

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Jan-Feb 2012

Now IN COLOR online at <http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary/>

EDITED by JIM REIDY



Auxiliary President's Message

By Mark Frederich

Well, another year is behind us. Here's wishing everyone a healthy, happy and safe holiday season. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make this a successful year for the Auxiliary. We will again exceed our goal in fundraising for the hospital. I recently got to spend some time at the Cherry Door and the Gift Shop. A personal thanks to those who opened my eyes to just how much hard work it takes to run those operations.

It was good to see many of you at this year's Holiday Party. It was again a big success. Next year is shaping up to be one with a lot of excitement and challenges. Increasing membership is one of our goals. Membership notices will be going out soon, so please respond as soon as you can; and please add your current e-mail address so we can add you to the list! Looking forward to working with all of you.



Phelps Memorial Hospital President and CEO's New Year's Message

It seems too fast – 2011 is behind us and we are on to the challenges of 2012.

But, as I look back, I see Auxilians and Volunteers with tremendous accomplishments behind them - outstanding efforts to benefit our patients.

The Auxiliary's fundraising successes and generous support permitted us to implement improvements that would otherwise be deferred or not done at all. You should take great pride in the positive impact that your fundraising efforts have had on our patients!

Our Volunteers add a critically important dimension to patient care – comfort and personal services that would not otherwise be available. You continue to be instrumental in making Phelps the best hospital – one of which we are all proud.

It is with great admiration that I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for your incredible efforts in 2011. And, there is great comfort in the knowledge that we can continue to depend on you – you are always there. Happy New Year to all!

Keith F. Safian, FACHE
President and CEO

Another Great Bake Sale

Contributed by Rose Marie Parisi, 1st VP

On December 1st our Auxiliary held another successful Bake Sale in the ground floor lobby outside of the elevators. We raised in the neighborhood of \$700. I want to say at this time a very proud "Thank You" to all who baked and sold and also to all those purchased the merchandise. In addition to the baked goods we had a few gift items and a 50/50 raffle (which I am timidly admitting was won by "yours truly").

Everyone did a great job. It's a pleasure to work with all the Auxilian volunteers. I thank you again for your precious time.

We will be holding our next Bake Sale on Thursday, March 29th, from 8:30AM until all the goodies are sold. We will again hold a 50/50 raffle and will have some surprise items, as well. So mark your calendars and come support your Auxiliary.

*** Go Green - Go Paperless ***

By Jim Reidy

Five times a year your Auxiliary prepares and mails 350 copies of this Newsletter. At \$0.44 a copy, we spend \$154 per issue in postage alone. Add the price of printing and it becomes costly. If you can or would like to receive your Newsletter in your email, contact me at phelpsaux@optimum.net. You can read this and past newsletters online, as well, at <http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary>.

A Little Local History

by Dennis Corcoran

The General Motors Plant at North Tarrytown

Note that some photos and underlined words in this paper are links to more info in the electronic version of this issue.

Did you ever own a Chevrolet? If you owned a Chevy Minivan that was manufactured from 1989 through 1996 it is possible that it was made at the General Motors Plant in North Tarrytown, which became Sleepy Hollow in 1996. I owned a 1979 Chevy Nova that was possibly produced in North Tarrytown. Most of the automobiles produced at the plant were Chevys until they stopped making them there in 1989. All in all, over 11 million vehicles were produced at the plant during its 81-year existence from 1915 thru 1996.



1970 Chevrolet Nova Coupe

The property at the foot of Beekman Avenue in North Tarrytown started out with the Maxwell-Briscoe Company producing autos in 1903. Soon after, a visionary named William Durant began making Buick automobiles in 1908. He called his company General Motors, and during his first year, he added the Oldsmobile, Cadillac, and Oakland labels (renamed Pontiac in 1931).

The man who helped him succeed was Louis Chevrolet, a race car driver from France, who came to the United States and met Durant in 1907. Chevrolet developed his engineering ideas using Durant's Buick racing models. Together they made Buick the best-selling car in America in 1908. Durant then had Chevrolet design an engine for a new automobile which became the *Chevrolet Classic Six*.

They purchased the Maxwell plant in North Tarrytown in 1914 for \$267,000. The first car Durant and Chevrolet produced at their new plant was the Chevrolet Model 490, in 1915, and it became an instant success. Chevrolet became a part of General Motors in 1918. GM would go on to become the wealthiest company in America for over 40 years.



