to my hometown, Elk Point, and now I reside in Fort George Manor and enjoying it day by day.**



**Gunhild K. (Bjorneskaret) Nelson**

**I worked in the Elk Point Hospital in 1951-52 in the laundry. I did the washing and Annest Jendruck did the ironing of the nurses' uniforms and dresses for the girls in the kitchen, Cotton dresses were fine but the taffeta dresses were very hard to do and it took too long to iron them.**

**I married Edwin Nelson in 1949. We have three children – Sheila, Vicki, and Arne, seven grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren**



**Barry Keck**

**I worked at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital from about 1954 to 1966. Then moved to Edmonton, worked as Stationary Engineer at Esso Refinery, retired in 1990.**

**We purchased our home in 1967. Raised two children – Dianne born in Elk Point in 1962. James born in Edmonton in 1970. Both married. James lives in Edmonton. Dianne lives in Toronto.**

**We celebrated fifty years of marriage in 2006. Since I have retired, we have travelled to many interesting places. We both enjoy reasonably good health and keep very active.**

**Anne (Shymkiw) Gulayec**

**I started working in the Elk Point Hospital in 1942, first in the laundry and serving trays and then as a ward aide which I really enjoyed until 1945.**

**In August 1945 got married to Tedrick Gulayec. We celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I thank the Lord that I am still here at 83 to enjoy all these great events.**



**Elsie (Zapesocki) Buzak**

**I worked at the Elk Point Hospital in the summer of 1965 in housekeeping with Lil Buksa as my boss. Returned in the summer of 1966 and stayed until December./ Then moved to Edmonton and took Nursing Aide training – graduated in December 1967.**

**Married Sam Buzak on August 2, 1969 and lived in Edmonton and worked at the Royal Alec.**

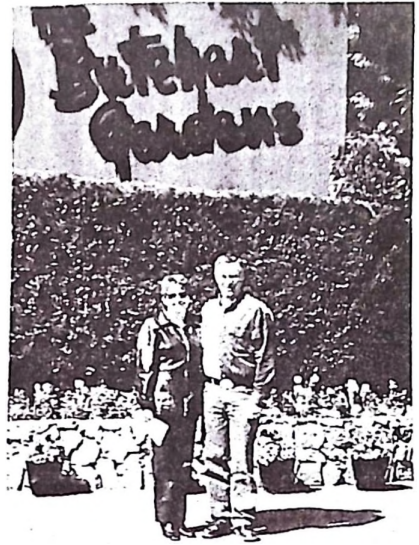
**Moved to a farm north of Edmonton in 1973 where we still live.**

**Have three daughters – all married.**



**Verla (Sweet) Kiehlbauch**

**Worked in the kitchen in the early sixties.**



**Terry Clark**

**Elk Point was the first hospital in which I worked in Canada. I wanted to know the Canadian character so deliberately chose a small community thinking that I would get to the heart of the matter and I sure did. I well remember a smart young female officer at the Canadian High Commission in London who was dealing with my documents looking at me and saying “you want to go to Alberta in January? Have you any idea what Alberta is like in Winter? The snow can be higher than the houses and small towns can be snowed in for days at a time – I grew up there.” When I arrived in Edmonton in the midst of a three week spell of 60 below weather with lots of snow, the Edmonton Journal was happily handing out certificates to all who had lived through it! I have not forgotten that or the equally warm welcome when I arrived at the Elk Point Hospital. That and other fond memories including some astonishing Bonspiels will live with me forever.**

**My best wishes to you and all who are attending the reunion.**

**Elizabeth (Warawa) Markowski**

**Worked as a Ward Aide in 1957.**

**Mary (Cunningham) Garnett Bennett**

**Worked in acute, peds, ER from 1981 to present.**

**I graduated from the Montreal General Hospital School of Nursing in September 1965.**

**From there I went to work in Kelowna, BC and then Licno Gate Hospital in North Vancouver. I then returned to Montreal and met and married my husband, Len, and we went to South Africa for seven years. Upon returning to Canada, we came out West.**

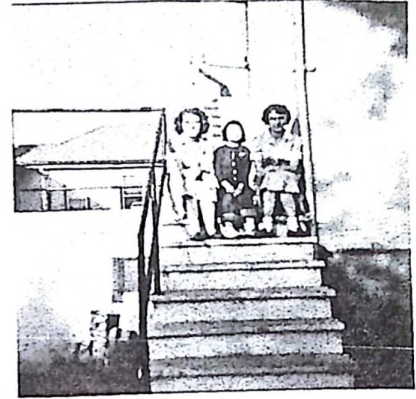
**When I joined the staff of Elk Point Hospital, I was new to the world of rural nursing, being a “jack of all trades” so to speak and had lots to learn. I learned invaluable lessons from the NA’s employed at that time from their vast experience and knowledge gained over the years.**

**I am still working full time and will continue to do so as long as I can.**



**Jean (Sass) Ference**

I started work in the fall of 1954 to 1955 in the diet kitchen. My job was washing baby bottles, delivering food trays, filling pitchers of fresh water for the patients, cleaning staff bathrooms and, sometimes, working in the kitchen. Got tired of washing baby bottles so I got married in the fall of 1956 and ended up washing my own baby bottles.



**Elizabeth (Soldan) Didow**

Worked all departments of EPMH as an RN from 1981 to 1994.



As I recall our Matrons nick name was "busy" Petroski. We had another Matron who's name was Miss Malcolm. I enjoyed working with three other head nurses. I especially remember Kay, who was very nice to work with.

We were all kept pretty busy with everyone doing their fair share of work. We all worked shift work and our different duties.

Dr. Miller had been in Elk Point for quite some time. There was also Dr. Wegnich who had been there.

In 1948 I met Peter Kalynchuk and dated him for two years. We were married in 1950, and we led a good life together.

We moved to Edmonton where I worked at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in the operating room for quite some time.

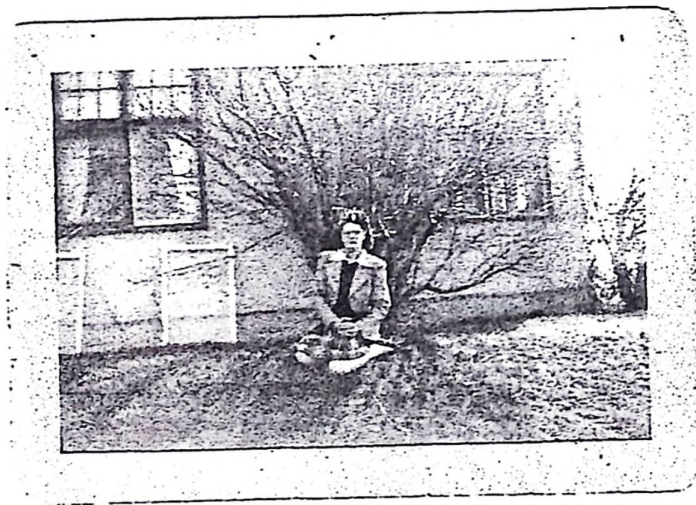
In 1956, I gave birth to our son Elwin Wayne.

I then went to work at Canadian Cellanese plant where I worked for thirty-six years. I retired in 1979.

Pete passed away in January of 1994, after suffering with heart problems for a few years.

It was then that I started to run my home for disability patients, which I still do to this day. It keeps me busy with always something to do.

Patricia Kalynchuk





## **THE BIOGRAPHY OF SANDRA OESTER**

After working in Elk Point from 1978-1995 I moved to Edmonton. Knowing that there was a shortage in nursing positions, I carried on selling Weekender Ladies Wear, now full time. As the nursing situation opened up, I started working at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Centre full time in March of 1999. In May of 2005, I took on a new career opportunity, working in the private sector as a caregiver for an elderly couple in Edmonton. In October of 2005, I accompanied them to live in their home in Palm Springs California, for the winter. This was a great experience and quite the adventure. In the spring of 2006 I returned to Edmonton and started working back at the Glenrose. Over the years I have been able to take a couple of trips each year to go and visit my daughter and grandchildren in Quebec. Life is good.



**Helen Ellen (Gulayets) Moneta**

**Worked in Diet and Kitchen from 1957 to 1958.**



**Verna Lazicki**

**Worked in Medical Records, Nursing, and as Receptionist from 1967 to the present.**

**Lucille (Spencer) Krevenky**

**Worked in kitchen and laundry from 1956 to 1961.**

**Mary Ann Spencer**

**Worked as a CAN in 1953 and 1955.**

**Ed and Pat Soldan**

**Ed worked in maintenance from 1966 to 1993 and Pat worked in nursing from 1971 to 1990.**



**Ingrid (Berg) Berg-Jensen**

**Worked in the kitchen from 1965 – 1967.**

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**Annie (Mohyluk) Bodnar**

**Worked in Cleaning and Kitchen as well  
as cooking from 1950-1952.**



**Tillie (Sribney) Heinemann-Hynek**

**Worked in the kitchen, laundry, and as ward aide during winters of 44-45, 45-46, 46-47.**



**Josie (Flasha) Zarowny**

**Worked as Nursing Aide from 1967 – 1987.**



**Nellie (Musijowski) Czajkowski**

**Worked 1960 to 1963 as nurse's aid.**

**I started working in September 1960 and worked until 1964. I lived at the nurse's residence above the west end of the hospital on the second floor. I lived next door to Norma Berg for awhile. It was great as I had room and board which was like a holiday compared to what is offered today.**

**I got married to a farmer , Chester Czajkowski, who happened to be a patient at the time. We decided to leave Elk Point and moved first to Lloydminster, then to Edmonton where we still live today. We have two children – David and Dianne and five grandchildren. David is employed with Isotechnika Inc., while Dianne is married and living in Vernon. I worked for Canada Safeway and stayed for twenty five years. Now I do volunteer work through the church and at the school the granddaughters attend.**

**Looking forward to seeing you in June and am so happy some of you started the reunion get together – thank you!**



**Mary (Melnyk) McIntosh**

**Worked 1949 to 1956 in the wards and in the OR.**

**I was born on January 16, 1929 in the Landonville District. Took my schooling in Northern Star and King George Schools. In 1949 I started working at the Elk point Municipal Hospital as a ward aide and later worked in the operating room. In 1950 I was off work for six months due to illness. In 1954 (January) I entered the Alberta School of certified Nursing Aides in Calgary. Following Graduation in October, I returned to the Elk Point Municipal Hospital and was re-assigned to the operating room. In 1956, I accepted a position in the Olds Municipal Hospital.**

**I married John McIntosh in 1959 and we have two children – Patricia and Michael and one granddaughter, Maria.**

**We moved to Edmonton in 1964.**



**Mae (Carey) Suvak**

**Worked in Lab and X-ray, commencing April 1956.**



**Alice (Cherniwchan) Zacharuk**

**Nursed during the 1990'.**



**Donnie Tafts (aka Eagle)**

**Worked in nursing from 1980-1982. Has two grown children – a daughter and a son. Has worked in public health for twenty years and recently made a move to FCSS and started the Parent Link Centre in Lacombe.**





## **Jean Petrowsky**

In July 1943 I turned 19 and began thinking of getting a job. One day my dad was going to Elk Point and asked me to go too. While in town, I met a couple of girls from the hospital. They convinced me to go to the hospital to meet the matron, Miss Foreman. She hired me and I started four days later.

I began working at the Elk Point Hospital as a Nurse's Aid on the floor. I worked with Dr. F. G. Miller, Dr. Anne Weigerinck, a few RN Nurses and Nurse's Aids. My job training was very hands on and a valuable experience. My position involved caring for patients, making beds, giving enemas, cleaning bed pans, needles, creating mustard packs, taking temperatures and dispensing medicine. I found my position to be very rewarding, but my mother often stated that my uniforms sure smelled of hospital.

In August 1945 I resigned my position as a Nurse's Aid because I was marrying Carl Zarowny. We settled in the Elk Point area. In our 62 years of marriage, Carl and I were fortunate to have three sons (Don, Jerry, and Ken) and one daughter (Susan), five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.



**Laurie Keichinger**

**Worked in Housekeeping/Laundry from 1988 to 1995.**

**I am currently living in Lamont but working at Humpty's Restaurant in Fort Saskatchewan. My boyfriend, Ken, is a contract welder and his son, Roy, is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year welder at NAIT. My daughter, Patricia and her husband, Adam, were married in 2003 and were blessed with Eva Monique in 2005. Patricia is employed with the Edmonton Police and Adam with the RCMP. Roberta completed her Level III Child care at Vermilion and is employed at a Day Care in NE Edmonton. Chad completed two years Hospitality Management at Red Deer College and is working at the Red Deer Lodge. He married Kathryn on 07/07/07 and they reside in Red Deer.**



**Ethyl (Bezpalko) Tacey**

**Worked in the wards nursing from November 1964 to February 1966. Then worked at Fort Saskatchewan, then on to the Charles Camsell in Edmonton until November 1969.**

**On November 29, 1969, married Glen Tacey. We lived in Calgary until 1976, then moved to Strathmore.**

**We have two daughters, one son-in-law, and two grandsons – all living in Calgary.**



**Twila (Thiessen) Toews**

**I had the privilege to work in the Elk Point Hospital from 1982-1985. I worked in the Housekeeping Department. I married Kevin Toews . He owns Kevin's Computing in Lloydminster. We have two children. Tyrel, our son, is a welder. Our daughter, Shanalea, has a bookkeeping job and a housecleaning job. We presently live on an acreage in the Dewberry area.**

**Sylvia (Zanutig) Simpson**

**In December 1969, I was looking for a employment as an RN and I found an advertisement in the Canadian Nurse for Elk Point Hospital. I phoned for an interview with Erna Holliday, the matron at the time. She hired me right away and I moved into the Nurses Residence. My "Biff" mate was Miss Leon Hartsburger, a wonderful nurse from Austria. The two years I stayed at Elk Point, Miss Leon was a wonderful mentor. She taught me a lot about Labour and Delivery as she was a Midwife and knew everything there was to know about Moms and newborns.**

**In August 1971, Dennis Simpson and myself were married at St.Paul, we actually eloped. I still have my suspicion Peggy Maas knew about what we were up to because she lived right across from the Nurses Residence and she didn't miss a thing! Dennis and I moved to Nokomis, SK in 1973 to take over the family farm. We are still farming. I am retired for four and a half years now. I worked at the Nokomis Health Centre for twenty eight years. I also did Home Care for seven years.**

**We have four children. Our oldest son sells products for Viterra in Humboldt. Our daughter, Nichole, is married and has a two and a half year old. She and Jason are expecting their second child in June 2008. She is manager of Policies and Standards for the Saskatchewan Department of Highways. She is a Civil Engineer. Andrew is an Iron Worker and lives in Sherwood Park. He and his wife, Tara, have a nineteen monther. Our youngest son, David, joined Her Majesty's Royal Canadian Navy in 2002. He has been all over Europe and the Mediterranean. He was in St. Louisat the time of Hurricane Katrina. He was married December 2006 and he and his wife are expecting their first in May 2008.**

**Can't wait to see you again!**



**AUDREY WILLMER**

**ELK POINT MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL**

I began general duty nursing at the old Elk Point Municipal Hospital in October 1964. Officially the hospital was rated at 52 active care beds but those numbers swelled on occasion because of beds in the hallways. There was a busy maternity department, large pediatric department and major surgery was performed on a daily basis. Four doctors served the hospital: Dr. F.G. Miller, Dr. A.G. Ross, Dr. Ann Wiegerinck and Dr. K.C. Miller. From records I have kept, I was paid the "princely" sum of \$2.10 per hour and that had increased to \$2.40 per hour by May of 1966.

There was a great sense of family among the staff and although we were always very busy, it was truly a labor of love and pride in providing complete nursing care to patients. In December 1966, I was appointed Acting Director of Nursing for a 10-month period. A return to general duty nursing continued until June of 1968.

I then accepted a position as clinic nurse from March 1969 to June 1974. Marg Saranchuk taught me the intricacies of lab work and Mary Derewynka was the ever-proficient receptionist and office manager. Here, the doctors pierced ear lobes with a large needle and because of the lack of a dentist in town, we also had (and used) some very old dental extraction instruments. The advice to the patient was "Sit in this chair, hold on tight to the chair legs and open wide!"

In May of 1975, I was successful in an application for the position of Director of Nursing at the hospital and this position I held until September 1984. During this period, the new hospital was constructed and Diana Anderson accepted the position of In-service Director.

After the sale of the farm in 1989 and a move to Bonnyville, I seized the opportunity to master computer accounting in my son's (Kim) office. My working career culminated in retirement in 1997.

In 1998, we moved to Red Deer to be close to our 2 grandsons. They have now moved to Calgary but we remain in Red Deer. We have adopted the condo lifestyle and I have taken an active part in serving on the board of directors. To fill in those "spare" moments, I do volunteer work for the senior's association and the hospital.

**Elsie (Juba) Halldorson**

**I graduated in 1954 and my first job was in Elk Point Hospital. I worked there for almost a year. I then worked at the Charles Camsell Hospital**

**I got married. My husband and I moved to High Prairie.**

**I was glad to have my experience at the hospital. I worked in the OR in Elk Point and it was a wonderful experience. I remember Dr. Ross, Dr. Weigerinck, and Dr. Miller. I often wish that close relationship still prevailed but times do change. We still get excellent care!**



LINDA FITZ  
2211 HWY 97 S QUESNEL, B.C.  
V2J 6K4  
250 727 0937  
EMAIL [lindaleebb@shaw.ca](mailto:lindaleebb@shaw.ca)

WORKED IN NURSING AS L.P.N  
I LEFT ELK POINT IN JUNE OF 1986 AND HEINZ FOLLOWED 11/2 YEARS  
LATER AFTER SELLING HIS BUSINESS IN BONNYVILLE. I LEFT TO GO TO  
B.C. AND START OUT ON A NEW ADVENTURE. LEAVING WAS BITTER  
SWEET AS IT WAS SO HARD TO LEAVE A PLACE AND THE PEOPLE THAT I  
TRULY FELT SO AT HOME AND COMFORTABLE WITH, SURROUNDED BY  
THE GREATEST BUNCH OF CO-WORKERS AND FRIENDS AT THE ELK POINT  
HOSPITAL. THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT MEMORIES, THE BEST!!  
HOWEVER THE EXCITEMENT OF A NEW ADVENTURE WAS VERY  
EXILERATING SO OF WE WENT.

WE FIRST BOUGHT A SMALL MOTEL , THE VIEWPOINT MOTEL JUST  
OUTSIDE SALMON ARM, B.C. ON THE SHUSWAP LAKE. I OPERATED THE  
MOTEL MYSELF UNTIL HEINZ WAS ABLE TO JOIN ME. AT THE SAME TIME I  
HAD A FULL TIME JOB WORKING AT A REST HOME, THE HIGHSTREET  
RESTHOME.

I HAD A FEW VISITORS FROM ELK POINT AT THIS TIME. LILLIAN  
DEMCHUK AND HUBBY ALSO LORNA RICK AND FAMILY STOPPED IN FOR  
MUCH APPRECIATED VISITS.

HEINZ AND I MADE A HOME MOVIE OF THE FAMOUS SALMON RUN AT  
RODERICK HAIG PARK NOT FAR FROM SALMON ARM AND I SENT IT TO  
CAROLYN ONESKO THE ACTIVITY AID AT THE TIME THINKING THE  
EXTENDED CARE PATIENTS WOULD ENJOY IT AND CAROLYN'S RESPONSE  
WAS THAT THEY ENJOYED IT VERY MUCH .

WE SOLD THE MOTEL AND MOVED TO WHITE LAKE – 15 MINUTES FROM  
SALMON ARM AND I GOT A CASUAL JOB AT THE SHUSWAP LAKE  
HOSPITAL WE HAD A VISIT FROM ANN JOHNSON AND HUBBY AT THIS  
TIME, WHAT FUN.

WE SOLD AT WHITE LAKE AND MOVED TO GREENWOOD B.C. WHERE I DID  
HOMECARE THERE AND I REALLY ENJOYED THE JAPANESE PEOPLE I  
CARED FOR. GREEN WOOD WAS AN INTERNMENT CAMP DURING THE  
WAR.

**WE SOLD AT GREENWOOD AND MOVED TO CRESTON WHERE WE BOUGHT A MINI STORAGE BUSINESS WHICH WE UPGRADED AND INCREASED INTO A THRIVING BUSINESS. J.C.'S SELF STORAGE.**

**WE SOLD AT CRESTON AND MOVED BACK TO THE SHUSWAP LAKE AREA ABOUT 30 MINUTES FROM SALMON ARM AND BOUGHT A CAFÉ AND MARINA, THE BLIND BAY CAFÉ AND MARINA. THIS ADVENTURE TURNED OUT TO BE OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE BUT WE WERE UP FOR IT. IT WAS A THRIVING BUSINESS AND WE TOOK IT TO AN EVEN HIGHER LEVEL. VERY VERY BUSY AND WE MADE THE BEST FISH AND CHIPS IN B.C.**

**WE SOLD THERE AND MOVED TO QUESNEL B.C. 1 HOUR FROM PRINCE GEORGE. AND BOUGHT A 12 SUITE APARTMENT BLOCK AND I HAVE STARTED A BED AND BREAKFAST- LINDA LEE'S B&B. IT IS A MUCH SLOWER PACE AND WE ARE ENJOYING IT VERY MUCH. WE ARE ON THE GOLD RUSH TRAIL AND 1 HOUR AWAY FROM THE FAMOUS BARKERVILLE TOURIST ATTRACTION.**

**ALL THROUGH OUR MANY ADVENTURES AND EXPERIENCES I OFTEN REMEMBER MY DAYS AT THE ELK POINT HOSPITAL AND HAVE TO SAY IN ALL SINCERETY AND WITHOUT A DOUBT, THEY ARE STILL MY FONDEST MEMORIES. LINDA FITZ**



**Helen Gulajec (Onyschuk)**

I was born on November 14, 1922 at Spring Creek, 10 miles northeast of Mundare. I went to school at Spring Creek for two years. Then we moved to Landonville in 1932 where I finished my schooling.

I started working at the Elk Point Hospital in June, 1938 and continued working there until 1943. First I started in housekeeping and then moved into the kitchen to help the cook, Della Robinson. When Della got married, Miss Holte, the matron, asked me to take over as head cook. Duties were to cook meals for the patients and staff. Other duties were canning fruit and vegetables, baking bread and making home made ice cream. There were beds for 35 patients and we had a staff of about 15 which included janitor, Dell Bebbie, laundry staff, kitchen staff, nurses and nursing aides. Some people who worked with me during this time were Pearl Bespalko, Irene Buck, Anne Gulayec, and Helen Chubey. The doctors during this time were Dr. Fred Miller and Dr. Ross. When Dr. Ross left for the army, Dr. Wegeriuk took his place.

The staff lived in residence which was at the west end of the hospital. Usually my day started at 6:30 AM and ended at 7:00 PM. We had one day off a week and three weeks holiday each year. The pay for housecleaning and kitchen help was \$20.00 a month and when I became head cook, it increased to \$35.00 a month. We did get free room and board.

