

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Mar-Apr 2010

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY



A Message from Your Auxiliary President

By Rose Marie Parisi

As the outgoing President of the Auxiliary, I would like to thank my Board of Directors for another memorable year.

The year has flown by and once again we have made ourselves proud to be Auxiliaries at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center. I applaud each and every one of you who made a contribution to Phelps through the Auxiliary. We are grateful to all of you.

It is an exciting time of the year. We need to nominate our slate of Board members for the coming year.

There are some openings, so please let us know if you are interested so we can prepare our slate.

The 55th Auxiliary Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, April 12th. We will meet at The James House Mansion at 2:00 pm for installation of new officers. Please come and support our Auxiliary. Refreshments will be served following the business meeting.

Thursday, March 25, is the day of our next Bake Sale. We start at about 8:30 am and continue until we are sold out of our delicious baked goods. We will also have our 50/50 drawing. Each ticket will cost \$1.00. If we collect \$100.00 you get \$50.00 and we, the Auxiliary, gets \$50.00. That's 50/50. So come on by - you must be in it to win it! Of course, we are hoping you will buy some cakes, cookies or other delicious wares at the same time!

I have had a lot of fun and have accumulated lots of knowledge this year as your President, and that we all believe we are the best Hospital in the Hudson Valley.

Let's continue to work together in this positive direction and show Phelps just how vital the Auxiliary is to our Hospital. I will look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Rose Marie Parisi

Maximize your Tax Benefits

Charitable gifts to Phelps provide the Hospital with important philanthropic support and tax benefits to you. Gifts of cash are generally deductible in amounts up to 50% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Gifts of appreciated assets are generally deductible in amounts up to 30% of AGI. When securities and certain other properties you have owned for more than a year are donated, you are entitled to a deduction for their full value, not just the original cost.

Please consider making larger gifts in years when you have more income. The higher your tax bracket, the greater the savings from your gifts. Please consider including Phelps in your estate plans. For more information, contact Janet Pollack, Major Gifts Officer, Tel. 914-366-3108.

Thank you all.
Rose Marie Parisi
Auxiliary President

Phelps First Craft Fair

The Phelps Hospital Auxiliary is hosting their first Craft Fair on June 19, from 10-5 pm at The James House Mansion, directly behind the Hospital.

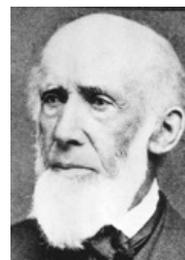
There will be a variety of vendors selling hand-crafted items. Members of the Phelps Auxiliary will be on hand to explain the role of the Auxiliary, and to encourage people to join this important fund-raising arm of the Hospital.

Representatives from the James House Mansion will also be present to give people tours and to answer any questions for those who might be interested in renting the Mansion for a special occasion.

This is a very exciting event for us and we are looking forward to a big turn-out at our beautiful mansion overlooking the Hudson River on, hopefully, a lovely, sunny June day!

There is plenty of parking on the Hospital grounds and light refreshments will be available for purchase, which will also support the Phelps Auxiliary.

The Erie Canal had helped link the Hudson River to the Midwest as a vital transportation route for people, goods and supplies but the river was only accessible some nine months of the year because of the buildup of ice during the winter months. A railroad would become the solution although a railroad line linking New York City to Albany (along the eastern shore) wasn't completed until a number of obstacles were overcome. John B. Jervis, the engineer who designed the 40 mile Croton Aqueduct, including the High Bridge that delivered drinking water to Manhattan as noted in a previous edition of this column, would help to make the railroad a reality. He had to overcome opposition from the powerful steamboat companies but his biggest challenge was the Hudson Highlands itself. It took almost two years to build a tunnel through Breakneck Mountain (north of Cold Spring) but after four years of construction the railroad was completed in 1851. A railroad along the western shore would be completed about 30 years later.



John Jervis

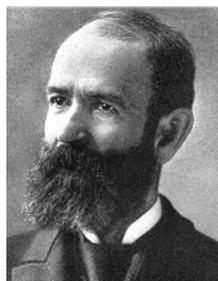


Cornelius Vanderbilt

A rail line was also established in New Jersey in 1864 with the main terminal being in Jersey City. This terminal would become the starting point for thousands of immigrants after their arrival at Ellis Island as they traveled to points in the South and the Midwest to begin a new life.

