April 2021

I moved last month, and during all the sorting and packing, some boxes had nothing but nursing and correctional health books. (Yes, printed pages with pictures - some even had hard covers!) I clearly have packed and moved these "antiques" a couple of times already. Opening the box and looking through the books was a gift, and before I knew it, two hours had passed. For most of these books, I remembered when I had purchased it and why. Many were because of teaching or my early classes offered on The Correctional Nurse Educator.

Intellectually, I know that the internet is the best source of current information on a wide variety of topics, including nursing, medicine and mental health, where new research is being published daily. I now exclusively use the internet when writing and updating The Correctional Nurse Educator classes and when researching the educational presentations I give, but there is something special about holding a book in your hands, turning the pages and perhaps, if it is yours, highlighting those passages that are especially noteworthy or meaningful.

We have chosen a career that requires updating our knowledge and skills continuously, as new research, knowledge and innovation could be beneficial to our patients. Our Correctional Nurse: Scope and Standards of Practice, third edition identifies that we have an obligation to our patients to be current in our knowledge base, and requires a commitment to lifelong learning. It also requires that we share our educational findings, experiences, and ideas with our peers. I hope that in some small way this newsletter, CorrectionalNurse.Net, Nursing Behind the Wall and The Correctional Nurse Educator does just that.

For those of you curious as to the books' outcome.....well....I taped the box back up, labeled it "Office" for the movers, and I truly look forward to re-discovering its gifts and adventures in the future.

Newsworthy Notes

Remember the FREE upcoming NCCHC Spring Conference April 27th and 28th. Register on the NCCHC website.

The American Correctional Association is currently asking for presentations for its 151st Congress of Corrections. Please find more information on the ACA website. Please consider presenting at both the ACA and the NCCHC conferences!

Don't forget to check back often on the American Correctional Nurses Association website, where new announcements of interest are posted often. Last month, the ACNA authored a position paper about Timely Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Incarcerated Populations. Read it here. Remember, all are welcome to join!!

You can find our past Newsletters on the CorrectionalNurse.Net website in the Newsletter Archive. Thanks for all you do, and be safe!!

Correctional Nurse Educator

Our 50% off featured class this month is Clinical Judgment for the Correctional Nurse. I hope that you enjoy it!

Nursing Behind the Wall

This month at Nursing Behind the Wall, we begin an expansion of the clinical cases for review to include the clinical reasoning/differential diagnoses of the Provider caring for the patient. Ms. Russell has come to the clinic with headache, fatigue, muscle and joint pain. Please let me know if you find it useful.

In closing, I appreciate you taking the time to read this newsletter, and I hope that you will find our sites interesting and educational. Our profession of Correctional Nursing is unique and sometimes challenging, but always very important to our patients. The impact we make is far-reaching, even if it is not always evident as we care for our patients. I have ALWAYS been proud to say that I am a Correctional Nurse – I hope that you are as well!