In 1943, I left the hospital to get married to Harry Gulajec. We lived on a farm 10 miles north of Derwent for 54 years doing mixed farming. I even sold eggs to the Elk Point Hospital for some years! We had a family of four children: Darlene, Eugene, Christine and Joseph.

When Harry passed away in 1996, I moved to Elk Point. I now reside at Fort George Manor and remain in touch with a few of the people I used to work with. I am still able to make perogies, floor curl, play cards and go to bingos.



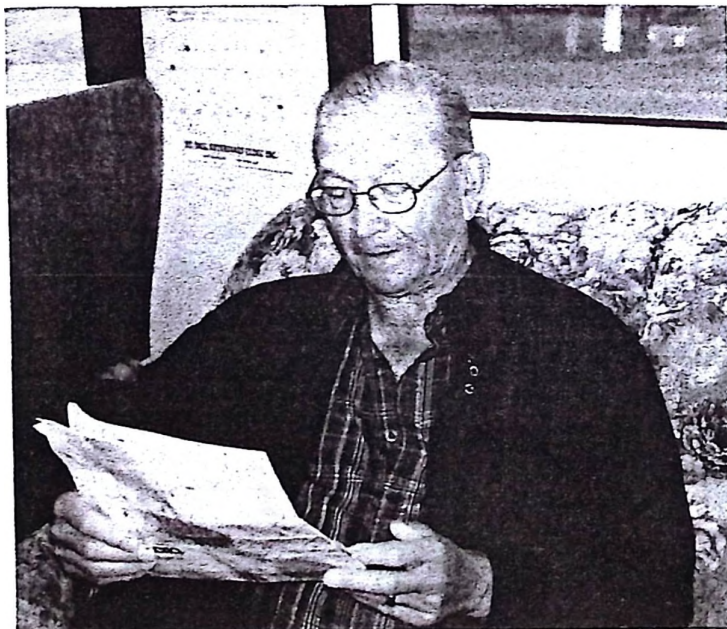


## Administrator – Walter Saranchuk

I started work at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital in 1954 and retired in 1983. The first few years I did all the accounting, pay roll, etc. In 1959 I was accepted by the Canadian Hospital Association to take a two year course in Hospital Organization and Management. This was a two ten month course with one month at the University of Toronto and, the last year, one month at the University of Manitoba. After receiving my Certificate in Hospital Administration, my duties as Administrator were:

- to direct and coordinate all of the activities of the hospital in order that it may carry out its objectives as to the care of the sick and injured
- to carry out the programs within policies and by general direction of the governing Board
- to coordinate the activities of the medical staff with those of other departments
- to perform related administrative duties to ensure efficient operation of the hospital.

In 1983, my wife, Phyllis, passed away after a lengthy illness and, in 1984, I married Marg Jacobson. We still live in Lindbergh. I spend most of my time in my woodworking shop and yard. I enjoy my family, grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Retirement has been good.



**Marg (Jacobson) Saranchuk**

**My career as a Combined lab and X-ray Technician began in 1959 after finishing my training at the Lab and X-ray School in the Alberta Jasper Building.**

**In April 1959, my first posting was Spirit River Holy Cross Hospital where I worked for one year by myself in both departments. We were required to work for one year with visits from the Administrator and teachers from the Lab and X-ray School before we received our certificate. This job was a real experience as it was a Sisters Hospital and run with the strictest of rules. I always remember we were not allowed to walk down the middle of the corridors, we stayed close to the wall as we were told we did not own the hallways. One Lab test I remember was a pregnancy test using frogs. Special frogs were ordered from eastern Canada and kept frozen in the freezer. When a pregnancy test was ordered, the frog was taken out to thaw. A urine specimen was collected from the woman concerned and mixed with a reagent. This was injected into the frog, who was left sitting for half an hour, then squeezed until he urinated on a glass slide. This was then examined under the microscope and, if little cigar shaped organisms were seen, the test was positive. If the test was positive the frog was released outside and, if the test was negative, he was refrozen and used again. We have come a long way since this test.**

**My next job was at Mayerthorpe Municipal Hospital in 1960, where I stayed for four years. This was a very busy hospital as it was the only hospital on Highway 43 between Grande Prairie and Edmonton at that time. We had a lot of industrial accidents from Fox Creek and Whitecourt. One incident I will never forget is the x-ray I took of a young man who injured his back in a car accident. The x-rays did not turn out, all I got was shadows. Finally, discovering the x-ray tube had burned out, I phoned a repair man in Edmonton but had to wait until the following day. The next morning, the doctor ordered the x-rays with the comment "for shadowy pictures I will choose a more shapely form". My years in this hospital were good – we went from a tiny little room for a Lab for a Lab we shared with CSR to a large Lab which was set up in the basement.**

**From Mayerthorpe, I went to Stettler, my first hospital where I worked with another Tech (Nick). He was not trained – just what he learned in the army. I did mostly Lab and he did X-ray. This was a real experience as the x-ray files were kept in his room which was in the basement of the hospital. When I had to do x-rays, I was always leary about going to his room to get the files.**

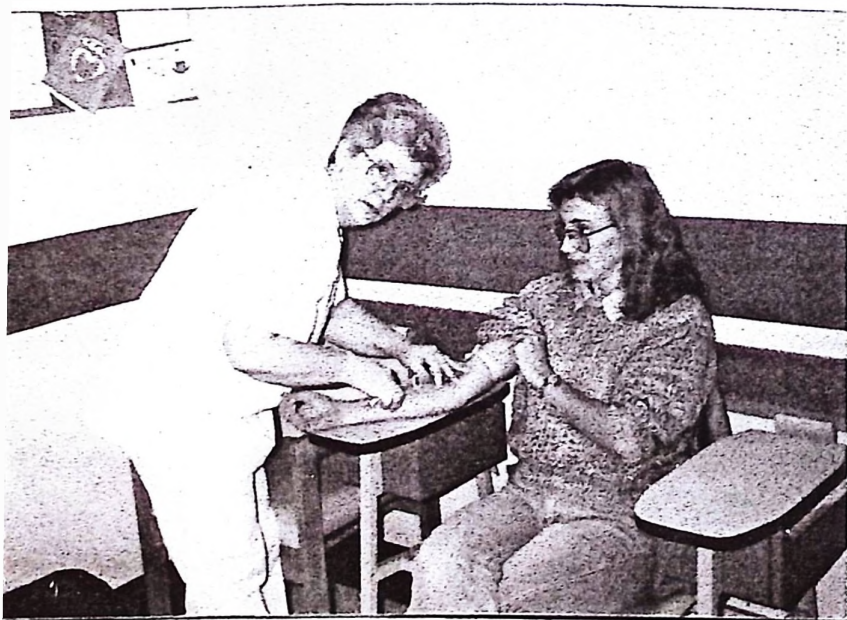
**After leaving Stettler, I returned home to Elk Point with my new daughter, Crystal, in 1964. I started work in November of that year in the old EPMH working with Donna Fedorus. We were kept very busy with four doctors – Ross, Weigerinck, F.G. Miller and K.C. Miller – and a fifty-four bed facility. Our Lab work was done locally – eg. wbc's, rbc's, hgb's, platelets, urines, and some chemistrys – each done individually. X-ray consisted of Barium Series and enemas, IVP's, G.B. Series and**

**all other x-rays. We worked hard and had time for enjoying our co-workers. It was like a big happy family.**

**In 1969, I was offered a position at the Elk Point Clinic as Lab and X-ray Tech. which I took as my daughter was almost ready for school and this position enabled me to be at home in the mornings to get her off to school. The hours were better and there was no being on call. I worked here in the old clinic until 1977 or 78 when we moved to the back of the present Drug Store and, a few years later, the old building was demolished. I worked here until 1980, when Dr. Miller closed his clinic, and some of us returned to work at the present hospital. Here I stayed for thirteen years – the rest of my career. In the 1980's things began to change – the age of automated equipment which made doing all our tests much easier. Then came the computers and the automatic x-ray processor – which eliminated our old method of manual developing. Some changes were good and some were not.**

**In 1984, after being single for forty-six years, I married Walter saranchuk and moved from Elk Point to Lindbergh. I continued working until 1993 when all the changes and being on call were not things I enjoyed any more, so I decided to retire. At the age of fifty-five, I called it quits after thirty-five years as a Technician. My last thirteen years working in Elk Point were with two of the most important people in my life – Agnes Morozuik, Our supervisor, and Val Poitras. The three of us were known as the Lab Chicks. We worked well together, to the point where one could take over a job and knew exactly what the other one had done. We became very close, still are and always will be.**

**My retired life has been very good. Walter and I have done some travelling, camping and fishing but we are now content to stay close to home and enjoy our families and our precious five great grandchildren. Life is good.....**



**Barbara (Holliday) Bonnah**

**Born: Vermilion, AB**

**Moved to a farm east of Elk Point – age 5**

**Went to Muriel School ...grades 2 to 8**

**Grade 1 in Scapa, AB with Aunt**

**Elk Point High School Gr. 9, 10, 11**

**Went to school for Nursing Aides November 1951 to August 1952**

**Worked at Elk Point Municipal Hospital September 1952 – November 1954**

**Married Tommy Bonnah February 1955**

**Children: Terrill – 1955, Thomas – 1957, Lynette – 1958, Keith – 1960,  
Dawn – 1962, William – 1963, Robert – 1965, Christopher – 1970  
(deceased)**

**Worked night (11 to 7) at the Misericordia ...1959-60. Was there until March 1999.**

**Was Chapter President at AARNA for eight years. Served on various committees.**

**Was rep for RNA's at Glenrose with Occupational Health and Safety for eight years. Had workshops for catheterization and other s for Glenrose RNA's with the help of provincial staff from AARNA. In 1989 I received the Bill Gray Membership Recognition Award for the RNA of Alberta.**

**Have been very active in the Ebenezer Church for over thirty years. Mostly with the choir and served on various church committees.**

**I have twenty grandchildren, six step grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.**

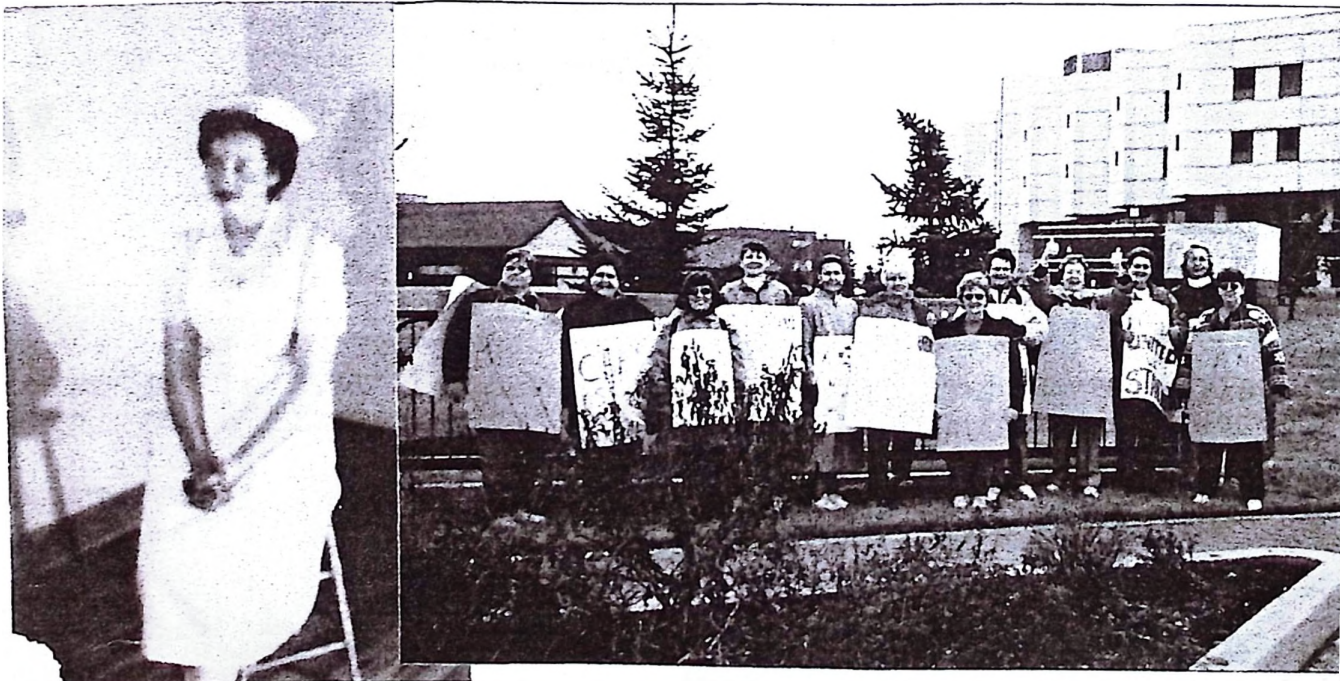
**I was widowed in March 2002 after forty seven years of marriage.**

**I live in my own home and enjoy flower and vegetable gardening during the summer.**

**I enjoy social events at the church – whist parties, suppers, and other events put on by the UCW and Sunday School.**

**I go out with a group of Glenrose Nursing Staff once a month and twice a year with a larger group of eighteen to twenty people of the nursing and Office staff.**

**My pride and joy are my family and I am blessed to have wonderful friends.**



**Edna (Lesyk) Fradsham**

**Started work in 1952 at hospital laundry, then kitchen. 1955 – Calgary School of Nursing Assistant. Graduated in 1956. Worked in Elk Point for one and a half years.**

**Moved to Bonnyville for about three and a half years. In 1961, went to Dryden, Ontario to work at hospital.**

**Lived in Ontario for forty-two years. Have two daughters and two grandsons in Calgary.**

**After retirement, moved to Okotoks in 2001.**



**Anne (Adams) Lillies**

**I came to Alberta from Nova Scotia in November 1966. I worked at the Elk point Hospital until 1968. I met Garry there and we married in April 1968 and were transferred to Mayerthorpe, Alberta. We will be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April. We moved to Red Deer, then to Airdrie and retired to Vernon in 1991.**

**We have two daughters, both living in BC at the coast.**

**I retired from Nursing in 2004 and we are both enjoying a healthy, happy retirement here. I am sorry we are unable to attend the festivities but that week-end has been booked and cannot be changed. Have a wonderful reunion!**



**Chris (Appleton) McFadyen**

**Worked in Dietary from 1973 to 1986.**



**Violet E. (Barnett) McFadyen**

**I began working at the Elk Point Hospital in 1969. It was very fortunate for me to have the opportunity to receive a three work training course from Mrs. Marion Tredger prior to commencing full time employment.**

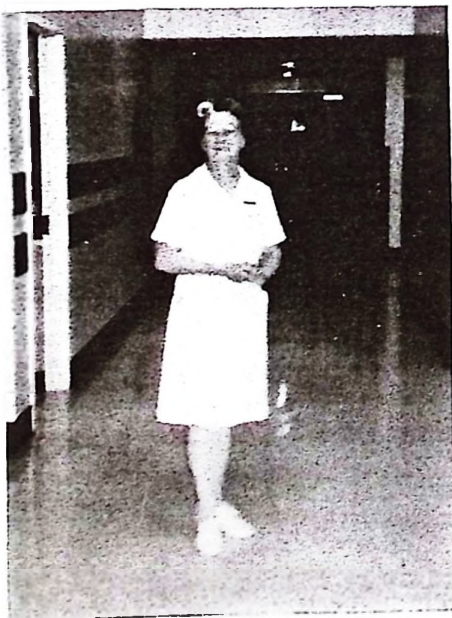
**Working at the hospital was a great experience for me. I very much enjoyed working with the patients. I was able to work in all areas of the hospital but my favourite areas were maternity and especially emergency.**

**I enjoyed working with my colleagues. We worked hard and had lots of happy and good times.**

**It was with great reluctance and sadness that I was obligated to retire at age 65. Without a doubt, my years at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital were the happiest and most rewarding years of my life.**

**Since retiring, I have continued to live in my own home close to the hospital. Over the years, I have enjoyed much volunteer work in the community along with crocheting, quilting, and other hobbies at home. I have done some travelling to eastern Canada, the States, B.C., the Territories, and to the Yukon.**

**My family has always been important to me and we have enjoyed many happy family times. Barrie and Chris have lived on the farm south of Elk Point. Barrie drove school bus for thirty years and Chris worked at the Elk Point Hospital for many years. Malcolm and Marge live at Bonnyville where they also farm. Myrna and Bill live in Elk Point but Bill works on his farm and with his contracting business and Myrna works with Portage College. I have seven grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, and one great grand child. Our family was very devastated in August 2007 when we lost Barrie, my youngest son. However, as is so often said, life must go on and the beautiful and cherished memories I have of my life at the hospital, of the patients I was privileged to work with, and of my hospital colleagues will always be a source of strength and encouragement for me.**



Barrie Chris Bill Violet Myrna Malcolm Marge

**Myrna (McFadyen) Fox**

I graduated from grade twelve in 1958 and, like several of my classmates, I was able to get a summer job at the hospital. This was very fortunate for me as, although the wages were only \$125.00 per month, I was able to earn enough money to get me to the University of Alberta which allowed me to become a teacher – a career that has lasted almost a life time for me. More importantly, though, I learned so much while working at the hospital. Working with talented, skilled and caring people, such as Mrs. Isabel Pinder, Mrs. Buzzie Pelechovsky, Mrs. Corlea Zazalak, Mrs. Pearl Bepalko, Mrs. Helga Cousineau, our four pioneer doctors, and numerous others, I was able to learn so much about hospital routines and caring for the ill. I particularly enjoyed working in the Pediatric wards with the little children. I also learned a bit about “life in the real world” and I learned that I was not really anxious to stay in the health care field – I wanted to be a teacher!

The hospital administrator at the time was Mr. Walter Saranchuk, the matron was Miss Reid, and the receptionist was Mrs. Leatha Ramsbottom.

We worked eight hour shifts and had two days per week off. The work was a whole new and valuable learning experience for me and, while we worked hard, we had fun. There was never a dull moment and especially when we were able to work with people like Helga, Janet, Elaine, and Albert – lots of laughs!





ELNA EIDSVIK

In 1955, I started my nursing career as District Nurse in Tulliby Lake, then got married in 1957 and settled into farming and raising our family.

In 1975 I took a nursing refresher course and for the next 14 years worked part-time in the Elk Point Hospital as well as some casual work in Lloydminster Hospital and with Vermilion Homecare.

In 1987 I took 2 leaves of absence and went to Mexico with Mercy Ships medical mission. Then in 1988 & 1989 I again took leaves in order to work in health centres in the Northwest Territories. I resigned from the hospital in December of 1989, to become a 'paid tourist', doing locum relief all across the Yukon, NWT and Nunavut; a job I'm still enjoying to this day. Last year, I also went to Nicaragua with a dental team.

Shouldn't we say that nursing is just the best profession ever?



Unloading medical supplies from ship to take to the downtown hospital

Inuvik airport - Feb. 1988 - flying out to my first posting.



**Rose (Danyluk) Woloshuk**

**I was born in 1931 and lived around Elk Point until 1955 when I got married. I had worked at the Elk Point Hospital maybe a total of three years on and off. I started as a ward aide, then went for my training as a nurse's aid. Came back to Elk Point. Left in 1955 to work in Bonnyville. Got married in 1955, moved to Huston, BC. Worked for two months in Smithers hospital and then retired and started raising a family. I have three sons and one daughter – Ray, Dennis, Gordon, and Susan. My husband, Tony, the family, and I moved to prince Rupert where he went fishing. Lived there for five years and moved to Surrey. Still here. Sending you these pictures and, as age will have it, I can't remember who they are – I am the one with short hair.**



**Jeannet (Boratynec) Sadownyk**

**Worked in nursing in 1959.**

**I grew up on a farm at Lake Eliza and am the fourth child of seven siblings. Attended Lake Eliza School until the seventh grade, then attended High School in Elk Point. As my secondary education, I chose nursing. I am a Licensed Practical Nurse and have worked at St, Joseph's General Hospital, Vegreville, since 1960 and am still working.**

**Married to Ed Sadownyk and have two children – Karen and Kent. Karen is married to Randy McDonald and they live in Calgary. They have three daughters – Heather, Meghan, and Jillian. Kent is married to Shelley Singer and they have two sons – Cole and Lucas – and reside in St. Albert.**



**Angie McLeod**

**Worked as Ward Aide from 1961 – 1965(66).  
Now retired.**

**Marie Ann (Hlushak) Ewasiuk**

**Worked from September 1969 to April 1970.**

**Fondest memories:**

- 1. The times we spent at Peggy's house – you took me in as though I were family.**
- 2. Working with al the staff at the hospital – we had a good group.**
- 3. Though maybe not the fondest but interesting none the less – taking care of all the little native kids.**

**I moved to Edmonton after leaving Elk point Hospital. Worked at the Royal Alex Hospital as an OR Tech. for a couple of years and then on a Medical teaching Unit.**

**In 1972 I married Lawrence Ewasiuk. Moved to Calgary in January 1980 due to a job transfer for Lawrence. Worked casual relief (night shift) at the Calgary General Hospital. Returned to Edmonton after fourteen years, again due to a job transfer. No longer working but keeping busy as a homemaker. Have no family – just a sweet little dog.**



Dopheide 27 , 7873CC Odoorn ,  
The Netherlands . 11-3-2008

Being a nurse at Elk Point Municipal Hospital was such an amazing and friendly experience.

I'd trained in strict Scottish hospitals and after a short time of being fully trained read a tiny advertisement in "The Scotsman" a national newspaper , asking for nurses to work in Elk Point .... so took the ship to Montreal and then hop , hop to Alberta with every Province becoming colder and colder !

My story is ... One morning when looking after a little Cree Indian baby born the previous day .. I was shocked to see a dull blue patch on the baby's buttocks .. and as I had quite a firm grasp I thought "Oh dear , what have I now done ? "

I was really feeling a bit scared and told Dr. Weigerinck about "this bruising " .. and then of course her answer was that it was the Mongolian spot .... I was so ignorant and had much to learn ....

Later at an Esperanto congress in Copenhagen met Henk van Dalen and after some time came over to Amsterdam .Last year we celebrated our 40 th wedding anniversary .

In Amsterdam I continued nursing in the various city hospitals , and for quite a few years was a tutor always combining this with ward work and helping new generations of students always of course with "my interesting "accent ...

... and now for many years am living in this attractive little village in the Northern part of the country .

I wish you all a happy reunion ,.... Sending friendly greetings , Margot van Dalen .



