

Do you know this Group? Chief Nurse at Brooks belongs + same



ACROSS THE BOARD

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415

CELEBRATE TRANSPORT NURSES DAY: FEBRUARY 18

In looking back through history, nurses have played an important role in caring for the sick and injured. Transport nursing is nothing new to the 20th century. Nurses can be found back in ancient times caring for and transporting patients.

Transports throughout history have been by various modes of transportation, ranging from covered wagon to hot air balloons. It wasn't until World War II that a new field of military nursing emerged called flight nursing.

During World War II over 69,000 Army and Navy nurses gave care to the wounded in frontline situations, field hospitals, evacuation hospitals, base hospitals, ships, trains, and in the air. Both the Army and Navy instituted flight nurse programs for assistance with the extended use of air transport for the evacuation of wounded soldiers. Established through the Air Surgeon's Office in September 1942, this program prepared nurses to rapidly convert transport planes into flying ambulances. The planes were not marked with the Geneva Red Cross, therefore they were not protected from enemy fire. Flight nurses performed under great pressures and were instrumental in providing quality care in dangerous circumstances.

On February 18, 1943, the first class of flight nurses graduated from their specialized course of medical



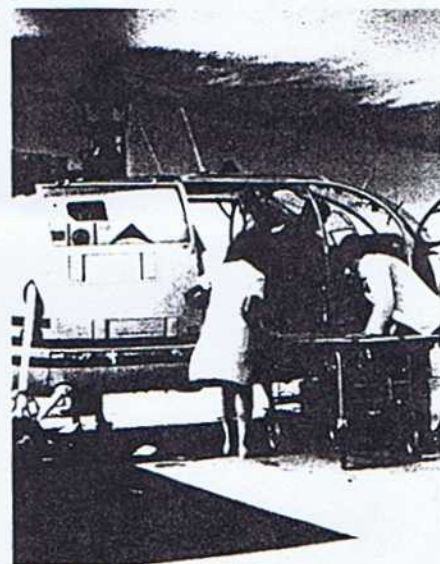
The flight crew from Welborn Hospital's Life Flight in Evansville, Indiana, pose in front of their helicopter in the late 1970s.

training at Bowman Field in Louisville, Kentucky. Five classes graduated from the 349th Air Evacuation School at Bowman Field between February 18 and October 1, 1943.

The National Flight Nurses Association believes that February 18, 1943, holds a special place in our beginnings. This day has been selected to represent all of our colleagues who risk their lives and give their all to perform a highly specialized and unique service.

On February 18, we will celebrate the first Critical Care Transport Nurses Day. Although the 349th Air Evacuation School is no longer at Bowman Field, there is a program based there. This program is StatCare and it is the union of three programs. StatCare's "Just for Kids" in Louisville, Kentucky,

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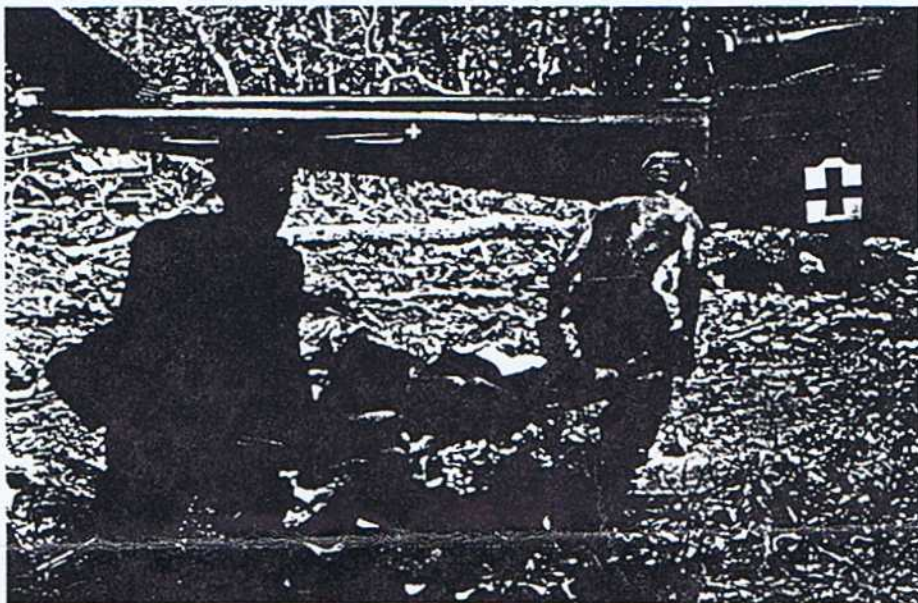