During this time the New York Central Railroad was established from New York City to Buffalo. Cornelius Vanderbilt took control of it in 1867 and four years later built the Grand Central Depot, which in time became the Grand Central Station. Vanderbilt then built the world's first long-distance railroad from New York City to Chicago in 1875.

Prior to the Civil War, another significant "transportation system" was established from the south to Canada following the passage of The Fugitive Slave Law in 1850. This punitive law allowed the return of runaway slaves to their owners in the South. As a result, the "Underground Railroad" was setup to shelter slaves as they made their way to freedom in Canada. One important "depot" along the Hudson River became the city of Peekskill.



Jay Gould

The 1870s through the 1890s became known as the *Gilded Age* as businessmen such as J. D. Rockefeller and Jay Gould ruthlessly pursued their goals of wealth and power. Gould purchased the Lyndhurst Castle in Irvington and Rockefeller built his Pocantico Hills estate at Kykuit (Dutch word for "lookout"). His brother William also owned his own estate right next to where Phelps Hospital is located, Rockwood Hall. Despite his unscrupulous rise to power, J.D. used his wealth to establish the Rockefeller Foundation in order to "promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world." The Foundation has raised over \$500 million for charity. Also, the descendants of both Gould and the Rockefellers bequeathed their estates to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



John D. Rockefeller

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.

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill

March

Thurs	03/04	As Seen on T.V.
Fri	03/05	D & D Jewelry
Thurs	03/18	Leather Outlet

April

Thurs	04/01	Save on Socks
Fri	04/09	Memories Cakes
Fri	04/16	Active Wear Plus
Wed	04/21	Applause Fashion
Thurs	04/29	Books are Fun
Fri	04/30	Books are Fun

An Evening of Fine Wine

Phelps Memorial Hospital Center and Marmaduke Wine Club in Pleasantville will be presenting *An Evening of Fine Wine with Fine Friends* – A Wine Tasting with Laurent Drouhin of Maison Joseph Drouhin, Burgundy, France. This unique event will take place on Friday, March 19, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Trump National Golf Club, 339 Pine Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York. Hearty hors d'oeuvres will be served to accompany the wines. Tickets are \$150 per person. RSVP by Friday, March 12 to Ruth Burton, Development Office at 914-366-3105; rburton@pmhc.us. All are welcome.





Buy "Sam I Am" and Donate to the Daniel Pearl Foundation

Sam Weiser is the grandson of long-time Auxilian, Joyce Weiser, who served Phelps as a volunteer, was President of the Auxiliary Board and continues to be an avid supporter of the Auxiliary. Sam's record is available through Amazon.com and CDBaby.com and locally at Barnes and Noble and Borders stores. Please read the excerpt below from the web site www.samweisermusic.com :

Sixteen year old Sam Weiser began playing the violin at 3. Sam was concertmaster and soloist at the Norwalk Youth symphony at age ten and has since been concertmaster of numerous orchestras. He was concertmaster of the Fairfield County Honors orchestra in the seventh grade. He is currently the first Manhattan School of Music Precollege student ever to double major in classical violin and jazz violin. He studies classical violin with Patinka Kopec and jazz violin with Sara Caswell.

Sam is the 2008/2009 recipient of the Daniel Pearl Memorial Violin and is deeply honored to have been an emissary for music as a universal communication between all people. Sam is the 2009 winner of the National ASTA Alternative Styles Award. He has attended the Mark O'Connor Fiddle Camp in Nashville and Mark O'Connor's String conference in San Diego and New York for six years where he was introduced to jazz and all alternative fiddling styles. Through these experiences, he has made lasting friendships and created deep musical bonds with world famous instructors and musicians of all ages, backgrounds and interests and has had to opportunity to play with Mark at numerous venues, from Avery Fisher Hall to educator conferences.

Sam's first CD, *Sam I Am*, an eclectic mix of jazz, bluegrass, Latin, and gypsy music was released on February 16, 2010 by indie label *Disappear Records* and Sam toured in February to support the CD. All profits for the sale of the CD are being donated to the Daniel Pearl Foundation and FODfest, inc, a music tour commemorating the life of Danny Pearl .

For more information search "[Sam Weiser](http://www.google.com)" on [Google](http://www.google.com) or your favorite search engine. A plethora of information is available.