**Frances (Tomkow) Moneta**

**In the sixties it seemed that all the farmer's wives went out looking for jobs to help with the financial situation at home. I was no exception. One day, as I was grocery shopping, I ran into a neighbour who stopped to chat. Through this conversation, I learned that the hospital was looking for help. He told me they were looking for people to work in the nursing department on a train on the job basis. Seriously considering the possibility for a few days, I decided to put in my application and to give it a try. A short time later I received a notification to come to work for a three month trial period. I started work in June 1968. From the beginning it was tough, with new things and routines to learn, but, with a lot of encouragement and help from experienced and administrative staff, extra courses, seminars, and day lectures, I managed to hang around for twenty years in acute and extended care full time, and extended care for another two years part time. I retired in September 1995 and, during my working years, I have learned a lot, enjoyed working with my co-workers, and would like to express my gratitude to all the people who helped me so much, and to those who had enough faith in me to give me that chance. I have come away from my job feeling good about my accomplishments and hopefully I was instrumental in bringing comfort and cheer into someone's life during their stay in the hospital. I have also learned that perseverance, co-operation, dedication, tolerance, and respect all factor into the work place.**

**My husband and I still live on the farm south of Elk Point and we will be celebrating out fifty-second anniversary on June 21, 2008. We have four wonderful children, in-law children, and our seven grandchildren.**

**It would be wonderful to meet some of the personnel I have worked with and others I have never set eyes on. Best wishes to all!**



**Iryne (Kozak) Buck**

**I had my education in the Middle Creek School after which I applied and was accepted to the Elk Point Municipal Hospital. I worked there for five years. Miss Holter was the Matron.**

**Married Mike Buck, lived in Heinsburg, then Lindberg. Now I am retired and live at Fort George Manor in Elk Point.**



**Mary (FERENCE) Lychak**

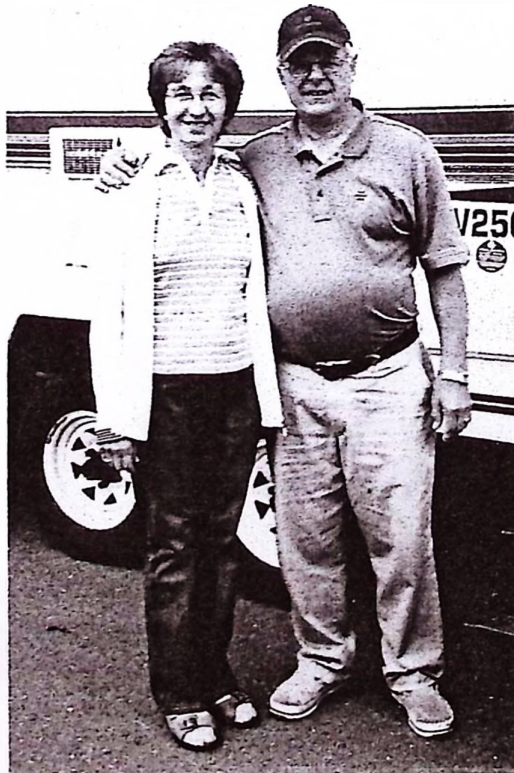
**Graduated from Elk Point High School in 1962.**

**Graduated from the Misericordia School of Nursing in 1965.**

**Nursed in Red Deer, Elk Point, and Myrnam.**

**Have not nursed since our last son was born in 1980.**

**Married Henry Lychak in 1966. We have a beautiful family of four sons (all born in the Elk Point Hospital), their spouses, and six adorable grandchildren. All our sons attended post secondary school in various careers. We lived on a farm north of Derwent until 2001 at which time we built a home in Vermilion. Henry and I have downsized in farming, allowing more time to enjoy and help our family, friends, Church activities, ice curling, fishing, golfing, travelling, and volunteering. We count our blessings.**



## ELK POINT HOSPITAL RE-UNION- JUNE 21, 2008

I was born in the Elk Point Municipal Hospital, but I grew up in the Onion Lake Area

I took my Certified Nursing Aide (Now LPN) training in 1954 at the School for Nursing Aides in Calgary, Alberta. I graduated in October 1954.

I started work at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital in the middle of December 1954 and I worked there until the end of February 1961 with two short maternity leaves in between in early 1958 and late 1959 and early 1960..

I worked on men's, ladies, pediatrics and maternity. In 1955 and 1966 I worked in CSR, Surgery and the Labour room.

I married Mike Derewynka on November 2, 1956. He passed away on April 3, 1989. I now have eight (8) grandchildren

On March 01, 1961 I started work for the doctors in the Elk Point Clinic, where I worked until it closed at the end of January 1981,

I came back to work in admitting at the Elk Point Hospital in the middle of December 1989 and am still there today.

Mary (Coates) Derewynka





## **Sue Slaght Biography**

**Sue graduated from nursing at Kelsey Institute in Saskatoon in 1981. Her first years as an RN were spent at the Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon on an oncology unit. After marrying Dave in 1983, an engineering job with Westmin Resources brought the pair to Elk Point. Sue worked at the hospital from 1984-1988. During that time both of their children, Jordan and Robyn, were born at the hospital. The oil patch called Dave to Calgary in 1988. For the following 14 years Sue worked in family practice. During that time she became involved in a primary health care project. That project began a 10 year journey in nursing telepractice with the last 5 years as a team leader at Calgary Health Link. Sue has recently taken a position as a liaison with Calgary Foothills Primary Care Network.**

**Sue has two grown children, one living in Winnipeg and the other in Vancouver. She enjoys rock climbing and working out with Dave, her husband of 25 years.**



## **Helen Trach**

**Years worked at the Elk Point Hospital 1966-1985**

Coming in from the farm, I began working at the Elk Point Hospital in Housekeeping, in 1966. We moved into town in 1967 and I continued to work there until my retirement in 1985.

Through the years I have always enjoyed my garden and flowers, and still continue to do so. I also spent a lot of time with my 3 Grandchildren. In recent years I have also been able to enjoy my 7 Great Grandchildren. They enjoy coming to see me and very much enjoy having them. Besides gardening and my flowers, I also enjoy going to Bingo a couple days a week.

Since retiring I have just taken it easy and enjoy what each day brings.



## Elk Point Hospital Staff Reunion

My family has a long history with the Elk Point hospital. My great grandma, Lillian Edwards worked with Dr. F. G. Miller; my grandma, Margaret McGinnis was a graduate of one of Alberta's first combined lab/xray programs; my mom, Jean McGinnis, worked as a ward aide and LPN.

My first job at the hospital was in dietary, working with Pearl Anderson, Jean Kozicky, Doris Capjack, Pauline Pankiw, in the day when staff went through the kitchen to serve themselves buffet style. I also worked in housekeeping under the direction of Elsie Oryschuk. Out-of-town staff was allowed to rent rooms at the nurses' residence and I know that we kept staff entertained with our comings and goings.

I originally intended to be a medical librarian but the work experience at the hospital prompted me to pursue a nursing career. I completed the Royal Alexandra Hospital training program and graduated in 1979. I worked 2 years at the hospital. I think rural generalist nursing practice should be a specialty when a nurse works all areas - emergency, obstetrics, pediatrics, geriatrics, surgery, etc. I learned from some of the best - Pat Soldan, Jennie Shmyr, Helen Skolarchuk.

In 1981, I went to work as a public health nurse in St. Paul but continued to pick up the odd casual shift at Elk Point until I no longer felt competent. I found my nursing niche in public health. I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in 1995 and continue to work as a public health nurse. I've come full circle, working in Elk Point again.



Mom McGinnis

**Florence Drobot ( TRACH**



**I started work at the hospital in July of 1964 to 1966 . I left to take a hairdressing course in Edmonton, which lasted about 6 months. Then I came back to work at hospital until May of 1969. I got married in June of 1969. Then we were blessed with 3 children. 2 boys and a girl. Once our children were in school I finished my hairdressing in St. Paul. I received my certificate in 1978. Did a bit of hairdressing then worked at different restaurants, custodian at the school, and worked at the lodge as a cook and housekeeping. Now I'am hairdressing at the lodge. And now we're blessed with 7 grand children. 4 boys and 3 girls. We are very fortunate to have them all very close home.**

**It will be GREAT to see all the staff of the old hospital once again.**

**Hope everyone will enjoy this occasion as it is a lot of work for the organizers to do it for us all. I'll bet they are having a lot of fun in the process.**

***Thank-you all.***

***Florence Drobot (Trach)***

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## Hi my name is Sandra Gushnowski (Maas)

I believe I started to work at the Elk Point Hospital at the young age of fourteen(1965). My very first job. I was going to make some money. I was hired to work in the diet kitchen on the main floor. My hours of work were from 1600 hours to 1800 hours weekdays and split shift on weekends. I remember running home from school, quickly changing into my starched green uniform (that could stand alone I am sure) and then running across the street to the hospital. My shift started very fast as my first duty was to deliver the breakfast, dinner or supper trays to all the patients. The trays came up to the floor via a lift(I recall four trays at a time). You had to be fast because the food would get cold, not only that but, you would get behind on all your other chores. Once the trays were delivered I would then assist those patients that were unable to feed themselves. I always felt that I wouldn't get all my work done on time. I will never forget the times my mom (Peggy Maas) was on the same shift as I was because she always found time to help me out. She said she didn't need a break. I don't think I ever thanked her for that. Thanks mom. Then it was time to pick all the trays up, clean them off, put them back on the lift and send them down to the kitchen - four trays at a time. The last thing to do was to make sure the diet kitchen was left clean. My other duties included cleaning the doctors lounge and also making them coffee - poor doctors I still can't make good coffee. Then came the most dreaded job of all - sterilizing the urinal bottles. I remember wanting to vomit every time I opened the machine, but I don't think I ever did. That was my first job, and I believe that it formed a solid base on which I stood and still stand today. I am very proud of my strong roots. Thank you to my family, Elk Point Hospital and all the staff who helped me achieve my goals. I have been married to Edd for 37 years, have 2 boys and 3 beautiful grandchildren. Edd and I reside in Innisfree AB



**Tom Holliday**

I worked at Elk Point Municipal Hospital from Dec 1983 - April 1999. I started work under the direction of Ed Soldan who was maintenance supervisor. When Ed retired I became maintenance supervisor. I worked with Rob Walker and Les Holme. During those years the long term care facility was built and the present hospital under went major renovations. I really appreciated the expertise of Rob and Les during that time.

During the time I worked at the Municipal Hospital under an Administrator and the Health Centre as part of a Region, I am convinced that the old system was far superior. Cost wise it was much more efficient. Problems were solved within the facility instead of going out of the area to two or more supervisors.

During my years at the hospital I thoroughly enjoyed working with all the staff. Since my retirement I continue to do relief work in the maintenance department and still enjoy all the staff and the fun times of laughs and jokes.

Thanks to everyone for making my job easier and more enjoyable.

Tom



Erna (Mills) Holliday

I came to Elk Point Municipal Hospital, with Eleanor (Olson) Holliday as graduate, not registered, nurses in February 1956 to May 1957 We returned to Edmonton in April 1956 to write our RN's. Less than a month after we started work all, except Eleanor, myself and one other nurse, went on strike and left for Edmonton on the morning Greyhound. We managed to keep the hospital going until they returned a day or two later. What a fast responsibility orientation we received.

Work and life in Elk Point was something we had never imagined but learned to love. The work was intense but rewarding. Eleanor and I left in May 1957 to get married (a double wedding as we married brothers). Tom and I spent the next 5 years in Calgary and had 3 children. In Sept 1962 we moved back to Elk Point and I went back to work at the hospital. What a busy hospital!!! 52 beds and at times as many as 75 to 80 patients. There were patients in every nook and cranny and sometimes 2 -3 babies in one bed. We did deliveries, all surgeries and emergencies. Patients arrived at all hours of the day and night and the doctors were always on call. It was busy but we managed to have lots of laughs.

I was Director of Nursing from 1966 to 1972 and loved every minute of it. We had a wonderful staff and that included nursing, lab, kitchen, housekeeping, maintenance and administration. Everyone worked as one big family and it was a great atmosphere for the staff, the patients and the doctors.

I left nursing in 1972 to work for Dr. Charles Anderson in his medical clinic. but went back nursing in 1976 to OR and emergency at St. Theresa Hospital in St. Paul and then back to work for Dr. Anderson. During the rest of my working career I worked in a dental office. Constituency assistant for Deborah Grey, MP, and an orthodontists office. I officially retired in 1999 but continued to do part time work at the ortho office and then at Kuhn's Antique store to the present time.

We have been blessed with 3 great kids and 6 grandchildren with twins expected in June 2008.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful people I worked with during my days at the Elk Point Hospital. You made my job so much easier and you will never know how much I did and do appreciate all of you. God bless you.

HAVE A GREAT TIME AT THE REUNION.

Erna

**My name is Lily Stover nee Dallaire.  
After I left Elk Point in March of 1961 I came back to Mallaig  
and married Sylvester Stover in June of that year.**

**We operated a dairy farm for a number of years and then  
we went into beef cattle.**

**We were blessed with the birth of a daughter in 1962 named  
Gwendolyn. In 1965 a son named Laverne joined our family.  
Lorne Michael came along two years later.**

**Needless to say I was a busy mom, With gardening  
helping with chores and the many tasks that come along with  
living on the farm.**

**After a few years later we became foster parents and  
several children came through the doors of our home.**

**Because of this we got to adopt two children a son named  
Jason and later a little girl named Geri.**

**I did janitor work at the school here in Mallaig for two  
years. Later I babysat two little girls for our neighbors so  
children have always been a big part of my life.**

**We now have eight grandchildren scattered across the  
globe.**

**We have done some travelling to various places in the US,  
England, France, Germany, Holland, and Belgium.**

**This past fall we got to visit our Nations Capital for the  
first time visiting family and touring.**

**I have been active in the community, the Baptist church  
here in Mallaig.**

**Since we retired we have joined the seniors club and do  
floor curling. Both my husband and I try to stay physically  
active.**

**We will be looking forward to meeting many of you at the  
Reunion in June.**





**Helen (Maksymec) Borutski**

**Helen and her sister Mary Olinek worked as Kitchen cooks from 1943 to 1950.**



**Laura Osborne**

**I was 16 years old when I started working at Elk Point Hospital. I worked in Housekeeping from 1982-1986. Working at the hospital inspired me to complete my high school education which I did through correspondence/upgrading. In 1986 I attended N.A.I.T. for Medical X-ray Technology. In 1988 I started working at Red Deer Hosp. In 2000 I went back to school for M.R.I. I continue to work at RDRH in the M.R.I. department .I am married to Daryl Osborne. He works in the N.W.T. in a diamond mine.We have 2 boys. They are 11 and 8 years old and keep our lives busy playing ice and inline hockey.**

**Loretta A. (Lundgren-A. Paquette)**

I was born in the old Elk Point Hospital as the third daughter of Ralph and Sarah Lundgren. I attended Elk Point School and later married Bill Paquette, a widower with four children I 1966. The following year, we added to the number with one of our own.

I attended school in Edmonton from 1976 to 1977, graduating as a CAN. As the years passed, our titles changed from CAN (Certified Nursing Attendant) to RNA (Registered Nursing Attendant) and then to LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse).

I have worked full time for most of my career. I am very proud that now I can give medication and I took further training to be able to administer both subcutaneous and intramuscular injections. Throughout my thirty years of employment, there have been many changes in the hospital as well as in our personal lives.

My husband, Bill, passed away in 1999 and I married Gordon Stich in April 2006. We currently reside in Elk Point, Alberta.



**Debbie (Dennill) Hansen**

I have worked as RN at the Elk Point Health Care Centre since the fall of 1976. I started just after the present hospital opened. Over the years, I have seen many changes – some good and some not so good. But whatever they may be, I still enjoy working as an RN. After twenty years of straight nights, I now work straight days. With the nursing shortage we are now experiencing, I have worked full time for the last year and a half.

Gary and I still live in Dewberry and will be celebrating our 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary this summer. Our eldest Aaron is twenty seven and works in Edmonton. He works in marketing at Wild TV. Jennifer is twenty five and lives and works in Cold Lake. She works at Community Options – job coaching challenged adults.

I am really looking forward to the reunion in June and seeing everyone.



## My Memories of My Years at the Elk Point Hospital

I worked at the hospital for 27 years from 1957 and retiring in 1984.

During those early years I saw many of the people employed who were here from a distance and many from other countries. There were rooms to accommodate about 20 staff members.

I, like many, didn't know how to drive a car and certainly didn't have good roads for travelling like we enjoy today. I always went home on my days off, but others stayed in residence full time. Needless to say many were lonesome. We would gather together after work to visit in the girls' parlour.

I think everyone who is employed for some time in one place develops a close bond with their co-workers. Those of us who lived in residence bonded even more regardless of our status.

When someone suggested we organize some special events, we all got involved. I remembered one Christmas especially, we decided to have a concert. Many hidden talents were revealed, even without much practise. The maintenance men were kind enough to build a little stage at one end of the long hallway downstairs. We set up chairs and brought patients down to enjoy the singing and little comedy skits . It was really heartwarming to see the patients enjoy our efforts.

One year, a two-day curling bonspiel was organized, involving all the staff, doctors and board members. Many were excellent curlers and many others had never thrown a rock participated. It took some planning to include everyone and still have sufficient staff on the job. I must say, many people were so kind and offered to work for others, even when off duty. It was heartwarming and so much fun.

Dr. Ross and his team, who were first time curlers took first prize ! They had to keep playing and were very tired with aching muscles. Dr. Ross never let the other doctors forget his success. We always remembered how he would get his team in a "huddle" before each games as if they were playing football. It seemed to work. They won !

One summer night about eleven o'clock a violent electrical storm hit Elk Point with high winds and torrential rains and knocked out the power. When the maintenance man was summoned every one of us in residence was called upon to come and bail

and mop up water that was flooding the basement.

The man-hole at the bottom of the dorm stairs entrance was plugged with leaves and debris and dirt. The water poured in down the steps and under the door and into the basement. The downstairs area housed the laundry room, boiler room, kitchen, dining rooms and nurses' residence etc.

We were advised to bring candles to light our way and to wear rubber boots. The water was least 5 or 6 inches deep and kept coming until the man-hole was cleaned.

We all bailed water with dippers, pots and pans, and dust pans and we formed a bucket brigade. We were passing pails of water down the line towards the laundry where a big drain hole was situated and the light from the boilers certainly assisted in the dead of night.

There were about fifteen of us aroused from our sleep to help. We worked right through the rest of the night until it was time to dress in our uniforms and go to regular duty. For some it meant continuing the mopping and cleaning.

When the buckets of filthy water were filled, they were passed on to those who thought they were pouring the water into the floor drain in the laundry. When the lights came on they were horrified to see that some of the water was spilled into a tub of someone's white wash. The nurse who had been washing clothes was interrupted by the power failure and was called upon to help. Needless to say, those grimy clothes were thrown away as they were impossible to get clean again.

Some of us still recall and laugh about this incident. <sup>Many</sup> May times when we get together, we feel grateful that we were close at hand that we were able to give a hand and work together.

These were just a few of the times of working and sharing and offering our time together and we are left with many fond memories and we will never forget our old friends.

by Norma Berg



Norma  
Berg

## Cookie Arnason

I was so happy to hear about the reunion and would so much like to be a part of it however my niece is getting married on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June in Fort St. John BC

Good for you planning such an event. I so enjoyed my time spent in Elk Point. I will never forget the patient who was an exhibitionist and you happened to come upon the scene and gave him a good slap on the ass. The great times spent with Peggy and her wonderful heartfelt laugh. Regards to Norma and Amelia and the list goes on and on.

We moved to St. Albert in 1975. Steve was transferred in with the Commonwealth Games. Once the games were over he commuted to Fort Sask for a couple of years. After 22 years with the RCMP he retired and spent the next 20 or more years with the Justice Dept. We loved it so much here so never left. I began working at the Sturgeon General Hospital in 1975 and retired with a full pension in 2002. The last 18 years I spent in Management overseeing the Surgical Program. Retirement was short lived as agreed to set up a Surgical Program in Slave Lake. I worked three days a week drove from here and stayed with family there. Loved getting back to my old roots however Steve was always worried about the drive so after 18 months after seeing the program succeed it was time to say goodbye. No sooner back into retirement and a good friend called and convinced me to join her at the Health Link. That was four years ago and I am still there. I work casual usually a couple of days a week. Love the job and knowledge base. Seeing I will be officially a senior this fall this will be my last year.

We are blessed with four beautiful grandchildren. We have 6 year old identical twin girls, an 8 year old grandson and an 11 year old granddaughter. The three live here in St. Albert and our oldest granddaughter in Edmonton. We so enjoy spending time with them and they all have been a big part of our lives.

We have done a lot of travel over the past years and now quite content spending some of the winter months out in Vancouver and the Island. Our oldest son Lyle and his wife live there.

My thoughts will be with you all on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Do give my regards to everyone and have a great time. The stories will be priceless.



## ELK POINT HOSPITAL MEMORIES

Kay Rylance

Dorothy (Buzzie) Pelehosky was Nursing Director in 1959 when I joined the staff at Elk Point Municipal Hospital.

My first shift was with Leona Moneta on evenings and remains very vivid for me because we lost a young male to Tuberculosis. Quite common in those days. We had a lot of sick children especially on Rodeo weekends Night shift it was not unusual to have two babies born. As I was the only C.N.A. I usually worked Maternity ward. It was very rewarding especially with all the premies that we had. Sometimes we had as many as five.

Walter Saranchuk was our Administrator, The front Desk was Letha Ramsbottom.

Maintenance men were Barry Keck and Martin Aarbo. Cooks Norma Berg, and Ida Aarbo The Orderly was Albert Hurtubise, Laundry Staff Rose Pankow and Alice Krawchuk. (Ma ) Alma Holliday was Medical Records Librarian.

Leona Moneta, Ann Uchman, Viola Stevens, Alymerette Vance, Amelia Zarowney Coralea Zazulak, Janet McAvoy were the first girls I worked with. Helga Vaughan and Pearl Bospalko were the O.R. aides Coralea took her Medical Records Course and moved to Didsbury. Martin Aarbo retired replaced by Ed Soldan Paul Moneta replaced Barry Keck, Ida Aarbo retired, Norma Berg went to Front Desk Doris Capjack and Elsie Oryschuk came on as cooks.

Lab technicians were Donna Fedorus, Marj. Jacobsen Lillian Persock.

Thanks to permanent evening staff Amelia Zarowney, Frances Moneta and Peggy Adomitis I did not do very many evenings. I preferred night shifts to evenings so when I curled it did not mean trading shifts One winter Helga and I were the fortunate ones to be on the team winning the 2nd event Dr Weigerinck Trophy

We had a lot of different Nurses from out of country, Kathy and Margaret McGuire who married and stayed in the district. Several from Australia and Jamaica. Ann Lillies came from Peggy's Cove she married one of the local R.C.M.P. Local nurses I remember were Isobel Pinder, Ruby Bullis, Diane Anderson Erna Holliday, Marvia and Judy Davis, Loretta Pinder, Mrs Easthope.

Dr F.G. Miller used to walk to Ferences Comer and back down the railway track to town every morning after making rounds, until his last year when he died at the U of A awaiting a pacemaker in 1972. He only got lost once during a snow storm.

Dr Weigerinck had breast cancer and died of a brain tumor on the operating table the following year, She donated her body to science.

Dr Ross developed skin cancer and died in 1968, after practicing for 46 years.