Flight for Life in Denver, Colorado, is said to be the first hospital-based helicopter program in the United States. The above picture was taken in 1972.

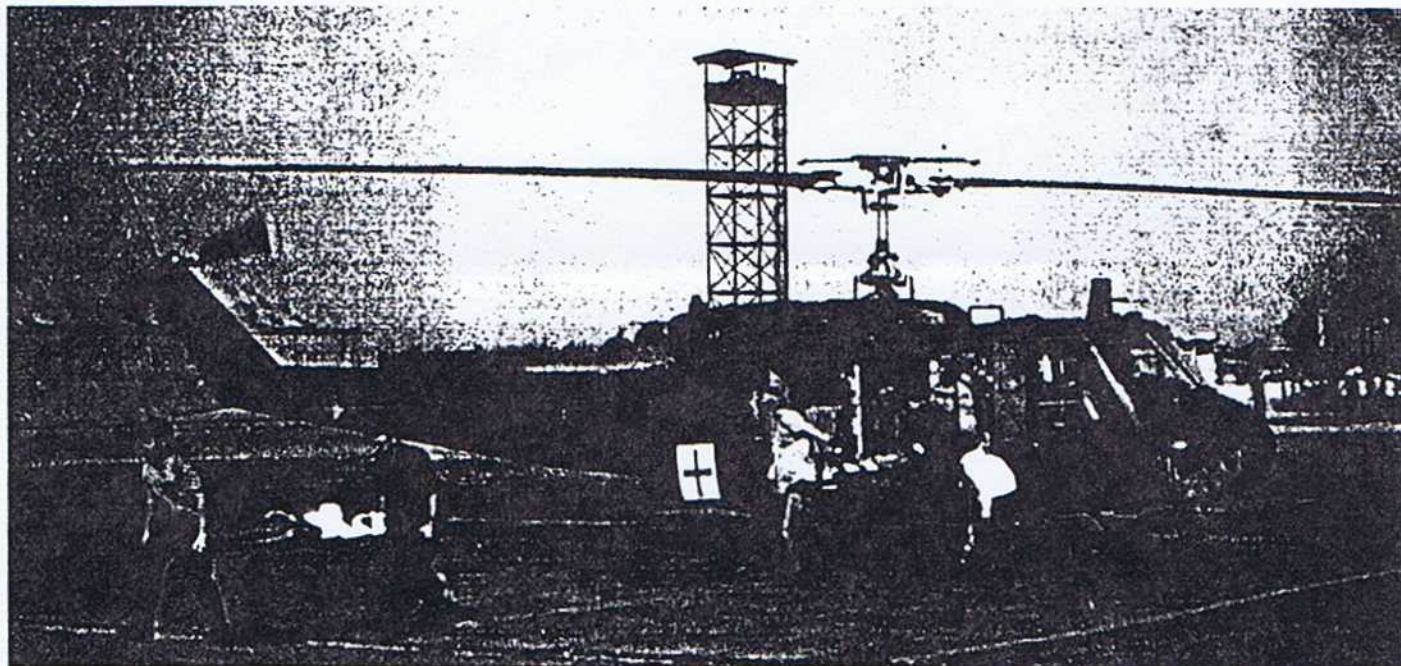
THE SONG OF THE ARMY NURSE CORPS

*We march along with faith undaunted beside our gallant fighting men;
Whenever they are sick or wounded, we nurse them back to health again;
As long as healing hands are wanted, you'll find the nurses of the Corps;
On ship, or plane, on transport train, at home or on a far off shore;
With loyal heart we do our part, for the Army and the Army Nurse Corps.*

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Above: Flight medics hot load a wounded soldier onto an army helicopter for air evacuation in Vietnam. Below: Army nurses and med techs unload multiple wounded soldiers during the Vietnam War.



