

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Jan-Feb 2007

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY

Holiday Party

By Jim Goldsmith

Without Eva Marie Dahling, there is no event at the James House worth going to. Even with house guests from out of town, Eva Marie took time to decorate the James House Mansion (with Mary Kay Olson, Marguerite Klein and Jim Reidy) the James House, order the tables, chairs, plates, etc., and most impor-



tantly, the food.

And speaking of the food, it was plentiful and delicious. Shrimp, vegetables, mushrooms, spinach dip, melon wrapped prosciutto, fresh fruit and cookies. Who could ask for more?

Jim Chalmers was a great help bar tending, and Betty Albertson and Muriel Ruchti made sure everyone received a raffle ticket for prizes donated by our Gift Shop. I had to leave early for another meeting, but by the time I came back to break down any remaining tables and chairs and leave them outside, it had already been done. I know Jim Reidy and Nancy Eichorn played a big part in this and my thanks to them and anyone else who helped.

The weather was perfect (remember the ice last year) and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Next year we may try to add some music, but quite honestly, the way people were talking and socializing, it could be a disruption.

Again, Eve Marie, our thanks for a job well done.

Welcome to our newest volunteers

Rob Gallagher, Scarborough
Mike Buchanan, Pleasantville
Louise Raybin, Ossining
Mary Ennacheril, Briarcliff
Lori Gottlieb, Pleasantville
Erica Igielski, Pleasantville

A New Year's Message from Phelps' President and CEO



As we enter 2007, I would like to thank our Auxilians and Volunteers for your marvelous work and commitment to Phelps, and to our patients. Your continued support and services to our patients and their families are appreciated by all, and by me in particular.

Our Volunteers add such an important dimension to patient care - comfort and personal services that would not be possible without you. You really help to make Phelps a better hospital than anywhere else - one of which we are all proud.

It is with great respect that I offer my sincerest thanks to all of you for your tremendous efforts over the past year. We continue to depend on you in the future and I am pleased that we can count on all of you.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007!

Keith F. Safian, FACHE
President and CEO
Phelps Memorial Hospital Center

Lord & Taylor Bash

By Jim Goldsmith

Your Auxiliary received \$520 from sales of discount tickets to the Lord & Taylor Bash. This is slightly below last year's figure, because I was handling the ticket sales this year, while Mary Kay Olson did it last year. What I learned from this is to have Mary Kay do it again next year, as she seems to be much better at it than me.

It was a terrible day to shop that day, as the rain came down non stop from dawn till nightfall. Nonetheless, the store was crowded, especially the cosmetics counter, as shoppers received their 15% discount, not something they could do on a day to day basis, and unusual, because most stores exempt cosmetics from the "sale".

One of the criteria is that two members of the organization have to each work a two hour shift that day, and a special thanks to Lynne Hansen for sharing that duty with me.

There will be a little more money coming to the Auxiliary from this Bash, as anyone who came into the store that day and bought discount tickets at the store, will have the overall sum split between the contributing charities.

Try to do it next year. The store is fun, they go overboard to help you find things, and there is usually a raffle for expensive items.

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

JANUARY

Mon 1/22 Time Plus Watches

Fri 1/26 Exile CD's

FEBRUARY

Thurs 2/01 Lillian Wetzel Jewelry

Tues 2/06 Sports Memorabilia

Wed 2/07 Applause Fashions

Thurs 2/08 Melvia Sportswear

Fri 2/09 Classy Karat Jewelry

Mon 2/12 Angel's Gold Jewelry

Thurs 2/15 Echo Linens

Over the Top Bake Sale

By Jim Goldsmith

With some usual faces and some less common faces, your Auxiliary had it's most successful bake and craft sale ever. Andy Grass was unable to help out this year, but his partner, Al Saias, stayed the course, collecting and depositing the money in the cash box.



As usual, we were helped out by Doris and Al Saias, Joyce Weiser, Susan Aguado (whose name we trust was spelled correctly this time), Helen Chanowsky, Marguerite Klein and Jim Chalmers, who always seem to work as a dynamic duo, Diana Grass, whose daughter provided a wonderful cheesecake, and Joan Kent, who always likes to provide a bargain to the customer.

We were joined by newcomers Laurie Zimmerman and her friend (and now ours), Elaine Wasserman, as well as the Champagne Ball lottery winner, Rose Marie Parisi. Special thanks also to Joan Ceconi who came to help, but saw we had quite a few helpers at that point and decided not to stay.

We made close to \$1100, helped a great deal by Teddy Capers, who generously and regularly buys a load of goodies, a lot of the Medical Staff, and of course, the nurses and other hospital employees.

Lisa Fambro supplied us with terrific hand knitted scarves, sweaters, etc. while Doris Saias again brought boxes and boxes of assorted gifts and notions, not to mention six home baked cakes.

I expect I am leaving some people out who deserve to be mentioned, so please get in touch with me and I will correct in the next News & Notes.

My thanks to all who contributed, and there were a record number of you, and those who worked.

We can't do this without you.



State of the Art Interactive Television System

Contr. by Bruce Davidow, COO

We have just installed in our hospital the most advanced interactive patient television system available anywhere. This touch screen with keyboard LCD TV system features: cable television, video on demand, patient education programming, internet access, a patient satisfaction survey and also allows our medical and clinical staff to access current patient information. This system is currently being utilized on 5-North and will eventually be located in all patient rooms that have television service. We are the first hospital in NYS to have such a system and we have experienced extremely positive feedback from our early users of this innovative system.