Dr K.C. Miller was the only doctor for a few year after that. He worked with his foot in a cast when he broke his ankle skidding When he had pneumonia, as a patient he made rounds wearing a mask We were lucky to have such dedication, Angie McLeod was another ward aide I remember, she left to work at the U of A.

In Oct 1989 I was visiting my sister when this voice called out from the glass elevator at the U of A Intensive care, it was Angie. We kept in touch until she retired.

Other C.N.A 's were Carole Onushko, Deanna Fakely, Elaine Zayonce, Doreen Yaceyko, Rose Wasyshen Olga Philpow.

Ward Aides I worked with were Elizabeth Zarowney Josie Zarowney, Anne Krawchuk Peggy Maas, Donna Maas, Wilma Herbert , Jean McGinnis, Alma Grosseth Cleaning staff were Lillian Buksa and Virginia Smeraka.

Albert our orderly went to St Paul Harry Krawchuk replaced him , Calvin Laughlin came for a few years We had a practice evacuation because of the atomic bomb threats of the 60's. We thought it had gone well until someone discovered an Aide pinned by a helpless patient. We had quite a chuckle over that.

In 1973 we had a dust storm the staff had to change all the bedding on Women's ward, as everything was gray. Miss Schwartzzenburgher was sleeping in the Nurses Residence next door and woke to find her room and herself black as she had her window open.

The years flew by and I found myself moving away in 1974 after 13 1/2 years when Jim's employment took us elsewhere. I did not get to work in the new hospital. I retired because I did not want to work the antiquated time sheet of nine day shifts Didsbury hospital had to offer. Elk Point had the Cadillac of time sheets, I treasure my Pinwheel Crystal given me as a farewell gift.

Looking forward to the Reunion.

Dianne this some of what I remember, scale it down if you choose.

These are the only pictures I could salvage from the plastic sheets they were in.

Happy Easter to you and yours, thank you for the phone call.



*Kay + Jim Kytone  
+ families*

THE SPASIK FAMILY OF  
GLENDON  
I WAS IN THE DELIVERY ROOM  
FOR EARLY...



## Deanna (Nelson) Fakely

I started working in Elk Point Municipal Hospital in the summer of 1959 as a Ward Aide and got trained on the job by some of the best staff around. These nurses worked hard long hours in a variety of areas and as a high school student following them around asking questions and trying to be of some help, I decided that I wanted to become a nurse. I wanted to do something that could possibly help make a difference in other peoples lives when they needed some help or just have someone to talk to when they were lonely.

I have worked on the medical, surgical, & maternity wards, housekeeping, the kitchen and spent a little bit of time helping in laundry in the old hospital. I remember a good many nights spent cleaning needles and preparing them to be autoclaved in the mornings by Helga Vaughan, Pearl Bespalko, or Elaine Zayonce before they got ready to help with the many surgeries done in the old Elk Point hospital. Sterile Technique was extremely important and lord help the person that didn't follow the rules! Dr. F.G. Miller, Dr. A.G. Ross, Dr A. Weigerinck and Dr K.C Miller spent many long hours doing multiple types of surgeries. Everyone worked hard and the staff was great to work with. Elk Point Municipal Hospital was known for miles around for the great care and attention the patients received while hospitalized.

I took my Certified Nursing Aide Course in 1964 in Edmonton- doing practicums in Wetaskiwin (Med/Surg/Mat/Peds) and at the Aberhart TB Sanitorium in Edmonton (We certainly had to practice good isolation technique there or got our fingers smacked). Imagine my surprise when I went to a meeting in Elk Point a couple years later and met up with one my practicum monitors. Carolyn and her husband Ron Onusko had moved to Elk Point!!!

Through out my career our level of nursing has gone through many educational up grade courses and several name changes – Certified Nursing Aide (CNA), Registered Nursing Assistant (RNA), and now to Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). To me the tag worn by the nurse doesn't make much difference it's the care and the one on one time that is given to the patient who ever they are is what is important to them in the long run.

When the present hospital opened in 1976 I worked nights on the weekends so I could be at home during the week with my three children. We were very busy for several years and I worked Active, Extended, some in the OR with Elaine and then worked CSR and OPD helping on the floor when needed. I decided I needed a change and went to work in the Elk Point Home Care department in 1998, but still work an occasional casual shift on acute care. I enjoy all types of nursing but really miss having Maternity and Surgery in our facility.

I was involved with the union in the Elk Point hospital at one time, then quit when I became involved with our provincial council. I was acting as Board Alternate in our district at CLPNA for four years then was a member of the Conduct and Competency committee for four years. I completed my second two year term representing the Aspen Region on the CLPNA Council in June 2006. It was a great learning experience and I encourage everyone to become involved in their associations what ever they may be! Nursing at all levels is a rewarding career if one enjoys it. Over the years the staff have worked and played together like a large family, I've met and worked with some great people over the years and learned a lot from them!

I would like to express my thanks to the organizers of the Elk Point Hospital Staff Reunion for all of your time and expertise spent on making this such a memorable event.

Deanna  
Fakely



Edna  
Fradsham



Judy Hostvedt

## Donna (Aarbo) Fedorus

I really don't remember my first experience in the Elk Point Hospital as I was just a new born baby, but I have a vivid memory of my second stay which was in October 1955 when I was admitted after I was in a serious car accident. I was 16 years old and I missed most of Grade 10 due to a long recovery.

In the fall of 1956 I decided to quit school and take a job at the Elk Point Hospital as a dietary aid but soon decided this was not the career path I wanted to pursue. On one of my weekend visits home from Lloydminster where I was working as a telephone operator Mae Survak (nee Carey) suggested that I should take a Lab and X-ray course in Edmonton. I was hesitant, as I hadn't taken a Chemistry course but Mae assured me that she would put a good word in for me. Thanks to Mae's reference and my hard work, I graduated in 1958 as a Lab and X-ray technician. My first job was at none other than; you guessed it, the Elk Point Hospital where I worked for approximately five years before moving to Edmonton to work for a year.

After marrying Ollie Fedorus on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1964, I returned to Elk Point to live and returned to my job at the hospital working full time until 1974. During these nine years we had three children. Michelle was born on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1965, Jacqueline on September 24, 1967 and Maureen on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1969. I was away from work for only three months for each successive maternity leave. I was four months pregnant with Maureen when on May 7, 1969 Jacqueline passed away suddenly of a skull fracture after being hit by a car.

It was in 1974 when I decided to stay home for three years until our youngest daughter, Maureen, started school. During this time I worked occasionally back at the hospital but turned down full time work in favour of being at home to raise our family. In September of 1977 the Glendon Hospital contacted me to see if I would work two days a week at their hospital. I drove to Glendon to work until 1995 when I was offered a retirement package.

My retirement was short lived and in April of 1998 I applied for a position as a homecare support aid in Elk Point where I still maintain a casual position for the Aspen Health Region.

Ollie and I continue to reside in Elk Point in the same house that we have been living in since 1967. Our daughter Michelle has her Bachelor of Education and is the Special Education Coordinator of a school in Bonnyville. She is married to Gerard Dargis and they have two children, Shayla (October 9th, 1996) and Jarred (March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2000). They live on a farm in the St. Vincent area so I am once again travelling the highway to the Glendon area to see our grand children. Maureen has her Bachelor of Social Work and is currently living in Cornwall, Ontario. She is a manager of mental health for the Department of National Defense in Ottawa.



I Elsie(Trach) Oryshchuk attended school in Elk Point, and in 1958 started working at the Hospital on weekends and after school. I was under the supervision of Mrs Olsen, who was in charge of Dietary, Housekeeping and Laundry. I worked until 1960, the year Mike and I got married, I then came back in 1961 and worked in Dietary and later started cooking with the help of Ida Aarbo and Norma Berg, Who were both GREAT COOKS!

As years passed, Ida Aarbo became Supervisor and Norma left to join the Office Personnel. I became one of the cooks for many years until Mrs. Aarbo retired, then I took the Senior Supervisor position. Therefore, I also helped in the planning of the new Hospital. Finally our new Hospital was complete and we were able to move the patients, staff and equipment in September of 1976. In the same year the Elk Point Hospital Auxiliary was started in which I am a chartered member and have put in many Volunteer hours.

I left the Hospital in 1979 to work in the office for O&M Service and continued doing office work until 1992 at which time I helped Mike on the farm. Over the years I have enjoyed ice curling, fishing, camping and now that we are retired we spend 2-3 days a week dancing at the Senior Dances, Jamborees, and Polka Fests. It has been both in the past and still today with going to various outing that we have made many good friends!!



## **DIANA ANDERSON (nee Scraba)**

Worked in Elk Point Hospital from 1965-89 in various capacities. I was able to work as a staff nurse, loved the operating room and obstetrics, had opportunity to be Inservice Education Co-ordinator (staff all remember having to do C.P.R. every year), developed Diabetic Teaching and Quality Assurance programs and was Director of Nursing for 4 years. I was always thankful for having an administrator like Walter Saranchuk. If I came to him to support a new program for patients, he always said if we can swing it in the budget - go for it! The staff were a group of dedicated members that always had good patient care as their primary focus. We worked as a family and a team that gave Elk Point the reputation of being the best small hospital in Alberta.

I am also thankful to Dr. A.G. Ross for convincing me to go into nursing and in particular - Vegreville School of Nursing. He told me that it was run by the Sisters of Clarity and that when I finished training I would be able to nurse anywhere in the world. I listened. My first day of work, I was in charge of "South" and Barb Milholland was on "North". No orientation here- just take report and go to work. South wing had 15 children and 18 male patients. Angie McLeod and Ann Krawchuk and myself were the total staff. We had 2 hernia repairs and 3 tonsillectomies that day. Dr. Miller made rounds and ordered stuff like "1-2-3 mixture" for some of the children. It was all Greek to me. I thought I would never survive! We didn't have procedure manuals in those days and I was working for about a month before I realized that all tonsillectomy patients got a shot of wycillin before going to the OR! Shift change was at 3:15 p.m. but I didn't even start my charting until after 5:00 p.m. Thank goodness charting was simple. Just the Doctor Order Sheet, Medication Record, Vital Stat Sheet, Nursing Notes, Lab & Xray record, and Discharge Summary - not the complicated bureaucratic task it is today.

What a wonderful experience working here was. What an opportunity to grow and learn, to develop skills that would carry me through whatever came next in my life. We worked hard, took pride in what we did, and had fun. Remember stuffing Dr. Estey in the sitz bath? Or Dr. Anderson taking the water hose to us in revenge for the tricks we played on him, and all the skits and wonderful hospital parties - the 12 days of Christmas, when we hung 12 cloves of garlic around Helga Vaughn's neck? This is what bound us together as staff and family. When we had an emergency - everyone pitched in and nobody looked at the clock for mealtime or claimed overtime!

When I left the hospital I spent the next 5 years teaching LPN's and served on Lakeland Health Authority Board. I am very involved in advocating for seniors, and have volunteered for years for A.C.A. (Alberta Council on Aging) and am currently representing Seniors in North Eastern Alberta on S.A.C.A. (Senior Advisory Council of Alberta). George and I still farm and operate a gravel and trucking company called Mooswa. We have 3 children and 5 grandchildren that are the "love of our life". I still enjoy picking berries and mushrooms and have lost none of my sense of adventure that some might call "craziness". Ready for a good time- anytime! My memories of nursing in Elk Point Hospital warm my heart. Life has been good.



## Peggy (Ward) Maas

In 1963, my eldest daughter, Dianne move to Elk Point and started working in the kitchen at the hospital. Dianne had never been away from home and became very home sick. At that point she decided to get me a job and have the whole family move. In 1964 Ida Aarbo hired me to also work in the hospital kitchen. In a few weeks I developed an allergy to the dish soap and could no longer continue there. At that point Dr. Weigerinek suggested I go up stairs to work in the nursing department. I was overwhelmed and told the doctor I didn't even know how to read a thermometer. She assured me everything would be just fine and she would help me. Help me she did, God bless her soul. She made sure everyone was aware of the situation and was always there giving me the encouragement it needed. The nurses soon all became part of my family and I loved being at work. Some times I could hardly wait for my days off to end. Dr. K.C.Miller was also a very important part of my career at the Elk Point Hospital. He to guided and encourage me to be positive and keep going. There were lots of fun times at work. Buzzy was one of the best nurses there was. I'm sure she knew more than some of the doctors. Liz White and Diana Anderson were always coming up with some joke to pull on someone. Liz was an awesome nurse and I was never afraid working with her. She was always willing to work right with us. On our night shifts we would all work together, get our work done then play cards and visit.

When my granddaughter, Jackie graduated from nursing school and came to work in the Elk Point Hospital, I was working with her on her first night shift. Around two in the morning the door bell rang. We admitted this 200 lb patient and when everything settled I went to do rounds. All of a sudden a piercing scream comes for the new patients room – GRAMA come quick. I'm sure she woke everyone in the hospital up. I'm so glad I had the opportunity to share this part of my life with Jackie.

There were many wonderful times at the Elk Point Hospital. I loved my job and if I could, I would do it all over again.



Amelia (Pankow) Jasinsky

I am Amelia (Pankow) Jasinsky and have a long standing history with the Elk Point Hospital. I am the fourth oldest daughter of John and Rose Pankow. My Mom was well known as she worked in the laundry department for many , many years. I was the first of my family of six children to be born in the hospital. My sisters Olga, Alice and Victoria were born at home and my sister Florence and brother Alo were born in the hospital. I was born in 1944 and those being the war years the hospital did not keep our birth records.

I went to the King George School in grade one and from grade two on I continued my education in Elk Point. When I was in grade nine Mrs. Olsen hired me to work part time in the diet kitchen. I worked after school and on weekends in the kitchen washing dishes and setting up trays. The fun part was sending the trays on the lift from the basement to the main floor where the nursing staff then took the trays to the patients. I treasure many great memories of fun filled hours working with some of the greatest staff members. After graduation from the F. G. Miller High School I took my L.P.N. training in Edmonton. I graduated from the L.P.N. program in March of 1966 and worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose until the spring of 1967. I then moved back to Elk Point and worked as an L.P.N. for a short period of time. From 1968 to 1976 I worked at the University Hospital in obstetrics, nursery, urology and pediatrics.

I met my husband (Dennis Jasinsky) in 1968 and we got married on June 5/1971. We have two children; our son Denis born in 1974 and our daughter Jennifer born in 1976 at the Royal Alex Hospital in Edmonton.

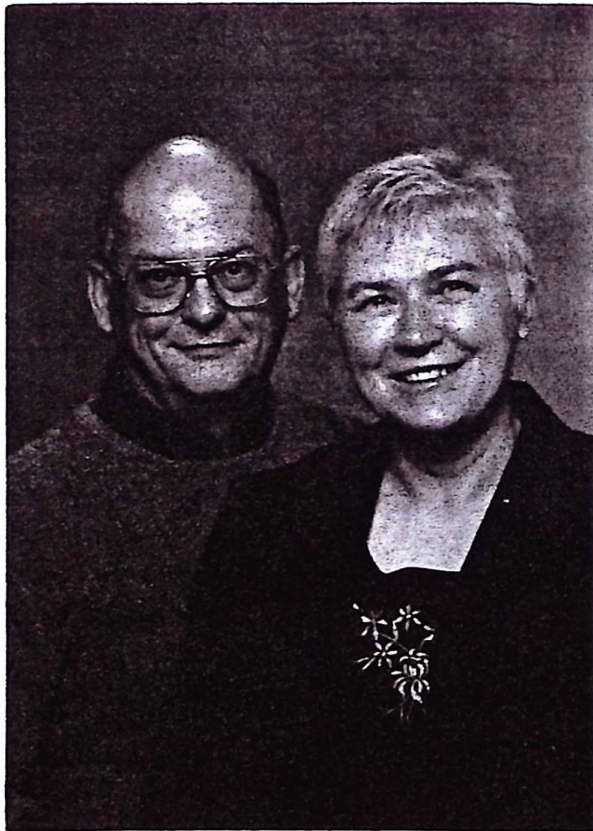
In April of 1976 my parents moved into town off the farm and Dennis and I took up farming for a short period of time. Dennis farmed and worked for Mike Habiak as a mechanic and I worked part time at the hospital. We found the stress and long hours of the jobs to demanding so we gave up farming and bought a house in Riverview where we resided until the early 1990's. We then bought an acreage and built a house south of Elk Point. In

1997 when the children left home we sold the acreage and moved into town where we currently reside.

I worked at the Elk Point hospital as a unit clerk from 1976 until 1998. In Oct. of 1998 I resigned from my position of unit clerk and worked as a program assistant at the Elk Point Health Unit. In Oct./1999 I had my 35 years of service with the Regional Health Authorities so I took early retirement at age 55.

Our children are married : Denis , Indra and daughter Anna live in Field , B.C. and Jennifer , Ken and children Kenneth Christian (K.C.), Alexandria Rose (Alli), Victoria Susan (Tori), and new baby on the way, live on an acreage outside of Lloydminster.

I'd like to say to each Doctor, staff members and patients a special thanks. It has been an honour and a privilege to work with each and everyone of you. God Bless.





NANCY (KALYNCHU, K) FOSSEN  
MARCH 17, 2008

When I left Elk Point in 1947 I started work at Provost Hospital in Provost, Alberta.

This is where I met my future husband, Harvey Fossen. He is the son of a farmer by Cadogan, which is about 13 miles from Provost. Harvey & I were married in October of 1950. After a couple of years of moving and living here & there, we settled on the farm with Harvey's parents where Harvey & his Dad ran the farm.

On February 26, 1952 our daughter, Cheryl was born. Following, on September 15, 1954 our second daughter, Lois was born.

Sadly, in November of 1956 we lost Harvey's Mom, Maggie to diabetes. Dad stayed on the farm for a while and eventually took up residence in the town of Cadogan.

On December 13, 1956, our son Deane was born.

We raised our children & worked the farm, where we built a new house, barn, machine shed; planted trees and overall modernized the place.

In the spring of 1975 we had to decide whether to expand the farm or sell. We decided to retire and sell. We moved to Chilliwack, B.C.

Over the years, the kids took up their careers, married & had children.

Cheryl is married to Terry Soroka. They live in Boyle, Alberta and have 2 children, Terra (married to Ryan Lockhart) and Ryan (single). No grandchildren yet. Cheryl works as a nurse in Boyle hospital and Terry is a truck driver.

Lois married Daryl Blume. They have 2 daughters, Jodi & Tasha. Sadly, in 1991 Daryl died of cancer. He used to work the rigs and changed his career to do ceramic tile setting.

Lois lives in and works for The City of Camrose. Her partner in life, Ed Carbonneau, brought 2 sons, Shane & Ronson. Jodi has 3 kids, Maggie, Daryl & Jeffrey and is married to Chris Ball. Tasha has 2 kids, Olivia and Michael and is married to Paul

NANCY (KALYNCHUCK) FOSSEN  
MARCH 17, 2008

Stremel. Shane and his partner, Tammy have 2 kids, Cordelle & Zander. Ronson is married to Megan and no kids yet. Ed is a truck driver.

Our son, Deane married Theresa Kloster (his high school sweetheart). Deane started his career in the Treasury Branch in Provost. They have 3 daughters. Callista, Deanna and April. Callista is married to Kevin Baska and they have 2 daughters, Cassandra & Kaitlyn. Deanna is married to Stuart Weber and have one little angel, Seandra. April lives in Vancouver and has one son, Logan. In September of 2002, Harvey and I had to go through what no parent wants to. We lost our beloved son to cancer. At that point in time Deane was district manager of southern Alberta and taking courses to advance his carrer in the ATB. Theresa lives in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

Over the years, Harvey & I moved from our house in Chilliwack to a town house in Vernon. From there we moved to Sicamous and then on to a condo at Holiday Park by Winfield, B.C. We finally settled in an adult community in Camrose, Alberta. We moved from our duplex and now reside in a condo by Mirror Lake in Camrose. We enjoy the community lifestyle, where we participate in dinners, cards and coffee time. Harvey enjoys his daily walks by the lake. I enjoy puzzles and we both like to read and watch curling etc. on T.V.

Our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren drop by often.

LIFE IS GOOD.



Victoria (Pankow) Cardinal

I am Victoria (Pankow) Cardinal and I worked at the hospital a long time ago. I am the third oldest daughter of John and Rose Pankow. I was the last of my siblings to be born at home. I was born in April/1942.

I started school at King George until grade three, then we were bussed to Elk Point. I started working at the hospital when I was fifteen years old working in the kitchen part time after school. I later worked as a ward aide. In 1962 I graduated from the L.P.N. program in Edmonton. I got married in 1964 to Jim Young and we moved to Edmonton where I worked at the Royal Alex Hospital. First as an L.P.N. then as a unit clerk. That is pretty much my nursing history.

In 1972 Jim and I owned and operated the Elk Point Hotel. We parted ways in 1981 and I took a hairdressing course. I was also working at K Mart at that time part time. After graduating from hairdressing I had health issues so I went to work at K Mart/Zellers. I married my Ernie Cardinal in 1987 and we reside in Edmonton. I retired in 2007 and am currently enjoying my retirement.



Barb (Goranson) Yopyk

BIOGRAPHY

I took my training to become a nurse in Fort William, Ontario (Fort William joined with Port Arthur & this is now known as Thunder Bay). I graduated as an R.N. in 1969. I wanted to work in a Pediatric hospital & I had applied to Children's Hospital in both Winnipeg & Toronto. Winnipeg Children's Hospital was the first to reply back & my career as a new graduated R.N. began. This decision was actually better as I came from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan & working & residing in Manitoba meant that I would be closer to home to go to visit.

I worked at the Children's Hospital for 5 years. It was a challenge to learn the different levels of doctors from junior intern right up to the chief of staff Doctor. I had trained in a much smaller center where the R.N. was to use the standing orders before calling the Doctor. This was a wonderful experience for me as all departments were totally geared to the welfare of children's health.

Next I decided to head closer to home & applied to work on a children's ward at the University Hospital of Edmonton. I had a girl friend that was living in Edmonton. I worked on Station 38, caring for young babies up to the age of one.

Both of these hospitals gave me a wealth of knowledge & experience. It was during my career in Edmonton that I met my future husband.

In October 1980 I got married to a farmer & began my life on a farm in the Elk Point rural area. I decided that I should look for work in the New Year. News of a new nurse residing in a rural area travels quickly in a small community & I received a phone call to come for an interview. In early November I decided to go to see what the hospital was like & this is when my longest nursing employment began. Rural nursing is very different than the big city. My adventure with nursing continued & many new challenges were met along the way, as I had not worked with adults for quite some time. Over the years I gained a lot of different experiences & also enjoyed the family atmosphere that rural nursing offers.

My career came to an end in 2006 due to a back injury & I realized that quality of life is more important than working. I had not planned to stop working at this time.

I am now a full-fledged Baba & my granddaughter Jayci keeps me young. She is a busy little girl & chatters continuously. She will turn 2 in May 2008. As everyone knows that grand children are the highlight of grand parents lives.

I am looking forward to seeing & visiting the staff that I have worked with.