Grumman/GM Avenger

During World War II the GM plant in North Tarrytown did its part like other automobile companies throughout the country by halting automobile production and concentrating on making aircraft parts as well as military trucks and ambulances. North Tarrytown's plant built the Navy Avenger torpedo bomber plane from 1942 through 1945. The work force became female oriented as some 3,000 women workers were added in 1943. One job they were well suited for was driving rivets. The rivet gun was small and compact enough for them to handle. This is where Rose Bonavita Hickey from Peekskill worked and, because she was so adept at handling the gun, she became that famous WWII symbol known as *Rosie the Riveter*.

Automobile and truck production resumed in 1946 as the North Tarrytown plant's work force reached its peak at 12,000. Throughout its history the plant expanded, and the best way to show it is by taking a look at the well-known lighthouse that sits out on the Hudson River not far from the shoreline. The 65 foot lighthouse was built in 1883. Its light was used to guide ships in the Hudson until the late 1950's when the Tappan Zee Bridge took over the task of guiding ships. Originally the shoreline was 300 yards to the lighthouse but the land has been filled in over the years so that you can now get to it by way of a short pedestrian bridge.



Kingsland Point Lighthouse

Unfortunately, GM never fully recovered from the competition by Toyota and other foreign companies which produced the more energy-efficient cars that were first introduced in the 1970s. GM had to close the North Tarrytown plant in 1996.

Anthony Giaccio, the Village Administrator of Sleepy Hollow, said that after 15 years of the property lying vacant, the village is on the verge of finding a developer who will transform the land into over 1,100 units for residential use, along with some commercial and waterfront development as well.

along with some commercial and waterfront development as well.

In Memoriam

LOUETTA "LOU" SCULLY

Louetta, a long-time resident of Ossining, NY passed away on Thursday, November 24, 2011. She was 89 years old. Louetta was born on December 5, 1921 and raised in Lynbrook, Long Island. Lou was a member of the Phelps Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. She eventually became president of the Auxiliary and served on the Hospital's Board of Directors. Lou is survived by two daughters, a son and several grandchildren.

❖❖❖ Membership Renewals ❖❖❖

Membership renewal forms will be mailed this month. Please return them promptly with your dues payment. If you use email, please also include your email address on the form so that the Auxiliary can contact you easily.

Starting with this issue of the News and Notes there will be TWO versions available to all Auxilians—one in print and the other online or via email. The electronic version will be in color and will contain more pictures than the print version. All who sign up for our paperless publication will get all the extras, so sign up now. See the first page for more information!!

Auxiliary Holiday Party a Hit!!

By Jim Goldsmith

On December 8th, more than 60 Auxilians gathered at the James House Mansion for the annual holiday party and, as you can see by the photos, a good time was had by all.



Since there was a conflict with the hospital's annual holiday party, and the hospital kitchen could not supply us with food, we had the affair catered by Laurie Feldstein, James House Representative, who has a catering business called Grapevine Gourmet Caterers. The food was excellent and as a testament to its quality, there was very little left over.

The Gift Shop graciously supplied us with five wrapped gifts which were raffled off and, believe it or not, for the eleventh straight year I didn't win anything! However, the



odds are beginning to favor me for next year's drawing.

The party was called for 1-4 PM., but if you have been to an Auxiliary party before, you know that means roughly noon to 3 PM. Jim Chalmers and Burt Koyner kept the bar going smoothly, and Mark Frederich provided the recorded music.

Everybody seemed to have a terrific time, which is why we do this in the first place.

We are looking for YOU..



The Newsletter Committee is always looking for people to help out by writing articles and bringing in fresh ideas. If you'd like to become a member or submit

items for publication please contact me, Jim Reidy, at phelpsaux@optonline.net.

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill

January 2012

Fri Jan. 6 Angielyn's Uniforms
Thurs Jan. 19 Full of Sheets
Fri Jan. 27 Your Nutz

February 2012

Thurs Feb. 2 Jenny NG Jewelry
Fri Feb. 3 Specs Appeal Optical
Tues Feb. 7 Silver Dreams Jewelry
Fri Feb. 10 Classy Karat Jewelry
Mon Feb. 13 Unique Concept in Jewelry
Fri Feb. 17 A Creative Touch

Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

Jan. 18 and Feb. 15 - All meetings will be held in the Board Room and will start at 9:00 AM unless otherwise posted.

