

# PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

## News and Notes

Sep - Oct 2010

Now on the web at <http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary/>

EDITED by JIM REIDY

### Save the Dates!

*Submitted by Ruth Burton, Development Office*



**Phelps 23<sup>rd</sup> Champagne Ball** – Saturday, October 16, 2010; 6:30 p.m., Trump National Golf Club; Black Tie Optional; RSVP by Friday, October 1; Tickets \$500 each; Silent and Live auctions; Sponsorship Opportunities available. Please contact Ruth Burton, Development Officer, 914-366-3105 - [rburton@pmhc.us](mailto:rburton@pmhc.us)

**Phelps Wine Tasting** – Friday, March 11, 2011, 6:30 p.m., Trump National Golf Club. Please look for details in future issues.



**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Phelps Golf Classic** – Monday, June 13, 2011, 11:00 a.m., Sleepy Hollow Country Club. Please look for details in future issues.



### President's Message

*Jim Goldsmith, Auxiliary President*

I hope everyone has had a wonderful and safe summer and has managed to stay cool in the midst of the never-ending heat wave we have had here in the East. Even the few days we had rain, which usually cools things off, were of little or no help, because the humidity returned almost immediately after the rain.

Speaking of help, my original "President's Message", which I am now amending, asked for your help in trying to settle the impasse between the Stellaris Hospital Group and Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield. As many of you know, the contract between these two groups expired at the end of March. Stellaris tried to bargain in good faith for rates comparable to what Empire pays similar hospitals in the state and across the country.

However, since Empire became a division of Wellpoint and is now a "for profit" company, it seems as though they put their bottom line ahead of their subscribers' welfare.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Phelps First Craft Fair

*by Jim Goldsmith*

On June 19<sup>th</sup> the Auxiliary, with much needed help from numerous other hospital agencies (volunteers, publicity, security, administration and food service), had a wonderful and very successful crafts fair.



From 8 AM. To 10 AM. was set-up time for the vendors, who were assisted by Auxilians and volunteers in finding their place, carrying their crafts and making them

feel comfortable. The Fair officially opened at 10 AM. And, of course, the fear was that too few people would come. As the day progressed and the weather remained hot but beautiful, more and more customers appeared on the Phelps grounds eager to look and buy.

Most vendors I talked to as the Fair was winding down were pleased at their sales for the day, the helpfulness of Phelps in making their set-up and take-down easier, the location of the Fair and the location of their spot at the Fair.



Food, in the form of hot dogs, coffee, water, chips, pretzels, cookies and brownies, was sold at nominal prices. The food tent proved to be a popular one, as we made over \$350.

If you missed this one, make it a point to mark your calendar when we announce the next. It is a visit well worth it.

## ***A Little Local History***

*by Dennis Corcoran*

# **The Quadricentennial of the Hudson River - Part VIII**

Today people are able to fly to all corners of the earth, but back in 1909 that wasn't the case. When New York celebrated the Tri-Centennial of the discovery of the Hudson River, Wilbur Wright of Wright Brothers' fame put on an aerial demonstration over New York City. He performed four flights, with the longest one lasting over 33 minutes, as he flew at an altitude of 200 feet at 20 miles per hour.

Today when we picture a reservoir we think of the Kensico Reservoir in Valhalla where drinking water is stored. However, the Sacandaga Reservoir, built in 1927 in upstate New York, was used to store water as a source to drive hydro electric turbines generators to produce electricity for the factory mills around Troy and Albany. This reservoir was also needed to supply a steady water supply after several severe droughts. The Sacandaga Reservoir also helped to manage the Hudson River in order to contain a flood that could have been disastrous in 1936. The Sacandaga Reservoir was built after a new source of drinking water was established to meet the demands of the exploding population in New York City after 1900. A new reservoir system was developed in the Catskill Mountains. This Catskill Aqueduct would be the longest (92 miles) and most expensive in the world, joining the Ashokan and Schoharie Reservoirs, to deliver drinking water to New York City. A tunnel would be built under the Hudson River from the west side of Storm King Mountain just north of West Point to Break Neck Mountain on the East side at Cold Spring. These were just some examples of the engineering achievements that took place in New York State.



Kensico Dam—Valhalla



Bear Mountain Bridge

The aqueduct would be designed on the same principal utilized by the Romans thousands of years ago. Water would flow on a downhill gradient so that pumps would never have to be used. Finally, after ten years of building, the tunnel under the Hudson the aqueduct began pumping water to New York City in 1917.