Too all nurses wishing you the best in your future endeavors.

Barb Yopyk

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Isolyn Pinkney

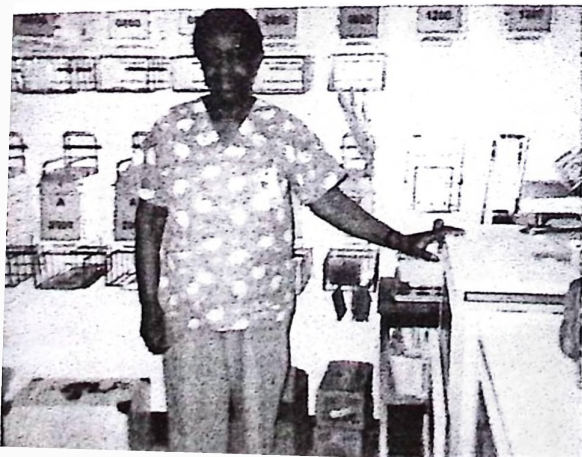
Fond Memories of working at Elk Point Hospital

Peggy Maas was one of the staff that I worked with on my first day. She invited me to her home one evening and introduce me to her family. I was nervous but I went anyway. She took me everywhere she was going to meet her friends and to hockey games which I did not understand. She told me one evening her baby was playing hockey I thought it was one of her little grandson when I got to the arena I found out it was her nearly 18 yr old son.

Peggy and I was working one evening and she did something silly I can't recall what but I told her she will have to get on her knees and pray. She knelt down and fold her hands ready to pray. Who walked in on us was Dr Miller he looked at us shook his head laughed and left. I thought we were going to get in trouble

Dr Miller sat me down one day and tried to put an old pair of big heavy cowboy boots on me when he did get them I stood up and tried to walk but couldn't and him and Peggy laughing at me falling down each time I tried to walk.

Elk Point a small town but there are a lot of kind loving people.



Miss Maud (Nesta) Lloyd from the Rhondda, South Wales emigrated to Canada in 1958. She came in September to work for two years only at the Elk Point hospital. She later met John Evtushevski who had emigrated 20 years earlier from Poland. They married August 19, 1960. They had two daughters Jane and Margaret. Maud later returned to work for two years between 1963 and 1964. She presently resides at the Heritage Lodge in Elk Point.



## Catherine (Maguire) McCormack

I, Catherine McCormack (nee Maguire), was born, raised, and took my schooling in Ireland. After school I decided to go into Nursing. My sister, Margaret, and I applied to the nursing school in Ireland but the schools were full. There was a year's waiting list so we decided to go to London, England which we did. There we took 3 years of training in General Nursing. It was a lot of studying, hard work, challenging but rewarding. We had many lectures, exams—written, oral and practical. Finally we made our final exams and passed; then we could add SRN (State Registered Nurse) after our name, but we wanted more training and the challenge was on. We took Diplomas in Tuberculosis Nursing, Hearts, Polio and Midwifery. Each one brought a different challenge, more hard work and many, many exams. After years of training we finally made it; now we could add another 6 letters after our name.

We decided adventure was next, time to relax after studying those years, so we looked through the Nursing Mirror and Nursing Times. We decided on Canada and picked Elk Point. I don't know why, maybe fate; anyhow we arrived in Elk Point after a very long journey. I wasn't very impressed so I left my bags inside the door in my room which was in the basement below the wards. I was tired and decided I would sleep and head out the next morning. After a night's sleep and some breakfast, things didn't seem so bad. I decided to give it a year as I wasn't a quitter. Alas I stayed close to 3 ½ years and really enjoyed my stay there.

During this time I met a nice young fellow, Eamon McCormack, from Clandonald who I dated. After 3 ½ years I decided to give in my resignation and went back to Ireland for a holiday. While there my sister, Elizabeth, and I decided to take a tour—England, France, Italy, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. We had the holiday of a lifetime, then back to Ireland for a few weeks. I missed Eamon and so I came back to Canada. I went to work in Islay Hospital. For those who don't know where Islay is, it is about half way between Vermilion and Lloydminster. The hospital looked like a big square house, small but very active. We had the New Year's baby 3 years beating out Vermilion and Lloydminster. We were proud of that.

Eamon and I continued dating and in 1967 we were married. We had a honeymoon to Peace River to visit friends of the McCormacks. Tell the young ones of today---you had a honeymoon to Peace River when now the sky is the limit. We enjoyed our holiday and then it was back to work, Eamon farming and me nursing in Islay Hospital. Unfortunately we were not blessed with a family.

In 1992 I retired from nursing and in 1993 we sold our farm and bought a house in Vermilion where we still reside. Everything wasn't rosy all those years; my sister, Margaret, passed away in 1979 in the Elk Point Hospital and Eamon and I lost several family members as well as friends. Life must go on and I was pleased when I received the phone call about the reunion. It is a great idea and I would like to thank the ladies for organizing it. Thank you ladies. God Bless. Love you all.

One evening, an outpatient came in to see the Doctor. I had to fill out the form, name?, Mr. X, address?, Mallaig. What is your address? Mallaig, he answered. I thought it must be my Irish accent, so I said maybe it's your leg but could I have your address please. He said my address is Mallaig. Who felt more stupid?

Then one day a patient was admitted. When I was going through the chart I noticed his occupation was a cat skinner. I thought who would want to skin cats for a living and I said to the girls at the desk, what kind of a job is skinning cats. They looked surprised and said I don't know, why? I said this patient's occupation is a cat skinner. They laughed and laughed and I think it was Ann Uchman who said he doesn't skin cats. She explained about this machine and the operator was a cat skinner.

The hospital bonspiels were always a lot of fun. Barry Keck picked my name out of the hat once but Ed Soldon was so unlucky he pulled my name out all the time. The game was explained—rock, broom, hack, hog line, etc. etc. So it was time for the big game. I crouched down into the hack, eyed the far side of the rink and heaved with all my might. It didn't even get over the hog line, on the side I was throwing from. We had a lot of fun and Ed always explained the shots ~~we~~ was going to make; throw the rock through that porthole, hit the opposition's rock, chip the one on the right and stay right— Ed, it was as clear as mud to me. The team did win trophies. I was very proud of my little trophy and I thought, gee, I'm on my way to the Brier. One day after curling I was rubbing my arm at the desk and Dr. KC said, Catherine, have you a sore arm. I said it's a bit stiff from sweeping. He said sweeping—you just tickle the ice.

Another time I was doing charts at the desk. Paul came up and said, Catherine, that child in there is eating a chocolate bar. I said Paul what are you talking about? He said come and see so we walked to the door and remember the doors to the children's ward had little windows. I looked in, the child was standing in the crib, sure enough eating. I said Paul that's not a chocolate bar, that's poop! Well, I bet it didn't take Paul two strides to get to the bathroom. I think I had better say no more.





Janice Martin Lab & X-Ray Technician 1971-1974

I worked as a Lab & X-Ray Technician at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital from 1971-1974. I then moved to Macklin, married, had 2 children, ( Austin & Farah) and worked at St. Joseph's Hospital for about 7 years. My career then took me to Provost Municipal Hospital. In 1975 I remarried and retired to a Dairy farm and Ranch with my husband Allan Smithson. When I say retired, I mean from the medical profession. The next 20 years was spent farming ranching and dairying. In 2004 we sold out and moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where we now reside. I enjoy quilting, training my 3 toy poodles and traveling in our trailer.



Janice Martin  
1972

## Biography – Betty Radies

I loved working at the Elk Point Hospital in the laundry with Alice Krawchuk and Rose Pankiw. Alice and Harry Krawchuk were so good to me. I remember when I first started working there, I wore an unfit shoe for work as it was all I had. Alice and Harry returned from Edmonton with a pair of beige flat heeled shoes for me to work in. We all worked together like a family. I worked in both the kitchen and laundry. Doris Capjack was the head cook. She was very good to me. It was a pleasurable time in my life working there.



## Elk Point Hospital Staff Reunion Biography – Judy Bowie

After leaving Elk Point in 1981, our family spent a few months in Leduc while Jack continued to work for the government building bridges all over the province. He left that work in 1982 and we bought a small corner store in Ponoka (Jack's hometown!) which we ran for five years before selling. It was a steep learning curve, as neither of us had ever had a business before. Like farming, it was necessary for one of us to work at an outside job, and the general hospital in Ponoka was just down the street. We lived above the store, so the kids were a great help – sometimes willing, sometimes not – but they never had to look for work and the treats were really handy☺. After selling the store, Jack worked for the Town of Ponoka for a few years and I continued at the hospital until 1998. During the “cutback years of the 90's”, I decided to finish my BScN and as one of my practicums involved teaching in the clinical setting. I truly loved it and so joined the teaching department at Red Deer College in 1999. I have been there ever since, teaching in both the RN and LPN programs offered at the college. We were “encouraged” by the college to have a bit more education, so I completed my MN in 2006. No more school for me, unless it involves something I can do in retirement (only 3 years away!).

Our kids are all married with families, some close by and others farther away. Grant and his wife Julia live in Dawson Creek, BC with their 3 daughters, ages 15,13 & 9. Cheryl and her husband Gerry live in Red Deer with their son and daughter, ages 18 & 16. Jason & his wife Tanya live in Fairview with their 3 boys, ages 11, 9, & 7, and Tavis and Debra are in Drayton Valley. Jack & I do “Travel Alberta” to visit with everyone, and we generally have a huge “Family Week” at our acreage in the summer when everyone is at home at once. Lots of stories come out about what really went on as the kids were growing up in Elk Point!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion, I have so many good (and funny) memories of the great people at the hospital and in the town during the five years we spent there. Thanks for organizing this event!



**Thank you for the notice of the Elk Point Hospital staff reunion-my sister Julie Boyko forwarded it to me. I worked at EP Hospital from 1964-68, after school and on weekends. Walter Saranchuck (the administrator then) gave me a job and Mrs. Aarbo was my boss. I worked washing dishes, floors, stairs, stoves, and anything else that didn't get up and run away. Mrs. Aarbo, 'Gidget' McGinnis and Mrs. Livingstone were there and kept a close eye on the teenaged cleaning staff. It was fun! On weekends we worked a split-shift, so if we had been out late on Friday and/or Saturday night, we had time between lunch dishes and supper work to catch a nap. (As kids, we didn't need much recovery time). Viola Kepke -my best friend's Mom, worked there and lived in the staff residence, so I knew I had someone to go to for advice. And I knew she was a good friend of my Mom, so I didn't get far out of line. Living in the staff residence was a good experience and the older 'girls' looked out for us younger ones. I left in 1968 to train at the Royal Alex and have lived and worked in Edmonton ever since I graduated in 1971. I have 2 kids-Jason -26yr. and Heather-23 yr. and they live on their own in Edmonton as well. I am still working- I am at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and have been there since 1986. Before that, I nursed at the RAH. Over the years, I have nursed quite a few people from home and it is always nice to catch up. Am looking forward to seeing you all in June.**

780-990-0373



Bonnie Thomas  
404-11408 108 Ave NW  
Edmonton AB T5H 4R5



Bonnie (Hoard) Thomas



## Loretta Aarbo Pinder

The fall of 1962 I started my nursing career at the Royal Alexandra Hospital as a student nurse and I graduated in September 1965. I started employment at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital in September 1965. I married George Pinder June 12, 1965 and children were born to us: James Harold September 10, 1966, Sherry Dee November 3, 1967 and Joni Aldona October 31, 1969.

I worked part time in Elk Point until I felt I needed more education so I joined the St. Therese Hospital Staff for one year taking a heart monitoring course as well as working on the second floor which at that time housed the surgical ward, obstetrics and intensive care unit. The heart monitoring course was set up by Dr. Woytiuk of St. Paul under the guidance of Dr. Black at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton.

In 1979 I was asked by Lois Sorgen to join the Coordinated Home Care Program. I worked with Home Care until 1987 when I continued to work for the Elk Point Health Centre until my retirement at 55 years of age in September 1998. Retirement has been nice with occasional casual employment at the Elk Point Health Centre in long term care, caring for my grandchildren, Tristan and Aldana, and gardening. Tristan and Aldana are the children of my son James and his wife Angie. These children are the "light of my life". James and Angie are successful at work and are perfect parents.

Sherry works as a private nurse in Vancouver, enjoys travelling and loves to come home every month to spoil Tristan and Adana !

Joni works at the Grey Nuns Hospital in Edmonton in the operating room and is married to Colin Kupka. They are expecting their first child anytime now so I shall be a grandma again ! Both my girls graduated from nursing from the Royal Alexandra Hospital School of Nursing. I am proud of my children and their spouses.

Art, especially watercolour painting has also been a passion in my life. I'm presently working on a painting of my father Jens Aarbo.

George, my husband, has always been my great passion and helpmate. Family are my treasure and my career is my pride.



Lil

September 11, 1998.

### Tribute to Loretta Pinder Upon Her Retirement.

When I was asked to say a few words about Loretta and her nursing career, I was a bit hesitant. And then, after thinking about it, I realized that no one else knows her better than I do. Our paths have crossed time and time again.

We attended school together, all twelve grades, in fact she stole my boyfriend in grade two and I still haven't completely forgiven her for that.

We entered nursing school in 1962. I went to the Misericordia Hospital and Loretta went to the Royal Alexandra Hospital, both in Edmonton. We graduated in 1965 - thirty-three years ago. The only difference between us is that she is older than I am - a whole six months.

Loretta has worked in several areas of nursing. She has been a staff nurse in Elk Point longer than any of us - this last time around since 1982, and has also worked at St. Therese Hospital in St. Paul. Loretta helped set up the Home Care program in Elk Point and worked here as a Community Care nurse. All the adjectives that describe a good nurse suit Loretta - compassionate, thorough, and professional.

But as I thought about her, I realized that she has some unique and special qualities. Today we hear a lot about the importance of being patient advocates. Loretta has always done this. If she feels that a patient needs special attention, she will go to bat for the patient 100%. I personally know of a patient who is alive and well today because of Loretta. In this case, she phoned the doctor and said, "I want this patient sent to Edmonton now". I remember this very well because I went with this patient on the ambulance now !

Loretta calls a spade a spade. Staff working with her know who the boss is. They also know they will be treated fairly and they can depend on their boss. Loretta is very easy to talk to and staff can talk to her about their personal troubles. She has taken some of our young nursing staff "under her wing". They tell me that they respect her and that they will miss her.

Nursing is a challenging and demanding profession and sometimes takes all of our energy. It's very important to have other interests. Loretta has done this. She has been taking art classes at the University of Alberta for a few years now and has become an accomplished artist. We may all be buying works of art from Loretta in the future !

Throughout our years together, it has been obvious that Loretta's family comes first. And this is also something that we all need to remember. Loretta has often confessed to loving and spoiling her kids to "pieces" and I'm sure that includes George and Angie. We know that the new grandchild is going to be loved to pieces also.

Another quality that I admire is Loretta's professionalism. She looks like a nurse should look. Her hair is always done and she is always well-groomed. You could say she adds a "touch of glamour" to nursing.

Loretta likes to have fun - so we can talk about another attribute, her wiggle - no one quite wiggles like she does. A few of us have tried, but we just couldn't get it right.

We had a contest to find someone with that special little wiggle. People from all over the world entered the contest. The Lakeland Health Region said that money was no problem - find that person. I personally interviewed the winner in New York last Wednesday. She was having bad hair day, but the wiggle was perfect. She's here with us today - Enter Polly.

Years ago when Loretta and I worked Christmas we wondered if the time would ever come when we would never have to work Christmas or New Years or Easter ever again. Well, that time has come.

Enjoy your time off and we will look forward to you coming back on a casual basis.

And one more thing, Loretta's daughters have followed in her footsteps. They are both registered nurses. That has to be the greatest compliment of all.

Love, Lil.



**Other Staff members, among others not mentioned elsewhere:**

Barbara Scott Anderson.....1974-76.....housekeeping  
Pearl Havaruk Anderson.....1969-77.....kitchen  
Joanne Ference Hutton Amyotte.....1979-89.....nursing – LPN  
Marge Pilisko Boleychuk.....1959-60.....all departments  
Donna Appleton Charlton.....1974-75.....kitchen  
Rose Ann Toews Dutchak.....1983- current.....nursing – LPN  
Joanne Warren Erickson.....1984-current.....nursing – LPN  
Olga Pylypiw Ewasiuk.....1960-66.....nursing – LPN  
Patricia Spenser Freeman.....1930-32.....summer student  
Jeanette Lambie Frisby.....1984-2004.....kitchen  
Connie Cunnings Golberg.....1971-72.....nursing - RN  
Bonnie David Heinemann.....1967-68.....nursing – RN  
Elaine Hay.....1964-65.....Lab and X-ray  
Pauline Herzog.....1961-62.....housekeeping/kitchen  
Marvia Valentine/Soldan Hickli.....1959-62/68-70.....admitting/admin.  
Josephine Peterson.....1941-42.....nursing aide  
Bernice Spenser Lester.....1949-52.....nursing – CNA  
Margaret Gourley Lesyk.....1962.....kitchen  
Alice Poitras Lycklama.....1974- 84.....Lab  
Carol Habiak Maas.....1985-91.....Business Admin.  
Angie Lesyk Pacholek.....1984-95.....Physio/Rec.  
Jean McPhee.....1967-71.....nursing – RN  
Olga Lemecka Melnyk.....1955-57.....kitchen/laundry  
Jean Sadowinski Musijowski .....1959.....housekeeping  
Karen Ockerman.....1982-89.....summer student  
Shirley Porcina.....1988-current.....dietary  
Mandy Radies Saranchuk.....1971-77.....nursing CNA/admit  
Genevieve Sandur Shmyr.....1967-95.....nursing – RN  
Viola Smith Stevens.....1958-66.....nursing – CNA  
Rosemary Furgur Rohner.....1980 – current.....laundry/housekeep  
Lois Scraba Sheplawy.....1973-2000.....Public Health  
1959-60.....summer student  
Virginia Zazulak Smereka.....1956-85.....dietary/housek.  
Diane Burroughs Smith.....1962-64.....kitchen  
Doris Bristow Stetsko.....1953-55.....Lab and X-ray  
Lucille Suvak.....1983-2003.....Housek/laundry  
Ann Kalynchuk Uchman.....1958-1994.....nursing – attend.  
Helen Karwash Usen.....1952-56.....nursing – attend.  
Joyce Milholland Weissenborn.....1947-48.....nursing – attend.  
Minnie Yacey Zazulak.....1969-88.....dietary  
Jackie Whiffen-Peters.....nursing  
Carolyn Seniuk.....1972-95.....nursing - RN



The Hospital was "THE PLACE"  
for young women to get a job  
They worked very hard for  
a small wage ..... but it wa  
INDEPENDANCE and FUN!!

It also drew all the young  
farm boys to town like  
Bees to honey!



One of our special little peop  
Rene Stanley



Isobel Valentine and Erna  
Holiday at the Nursing Stati  
Notice where we hung the  
stethoscopes and the old  
chart files

# Auxiliary spreads cheer

By Irene Magnusson  
Elk Point Correspondent

The final moment, when you watch the kids eyes light up, makes all the ticket selling and latch-hooking, the shopping and selecting, all seem worthwhile. At least, that's the way it looked, over there in the Pediatric Ward, at the Elk Point Hospital, when Hospital Auxiliary President Wasy Elasechuk and Violet McFadyen,

Treasurer, carried in the boxes and bags of toys for the young patients.

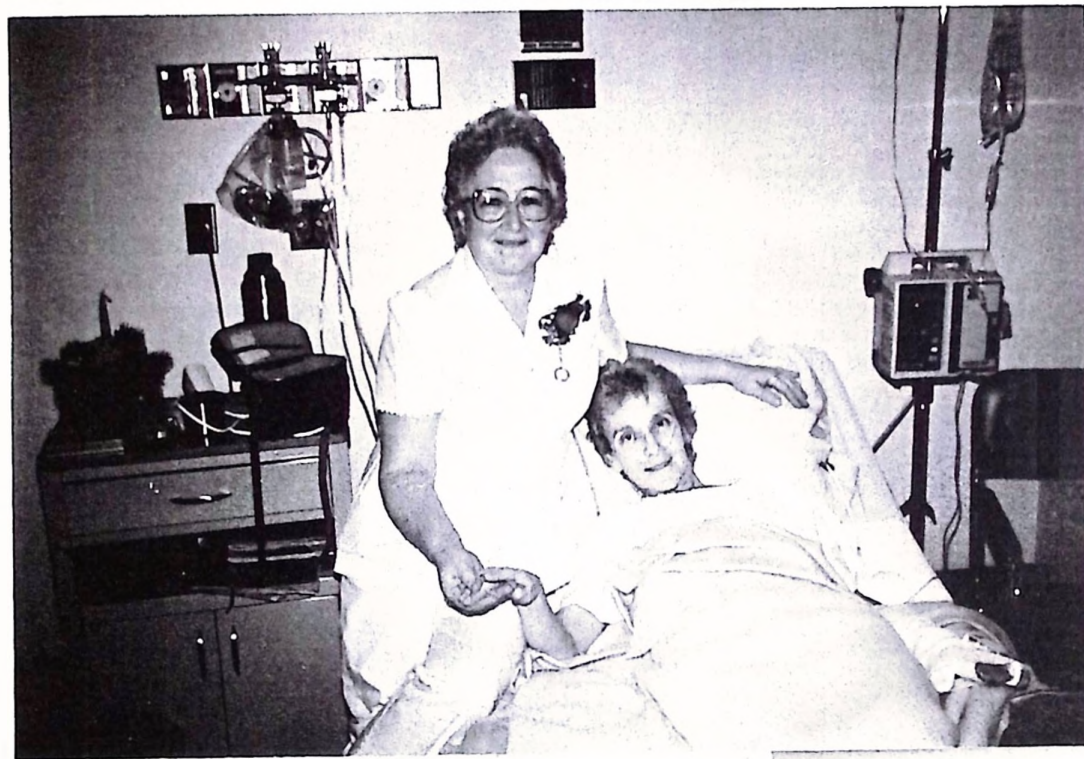
The results of the fall rug raffle, car-marked for the children's ward, went for a number of toys, dolls and books, and a baby holder, and caused much excitement when the youngsters presently in the ward were allowed to pull the wrappers off and start playing with the goldmine of cuddlies.

Director of Nursing, Diane Anderson, was on hand to accept the gifts for the Hospital, with nurse Jean McGinnis also present, involved with her charges.

If any child shall be so unfortunate as to be away from home over Christmas, the Ped Ward in the Elk Point Hospital isn't a bad place to be. And the Auxiliary has supplied a pile of playthings!



TOYS AND MORE TOYS — Pediatric patients at Elk Point Municipal Hospital will have lots of new toys this Christmas, thanks to the Hospital Auxiliary, who spent the proceeds of their rug raffle on a wide array of



The HOSPITAL AUXILIARY has been working for years to support patients by raising funds, operating the canteen etc. to purchase equipment and "extras" to help provide



# Norma Berg retires

by Vicki Brooker

Elk Point Municipal Hospital business manager Norma Berg was honored Thursday, June 29 at a Retirement Party in the hospital cafeteria by a large number of friends and former fellow employees. Mrs. Berg recently left the staff after 27 years employment.

