Our Journey
Wednesday. Day One of our journey
Eighteen strangers. Twenty-somethings to fifty-somethings
With one commonality. Nursing.
Five P.M. group meeting. Introductions all around
What is an Ambassador? What is our charge?
One hour later dinner on our own turned into dinner with friends
Not a wallflower among us
Eighteen voices sharing feelings and stories, like old friends.

Thursday, Day Two. Full of sessions
Look at us! MGH is the largest contingent
Pride swelling, overflowing
We are Magnet.

Curt Coffman, what a beginning. Motivator extraordinaire.
Jeanette, can we have him for nurse’s week? It would be a great coup.
Magnet energy-electrical-palpable.
Nurses from all over, facilities both large and small.
Those just beginning their journey, others re-designating.
What a fabulous gathering
Sharing of ideas, stories of successes.
No snobbery here, just pride in being Nurses.

Posters, products, bookstore and more.
How can we make this happen?
What do we need to assure our success?

Dinner at Carmine’s on the Penn
A true celebration.
Our friendships growing.
Keith in the middle, smiling, taking it all in.
Waiters, like paparazzi, taking our pictures.
Laughter shared all around the table.
How is this possible?
Twenty-four hours ago eighteen individuals
Now eighteen members of a cohesive team of professionals
Sharing one goal
Magnet Re-designation
Thank-you Jeanette. The dinner and company were superb.
Back to the Magnolia in time for cookies and milk.
Nightcap at Harry’s
More sharing, laughing, strengthening bonds.

Friday. Breakfast strategy session at the Magnolia.
How will we translate all we are learning
To the Champions and Steering Committee?
Will we be up to the challenge?
No doubts at all.
Ideas flying freely
We have caught Magnet Fever and it is contagious.

The energy continues through the last session
The end has come.
Bags ready, taxis ordered
Off we go
Our time in Denver has come to a close.

Where shall we eat dinner? So many choices
Let’s go here, no, there
To our surprise, there are all the others
One last meal shared together.

Energy still abounds
All agree. What we shared was magical.
Lessons for Keith on I-pods, cell phones, and modern music choices
We are psyched, pumped, energized
We are MGH nurses, ambassadors
Ready to lead the Magnet Journey
Ready to showcase that which is MGH Nursing.

Ann Morrill, R.N.
October 2006
Magnet Conference – Denver, Colorado