Nursing History

• Chapter 1 (Timby)
• Chapter 7 (Hill)

Where Did Nursing Start?

• Nurses have had many names in history.
• Early “nurses” = homemaker or maid
• Other Names
  – Attendant
  – Wet Nurse
  – Midwife
  – Self-proclaimed
  – Trained nurse
  – Practical Nurse
• Often said to have a “Gift, Touch or Calling”

How illness was viewed

• Primitive culture
  – Health reflected the persons relationship with the gods
  – “Healers” or wise men with “special powers” would commune with the gods
The Past or Where we have been!

- Ancient Egypt
  - Written records of procedures related to "nursing"
  - Facilities of treatment
  - Identified many diseases and treatments required
  - Treatment of fractures
  - Anatomy --- embalmers
  - Evidence found in tombs

- Ancient Hebrews
  - Places for sick
  - Personal Hygiene
  - Public Sanitation
  - Early asepsis noted in Leviticus
  - References to the roles of nursing found in the Bible

- Ancient Greece
  - The birthplace of logical thought (Philosophy)
  - Hippocrates = "Father of Modern Medicine"
    - Continues as the ethical code for modern medicine
  - Aristotle contributed knowledge of the heart and blood vessels
East of The Atlantic

- Age of Christianity (1st – 5th century)
  - First visiting nurse noted by Paul in the New Testament, her name was Phoebe
- The Dark and Middle Ages (476-1000 and 1000-1474)
- Renaissance (1400 – 1600)
- Age of Industrialization (18th and 19th century) It was noted that disease was transmitted on the hands of people.

Early America

- 17th and 18th Century. Limited treatment options
- 19th Century. Nurses of questionable repute

Whose Who in Nursing

- Florence Nightingale
• Dorothea Lynde Dix - Superintendent of first nursing school
• Clara Barton – 1st Chapter of American Red Cross
• Linda Richards
  First professionally trained nurse in America
• Mary Elizabeth Mahoney
  First African American graduate nurse 1879

Education Then
• Post Civil War
• WWI
• Smith Hughes Act of 1917
• Depression
• WWII

Early “Modern” Education
• First School of Nursing to train practical nurses Ballard School in New York in 1897
The Changing “Nurses” Role

• In the Home
• Public Health

Time has brought about other changes

• Expanded knowledge base
• Evolving Theories
• Required Licensing

Education Now

• Post WWII
  – The Role
  – The Education
  – The Certifications & License
Educational Options

- LPN/LVN
- RN
  - Diploma
  - ADN
  - BSN
  - Advanced Degrees

Continuing Education

What the Future Holds

Shortage – elimination of
Aging Population
What makes us special?

- Definition
- Skills
  - Assessment
  - Caring
  - Counseling
  - Comforting

Where LPN’s work now

- Acute Care
- Long term Care
- Rehab
- Schools
- Clinics
- Offices
- Industries
- Insurance Companies