ARMY AIR FORCE'S SCHOOL OF AIR EVACUATION INSIGNIA

The insignia of the Army Air Force's School of Air Evacuation was a dark blue circle with two honeybees whose bodies were black with silver wings bearing stars, carrying a brown litter all in front of a cloud.

Blue and gold are the Air Corps colors. The honeybees, helmeted and wearing Red Cross arm bands, are indicative of the industry displayed by the personnel of the organization. The litter is symbolic of evacuation of the sick and wounded, the cloud indicates the area in which the mission was carried out.

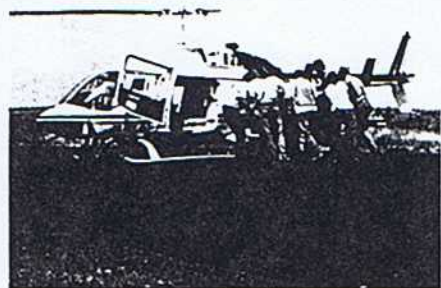
Mrs. Don Rider of Buechel, Kentucky, who was greatly impressed by the work of the Air Evacuation personnel during the flood in Louisville in 1942, designed the insignia. 



Left: Kosairs for Children Transport Program (1978) "Just for Kids," Bowman Field, Louisville, Kentucky.

Below: Crew from Air Life of Denver, Colorado, load a patient from a scene location for air evacuation in the late 1970s.


Bottom: Health care professionals from Air Evac, Samaritan Health Service in Phoenix, Arizona, check equipment for a fixed wing transport.

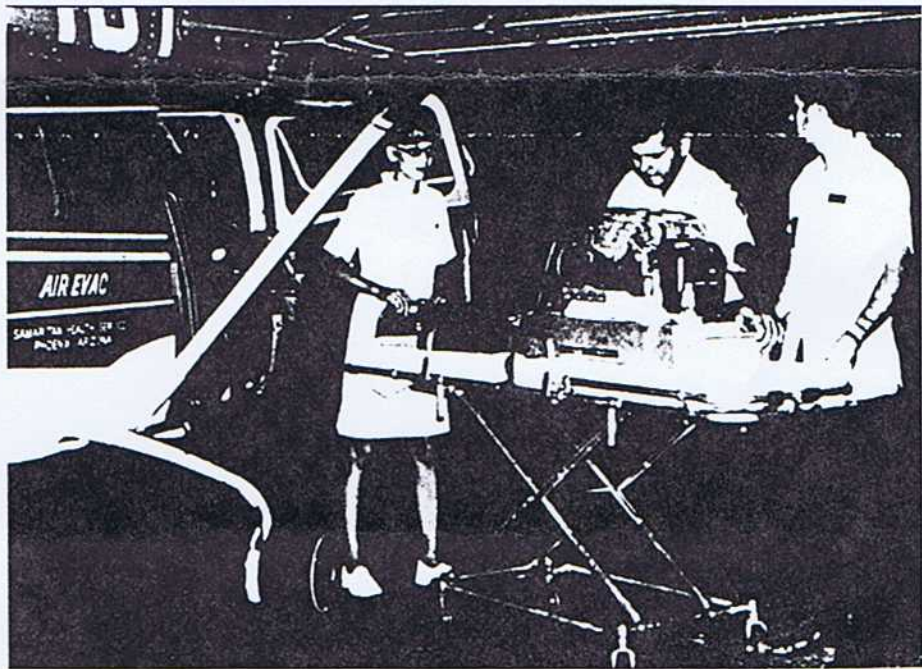


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has done fixed wing transports out of Bowman Field since the 1970s. This program and the Kentucky Association of Air Medical Services are planning a special reception on February 18 at Bowman Field.

