



Love is the reason why ... our directors of nursing have chosen their profession, and that is the appropriate theme of our annual meeting, now under way in Cleveland, Tenn. Our clinicians arrived by airplane and automobile Saturday, and the networking with old acquaintances and new friends immediately began.

Sunday opened with breakfast and a program of music and inspiration led by The Talleys, a family offering Southern gospel in song. Attendees then departed for afternoon activities featuring whitewater rafting (always a popular pursuit), a ride up the Incline Railway on Lookout Mountain to Rock City, bowling, shopping at Turkey Creek in Knoxville, and an afternoon on the farm with a variety of outdoor activities. Sunday evening, Aubrey Preston and the Homer Dever Band entertained in a let-your-hair-down program of country music and dancing.

Today's agenda began with a patriotic opening ceremony and a devotion that focused on the theme, *Love Is the Reason Why*, as demonstrated by response to tornadoes that have ravaged the Southeast Tennessee communities. Keynote speakers are Dr. Janet Lapp today on the subject of *Leading from Your Core*; Eileen McDargh on Tuesday, speaking on *The Energy Connection: Love Is the Reason Why*; and Carol O'Flaherty on Wednesday, whose topic is *Worth of Mirth*. Education sessions will take place today and Tuesday.

Entertainment this evening will be provided by The Hunt Family Fiddlers, followed by the annual awards ceremony, recognizing excellence in performance – always a highlight of the meeting.

Devotionals will be led on Tuesday by Maryann Kobinski and on Wednesday by Janet Hermesch.

Directors of nursing depart for home after lunch on Wednesday, while regional and divisional clinical leadership will remain for meetings on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday.

We welcome our nurses! They certainly bring energy and fun to these get-togethers.

– Beecher Hunter