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## MS276 El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association records

Carrie-Ann Chavez

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Guide to  
MS 276  
El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association records

Span Dates, 1907 – 1982  
Bulk Dates, 1978

4 feet, 1 inch (linear)

Processed by Carrie-Ann Chavez

June 4, 2015

Donated by Esperanza Acosta Moreno, August 23, 1989 and Ann Bechtel, 2003.

Citation: El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association, 1907 – 1982, MS 276, C.L.  
Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department  
University of Texas at El Paso

## Historical Sketch

The Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, formed on June 3, 1907, works to promote excellence in nursing and to regulate nursing practices and education in Texas. On February 22, 1907, nineteen Texas nurses met to establish a society for graduate nurses at the Medical College Building in Fort Worth, Texas. Subsequently, the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association (TGNA) was founded four months later. The pioneer nurses had their first state meeting in Houston, Texas where they created the organization's constitution and by-laws.

After the creation of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, it took two years "to carry a bill into the Legislature of 1909, where it passed successfully, with no amendments." This bill, the State Nurses Registration Act, "brought about the organization of the Board of Nurse Examiners (BNE) for the State of Texas." Now called the Texas Board of Nursing, the BNE is the legal structure for overseeing nursing and nursing education in Texas. The Examining Board of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association is composed of professional nurses. Also in 1909, the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association was admitted to membership in the American Nurses' Association. Twenty years later, the State Headquarters for the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association was established in El Paso, Texas.

Over the years, members of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association attended conventions throughout the United States to receive training, educate others, and to advocate for the need for nurses, especially during wartime. The TGNA regularly amended their constitution and by-laws, voted for representatives, and attended professional development meetings to learn best practices and recruit new members.

In 1955, State Headquarters moved from El Paso, Texas to San Antonio, Texas. Three years later, in 1958, the House Delegates from the American Nurses' Association voted that the code of ethics reflect the "nurses' responsibility in participating in the establishment of employment conditions." The Texas Graduate

Nurses' Association's name changed to Texas Nurses' Association (TNA) in 1964, and the *Texas Nurses' Association Bulletin* became *Texas Nursing* in 1973. In 1997, the Texas Nurses' Association celebrated one hundred years of supporting professional nursing in Texas.

#### References:

Dietrich, A. Louise. *History: Texas Graduate Nurses' Association*. Hughes-Buie Company Printers: El Paso, Texas, 1931.

Texas Nurses' Association. "Historical Outline: First 100 Years." Retrieved in 2015 from the Texas Nurses' Association at [www.texasnurses.org](http://www.texasnurses.org).

Texas Nurses' Association. "TNA Purpose." Retrieved from the Texas Nurses' Association in 2015 at [www.texasnurses.org](http://www.texasnurses.org).

## Series Description or Arrangement

The Texas Graduate Nurses' Association records are arranged in twelve series:

### **Series I. Papers and Reports, 1907-1982**

Series is divided into eight sub-series – Texas Graduate Nurses' Association History, Annual Reports, A. Louise Dietrich, R.N., Texas Graduate Nurses' Association District 1 Committee and Employee Manuals, Texas Nurse Week, Texas Nurse of the Year, Sister Aloysius Williams, and Press Release and Correspondence. All sub-series are arranged chronologically.

### **Series II. Constitutions and By-Laws, 1949-1980**

Arranged chronologically.

### **Series III. Members, 1929-1960**

Arranged chronologically.

### **Series IV. Newspaper clippings, 1920-1972**

Series is divided into three sub-series – Corpus Christi (Corpus Christi Caller), Washington D.C. (Evening Union Newspaper) and Atlantic City (Atlantic City Press), and El Paso (El Paso Herald-Post and The El Paso Times). All sub-series are arranged chronologically.

**Series V. Yearbooks, 1966-1969, undated**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series VI. Scrapbooks and Other Media, 1933-1978, undated**

Series is divided into two sub-series – Scrapbooks and Ephemera. All sub-series are arranged chronologically.

**Series VII. Publications, 1916-1979**

Series is divided into three sub-series – Journals, Publications, and Publication Order Forms. All sub-series are arranged chronologically.

**Series VIII. Talon, 1974-1985, undated**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series IX. Medical Information, 1970-1982, undated**

Series is divided into three sub-series – Abstracts and Syllabi, Books, and Patient Prognosis. All sub-series are arranged chronologically.

**Series X. Nursing Bureau of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, 1933-1936**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series XI. Minutes, 1907-1954**

Arranged chronologically.