Welcome to our Newest Auxilians

Submitted by Nancy Eichorn

Sheila Darnborough, Joan H. Fuller, Jean M. Heyl
Evelyn Partalis, Marianne Roffman

Welcome to our Newest Volunteers

by Fran Kelly

Gary Banks	Hawthorne	Transport
Nadiia Boiko	White Plains	Transport
Linda Fried	Pleasantville	Admin/Info Desk
Wilson Guerrero	Tarrytown	Transport
Richard Koral	South Salem	Pastoral Visitor
Rev. Ronald Lemmert	Peekskill	Visiting Clergy
Azure Nowara	Garrison	Transport/Info Desk
Jacqueline Vanacore	Poughquag	Transport
Igor Voznesensky	Sleepy Hollow	Transport
Juline White	Tarrytown	Transport
Mayeesha Zahin	Irvington	Information Desk

News and Notes Jan-Feb 2012 Vol. XIV No. 1 Editorial Staff, Contributors and Proof-Readers

Jim Goldsmith Nancy Eichorn Jim Reidy
Pam Cardozo Dennis Corcoran Mark Frederich
Fran Kelly Iris Hill Rose Marie Parisi

*** Photos courtesy of Jim Goldsmith ***

News and Notes is published by the Phelps Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591. Contributions, comments and suggestions are welcome.

Please call the Volunteer Office at (914) 366-3170.

Pam's Corner

by Pam Cardozo

As we write this, 2011 is quickly winding down, the Holidays are upon us, and we begin to look forward to the New Year.

I think it is safe to say that 2011 was a very good year for the Phelps Volunteer Services Department. We welcomed Fran Kelly as the part-time Volunteer Services Coordinator in January and Lucille Bellacosa as Office Manager in March. In addition, volunteer Rita Bhattacharya has been a valued member of the team, assisting with a variety of projects since February.

While we were deeply saddened to lose some wonderful volunteers through retirement and death, we gladly welcomed 70 senior and student volunteers to our services. Other 2011 highlights:

- Sixty-five volunteers knitted 165 Comfort Shawls in 2011. These lovely shawls continue to bring “warmth” to our patients.
- Six new volunteers were trained for the Silver Spoons Patient Feeding Program.
- Newborn Hearing Screening became a standing committee of the Auxiliary Board.
- Many volunteers with special skills have been placed in various administrative positions throughout the hospital where they are making a real contribution.

Under the leadership of Chairperson **Anne Caldara**, a review of current procedures has been conducted with Information Desk volunteers. Similar programs have been initiated for Atrium and Transport volunteers.

In October, **Mary Kay Olson**, Care Desk volunteer since 2000, received the **Phelps Star Award**. Mary Kay has given more than 3,600 hours to this service. As chairperson, she has developed an excellent rapport with the OR staff while bringing comfort to families waiting for their loved ones to come out of surgery. This is a well-deserved honor for Mary Kay.

Special thanks the Auxiliary for providing holiday wreaths for the exterior of our buildings, and additional special thanks to the eight local garden clubs whose members once again decorated the holiday trees throughout the hospital. We acknowledge this wonderful community spirit with deepest gratitude. We also thank members of Congregation Sons of Israel for again volunteering at the Information Desk over the Christmas weekend, giving our regular volunteers some important time with their families.

For 2012, our big news is that the annual Volunteer recognition event will be a luncheon to be held at **Tappan Hill in Tarrytown on Monday, May 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** We thought our volunteers would enjoy a change of scene for this important occasion. Please mark your calendar now – more details to come.

Volunteer Services wishes one and all a Very Healthy New Year.

Photos from the Holiday Bake Sale on December 1st.

These photos exclusively on the E-Version of this newsletter.



Please note: Underlined words and some photos in this electronic version of these newsletter are hyperlinks to more information. Be sure to click on them for a fuller reading experience. - ed.

**New carpeting donated by the Auxiliary to the Hospital
for the renovation of the front lobby at Building 701**



A close-up view of the mosaic pattern in the carpeting.



Looking down the hallway toward the doctors' lounge.