Mrs. Berg started work at Elk Point Municipal Hospital in 1957 as a cook, and later moved to the administration office, eventually becoming business manager. She confesses to "mixed feelings" about her retirement, and knows she will miss her fellow employees a great deal.

Mrs. Berg had words of praise for all levels of hospital staff, from the laundry department on up, and quoted former Administrator Walter Saranchuk's philosophy of "all are equally important, regardless of their jobs" as a key point in giving the entire staff respect for one another and for

another's work.

A number of presentations were made in the course of the afternoon gathering: Roy Bristow, on behalf of the Hospital Board, Marilyn Dykstra, on behalf of the medical staff, Gwen Morris of the Social Committee, Maurice Lafrance for the office staff, Val Rupchan for Health Services, Ed Soldon for Canadian Union of Public Employees, Lillian Demchuk for the United Nurses of Alberta and Elizabeth Zarowny for the Retired Staff.

Walter Saranchuk, with his banjo, accompanied a lively sing-song with all present, including the guest of honor, joining in the old favorites. As a finale, the group serenaded Mrs. Berg with the sentimental, "Our best to you", expressing everyone's wishes for many happy retirement years.

On hand for the occasion were Mr. Berg's daughter, Vali Hewitt and grandson Jeffrey, daughter-in-law Anne Berg and granddaughter Sharon, and husband Leonard Berg.



GUEST OF HONOR — Norma Berg displays her beautifully decorated cake at a retirement party held in her honor at Elk Point Municipal Hospital. Looking on are husband Leonard Berg and Daughter-in-Law Anne Berg.



Going over pictures and sharing stories with Amelia Bowen (Zarowny) and Peggy at Doris Gusnowski's farewell party.

Norma made the best buns and fried breaded oysters in the world. On 3-11 pm and 11-1am shift we knew she would always leave something good in the kitchen cooler for us to eat.



Loretta Pinder, Lucie W. Pe  
Deanna Fakeley, Leona Mon  
LIZ white, Carolyn Dnuok  
Lise Bussiere, Loretta Paque  
Polly Fontaine, Diana Andi  
Ester Moneta feeding a  
brand-new little baby



Getting together in LTI

Elizabeth Zarowny, Pegg  
Adomitis, Helen Kozicki,  
Donna Fedorus, Betty Rad  
Nesta, Helen Moneta,  
Ann Uchman, Ann Gulas  
KEMiller., Alice Zacharu  
and Martin Aurbo.



Linda Fitz- last day ewor  
Saying goodbye to staff  
and her family of residen!

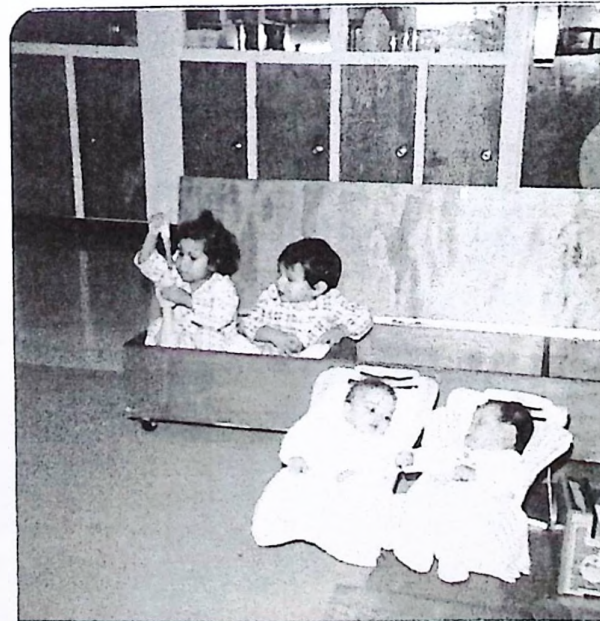
Working in  
Pediatrics



Irene  
Stobert



Patti Pitman



Ann  
Uchman



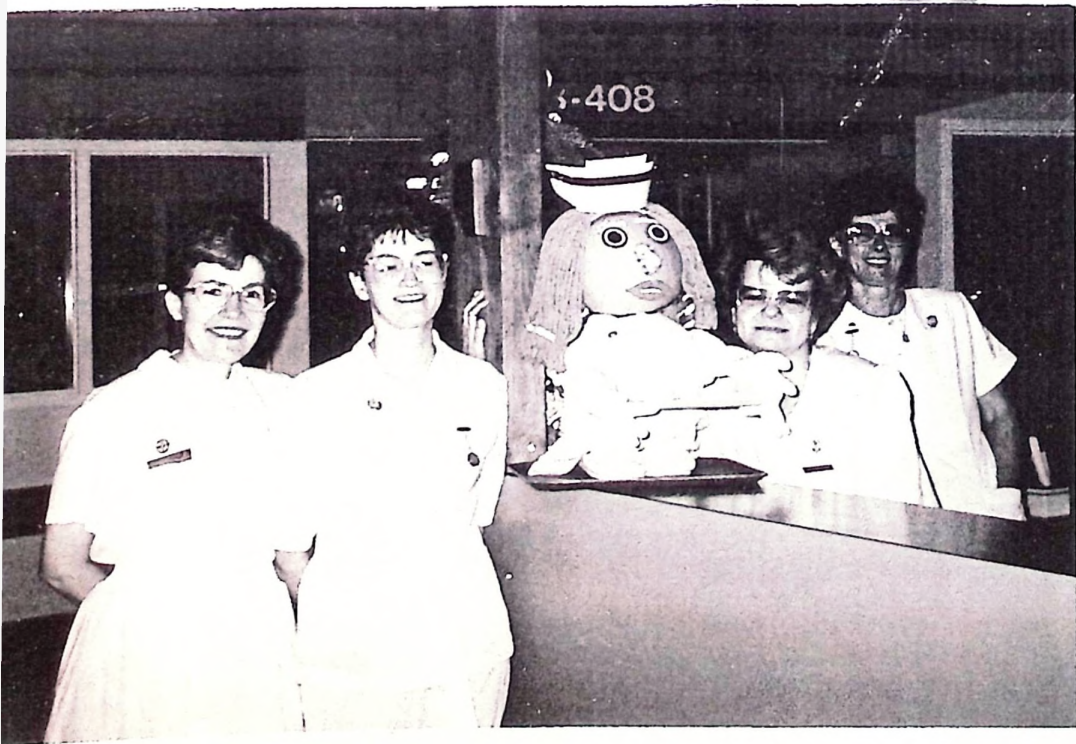
19 17



Elaine Zayonce and Leona Moneta

Above: Party! Party at Elaine's on the farm

What's Za-Za Bullu doing to Deanna Fakeley??



Happy Haeloween: Lillian Demchuk, Charlene Bintz, Lorelta Pinder, Sandy Oester.



1918

Agnes Morgziuk  
Agnes Gadowski  
Ethel and Barrie  
McFadyen

Erma Yewchin  
Elaine Boyance  
? and Angie  
McLeod



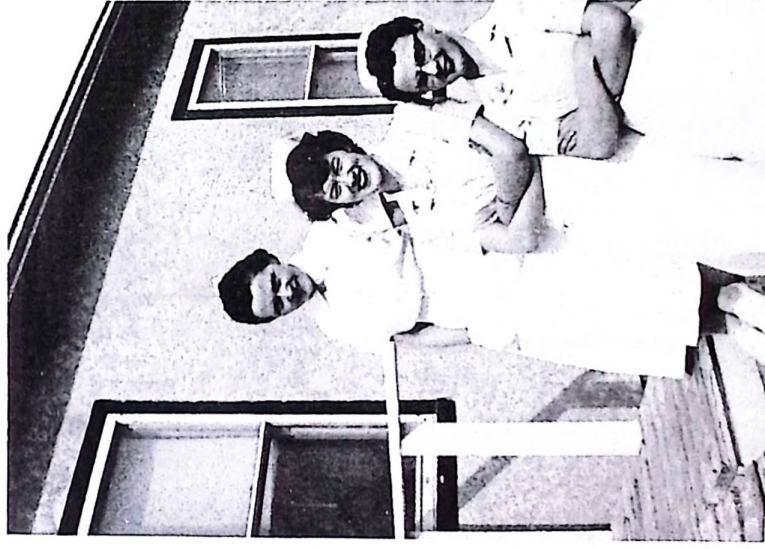
Doreen  
Yareyto  
and  
Ethel  
Bispacko



Miss Elspeth and Kay Kyzance

GLADYS  
McGINNIS

Leona  
Moneta  
Miss  
Spencer  
Miss  
McMillan  
Corlea  
Zagulak



Peggy Maas

# Retires after 20 Years at Hospital

by VICKI BROOKER

A large group, including a number of previously retired co-workers, was on hand last Wednesday, January 18, to celebrate the retirement of Peggy Maas from the nursing staff of Elk Point Municipal Hospital. Mrs. Maas joined the staff on September 1964, almost twenty years ago.

Director of Nursing Audrey Willmer was mistress of ceremonies for the afternoon event, and commented on Mrs. Maas' great sense of humor, her kindness and consideration for her co-workers, and the tender loving care she gave her patients.

Diane Anderson gave a most amusing reading of her job description for a floor nurse in the 1880's, and commented on the changes which have taken place since then.

Changes which have taken place since Peggy Maas joined the Elk Point staff were shown in a fashion show of the various uniforms worn during the last two decades, with various nurses as models and Mrs. Anderson as commentator.

Leona Moneta in Peggy's original uniform of dark blue dress with stiffly starched white apron led off the parade, dragging along with her one of the enormous and well stuffed laundry bags the nurses of those days were required to haul to the laundry chute and endeavor to send on their way to the wash. Ann Uchman, with matching jar of ointment in hand, showed off the 'hot pink' uniform which decreased nurses' starched appearances.

A few years later, it was decreed that the nurses could wear whatever they liked as long as it was white. Hence, the appearance of Verna Lazicki in a pert white minidress with dropped waist and a very little skirt. An episode involving a patient in a

being determined a risk to patients' blood pressure as their nurses bent over to perform bedside tasks, and were replaced by the pantsuit. Demonstrating this more practical style were Loretta Piquette and Jean McGinnis, who brought along a selection of nursingly equipment.

The pantsuits were no fun, declared the patients, and the occupancy rate took a drop. Well how about knickers, as displayed by Carolyn Onusko? The knickers, we were told, caused snickers! So---back to wearing anything one's nursingly heart desires---"As long as you'll work day and nights!"

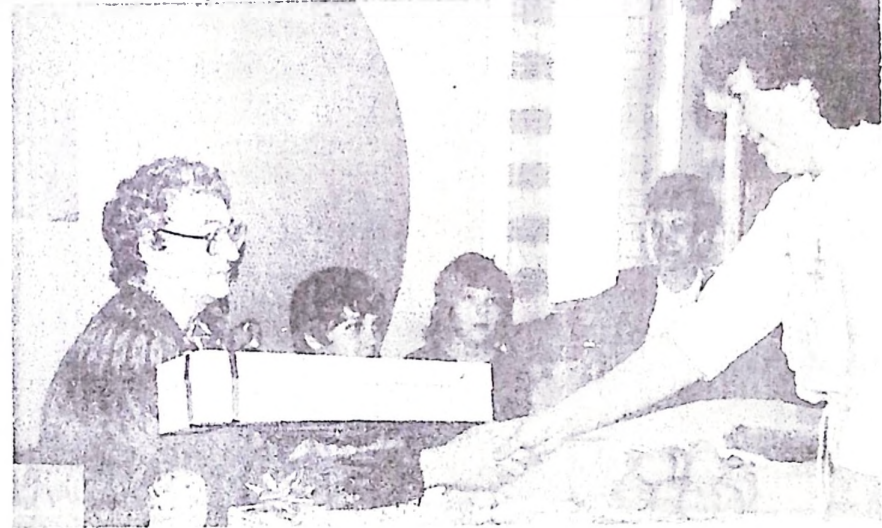
Another sign of changing times was in the area of wages. A series of pay slips from the years from 1964 to 1984 were presented by Norma Berg, showing the rise from a monthly wage of \$135, or approximately 80 cents per hour. You've come a long way ladies, even if it doesn't always seem that way.

Audrey Willmer again took over the floor, reminiscing about the "Good old days" in the old hospital, and remarking the "Memories are something we will have always." She interspersed the presentation of a number of gifts with a series of humorous student exam answers which pertain to hospital life.

Ann Uchman presented a gift from the nursing staff, with a special 'crying towel' made by Marge Jacobson being presented by Diane Anderson just in case a tear might fall as nostalgia took over.



Peggy and Mary - Garnett Bennett on Peds.



FLORAL TRIBUTE - From the medical staff is presented to Peggy Maas by Verna Lazicki. In the background are Mrs. Maas' grandchildren Rob and Jolene

Peggy lived just across the road from the hospital and every new nurse always had a "home" away from home. They came from England, Scotland, Ireland, Hong Kong and even Samacia. All thanked Peggy for helping them adjust to a very busy small rural hospital at "the end of the earth."



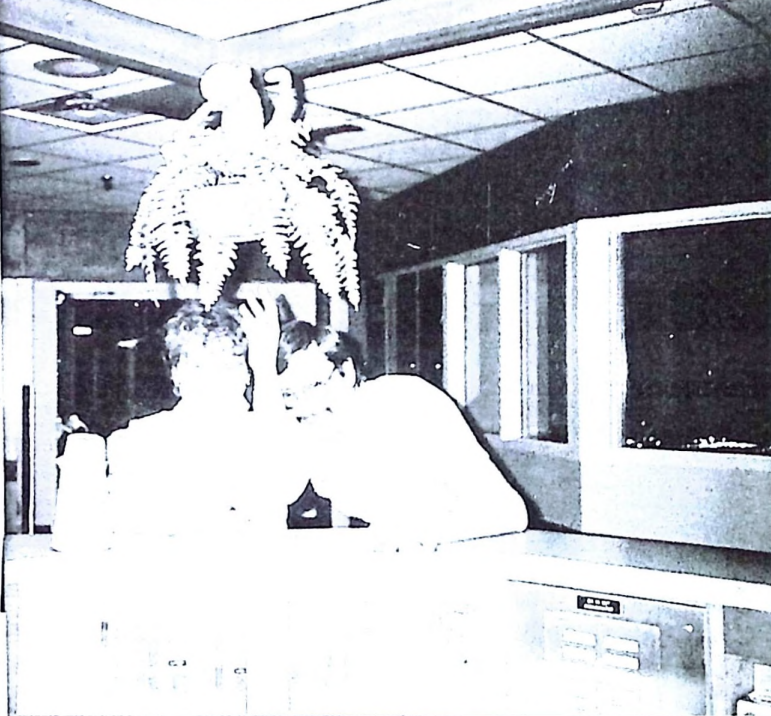
Linda Fitz



Leona Moneta Ann Lehman Marge Saranchuk Helen Skolar



Garnett-Bennett  
nurses



Leona and Jerome  
"Monkey Business"





MAY • AS Miss Lowe



Stella Pankiw, Helen Maksymec, Erma Yewchin, Olga Demt



MAY • AS Mc Cormick



MAY • AS McLeod



ngie



Viola Stevens

"Scrub" Scrub, "Scrub". This is why we had a very low infection rate. Far cry from today - now we have "super bugs"!

# Elizabeth Zarowny retires from hospital

By VICKI BROOKER

Friends and fellow employees gathered at Elk Point Municipal Hospital on Thursday, March 29 to bid a happy retirement to Elizabeth Zarowny, who recently retired from the hospital's staff after twenty-one years of service. Mrs. Zarowny was joined at the head table by her husband Joe and sister-in-law Amelia Zarowny.

The Zarowny's children, Mary Anne of Saskatchewan and Donna and Mitchell of Edmonton, were unable to attend the gathering. Mrs. Zarowny was part of the hospital staff from 1956 until 1963, and again from 1968 to 1983.

As part of the afternoon's entertainment, a fashion show of "After-Hours Styles for the hospital staff" was presented, with Diana Anderson as commentator. Models Frances Moneta, Val Rupchan, Jean McGinnis and Tom Halliday displayed the latest in spring attire. For the leisure hours around the house, black and green painter pants, well painted and complete with assorted brushes, were paired up with a many bagged 'tea' shirt, dressed up with the 'heavy metal' look in chains.

Next on display was a colorful outfit of multi-colored balloon pants (rather noisy to sit down or walk through thorn bushes with, no doubt), topped with a possibly non-negotiable checked shirt. Shiny rubber boots and Bo Derek (or Porky Pig) pigtails completed the ensemble.

For fun at the lake, a tube top, courtesy of Goodyear, with cap

with tinkling bell-bottomed culottes.

The "After-5" ensemble was a real show stopper: The latest in (onion) sack dresses, with side slits, was worn with an (extension) cord belt, accessorized with a bouquet of spring-y flowers, and highlighted with a French roll-ed hairdo.

Following vigorous applause for the hilarious costumes and brave models, mistress of ceremonies Amelia Jasin-sky introduced the bearers of a number of gifts for the guest of honor.

Director of Nursing Audrey Willmer presented Mrs. Zarowny with a cheque and commemorative certificate on behalf of the Hospital Board, whose members were unable to attend. Ann Uchman presented a sheaf of roses on behalf of the medical staff, while Leona Moneta presented a gift from the hospital staff. Amelia Zarowny presented both a gift from the Canadian Union of Public Employees and a personal gift to her sister-in-law, while Martin Aarbo presented a gift on behalf of his fellow members of the retired hospital staff.

Audrey Willmer represented the nursing staff as she spoke with appreciation of the many years of service given by Mrs. Zarowny and of the harmony she provided.

Elizabeth Zarowny then thanked all those who put on the retirement celebration, her former co-workers for their years of friendship, Mrs. Willmer for her kindness and her fellow retirees for their "welcome to the club." The afternoon wound up with the cutting of an attractively decorated cake, and ample time for



RETIRING HOSPITAL WORKER — Elizabeth Zarowny is presented with a gift by Martin Aarbo on behalf of previous retirees, while her husband Joe looks on.



FUN TIME FASHIONS — Were displayed at the Zarowny retirement party by models (l. to r.) Frances Moneta, Tom Halliday, Jean McGinnis and Val Rupchan.



SEP • 64 "Bessie"



Marcy SEP • 64 Korradie



Happy Times

1941

Ireyn Buck and  
Molly Waltze



Wes MAY 22 1942 "Marian"

Levy Steps - 1942



Friends Forever

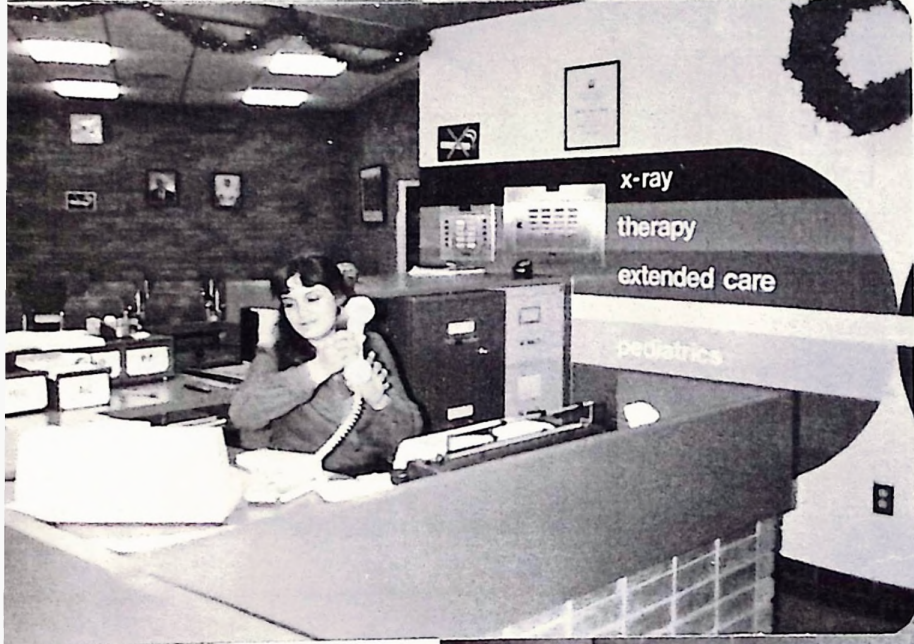
OPENING DAY :

NEW HOSPITAL

DREY WILMER - D.O.N.

ALTER SARANCHUK - Administrator

MAURICE ANDERSON: INSERVICE



GWEN MORRIS - SWITCH BOARDS  
NEW HOSPITAL - giggling all  
the calls - admitting patients  
pagina the Doctors and  
still smiling!

Administrator:

Alter Saranchuk

turning over the keys

Maunice LaFrance

when he retired.



Mae (Carry) Suvak



D. Wagerinski





# Mr. Alex Cowston

Alex Cowston is the resident of the month and a party was held in his honour on November 19th, at 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Elk Point Municipal Hospital, where Alex is a patient. Elna Eisvik who was unable to attend, is the recipient of the present supplied by Elk Point Lakeland Review for correctly guessing Alex as the resident of the month.

five sons, two daughters, thirty grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Cecile, Faye and Brenda Cowston presented Alex with gifts from the grandchildren.

Felix Dufresne, the grandfather, also a patient at the Hospital, played the violin which he had not played for seventeen years. The violin which is an antique, belongs

to Gerald Stultz's father Clifford Senior. The music prompted nurses Dianne Anderson, Marg Jacobsen, and Marilyn Dykstra to dance a Shottiche and a Heel-to-Toe.

Cake, which was baked and decorated by Chris McFayden, was served along with tea and coffee. Special thanks was given by all present to Marg Jacobsen for arranging the event.

Alex was born at Long Lake, near Elk Point, approximately on December 31st, 1910. He has made his living working with cattle, horses, and trapping. Alex has worked on farms in the Clearwater Lake area, which is just outside of Long Lake, and in the Marwayne, Tulley Lake district.

Alex enjoyed playing the violin and used to play for many dances. He is a very quiet person, talking only when he has to. Previous to staying at the Hospital, Alex suffered two strokes, and as a result of this, he is now confined to a wheelchair.

Alex has a family of one sister, Julie Brosseau, who is a patient of the Hospital.



