



SCC Nursing Alumni Newsletter

OCTOBER 2010



SCC Nursing Alumni Spotlighters...

Joseph Williams, RN

Joseph graduated from the Keokuk campus in 1984. He was one of three males in the class.

Joe has had a wide variety of experiences from travel nursing to working for the Illinois Department of Corrections for 16 years retiring in December 2009.

While employed with IDOC he was active in collective bargaining and served five consecutive terms on the Board of Directors of the collective bargaining unit that represents nurses employed by the state of Illinois.

Since Joe's retirement from IDOC he has been serving on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Nurses Association...the non-collective bargaining unit side.

Through his activities with INA he has been politically active and has testified in front of several legislative committees in Springfield regarding bills that impact nursing and patient safety in Illinois. He has also been invited to attend bill signings by the governor's office.

Currently Joseph is vice-chair of the Illinois Nurses Association Political Action Committee; they annually hold a "Student Nurse Political Action Day" at which over 1,000 nursing students from around the state come to Springfield and learn the importance of political action and then get to go to the Capital to lobby their legislators. Nurses need to realize that we are a valuable asset and deserve respect.

Now that Joseph is retired he is working in the capacity of Diversity Coordinator/Caseworker for the Springfield

Urban League in conjunction with a grant to try to assist under-represented students get into and succeed in getting into a career in health care.

Most recently he has been the author of an article and a CE offering that addresses dealing with inmates as patients in the private sector, sort of a "what to watch out for" for nurses who perhaps have never dealt with inmates and don't know what to be aware of. For anyone that gets "Illinois Nurse" the article should be in the December issue.

Joseph enjoys spending free time with is wife (also a RN) riding his Harley, and spoiling their 7 grand kids.

If you would like to be a "spotlighter", please send your information to info@sccnursingalumni.org.

Best Wishes on Retirement...



Pam Bradley, Dean of Health and Natural Science for SCC retired this summer. Currently Mary

Saxton, who was going to retire this summer, is filling the position to allow the college time to conduct a search for a permanent replacement. The SCC Nursing Alumni wish Pam a happy retirement and thanks for her years of dedication to the SCC Nursing Program.

SCC Nursing Vespers...

Vespers for the SCC-WB campus evening program will be held Saturday, December 18th at 4pm at the Loren Walker Arena.

NOTE FROM THE INTERIM DEAN....

The Iowa Board of Nursing accredits nursing programs every six years. SCC's visit was September 28, 2010. Three months prior to the on-site visit, the nursing program submitted an extensive self-study document to the board. To prepare for this self-study the faculty examined all components of the nursing program. In September the board visitors then reviewed student files, faculty files and examples of classroom activities. The board conducted interviews with the dean, the faculty and current students. A final summary of the visit was conducted at the end of the day and the final report will be presented at the Board of Nursing and the recommendation of the board for either a three-year or six year accreditation for the nursing program. The representatives from the board who conducted the visit were positive however we have to wait for the final report in December. There was only one current faculty member who had participated in the previous board visit so this was a new and challenging experience for the faculty.

Last week we had an unannounced visit from the Department of Inspections and Appeals to review SCC's nursing assistant program. (I am hoping this is the last visit we have while I am here!!!) The process is similar to the board of nursing, looking at faculty files and actual class files. The BIG difference is that the visit is not scheduled, they just "drop by". There were documents that were requested from SCC and once the Department of Inspections and Appeals receive the documents, SCC will have their recommendations within 10 days. Again, a new experience for Lisa Ryce an SCC graduate and Interim Coordinator of Health Education.

NURSING STUDENTS PRACTICE WITH SIMMAN...

The nursing students at both SCC campuses are enjoying their hands on learning even more with the arrival of SimMan. The simulators help the nursing students to get more practice on things that they might not get a chance at doing when they are on clinical. The SimMan is a patient simulator with realistic anatomy and clinical functionality. It provides simulation-based education to challenge and test students' clinical decision-making skills during realistic

patient care scenarios. It consists of an interactive manikin, a patient monitor, and a control computer. For more information and a video of the SimMan in action, visit www.youtube.com/secciowa.

