CLARA LOUISE MAASS TIMELINE

- June 28, 1876 – Clara Louise Maass is born in East Orange, New Jersey to a poor German immigrant family;
- 1888 – Leaves home to become a live-in “mother’s helper”; family moves for several months to a farm in Livingston, New Jersey; returns to East Orange and job as mother’s helper, working for room and board; attends East Orange High School;
- 1891 – Begins a full-time job at Newark Orphan Asylum;
- 1893 – Enrolls in the second class in Newark German Hospital’s Christina Tref Training School for Nurses;
- October 1895 – Graduates from school and receives her nurse’s cap and pin; continues working as a staff nurse at Newark German Hospital;
- 1898 – Earns a promotion to become head nurse at Newark German Hospital;
- October 1, 1898 – Applies and is hired to be a “contract nurse” with the US Army receiving a salary of $30.00/month;
- October 3, 1898 -- Reports to 2nd Division Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida at the 7th Army Headquarters to care for wounded soldiers sent from Cuba; transfers to 1st Division Hospital in Savannah, Georgia;
- January, 1899 -- Reports to 1st Division Hospital, Camp Columbia at Havana, Cuba where she is first exposed to yellow fever;
- January 21, 1899 – Leaves Cuba, honorably discharged and released from service;
- February 5, 1899 – Nursing contract annulled;
- November 20, 1899 – Receives a telegram from the Surgeon General summoning her to serve; reappointed as a contract nurse at $50.00/month; sails to Manila, Philippines;
- January 5, 1900 – Reports for duty at the First Reserve Hospital in Manila, Philippines;
- March 23, 1900 – Requests an annulment of her contract for “ill health;”
- April 1, 1900 – Sails on the “Sherman” to US;
- April 30, 1900 – Arrives at General Hospital in San Francisco, California;
- May 5, 1900 – Leaves San Francisco, CA;
- May 7, 1900 – Contract annulled by US Army Surgeon General “for cause;”
- October 1900 – Receives a telegram from Major William Gorgas to “come at once” to Las Animas Hospital in Havana, Cuba; employed as a civilian by the Sanitary Department of Havana, Cuba;
- March 7, 25; May 15, 16, 27; and June 24, 1901 – Volunteers to be bitten by yellow fever infected mosquitoes;
- August 14, 1901– volunteers to be bitten by 4 Alvarez infected mosquitoes;
- August 17, 1901– develops a full-case of yellow fever;
- August 24, 1901 – Dies at 6:30pm from yellow fever;
- August 25, 1901 – Buried in a lead casket in Colon Cemetery in Havana, Cuba;
• February 20, 1902 -- U.S. Army disinters and sends Clara Maass’s casket to be buried with military honors in Fairmount Cemetery in Newark, New Jersey;
• May 1930 -- Leopoldine Guinther dedicates a new monument at Fairmount Cemetery to memorialize Clara Maass;
• September 28, 1936 -- Dr. Antonio Díaz Albertini, director of Las Animas Hospital, dedicates memorial plaques for Clara Maass and Dr. Jesse Lazear to be placed in the hospital;
• Palm Sunday 1941 -- Emma Maass presents a memorial window to the Mountain View Methodist Church to honor her sister, Clara;
• January 1950 -- American Nurses’ Association (ANA) Board of Directors endorse a plan to secure a Clara Maass commemorative U.S. postage stamp;
• August 24, 1951 -- Cuba issues a 2-cent Clara Maass commemorative stamp for the 50th anniversary of her death;
• June 19, 1952 -- Lutheran Memorial Hospital, formerly Newark German Hospital, changes its name to Clara Maass Memorial Hospital;
• August 18, 1976 -- U.S. Postal Service issues a Clara Maass commemorative stamp;
• June 28, 1976 -- Franklin Mint strikes a special metal commemorating the 100th anniversary of Clara’s birth;
• 1976 -- ANA inducts Clara Maass as an inaugural member of the ANA Hall of Fame.