In Memoriam

JOAN MARIE RODENBERGER

Joan died on February 24th at the age of 81 after a long illness. Joan was raised in Scarsdale and married Kent Rodenberger in 1954. She attended Syracuse University and worked for Reader's Digest before staying home to raise her family. Joan lived in Briarcliff Manor for 44 years. She is survived by her four daughters, Susan, Barbara, Nancy and Diane and by eight grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband. Joan volunteered for Phelps at the Information Desk from 1966 to 2009 and was a member of the Auxiliary.

Phelps Auxiliary Spring Bake Sale

Calling all bakers and sellers. We are looking for Auxilians to provide baked goods and homemade candies and for members to come to the table on March 25th to help sell those yummy wares.

It'd be great to see new faces. Just because you're not an active volunteer at the hospital doesn't mean you can't participate. ALL Auxilians are welcome to lend their help and support.

If you would like to contribute, please call the Auxiliary office at 914-366-3170. Your hands can help many lives!

Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

Courtesy of Pat Makai

Janet Carriello	Library	Ossining
Roberta Freilich	Ossining	Transport
Ed Maloney	Transport	Croton-on-Hudson
RJ Penalosa	Transport	Pleasantville
Jennifer Tricomi	Thornwood	Silver Spoons
Gregory Yip	Pleasantville	Information Desk
Lourdes Zuckerman	Gift Shop	Ossining

Welcome to our Newest Auxilians

Submitted by Nancy Eichorn
Renate Scheye, Peter Thyrrer

Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

Mar 17th and Apr 21st at 9:00AM in the Board Room.

News and Notes Mar-Apr 2010 Vol. XII No. 2

Editorial Staff and Contributors

Jim Goldsmith Nancy Eichorn
Pam Cardozo Dennis Corcoran
Pat Makai 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.



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

COMFORT SHAWL KNITTING PROJECT

We reported on our Comfort Shawl Knitting Project a while ago and want you to know how successful this project has been! We've received many shawls, some knitted, some crocheted. News is spreading and even people from outside the Hospital have come in with their handiwork.

Our volunteers have distributed several shawls to patients in need of warmth or just a little extra "comfort", and they are always much appreciated. We have lots of yarn in the Volunteer Office so if you are interested in joining this very worthwhile project, please stop by and choose your yarn or call us at 914-366-3170.

JAMES HOUSE UPDATE

The Auxiliary has allocated money for refurbishing the interior of the Mansion, for which we are most grateful. One of the first projects in our plan will be refinishing the wooden floors, which we hope to have completed by early spring. We have also purchased new rugs and are in the process of having other rugs cleaned.

A friend of Phelps recently donated a practically new couch for the bride's room and to complement these decorating improvements, we had some pictures rematted. We will give you an update on the progress of our redecorating project in the next News & Notes.

We are now on several new websites, including [The Knot](#), a premier wedding site, and have already received several inquiries.

SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Volunteer Supper will take place on Wednesday, June 9, 4-7 pm at The James House Mansion. Wonderful weather is predicted so mark your calendars now!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Volunteer Office, or you may call us at 914/366-3170. See you June 9th!

A Tribute to Joan Rodenberger

By Janet Blunda

Joan was the first person I met at Phelps back in the summer of 2001 when I began volunteering. She taught me all I needed to know to assist her in running the Information Desk. Instantly, I felt a warmth and familiarity toward Joan, and a couple of months later, after sharing the aftermath of the tragedy of 9/11, I learned how much she and I were "on the same page" as far as the real meaning of life and the importance of family and friends in our journey.

Over the years we grew closer, not only as co-workers, but on a more personal level, having met each other's families. I was always so thankful to have the privilege of knowing such a kind, caring woman. Joan was elegant and poised, yet had a wonderful sense of humor and an incredible love and zest for life and all it had to offer.

Although Joan's illness progressed and she was forced to leave her volunteer position last year, I'm glad to say that our friendship continued. I realized in our recent visits and phone calls that Joan's health was failing rapidly. Many times after seeing or speaking to her, the final words of the poem "God Saw You Getting Tired" that read, "*God broke our hearts to prove to us He only takes the best*", would come to mind. Joan was one of the best, one of God's brightest lights. I will remember her smile and will always be thankful for the privilege and honor of knowing her. Although I've always found volunteering at Phelps rewarding, I never entered into it with the expectation to receive the "bonus" of getting to know someone like Joan.

Thank you for allowing me the time and space to share my memories of an irreplaceable person in my life who will always be sorely missed.