*Felix Dufresne played the violin for the first time in seventeen years.*

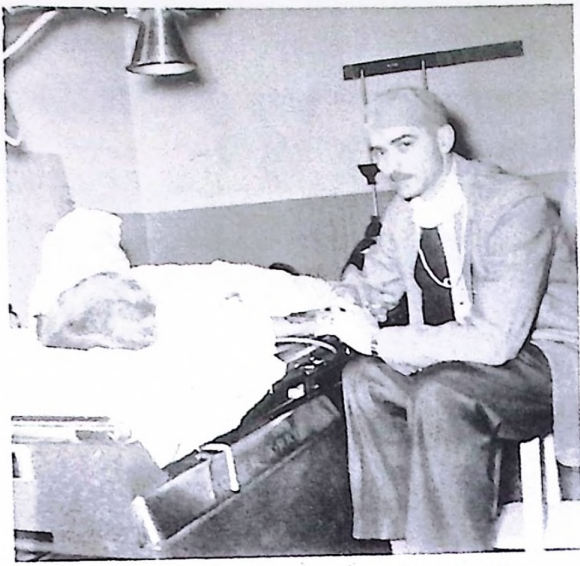
L.P.N Colleen Mc Aleese and friend/patient Louie Fiddler

This program was started by Carolyn Orusto to recognize the special qualities and life-time history of our patients



*Alex Cowston, resident for the month of November, with a family member.*





*Photo of Mr. A. J. ...*



JAN • 57



JUN • 57



JUL • 58

Retirement

Del Bube-

Mr Haines

Isobel Valent

Mr Haverstoc  
(Administr

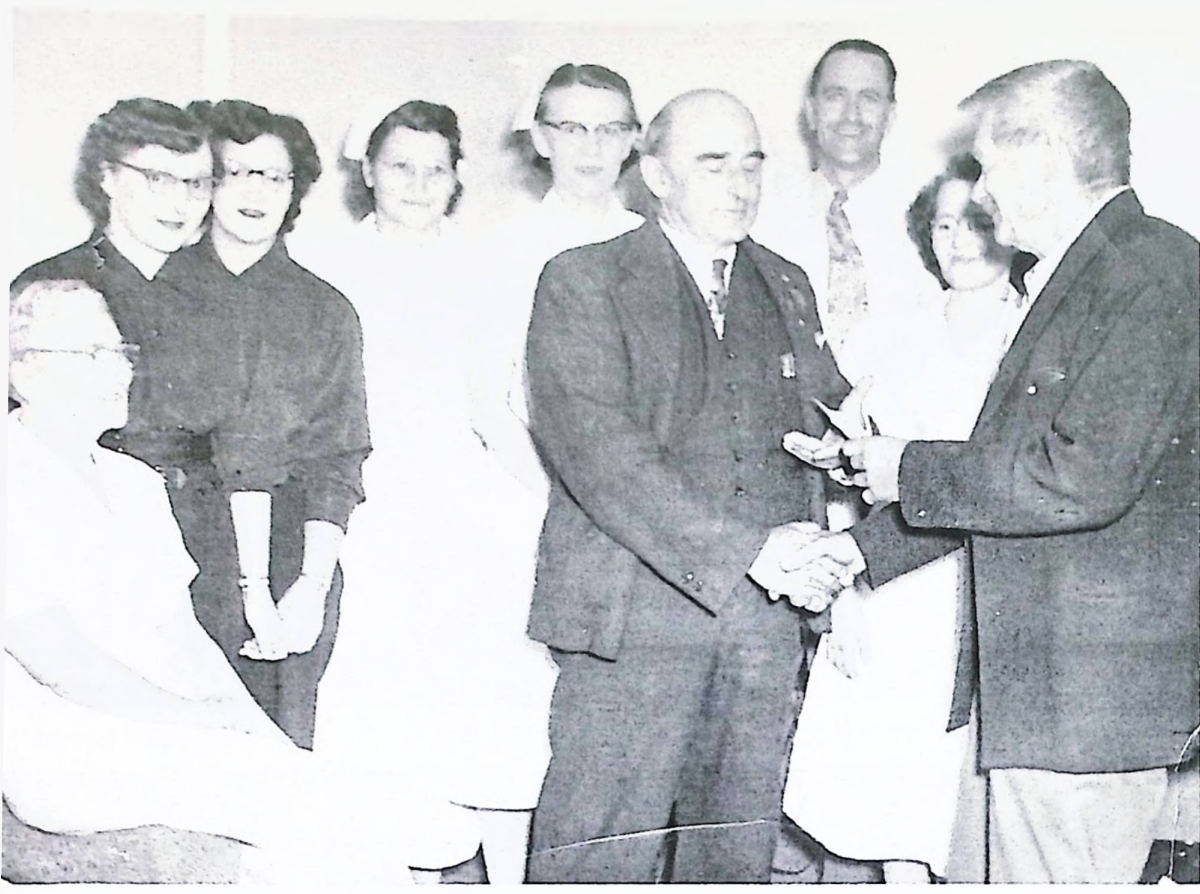
Hazel Howe

Buzzie

Edna Lesyk

Helen Karwa:

Lillian Edwan



VARION E ALBERT  
PARRILL



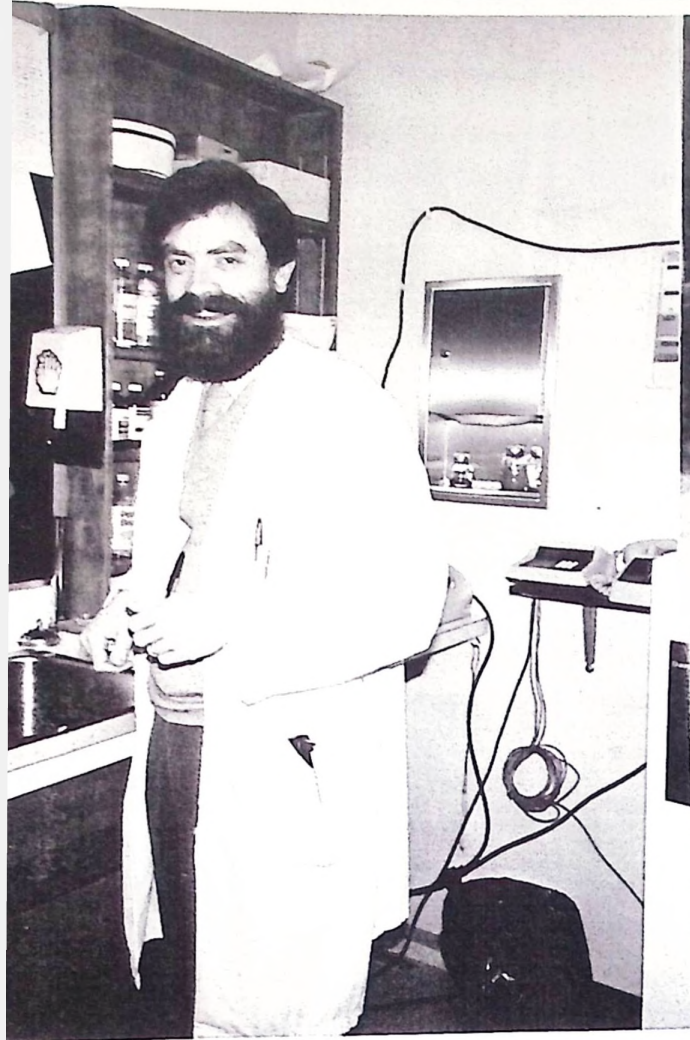
Ardith Olsen



Eleanor Holiday                      LIZ DIDOW                      Shirley Lefebvre                      LIZ WHITE



Isobel Valentine  
 Violet McFadyen  
 Grace Barwick  
 Ester Moneta, Josie Zarow  
 Linda Hammond, Lucile Sui  
 Pauline Pankiw, Susan Frist



Dr. Estey



Helen Stolarchuk, Bernice Kozicki Josie Zarowny



Jenny Shmyr



Carolyn Saniuk



Lawson



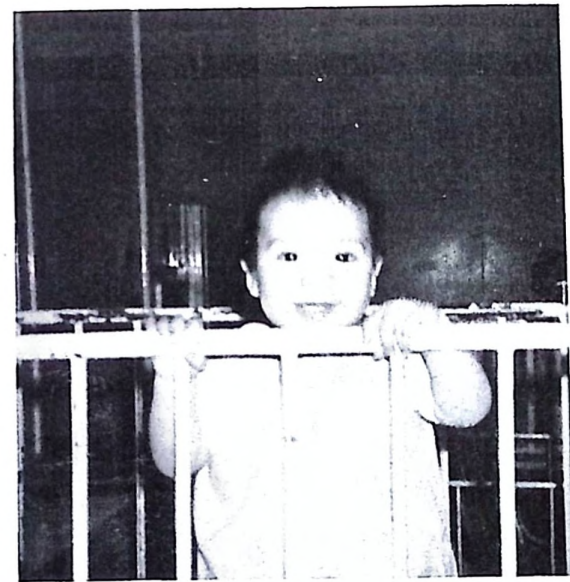
Some of  
our little  
Sweethearts  
that we  
looked after  
1970  
↳ Fabian Fryngpan

Kathy Waits  
and Madeline  
Nicotine



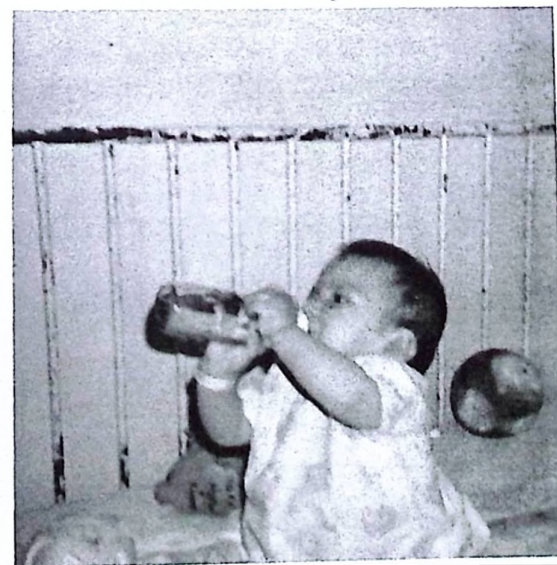
↳ Peggy Maas  
and Corey Gochko

"Smiley"  
Laurie ANN  
CARDINAL



↳ Josie  
Zarowny and  
Jason Watchmaker

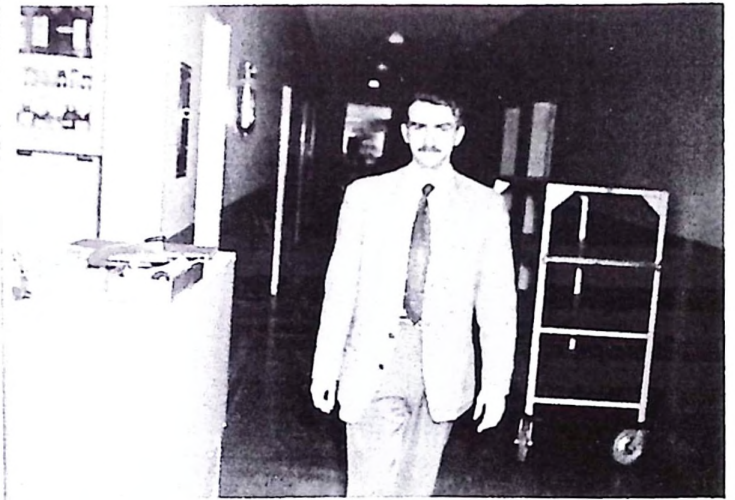
"Yummy"  
"Yummy"  
Felix Quinney





G. Czaykowski, Jean Doyle, Kay Litwinski, Emily Flasha  
Olga and Irene Boratynec, Joanne Andriashak.

1950= Curling = Dr Miller: Louise McCallum, Olga and Kay



Dr. Wiegenink = Elaine, Marge  
Jacobson and Ma Holiday.

Young Dr. K Miller making rounds

"Gramma Edwards" at admitting desk.  
in old hospital.





AMELIA SASINSKY HARRY KRAWCHUK



RUTH LABOSSIERE



RUTH and ANN JOHNSON



FRANCIS MONETA







The Three Musketeers  
 Don's Bristow, Rose Danyluk, Barbara Holiday  
 Pauline Black and Elaine Zayonce



Isobel Pinder  
 Jean Petroski  
 Buzzie Pelechosky  
 and  
 Freda Vaughn



Chris  
McFadyen  
in Staff  
Dining  
Room  
Oct. 81



Nancy  
Heinemann  
Kinda  
Hammou  
Doris  
Cappack  
Oct. 81



Julie Boyko  
and White  
moving a sack  
down  
the aisle  
south @  
P.H.M.  
Oct. 77



Mr. La France  
presents "meditation"  
for administrators  
to Walter Smercka  
to Walter Smercka



Lil Buksa and Virginia  
Smercka in OP Dept.  
Oct. 81

Isabel  
Lentine  
in E.P.M.H.  
prior to  
Retirement



Violet McFadyen  
Sept 1976

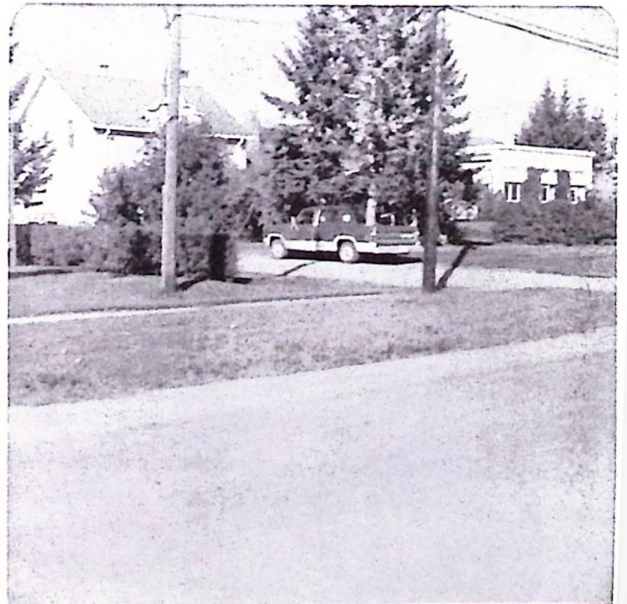
The last  
night shift  
in the old  
E.P.M.H.

Oct. 1976

- Julie Bayku
- Ki White
- Vi McFadyen
- Erma Yew
- Barb
- Milhoilana



Dr.  
K.C. Miller  
Oct. 77





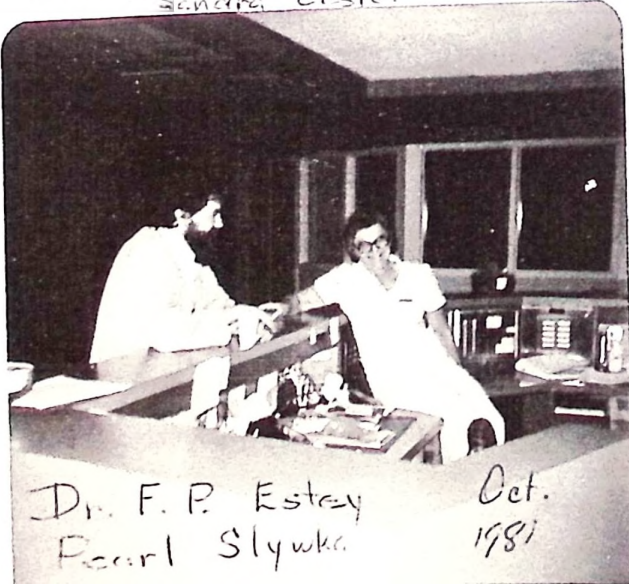
Frances  
Moneta  
1981



Erma Yewahin, Claudette Matveyenka, Sandra Caster 1981



Joanne  
Ferre  
Hutton  
1981



Dr. F. P. Estey  
Pearl Slywka  
Oct.  
1981



Violet  
McFadyen  
Erna  
Yewahin  
1981



h Ladouceur Frances Moneta



Alice Zaeharuk

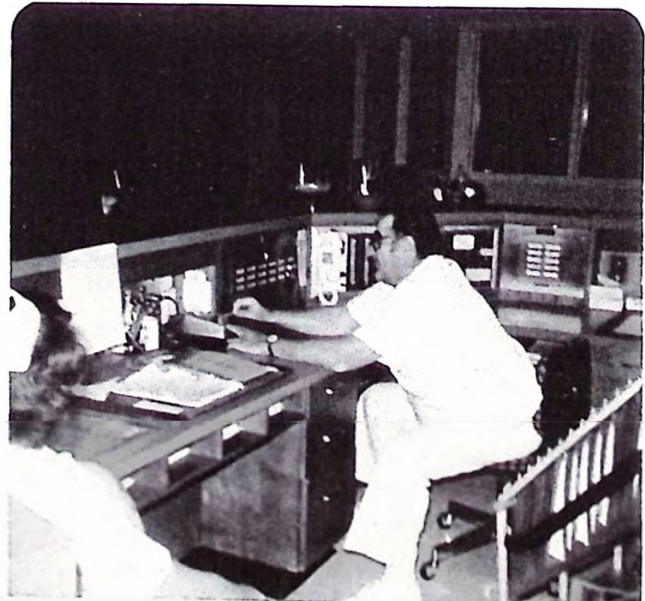


Mildred  
Boyko,  
Chris  
McFadyen,  
Deris  
Capjack

Oct. 81



le just toured the new  
hospital -  
sabel Valentine, Pearl Slywka,  
sile Thomas, Frances Moneta,  
Violet McFadyen  
(Picture by Vi)



Stanley  
Ruzynski  
Oct. 81

# Zacharuk bid farewell

A ten year staff member of Elk Point Municipal Hospital, Alice Zacharuk was bid a fond farewell last Friday by her co-workers, as she retired after thirty years as a ward aide and Registered Nursing Aide in Bonnyville and Elk Point.

Mrs. Zacharuk was joined by her husband Nick, son Wes and future daughter-in-law Jan at the head table. The Zacharuks have two other sons and two daughters, plus four grandchildren.

Mistress of Ceremonies Diane Anderson called Mrs. Zacharuk a "good team member...it's a pleasure to work with her," and noted that she will be missed very much.

John Williams presented the guest of honor with a certificate and a cheque, along with good wishes from the Hospital Board. Loretta Pinder presented flowers on behalf of the doctors, who were absent due to office hours, commenting that "they could always read Alice's writing on the charts," and had appreciated that fact.

John Young presented Mrs. Zacharuk with a watch from the hospital staff, and a gift from the Association of Registered Nursing Aides. Violet McFayden presented a gift from the retired hospital staff, and welcomed her to their midst.

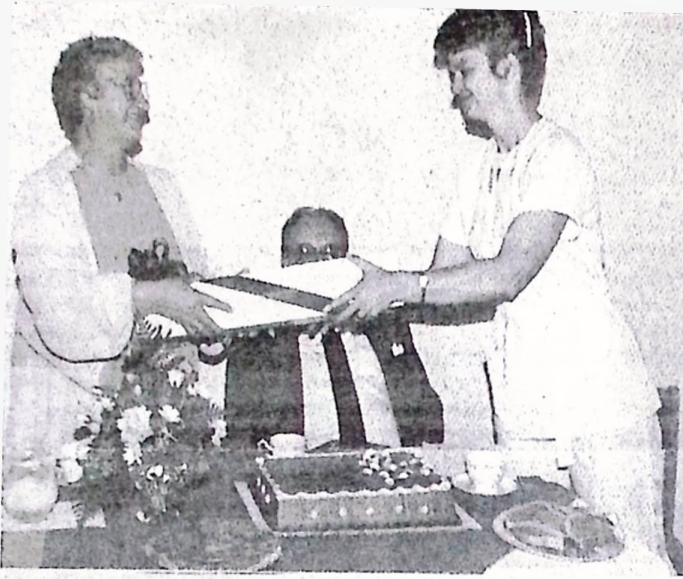
Debbie Lawrence and Gwen Morris on guitars, were joined by Lillian Demchuk and Diane Anderson in a number of song selections, with the audience joining in wherever they knew the words. The songfest ended with a special rendition of "Our Best To You".

Mrs. Zacharuk told the group, "you're all my family" and said that "the good and wor-

thwhile...memories of almost 30 years of nursing will stay with me".

Mrs. Zacharuk, who has commuted from Bonnyville to Elk Point since 1978, is now looking forward to pursuing her personal interests and spending more time with her husband, children and grandchildren.

The very best of wishes, Mrs. Zacharuk, for a happy retirement.



**RETIRING NURSE'S AIDE** — Alice Zacharuk is presented with flowers from the doctors by Loretta Pinder at her retirement party Friday. In the background is Nick Zacharuk.



**SERENADERS** — Debbie Lawrence, Gwen Morris, Lillian Demchuk and Diane Anderson saluted retiring RNA Alice Zacharuk in song.