The building of the Reservoirs was an example of the engineering achievements that took place between 1900 and 1930. The Port Authority Trans Hudson (PATH Trains) built tunnels between Manhattan and New Jersey (Hoboken and Jersey City) in 1908. A second tunnel project connected the Pennsylvania Railroad between Philadelphia and Penn Station in New York City.

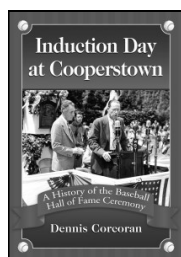
All of us living in the Hudson Valley should consider driving on the Storm King Highway that was built in 1922. There you can experience the breath-taking view of the Highlands 400 feet above the river.

The Bear Mountain Bridge became the first suspension bridge over the Hudson River south of Albany in 1924. It was built to give access to Bear Mountain Park replacing the slow and tedious ferry service that had been the only means of transporting people to the Park and West Point.

Finally, if you haven't had the opportunity, take a walk on the World's longest pedestrian bridge (over a mile long) that just opened in 2009. It was originally the Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge that opened in 1888, which was closed after a fire in the 1970's. It was about to be destroyed when a group of local citizens petitioned to convert it into a pedestrian bridge. This new pedestrian bridge is called "Walkway over the Hudson".

*Information derived partially from The Hudson-America's River by Frances F. Dunwell*

*Note: The history of The Hudson River will continue to be our focus throughout 2010 even though the Quadricentennial ended in 2009. It will take us that long to document its illustrious history right up to the present day.*



## **Induction Day at Cooperstown**

*A History of the Baseball Hall of Fame Ceremony*

A Book by Dennis Corcoran

Nearly every year since 1939, baseball's most outstanding players, umpires, pioneers and executives have been enshrined at Cooperstown in a public ceremony attracting thousands of fans from across (and sometimes beyond) the United States. Whether conferred by the Baseball Writers Association of America, the Veterans Committee, or in the case of 17 Negro League greats in 2006, an ad hoc committee of historians, Hall of Fame membership is the game's highest honor. This book covers the origins and history of the Hall of Fame museum and its election process, provides general information on each year's class and induction ceremony, includes concise biographical and career discussion for every Hall of Famer, as well as commentary on his (Effa Manley is the lone female) path to election, and highlights of his speech.

Dennis Corcoran is the contributor of this newsletter's "A Little Local History". His book is available from McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers • Box 611, Jefferson, North Carolina 28640  
Orders 800-253-2187 • FAX 336-246-4403 • [www.mcfarlandpub.com](http://www.mcfarlandpub.com)

## President's Message *(Continued from page 1)*

They stalled negotiations and sent out to all Empire subscribers an explanation full of erroneous information.

Stellaris, in an effort to break the stalemate, offered Empire a reduced compensation rate which will affect their bottom line but will also allow Empire subscribers to once again receive the excellent care they are used to at these hospitals.

So we are back to normal now, at least for the next three years, but there is still much work to be done at Phelps. The Auxiliary needs your support. We need donations. We need support of the Cherry Door in Tarrytown (giving them furniture you no longer want, or buying furniture you might need). We need people to buy items from our wonderful Gift Shop. We need people to plan and hold events at the James House. There are so many ways to support your Auxiliary and therefore the hospital.

Don't sit back and think the other person will do it. Be proactive and help us now!

## Welcome to our Newest Auxilians

*Submitted by Nancy Eichorn*  
Joan A. Rose Meg Apostolico

## 2010 President's Reception

*By Ruth Burton*

More than 150 people gathered at Trump National Golf Club, Briarcliff Manor this past May for the annual **President's Reception**, honoring the Hospital's most generous donors for their support. David Coulam, Chair of the Board of Directors, welcomed the guests with a heartfelt message of thanks and appreciation, citing how their support has helped Phelps continue to grow in response to the needs of the community. He acknowledged Keith Safian's 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary as President of Phelps and thanked him for his service and vision.

Mr. Safian's presentation highlighted the awards that Phelps received, the record-setting patient activity levels, growth of the Medical Staff, our high patient satisfaction scores and our plans for the future. Thank you to our donors who help make Phelps an outstanding medical center.

## Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

Sept. 15th, Oct. 20th, Nov. 17th and Dec. 15th. All meetings will be held in the Auditorium and will start at 9:00AM unless otherwise posted.