St. Anthony's Hospital's Flight for Life in Denver, Colorado, is said to be the first hospital-based helicopter program in the United States. Flight for Life and the Colorado Transport Professionals Association are also planning a reception on February 18.

Please join all of us in celebrating this much-deserved day. Remember, we are celebrating our history and the unique job that each and every one of us do. Whether it's by wing or wheel, we all have been a hero in someone's life. 



ACROSS THE BOARD

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Thought I would tell them about the plaque at the Academy

TRANSPORT NURSES HISTORY BOOK

The National Flight Nurses Association is in the process of putting together a history book of transport nursing. We are looking for pictures, stories, and tales that will illustrate how we have evolved and changed since 1943. Please contact Jill Johnson at (303) 453-4885 if you have anything to contribute. This is your book. Everyone who contributes will be recognized in the book.

CALL FOR IJTN ARTICLES

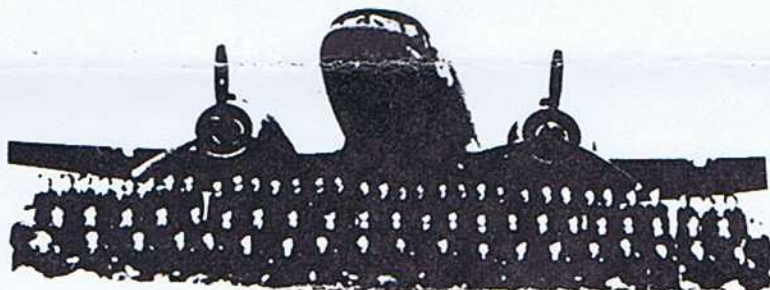
The *International Journal of Trauma Nursing (IJTN)* is a quarterly journal focusing on trauma patients from a multispecialty approach. NFNA, ENA, AACN, ARN, AANA, AORN, and NAON, under the umbrella of the Trauma Nursing Coalition, all contribute to this journal in order to provide a holistic view of the care of the trauma patient.

IJTN provides members of NFNA with the opportunity to publish research, review articles, case reports, and reports on newsworthy events. Flight nurses are also encouraged to contribute to the "Afterthoughts" section, which is a forum to share personal feelings, reflections, and experiences related to trauma nursing. This is a good opportunity to disseminate transport-related information to trauma nurse peers. If you have questions about being published in the *International Journal of Trauma Nursing*, please contact Kristin Oberg, RN, through LIFE STAR at Hartford Hospital, (860) 545-4385, or send an E-mail to Koberg@harthosp.org.

349th Air Evacuation School Graduating Class, February 18, 1943.

Anderson, Alice E.	Entrekin, Gladys	McHugh, Mary L.
Barlow, Dorothy L.	Ervin, June	McMullen, Irene
Bradford, Betsy	Finnie, Ruth V.	Newback, Eileen M.
Britton, Miriam M.	Foley, Winna	Orime, Jane E.
Chaloupha, Lucille A.	Fulton, Wanda J.	Ranahan, Anna G.
Corrigan, Patricia E.	Gardiner, Ruth M.	Scribes, Mildred A.
Curtis, Geraldine L.	Ginnetty, Grace M.	Szyper, Virginia T.
Cutberth, Juanita L.	Guffey, Ethel L.	Twidaio, Florence E.
Deluca, Florence M.	Hawkins, Ruth G.	Vinsant, Wilma R.
Dilger, Dolores C.	Hemmesch, Miriam L.	Ward, Sarah
Dimke, Vivian E.	Hoover, Anna R.	Westerman, Rita E.
Dishroon, Geraldine F.	Insdey, Georgia E.	Weisner, Phyllis M.
Drone, Florence J.	Morgan, Francis	Zirkle, Winifred R.

Five classes of flight nurses graduated from the 349th Air Evacuation School between February 18 and October 1, 1943. Listed above are the names of the 39 flight nurses who graduated from the first class at Bowman Field, Kentucky, on February 18, 1943. Pictured below are the 68 nurses who completed the required training in August 1943.



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