**Series XII. Ledgers and cleared checks, 1917-1959**

Arranged chronologically.

## Scope and Content Notes

The Texas Graduate Nurses' Association records date 1907 – 1980, bulk 1978. Types of records include annual reports, newspaper clippings, yearbooks, publications, minutes, ledgers, scrapbooks, photographs, medical information, abstracts and a syllabi. The Texas Graduate Nurses' Association is arranged into twelve series: Papers and Reports; Constitution and By-Laws; Members; Newspaper clippings; Yearbooks; Scrapbooks and Other Media; Publications; Talon; Medical Information; Nursing Bureau of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association; Minutes; Ledgers and Cleared Checks. These records document the history and activities of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association in El Paso and throughout Texas.

The Papers and Reports series contains a history of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, annual reports, articles about A. Louise Dietrich, Texas Graduate Nurses' Association District No. 1 Committee and employee manuals, Texas Nurses' Week, TGNA Nurse of the year list, articles about Sister Aloysius Williams, and press releases and correspondence.

The Members series contains small books which consist of member names and contact information.

The Newspaper clippings series contains clippings from different newspapers capturing conventions and nurse related events and news.

The Yearbooks series contains TGNA yearbooks and a foreign nursing school yearbook.

The Scrapbooks and Other Media series contains a scrapbook with photographs and clippings of TGNA news, a framed motto, and proclamation certificates.

The Publications series contains nursing journals, TGNA bulletins, and blank publication order forms.

The Talon series contains correspondence, publication lists, order and request forms to participate in Talon, an online medical publication exchange and database.

The Medical Information series contains abstracts, syllabi, books, and patient prognosis.

The Nursing Bureau of the TGNA series contains correspondence, press releases, receipts, and other information.

The American Nurses' Association contains several books on by-laws and Baccalaureate preparation in nursing manuals.

The Minutes series includes bound volumes documenting meetings, events, activities, operations, and decisions.

The Ledger and Cleared Checks series documents the finances of the TGNA.

## **Provenance Statement**

Donated by Esperanza Acosta Moreno, August 23, 1989 and Ann Bechtel, 2003.

## **Restrictions**

See **Notes to the Researcher**

## **Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish material from the El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association, must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## **Notes to the Researcher**

Some of the items in the El Paso Graduate Nurses' Association records are fragile and brittle. Please handle with care. Photocopying of materials in poor condition might be restricted.

Researchers should also view:

Barbara K. Dent collection of medical history research, C.L. Sonnichsen Special

Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Funkhouser, Barbara. *The Caregivers: El Paso's Medical History 1898 to 1998*. Sundance Press, Inc.: El Paso, Texas, 1999.

Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Hotel Dieu School of Nursing records, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Sister Aloysius Williams collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## Container List

### Series I. Papers and Reports, 1907 – 1982

| Box # | Folder # | Title  | Date      |
|-------|----------|--|-----------|
| 1     | 1        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association History                                       | 1907-1951 |
| 1     | 1        | Annual Reports   | 1946-1955 |
| 1     | 1        | A. Louise Dietrich, R.N.   | 1954-1962 |
| 1     | 1        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association District No. 1 Committee and Employee Manuals | 1963-1967 |
| 1     | 1        | Texas Nurse Week   | 1971      |
| 1     | 1        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association Nurse of the Year                             | 1958-1982 |
| 1     | 1        | Sister Aloysius Williams   | 1972      |
| 1     | 1        | Press Release and Correspondence   | 1973-1978 |

### Series II. Constitution and By-Laws, 1949 – 1980

| Box # | Folder # | Title                               | Date |
|-------|----------|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1     | 2        | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1949 |
| 1     | 2        | Constitution and By-Laws (2 copies) | 1953 |
| 1     | 2        | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1957 |
| 1     | 2        | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1959 |
| 1     | 2        | Constitution and By-Laws for the EI | 1959 |



|   |   |                                     |      |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|------|
|   |   | Paso League for Nursing             |      |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1961 |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws (2 copies) | 1962 |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1965 |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1973 |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1974 |
| 1 | 2 | Constitution and By-Laws            | 1980 |

## Series III. Members, 1929 – 1971

| Box # | Folder # | Title                       | Date      |
|-------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1929-1930 |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1930-1931 |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1956-1960 |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1959      |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1964      |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory (2 copies) | 1967      |
| 1     | 3        | Member Directory            | 1970-1971 |