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HARVARD'S NURSES' HEALTH STUDY III...

Harvard School of Public Health is starting a new phase of the Nurses' Health Study and are enrolling young nurses to participate. They are enrolling female RNs and LPNs between 22 and 45 years old. The study is completely web-based. Data collected is about nutrition, exercise, smoking, medications and other health habits. This Nurses' Health Study information has been used in research books and media. If you are interested or looking for more information, visit www.nhs3.org. A small commitment to a study like this is of extraordinary value for research into the causes of disease and the factors that promote healthy lives.

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Nursing Tidbits ...

Being a change leader at your institution requires courage. It requires a courageous effort on your part to be part of a new solution. So the choice you have is, you can either follow the group and you can go with the flow, or you can change the directions of that flow so that we are all providing better care. When change occurs, it does not start at the top, but rather from the bottom, from the people doing the work. You could be part of that solution. You can be the person at your institution that starts the whole new wave of thinking, the whole new direction in which we take nursing. Most of your peers will go with the flow, but you can be the one that changes that. "By thinking and acting affirmatively in this minute, you will influence the hour, the day, and in time, your entire life." ~Denis Waitley



I think that feelings waste themselves in words; they ought to be distilled into actions, and into actions which bring results ~Florence Nightingale

You know you are a nurse ifyou have ever whipped up a Halloween costume for your kid using only surgical masks, adhesive tape, and a few disposable gloves. ~Val Saintsbury

Nursing is an art: and if it is to be made an art, It requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation, as any painter's or sculptor's work; for what is the having to do with dead canvas or dead marble, compared with having to do with the living body, the temple of God's spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts: I had almost said, the finest of Fine Arts. ~Florence Nightingale

The trained nurse has become one of the great blessings of humanity, taking a place beside the physician and the priest.... ~William Osler

Keep up to date ...

Did you know that the SCC Nursing Alumni has its own website and is on Facebook? The website allows you to comment on posts, register to be added to the email group and keep up with the activities of the group. There are links to local hospitals and state nursing boards. Information regarding CEU's and scholarships will also be updated on the site as information is received. So check us out at www.sccnursingalumni.org! Facebook is another method to keep in touch with classmates and keep informed regarding upcoming events and postings.

WHERE ARE YOU SCC NURSES????...

The SCC Nursing Alumni association is looking for you. That's right, we're trying to find our former classmates, peers and associates to increase our reach and support to all former nursing graduates. If you graduated from the nursing program at either of the two campuses in Keokuk or West Burlington, please reach out to us through the email listed below. We simply request that you send us your name, year graduated and current location. Please consider contacting us soon so that we can add you to our growing list of professionals who are leading the way in all facets of healthcare. Please send your information to info@sccnursingalumni.org.

If you have recently furthered your education or obtained recognition, please let us know so that we can recognize you too!
Send information to info@sccnursingalumni.org.

How can I become an SCC Nursing Alumni member?

The SCC Nursing Alumni Chapter was started in 2007. It is a part of the SCC Alumni Association Foundation. To become an SCCAA Nursing Alumni member, you had to graduate from the SCC nursing program, or the Burlington Hospital nursing program. Dues are \$10/year or \$100/lifetime. For new graduates, you can get a lifetime membership for \$50 within the first 3 months of graduating. For more information on becoming a member, visit the SCCAA Nursing Alumni website and click on the SCC Alumni Assoc. tab or http://www.scciowa.edu/about/alumni_found/alumni/index.html.

Finishing touches to think on...

Being successful at nursing is not a destination, but instead it is a journey. For better or for worse, your career is in your hands. Free agent athletes and other successful people don't count on "breaks," they know that rewards only come from consistently and persistently working toward a worthy goal.

To contact, make comments, suggestions or to be added on the email list for this newsletter, either register on www.sccnursingalumni.org or send an email to info@sccnursingalumni.org