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### Editorial Staff and Contributors

Jim Goldsmith Nancy Eichorn  
Pam Cardozo Dennis Corcoran  
Judy Baiocco Iris Hill Jim Reidy

\*\*\* Photos courtesy of Jim Reidy and 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.

## Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

*Courtesy of Judy Baiocco*

|                   |   |                   |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| Michael Allar     | Transport                                     | Dobbs Ferry       |
| Meg Apostolico    | Administration                                | Ossining          |
| Kathleen Bathon   | Info Desk, Transport                          | Pleasantville     |
| Marius Blaga      | Pharmacy                                      | Tarrytown         |
| Andrew Bohlen     | Info Desk, Transport                          | Dobbs Ferry       |
| Ann Cashen        | Administration                                | Ardsley-on-Hudson |
| Linda D'Aquino    | Info Desk                                     | Ossining          |
| Lisa Finney       | Library                                       | Yonkers           |
| Adrianna Iannotti | Info Desk, Transport                          | Pleasantville     |
| Kathie Longo      | Atrium  | Tarrytown         |
| Patricia Makai    | Gift Shop,<br>Newborn Hearing Screening       | Ossining          |
| Hilda Portik      | Food Service                                  | Ossining          |
| Andrea Randrup    | Info Desk, Transport                          | Ossining          |
| Amy Roca          | Administration                                | Ossining          |
| Bethany Rodriguez | Physical Therapy                              | Yonkers           |
| Joan Rose         | Newborn Hearing Screening<br>Information Desk | Sleepy Hollow     |

## GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

*Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill*

### September 2010

|      |      |                        |
|------|------|------------------------|
| Fri. | 9/10 | D & D Jewelry          |
| Fri. | 9/17 | Full of Sheets         |
| Mon. | 9/20 | As Seen on T.V.        |
| Tue. | 9/21 | Sock Exchange          |
| Fri. | 9/24 | Active Wear Plys       |
| Thu. | 9/30 | Lillian Wetzel Jewelry |

### October 2010

|      |       |                       |
|------|-------|-----------------------|
| Thu. | 10/07 | Silver Dreams Jewelry |
| Thu. | 10/14 | Books are Fun         |
| Fri. | 10/15 | Books are Fun         |
| Fri. | 10/22 | The Glove Lady        |
| Thu. | 10/28 | Melvia Sportswear     |

### *New in this issue - get more information, faster!*

Most of the underlined words and some of the photos are hyperlinks in the on-line edition of this newsletter. Place your cursor over the word or picture and click - it will bring you to a reference on that subject. Happy Surfing!!

You can access the on-line version at  
<http://www.phelpshospital.org/auxiliary>



## 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, through 914-366-3170.

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**PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY  
SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591**

## *Pam's Corner*

by Pam Cardozo

### **Student Volunteers**

Our student volunteers this summer have done a terrific job and have been a pleasure to work with. They represent 17 different high schools and 6 colleges. Many have an interest in health care careers -- several in medicine, some in PT, a few in nursing and several in dietetics.

Their summer began with classes on communication skills, given by one of our senior volunteers, and ended with classes which gave them an opportunity to share their experience of being a Phelps volunteer with each other and with us. Many of the high school students will continue to volunteer on weekends through the school year.

The students could be found volunteering at the Information Desk, Transport, the Cherry Door, Pre-Natal Clinic and Atrium Transport.

Thank you to all those students who did such an outstanding job!

### **Welcome Back Senior Volunteers**

We hope everyone had a nice summer and is ready to come back to volunteering refreshed and with stories of "how I spent my summer vacation"! We have had a few new seniors start while you were off, so please join me in welcoming them when you return.

Roy and the Transport staff are anxiously awaiting your return, so get your sneakers ready!

For those seniors who helped orient our summer students and continued part-time in the summer we thank you!!

### **Joint Commission**

Just a reminder - The Joint Commission is coming very, very soon and we are all in high gear for their return. We are asking all volunteers to please stop at the office to be 100% sure your file is up to date! Thank you for your cooperation in making us the volunteer service at Phelps - so outstanding!

## **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Phelps Golf Classic**

Contributed By Ruth Burton

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Phelps Golf Classic took place at Sleepy Hollow Country Club on Monday, June 14 with more than 100 golfers participating.

Once again the Golf Committee, under the leadership of William and Ellen Melvin and John and Connie Curran, organized a memorable day of golfing, lunch, evening cocktails and buffet reception, highlighted by prizes, contests and a silent auction. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Committee, Co-Chairs, players and sponsors for another fun and successful Phelps event!