## Series IV. Newspaper clippings, 1950 – 1972

| Box # | Folder # | Title   | Date |
|-------|----------|---|------|
| 1     | 4        | Corpus Christi ( <i>Corpus Christi Caller</i> )                     | 1950 |
| 1     | 4        | Atlantic City ( <i>Atlantic City Press</i> )                        | 1952 |
| 1     | 4        | Washington, D.C. ( <i>Evening Union</i> newspaper)                  | 1952 |
| 1     | 4        | El Paso ( <i>El Paso Herald-Post</i> and the <i>El Paso Times</i> ) | 1972 |

## Series V. Yearbooks, 1966 – 1969, undated

| Box # | Folder # | Title  | Date    |
|-------|----------|--|---------|
| 1     | 5        | Foreign Nursing School Yearbook                        | undated |
| 1     | 5        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association Yearbook (2 copies) | 1966    |
| 1     | 5        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association Yearbook            | 1969    |

## Series VI. Scrapbooks and Other Media, 1933 – 1978, undated

| Box # | Folder # | Title | Date |
|-------|----------|-------|------|
|-------|----------|-------|------|

|   |   |   |           |
|---|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | 6 | Scrapbook                                     | 1933-1937 |
| 1 | 6 | Framed motto                                  | undated   |
| 3 | 1 | Proclamation Certificate (Legal-sized folder) | 1970      |
| 3 | 1 | Proclamation Certificate (Legal-sized folder) | 1978      |

## Series VII. Publications, 1916 – 1978

| Box # | Folder # | Title  | Date      |
|-------|----------|--|-----------|
| 1     | 7        | Journals                                     | 1916-1947 |
| 1     | 7        | Texas Graduate Nurses' Association Bulletins | 1933-1936 |
| 1     | 7        | Newsletters                                  | 1957-1979 |
| 1     | 7        | Publication order forms                      | 1977-1978 |

## Series VIII. Talon, 1974 – 1985, undated

| Box # | Folder # | Title  | Date            |
|-------|----------|--|-----------------|
| 1     | 8        | Talon-Online Medical Publication Exchange and Database | n.d., 1974-1985 |

## Series IX. Medical Information, 1951 – 1982, undated

| Box # | Folder # | Title             | Date               |
|-------|----------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1     | 9        | Syllabi           | 1970               |
| 1     | 10       | Abstracts         | 1982               |
| 1     | 10       | Books             | 1951-1982, undated |
| 1     | 10       | Patient prognosis | 1978-1982, undated |

## Series X. Nursing Bureau of the Texas Graduate Nurses' Association, 1933 – 1936

| Box # | Folder # | Title   | Date      |
|-------|----------|---|-----------|
| 1     | 11       | Papers, reports, and correspondence in a bound volume | 1933-1936 |

## Series XI. Minutes, 1907 – 1954

| Box # | Folder # | Title                      | Date      |
|-------|----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| 2     | 1        | Minutes (original)         | 1907-1911 |
| 2     | 1        | Minutes (handwritten copy) | 1907-1911 |
| 2     | 2        | Minutes                    | 1911-1914 |
| 2     | 2        | Minutes                    | 1914-1919 |
| 2     | 2        | Minutes                    | 1919-1920 |
| 2     | 2        | Minutes                    | 1920-1922 |
| 2     | 3        | Minutes                    | 1922-1926 |
| 2     | 3        | Minutes                    | 1927-1930 |
| 2     | 3        | Minutes                    | 1930-1933 |
| 2     | 3        | Minutes                    | 1934      |
| 2     | 3        | Minutes                    | 1935-1936 |
| 2     | 4        | Minutes                    | 1939-1941 |
| 2     | 5        | Minutes                    | 1941-1943 |
| 2     | 6        | Minutes                    | 1944-1948 |
| 2     | 7        | Minutes                    | 1949-1954 |

## Series XII. Ledgers and Cleared Checks, 1917 – 1959

| Box # | Folder # | Title          | Date      |
|-------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| 2     | 8        | Cleared checks | 1917-1922 |
| 2     | 9        | Ledger         | 1920-1926 |
| 2     | 10       | Ledger         | 1927-1931 |
| 3     | 1        | Ledger         | 1932-1937 |
| 3     | 2        | Ledger         | 1937-1942 |
| 4     | 1        | Ledger         | 1943-1947 |
| 4     | 2        | Ledger         | 1948-1953 |
| 4     | 3        | Ledger         | 1953-1959 |