

# News from Euclid Hospital

Summer 2007



## Celebrating a Century of Caring

### Community events to mark Euclid Hospital's 100th anniversary

The years 1907 and 1908 were exciting years in American history. Model T Ford production began, cellophane was invented, and San Francisco formed its first taxicab company with 25 cabs.

These were also momentous years for Cleveland's healthcare scene, because in 1907, a group of doctors constructed a building, which they opened as Glenville Hospital the following year. Worried about their investment's success, the founding physicians designed and built a structure that could easily be converted to an apartment building—if the hospital failed.

They needn't have worried. During its first year of operation, the fledgling hospital cared for nearly 500 sick or injured people. Patients were impressed by the building's electric lights, steam heat, telephones in private rooms, maternity and surgery facilities, dumb waiters and linen chutes. They also sought out the hospital's high-quality medical care, which was advanced for the times.

A century later, Euclid Hospital (as it is now known) can look back with pride on 100 years of caring for patients by combining old-fashioned compassion with modern technology. This year, the hospital is celebrating that legacy with a couple of community events, including a community open house in June and a fundraising gala in October.

While you await these events, turn the page and take a stroll down memory lane. You may recall some of these dates in the history of the hospital.

 **Euclid Hospital**  
a Cleveland Clinic hospital

*Here to Heal*

[www.euclidhospital.org](http://www.euclidhospital.org)

**1907**

**Three doctors establish Glenville Hospital**

In December 1907, three physicians—H.D. Fowler, M.D., H.L. Taylor, M.D., and C.C. Crawford, M.D.—constructed a building on Parkwood Drive in the Glenville neighborhood of Cleveland. Although they intended to run a hospital, they designed the structure so that it could be easily converted to an apartment building, should their venture fail.

The physicians were concerned about the lack of healthcare facilities beyond downtown Cleveland. Before Glenville Hospital was built, patients had to be transported on long, jostling rides over cobblestones to downtown hospitals.

**1932**

**Junior Women's Board organizes**

Since the hospital's inception, a women's board was an integral part of its daily operations. Inspired by this board, a group of young women formed a junior women's board to assist the nursing staff, aid needy patients, hold social events and sew hospital linens.

**1933**

**Hospital is rebuilt with an elevator**

Until 1933, patients at Glenville Hospital had to be carried from one floor to another. This changed when the building was replaced by a new 110-bed, brick hospital featuring an elevator. Several years earlier, the hospital was incorporated as a not-for-profit institution.

By this time, doctors and their wives no longer had to travel in horse-drawn carriages to buy hospital food at Cleveland markets. And the wives no longer had to spend long summer and fall days canning food for hospital use.

**1945**

**Nursing school observes 38 years of service**

The Training School for Nurses opened at Glenville Hospital the same year the hospital began. Hundreds of registered nurses received their training at Glenville before it closed in 1945, for lack of qualified teachers.



**1950**

**Volunteers raise funds for new 200-bed facility**

After World War II, the population of metropolitan Cleveland expanded rapidly, and city leaders encouraged Glenville Hospital to move to the fast-growing suburb of Euclid. The hospital received \$1.2 million from the Greater Cleveland Hospital Fund. Another \$1 million in Hill-Burton funds was pledged if the community could raise matching funds.

With the promise of a new hospital to meet their needs, virtually every man, woman and child in the Euclid area worked to raise the \$1.2 million. After working day and night for three months, they met their goal.

**1952**

**New hospital opens doors on Lake Erie's shore**

Situated on a wooded 14-acre site on Lake Erie, the new Euclid-Glenville Hospital was a model for all community hospitals. Jay W. Collins, who at age 29 was the nation's youngest hospital administrator, greatly influenced the hospital's design. He had the foresight to suggest that a square building was most efficient.

The hospital's first patient was an expectant mother, Violet Wright of Euclid, who gave birth to the hospital's first baby. Two years later, the first triplets were born at Euclid-Glenville, weighing in at a total of 16 lbs., 4 oz.

**1957**

**First Baby Day is held**

Billed as the nation's largest birthday party, the hospital's annual Baby Day began this year. About 2,000 guests attended.

**1960**

**Hospital innovates physician training**

Having served as a training institution for physicians since the 1930s, Euclid-Glenville became the first hospital in the nation to offer an approved three-year general practice residency training program for doctors. Also this year, construction began for a new emergency department and administration wing.



**1961**

**Nurse graduates set record on exams**

The 26 students in the hospital's first licensed practical nurse graduating class set a record in the state board exams. Meanwhile, doctors volunteered to work nights to meet a hospital shortage, and the laundry staff got a break when the hospital contracted with a daily diaper service.

**1962**

**Ambulatory care unit opens**

Euclid-Glenville became one of only 10 hospitals in the entire nation to offer an ambulatory care unit. The 17-bed unit featured 12 rooms. This year also saw the addition of a new automatic X-ray machine.

**Late 1960s**

**Coronary care unit opens, hospital name changes**

In 1966, the hospital placed four coronary care beds adjacent to the intensive care unit. This service was expanded to a 14-bed coronary care unit a few years later. In 1968, the hospital's name changed to Euclid General Hospital

**1970**

**Hospital launches rehab services**

In this landmark year, the hospital opened its rehabilitation unit, began offering occupational therapy services, installed private telephones in patient rooms, witnessed the invention of the fetal distress monitor by Dr. Frank Critchfield, a hospital physician, and held the first marriage in its newly built chapel.

**1970s**

**Nurses are allowed to wear pants**

Altering a dress code in effect since the turn of the century, nurses were permitted to wear pants. In 1971, the hospital built a vascular catheterization laboratory, and in 1975, it became one of the first hospitals to install ultrasound diagnostic equipment.



**Mid-1980s**

**Euclid becomes part of Meridia system**

In 1985, the hospital joined with Hillcrest and Huron hospitals to form Strategic Health Systems. Its name was changed to Meridia Euclid Hospital in 1988 when the hospital group created Meridia Health System. During this time period, the hospital purchased a nearby church and renovated it to house outpatient services.

**1990**

**Hospital opens new critical care/surgery wing**

The hospital opened new coronary and intensive care units, with private rooms for all patients. A surgery department expansion included a new atrium for patients to wait in prior to surgery. This year, the hospital was named Euclid Business of the Year by the Euclid Chamber of Commerce, an honor it earned again in 2006.

**1990s**

**Medical office building opens**

Because it is attached to the hospital, this two-floor building offered convenience for patients who visit physicians and need to use hospital services. In 1997, Euclid Hospital System officially became part of the Cleveland Clinic hospital system.

**2000**

**Lauren Rock named hospital president**

**2006**

**New, high-tech emergency department (ED) opens**

Doubling the size of the former ED, the \$4.8 million expansion included 23 treatment areas, trauma unit, observation unit, and decontamination and isolation room.

**2007**

**Euclid Hospital celebrates a century of caring!**