Construction update

By Jim Reidy

As we have been reporting in the last few issues, construction of the new facilities at Phelps Memorial Hospital is proceeding at blazing speed. Shown here to the left is the office structure with its full brick facing completed. Since this photo, nearly all of the windows have been installed and the main entrance structure is coming along. Behind this building the foundation for the parking garage is nearly finished. The parts to construct the garage will be brought to the site soon and is expected to go up *FAST!* Come down and visit if you haven't been to the hospital in a while. You will be amazed at the changes. See page four for more photos of the construction effort.





President's Message

Jim Goldsmith, Auxiliary President

The holidays are here and gone. I hope you all enjoyed your days with your family and friends. I wanted to wish all of you a very happy and, even more importantly, a healthy New Year. A lot of us volunteer in the hospital and we see on a daily basis the outcome of poor health. There are certain common sense things like eating correctly (hard to do in the holiday season, but not that hard otherwise), making sure we exercise to any extent we are able on a daily basis, read or do puzzles to keep our minds sharp and, above all, not to get so upset that we cause major changes in our normal body chemistry. I want as many of you as possible to join me next year, and the years to come, as Auxilians.

Speaking of Auxilians, I mentioned in my last message that we needed a new President, Vice President and it looks like we'll need a new Secretary, too. I asked for volunteers to get in touch with me through the Volunteer Office at 366-3170. So far there have been no calls. This is your chance to steer the Auxiliary on a new course if you desire, and maybe in time vastly improve our donations to the hospital.

We need to come up with new fundraising ideas and the where-with-all to implement them.

Bake and Craft Sales bring in about \$4000 a year; the Barclay Classic contributed about \$7000, but what we really need is some ideas about new fundraising that will also tie us into the neighboring community (memorabilia items; concerts; lecturers). We are always open to suggestions, so please do your part to help and help us.

Also, as the year winds down, take a look around the Phelps campus and see the phenomenal growth our hospital is going through. From the new Medical Office Building complete with a new out-patient rehabilitation center equipped with a therapy pool, to the new Emergency Department, to our new free Parking Garage. Just remember, as big a footprint as Phelps will have, it is still our Community Hospital, small and personal with excellent and caring doctors, nurses, and support staff.

First Class Healing

Contr. by Bruce Davidow, COO

As you walk into the new 12-person hyperbaric chamber at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in Sleepy Hollow, it seems as though you are entering a first-class airline cabin. This is nothing like the single-person chamber reminiscent of the old Sea Hunt TV show. There is no sense of claustrophobia; rather, there is a promise of treatment hours passing pleasantly as you listen to music or watch movies . . . and heal.



The term "hyperbaric chamber" may bring to mind scuba divers suffering from "the bends" (decompression sickness), but that is just one condition that can be treated by Hyperbaric Oxygen (HBO) therapy. Other conditions treated include non-healing wounds, tissue injury from radiation therapy, carbon monoxide poisoning, cyanide poisoning, and bone infections (chronic osteomyelitis). Research is underway for use of HBO therapy to treat many other conditions, including post-traumatic brain injury, stroke, and cerebral palsy.

HBO Therapy heals. During therapy, patients receive 100% oxygen while sitting in an environment that is approximately 2-1/2 times the normal atmospheric pressure. Healing is enhanced because the therapy helps new blood vessels grow, and more oxygen is delivered to tissues and organs. Hyperbaric oxygen also activates white blood cells to fight infection and enhances the benefits of some antibiotics.

"Hyperbaric oxygen therapy, alone and in combination with standard treatments, contributes to optimal outcomes for patients," says Owen J. O'Neill, MD, Medical Director of the Phelps Hyperbaric Medicine Center. Dr. O'Neill, a specialist in hyperbaric medicine, prescribes an individualized treatment plan for each patient. The Phelps hyperbaric chamber is the most state-of-the-art and largest in the northeast. For information, call (914) 366-3690.

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**** 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.**

We are looking for YOU..



The newsletter committee is always looking for people to help out with writing articles and bringing in fresh ideas. If you'd like to be a part, please contact Jim Reidy at (914) 271-5403.

PLACE MAILING LABEL HERE

FIRST CLASS MAIL

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY
SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591



Construction of the foundation for the parking garage nears completion.



The steel structures are being installed in what will be the extension of the BRU units and the new emergency department.

The Auxiliary welcomes the following new members who have joined our illustrious group
Mel Chesner, Dr. Karen Costley, Maria Meleski
Louise Raybin, Phyllis Weaver

Pam's Corner

By Pam Cardozo

A BIG THANK YOU...

To all our wonderful volunteers who have contributed so much to the lives of our patients and the smooth operation of our hospital. Your work is invaluable, important and without you we couldn't do it! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We also owe a big thank you to our neighbors, members of Sons of Israel Temple, for pitching in once again to cover our Information Desk for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity, which allowed our regular volunteers to take the time off and enjoy the Holiday with their families. This is a nice example of teamwork at its best.

HELP US MEET OUR GOAL.....

As you know, Joint Commission (JCHAO) is coming, but we just don't know when. This is a national body which measures our compliance with industry standards for quality and safety. It is essential that the volunteer records be as up-to-date as every other record in the hospital. We are asking all active volunteers to help us accomplish this goal. Please come into the Volunteer Office so we can personally tell you if your record is current, or if there is something you need to do to bring your file up-to-date. It will take each of you to help Pat and me make our department perfect!

FORGET UNCLE SAM - WE NEED YOU!

'Tis the season for giving and we are hoping you, or someone you know, will find a few hours a week to give to Phelps by becoming a member of our volunteer team. Please be an ambassador of Volunteer Services at your clubs, parties, get-togethers, or in the grocery store and spread the word that, as Phelps grows, our volunteer service needs to grow along with it. Please call us at 366-3170 to tell us you would like to join us.....we need you!