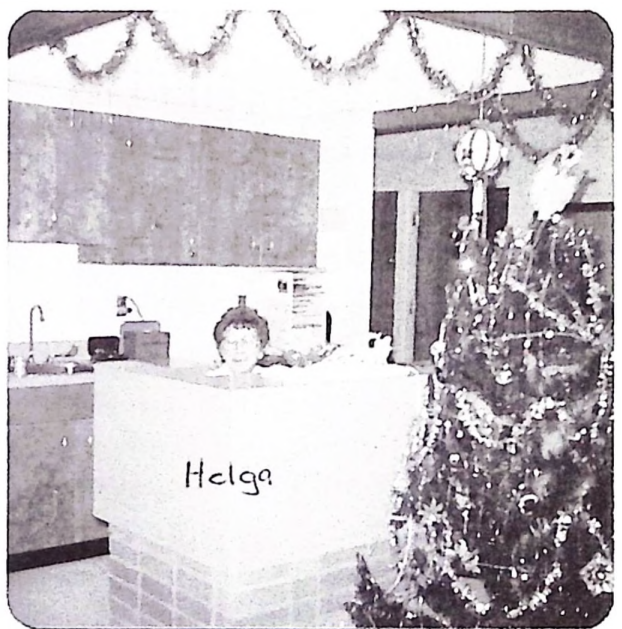
Joe Tredger  
Walter Saranahak



iet McFadyen  
and  
elga Vaughn  
Minor CR



Dec  
1980



Helga

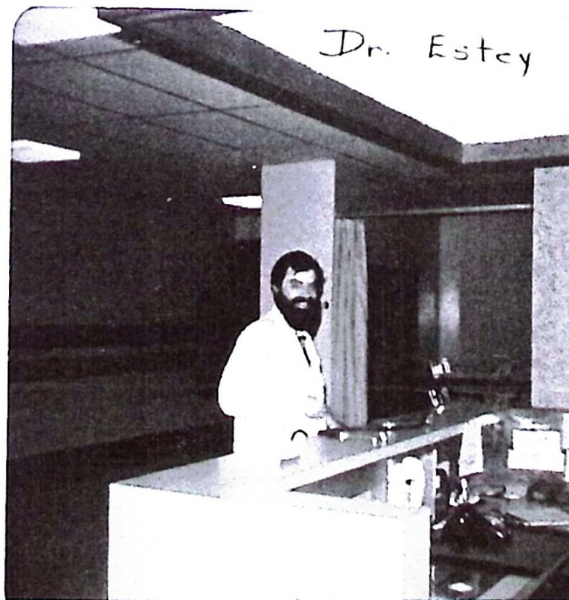
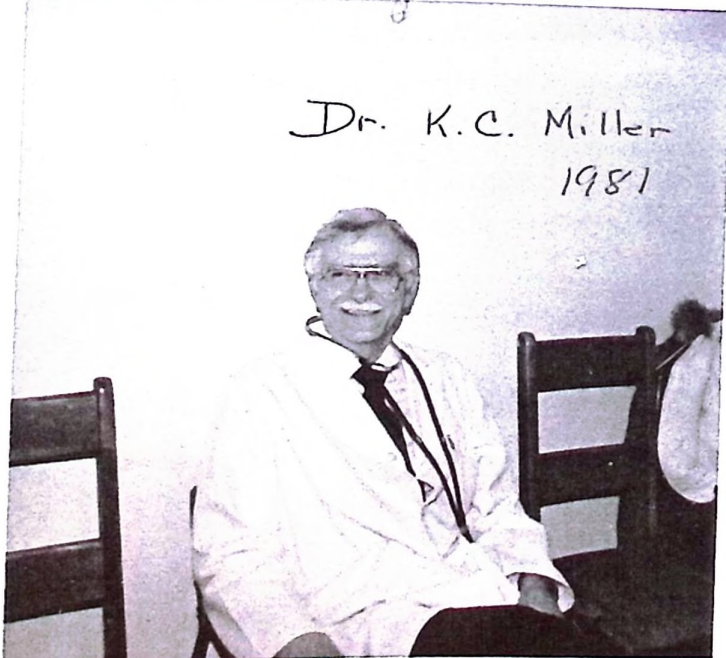
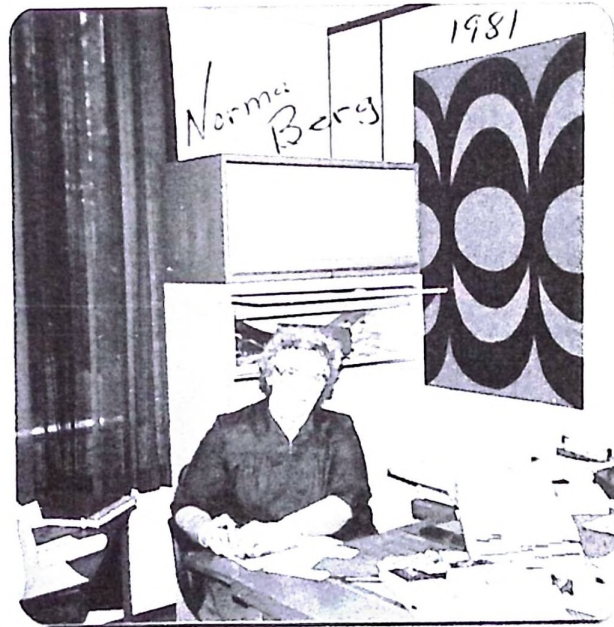
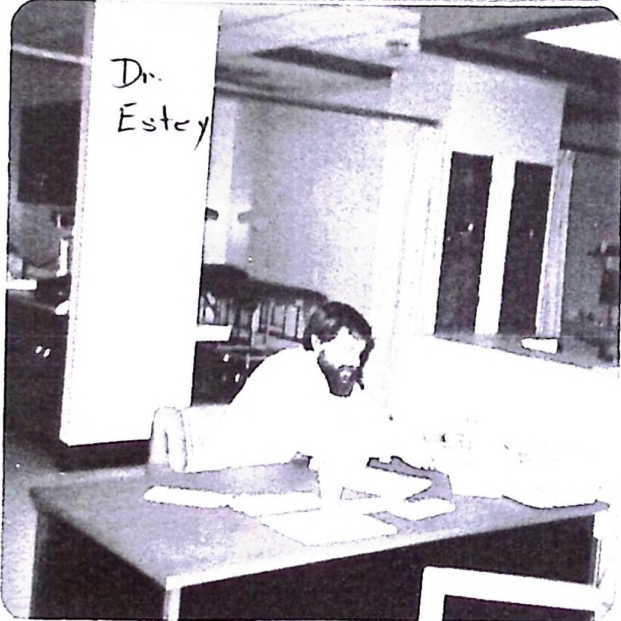
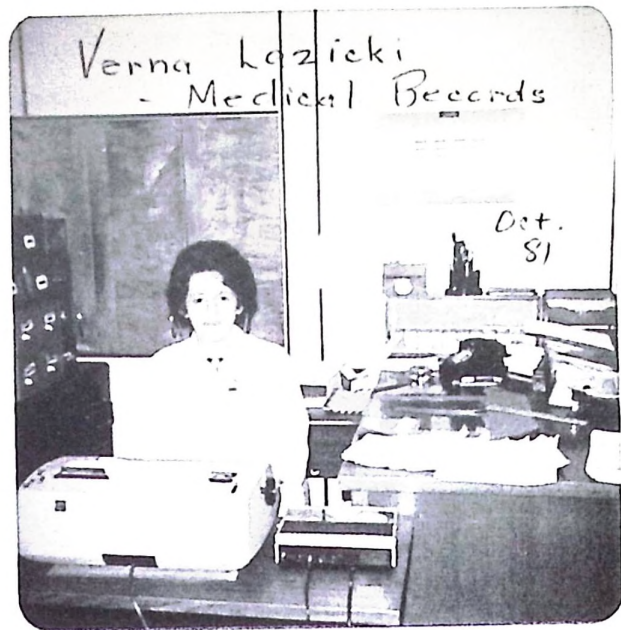
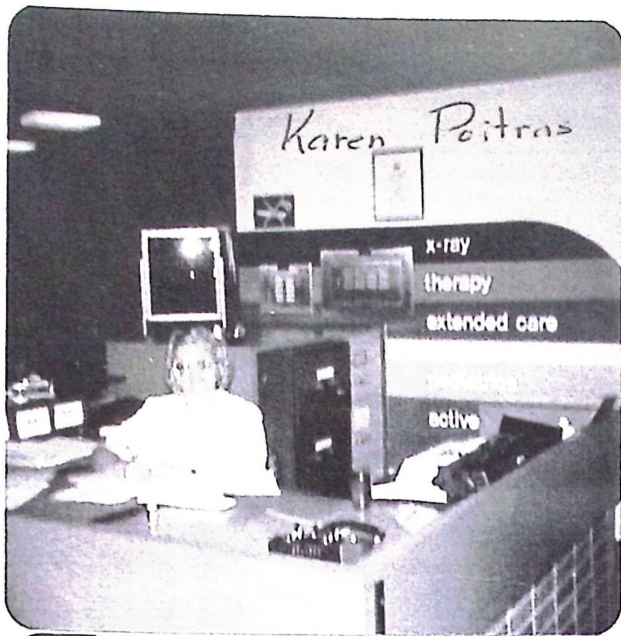


403-408



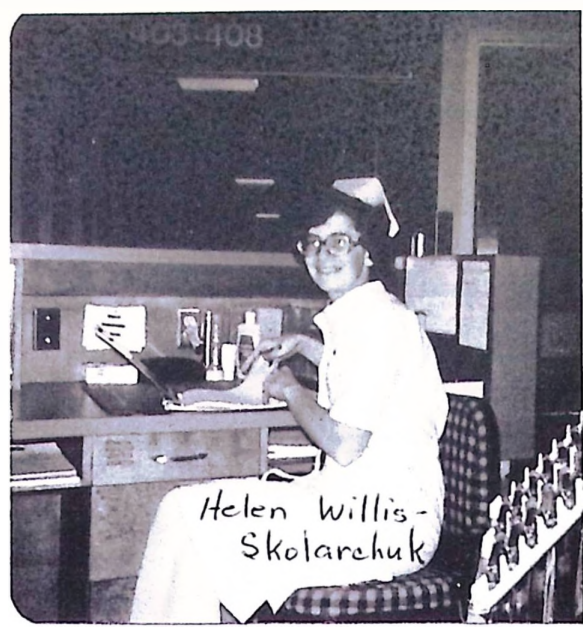
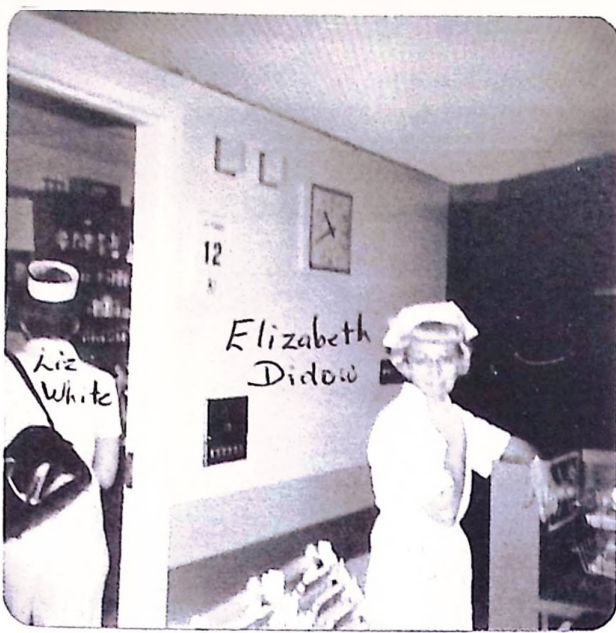
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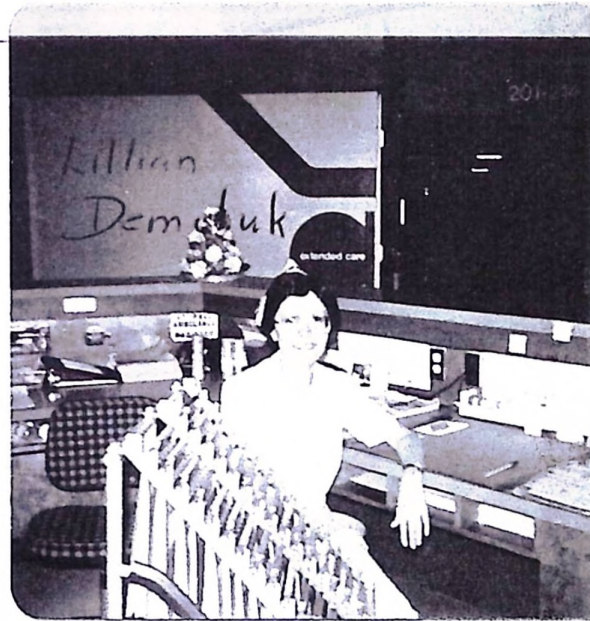


Violet  
McFadyen

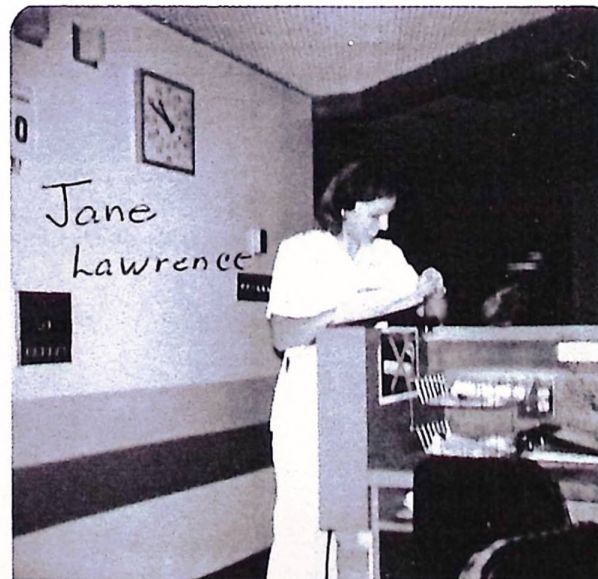




Larry  
Carnet-  
Bennett  
Peggy  
Maas  
1981



Carolyn  
Seniuk  
Elizabeth  
Zarowny  
in  
Ped's  
1981



let's last  
glit at work

Carolyn Orusko  
Joanne Fokely  
Loret McFadyys  
Jelen Skulanehul  
Helen Kuzieki

Oct. 1981



Retirement  
Cake from  
Staff



Chris McFadyen  
Helga Vaughan  
Nancy Heineman  
at Violet McFadyen's  
Retirement.



Buzzie Pelechovsky,  
Violet McFadyen,  
Barrie McFadyen

(Vi's Retirement)



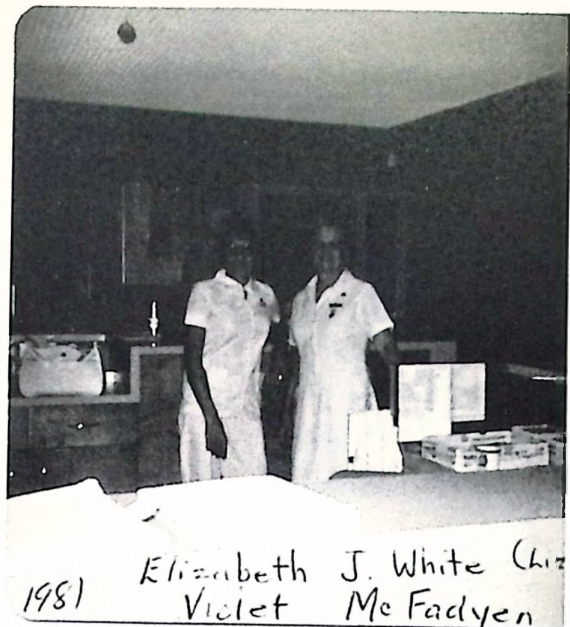
Ralph Reimer  
presenting  
Appreciation  
Certificate to Vi  
Audrey Willmer.





Esther  
Goldsmith  
Moneta  
in  
Med.  
Room

Oct.  
1981



1981 Elizabeth J. White (Liz)  
Violet McFadyen



Dr. Estey  
Doris Capjack Lil Buksa  
Stanley Ruzych



Dr. Estey, Mike Capjack,  
Doris Capjack, Stanley  
Ruzychki, Erma Yewchin,  
Lillian Buksa, Metro  
Buksa.

\* Doris, Stan, and  
Lil's Retirement



Audrey Wilmer's  
retirement  
Sept. 18 /84

Tom Belsheim  
presenting plaque  
to retiring Walter  
Saranchuk.



Pearl Slywka and  
daughter Marilyn at  
Pearl's retirement.





Taken at  
Violet's 70<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday,  
April 2000

-many staff  
members  
who had  
shared  
work shifts  
and memories  
at times  
together



Violet McFadyen  
at end of shift.



Elizabeth and Joe  
Zarowny at  
Elizabeth's  
retirement.

Feb. 1984



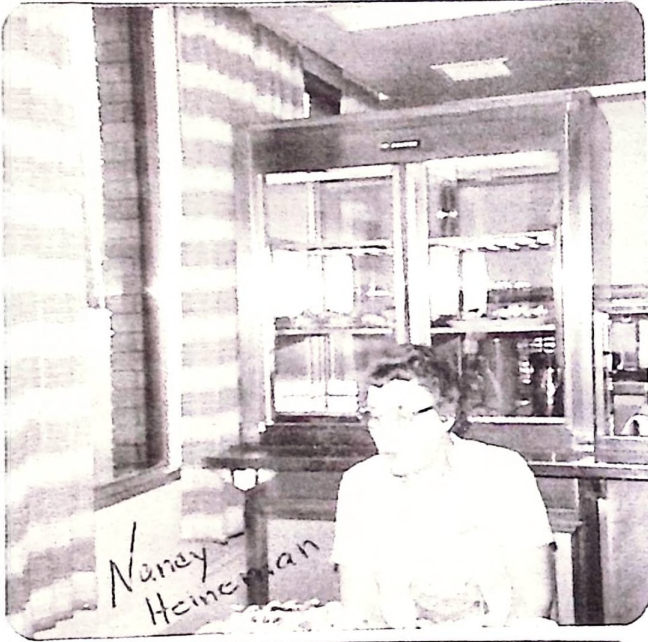






JUN

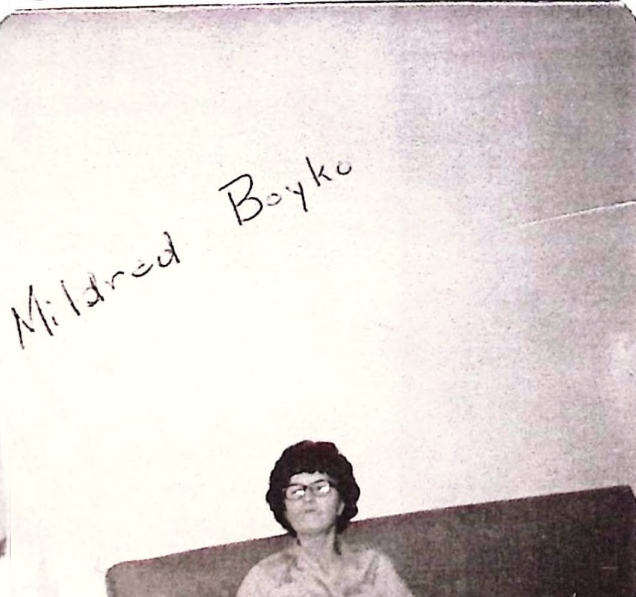
76



Nancy  
Heimann



Dining  
Appleton



Mildred  
Boyko

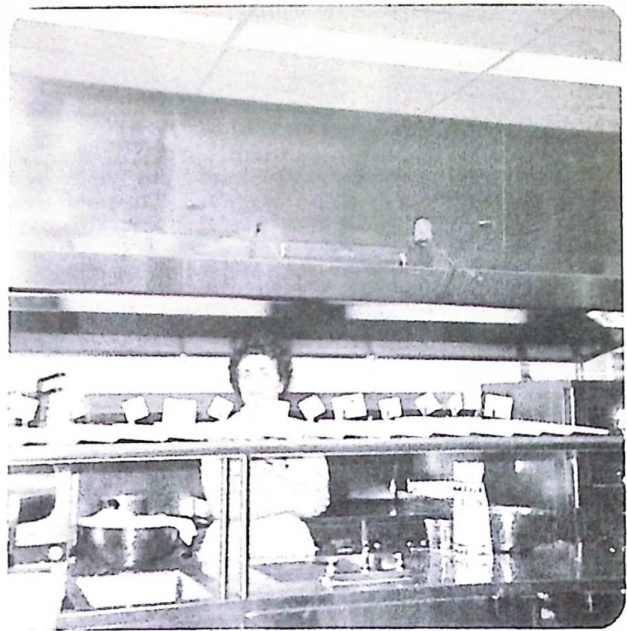


JUL

76



Nancy Heineman



Denis Capjack



Claudette  
Boisvert  
June 1979



Marion  
Richie  
Jan. 76

## **Remembering Elk Point Hospital Staff**

### **Mary (Flasha) Vogel**

**- worked in Housekeeping 1936 and 1965**

### **Erma (Roman) Yewchin**

**- worked in 1944 for two years, got married, came back twelve years later, and worked a total of 27 years. Did cooking some week-ends, laundry, and a nursing attendant.**

### **Marie (Babenek) Lesyk**

**- worked in the kitchen and laundry**

**MY YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE ELK POINT HEALTH CENTRE**  
**1967-2008 by: Verna Lazicki**

I first started to work in the Hospital in 1967. under the management of Mr. Walter Saranchuk, the administrator, and the Director of Nursing, Erna Holiday .

My adventure through the Health Care system goes back to 1967 when I was employed as a Hospital Aide in the nursing department. In 1973 I was offered, and accepted a job in the admitting Department.

While working in the admitting department and eventually becoming the Admitting Officer, I took the Health Records

Technical Course, receiving much help and encouragement from Mrs. Ma (Alma) Holiday, who previously had been the Health Records Administrator.

In 1977, Grace Barwick retired from the Medical Records Department and I was given the position of Director of Medical Records. I held that position until 2003 at which time I retired from full-time and stayed on as casual which I still maintain to this day and still enjoy it .

Through the 40+ years that I worked, I had 7 Administrators or Hospital facilitators, many, many changes in the Health Records department, from paper abstracting and data entry to the electronic chart, and electronic data entry. I guess that is what you call progress, progress, progress.



Verna Lazicki and Volunteen Roxanne Berg.

## ADMITTING PERSONNEL

Verna Lazicki, admitting officer and switchboard operator. Verna performs the duties of admitting office receptionist, calculates and prepares statements pertaining to admitting and discharging of patients. She operates a telephone switchboard to relay incoming, outgoing and inter-office calls and performs clerical duties such as typing and filing.



## HELGA COUSINEAU (VAUGHAN)

I moved to Elk Point, Alberta in 1956. Began working at the Elk Point Municipal Hospital August 1st of that same year.

I worked first few days orientated by Miss Riemer, a Nursing Aide Trainee. She was a lovely person. The Hospital, at that time hired R.N.A trainees.

The first day I worked one of the girls showed me where the Ladies washroom was. It didn't take long before I found out it was the Mens washroom.. Was I every embarassed and mad at that girl.

Mr. Walter Saranchuk was Administrator and Mrs. Gunning the Director of Nursing.

In 1957 I was transferred to C.S.R., O.R, and C.R. in Mary Derewynka's place. She resigned. I worked with her for two weeks , she was a very good teacher and lots of fun.

It was a pleasure working with all the Hospital Staff in the old hosital as well as the new one.

Albert Paquin was the Orderely, a warm, caring and fun type person. Even with our daily duties there were fun times. One hardly dared to open a door quickly for fear a cup of water might spill on your head, or when you were ready to go home your coat sleeve might be sewed shut and a rubber glove full of water in it. Albert really was a card, but the patients loved him

The nurses were Dorothy Pelechowski, Barbara Millholand, Isobel Pinder, Doris Andrishak, Ruby Bullis, Mrs Dumpich, Miss Wutz and Miss Ruyich.

I really enjoyed working for Dr. K. C Miller, Dr. A. G. Ross, Dr. F. G. Miller and Dr. A. Wiegerink. With their different techniques I will never forget them, at that time scrubbing was done by R.N., circulating done by Aides.

Lab Techician was Margaret McGinnis (Margaret Lyttle). When I began working wages were one hundred dollars (\$100.00) a month. 1957 working in the O.R. was twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) more.

1976 in the new hospital I worked in Out-patients, Emergency and O.R. call.

I really enjoyed working for Mrs. Wilmer, Director of Nursing. She was so helpful.

I thank all staff for being so helpful.  
There are too numerous to name.



**Helen (Baranowski) Sribney**

**In the summer of 1948, I started working at the Elk Point Hospital and lived in the hospital residence on the second floor.**

**I began working in the kitchen, helping with meals and setting up trays for patients and also did cleaning.**

**There was a shortage of nursing aids so they asked me if I would work in the wards. And that's what I did, some wonderful nurses gave me training. I learned lots. I even worked on night shifts.**

**In June of 1950, I married a farmer, Steve Sribney, and left my job at the hospital. We farmed in the Elk Point area. I enjoyed the countryside and helping my husband with the farming.**

**We have six wonderful children, two live in California and four live in Alberta.**

**We retired from the farm in 1994 and moved to St.Paul. We spent twenty-two winters in Arizona. I took up golfing, art, painting, and dancing lessons.**

**We now spend our winters at home in St.Paul. I still do some painting, it sure passes the time, and go dancing.**



Leatha Ramsbottom - enjoying the flowers.

