The Nightingale Pledge

Solemnly Pledge Myself
Before God And In The Presence Of This Assembly:

To pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully.

I WILL abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug.

I WILL do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping, and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my profession.

WITH loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work, and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

Florence Nightingale’s teachings have impacted nursing education for well over one hundred years. Even today, student nurses are required to read her "Notes on Nursing" as a component of their basic education. It is indeed fitting that her portrait should grace the cover of this publication which documents the proud history of Lakeview through its evolution from Danville Training School for Nurses in 1894 to Lakeview College of Nursing in 1994.

About the artist:

This rendering of The Nightingale Pledge was commissioned by RN Magazine and executed by Ismar David of New York City, a celebrated graphic designer. Mr. David learned his art in his native Germany, and since coming to this country in 1952 has been a teacher of calligraphy and book designer of the highest caliber. His most recent work has been as a designer of books for the Thomas Y. Crowell Company and for the Limited Editions Club. In developing this hand-lettered design of The Nightingale Pledge, Mr. David said that he attempted to use calligraphy “so that it becomes part of 20th-century expression, and achieves a character that cannot be duplicated by type.”

About the Pledge:

The moving spirit behind The Nightingale Pledge was Lystra E. Gilette, director of the Farrand Training School of the Harper Hospital in Detroit. Composed and named in honor of Florence Nightingale, who was then in her 70’s, the Pledge was first taken by the spring class of the Farrand school on April 25, 1893. Since that time, the Pledge has become the most widely accepted oath in the nursing profession, and its statement of principle is still strong, clear and fresh.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

History never stops; it is being made daily.

We want to thank all of the alumni and friends who invested so much time, effort, and research to make
this project possible. We want to extend a special thanks to the Lakeview College of Nursing Board
members who planned the Centennial Activities, and to Donna Haworth, Activities Assistant at Lakeview
College of Nursing, for all the time and energy she put into this book. We also want to thank the
Danville Commercial News for allowing us to use many articles from their publications.

It was not possible to include all the pictures and stories of everyone who has contributed to the rich
history of Lakeview's heritage. We apologize for any oversights and sincerely hope that you will see a
little bit of yourself in the representative articles.

The Alumni Centennial Committee

INTRODUCTION

The original objective of assembling this book was to preserve the history of Lakeview School of Nursing
over the past 100 years. We were given this assignment in June of 1993 by the Lakeview College of
Nursing Centennial Committee. During our weekly meetings we have sorted through piles of musty
scrapbooks, yearbooks, collections of old photographs and fragile newspaper clippings. As we sorted
we have had a wonderful time reminiscing about our years of nursing education at Lakeview. We all
agreed that we would not trade those years for anything in the world. It was such a significant time in
our lives! Who among us will ever forget the delightful camaraderie of life in the dormitory, the lasting
friendships, the shared joys and tears?

Our nursing education was no easier than that of today's student nurse, but in many ways it was much
different. We recalled how hard we worked as students when the hospital was short-staffed. We talked
about the times spent on the night shift or PM shift when students were the total staff, with only an RN
Supervisor somewhere in the building. We reflected on the responsibilities we had to assume but were
in agreement that the experiences were wonderful.

It is our hope that as you browse through the pages of this book you will come to realize that the essence
of nursing is love and caring, love and caring for our patients and for each other. The graduates of
Lakeview School of Nursing have touched the lives of many people in Danville and the surrounding
areas. We have left our indelible mark on the community for the past 100 years. What a grand legacy for
Lakeview College of Nursing to carry on for the next 100!

The Alumni Centennial Committee
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