

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Nov-Dec 2008

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY

President's Message

Rose Mary Parisi, Auxiliary President



The concern about safety for patients expressed by the Institute of Medicine's 1999 study, "To Err is Human," brought safety to the forefront of health care delivery.

Studies vary as to whether care rendered using Electronic Health Records is of better quality than care without the backup of digital tools. However, it seems clear that patients benefit from a system that provides legible instruction; avoids confusing abbreviations and prompts the provider about allergies, medication interactions and need for testing and follow-up. In addition, allowing remote access to the patient's record promotes continuity and completeness of care in emergencies and for ongoing care at multiple sites. (*Phelps Today - Winter 2007*)

This leads me to the Phelps Hospital Auxiliary. The mission of the Auxiliary is to raise money for the Hospital for needed equipment and improvements. Donations are always accepted and membership to the Auxiliary made be obtained for a small annual fee.

The holidays are coming around the corner really fast. Remember, our gift shop in the Hospital has great gifts and is open Tuesday and Thursday evenings for your convenience. Another great place to shop for the Holiday Season is The Cherry Door Thrift Shop on Main Street in Tarrytown. Have fun, be careful and enjoy a safe holiday.

Sincerely, Rose Marie

New Emergency Department Dedicated



At a Gala event held under a tent outside of the new Emergency Department (ED) entrance, the nearly completed unit was dedicated. Still working on a few minor details, the Department is expected to open to the public soon (still awaiting a sign-off from the Department of Health).



Following a smorgasbord of several delectable choices, Mr. Keith Safian, CEO, formally opened the affair, introducing a variety of guests who were in attendance. Dr. Emil Nigro, Director of Emergency Services, then took the podium to thank the countless parties that were involved in making the construction of the new ED a reality, with special thanks to Pat Beall, ED Nursing Director, for her contributions in determining the needs of the department and to the many contributors that made the construction possible. The Auxiliary was the first party to present a donation to the ED and in the end contributed \$500,000 to that goal.

A Little Local History

By Dennis Corcoran

History of the Phelps Memorial Hospital Center - Part IV

Recalling our past articles, the majestic stone mansion that overlooks the Hudson River, was originally called the Manor House. When Anson Green Phelps Sr. died in 1853, his son Anson Phelps Jr. decided to rename it Phelps Place. Finally, when Anson's Phelps Sr.'s great grandson, Arthur Curtis James re-acquired it from the Presbyterian Board in 1921, he renamed it the James House.

When James and his wife died in 1941 the Victorian mansion was occupied by a caretaker for many years until women from the Executive Committee of both the Ossining and Tarrytown Hospitals formed the Phelps Memorial Hospital Woman's Auxiliary in 1952. They agreed to take care of the building and refurbish it to its original decor in return for use of the building as their headquarters. One of the first things the Auxiliary did was to train volunteers for the opening of the hospital in 1956. Eventually the Auxiliary accepted men and became the Phelps Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

While we are at it, let's take a quick tour of this impressive structure that has been with us for over 150 years. As you enter the James House you notice a wraparound verandah that completely surrounds the outside of the building. You enter the building and see the Grand Hall, which runs the depth of the house, flanked by Corinthian Columns. The rooms on your left are the

(Continued on page 3)

Champagne Ball

Contributed by Jim Goldsmith

This year's Champagne Ball was again held at Trump National Golf Club and as usual, a good time was had by all. The lucky winners whose names were drawn from the lottery enjoyed an evening of drinks, hors d'ouvres, and a delicious dinner. There was music and dancing, of course, a live auction and a silent auction.



The winners of free tickets to the Ball were: Rose Mary Yannantuono, Phyllis Mandel, Madeline Quail, Annette Kinoy, Anne and Bob Obuck, Sylvia Krell, Cynthia and Mel Chesner, and Dr. Fass. The Auxiliary table was hosted by Rose Marie Parisi, our President.

Those of you who entered but did not win are of course eligible to enter again next year. Our lottery rules state that this year's winners are not eligible to be drawn on the first round next year, so those who did not win stand an excellent chance of winning next year.

The Champagne Ball is our Hospital's biggest fund raiser, and this year seemed to be no exception, even with the economy as bad as it is. We are hoping for another sensational Ball next year, which again will have participation by your Auxiliary. A special thank you must be offered to Dr. Maddalo for his generous contribution of a ticket to the ball.

DONATIONS!

Submitted by Nancy Eichorn

We would like to recognize those members, who in 2008, not only renewed their Auxiliary membership, or joined the Auxiliary, but also enclosed something extra to help keep the organization in good financial health. It's through their generosity, combined with our normal fund raising programs, that we are able to provide the basis for our contributions to the hospital. Thanks once again for your help.

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Marie Abramson | Helen Jones |
| Susan Aguado | Frances Kelly |
| Ruth Baer | Mary Jean Keenan |
| Muriel Bartell | Joan Kent |
| RoseMarie Bartzick | Barbara Klappowski |
| Dr. Robert Bauer | Ilene Kreilsheimer |
| Patricia Brady | Sylvia Krell |
| Winifred Brown | Mary Ann Lawlor |
| Bard Bunaes | Joan Lederman |
| Angelina Burns | Frances MacEachron |
| Edna Cahill | Patricia Maddalo |
| Anne Caldara | Nancy Marin |
| Marie Case | Linda Martin |
| Ginger Cass | James McGroddy |
| Joan Lyons Ceconi | Bill & Ellen Melvin |
| Georganne Chapin | Karen Mendelowitz |
| Dr. Karen Costley | Wilma Mendelowitz |
| David Coulam | JoAnne Moroney |
| John & Connie Curran | Maria Musilli |
| Carol Cusick | Helen Nelson |
| Mary Delfino | Mary Kay Olson |
| Gerda Destasio | Rose Marie Parisi |
| Sean & Martha Dugan | Jim Reidy and Pat Jehle |
| Victor & Nancy Eichorn | Phyllis Riffel |
| Barbara Epstein | Janeth Rosenthal |
| Ruth Fenton | Regina Rubenstein |
| Joan Fiorito | Muriel Ruchti |
| Harriet Gamper | Keith Safian |
| Sara Geyer | Alice Stafford |
| Marilyn Golden | JoAnn Stern |
| Susan Goldfrank | Lore Strauss |
| Jim and Donna Goldsmith | Valerie Stimpson |
| Andrew and Diana Grass | Ofelia Ticker |
| Alice Hales | Marie Timmings |
| Joan Hartney | Drusilla Van Hengel |
| Norma Herguth | Russell Watson |
| Iris Hill | Joyce Weiser |
| Lenore Housman | Carol Zegarelli |

Auxiliary Holiday Party

The Holiday Party will be held on December 11th, from 4PM to 7PM in the James House Mansion. There will be great food, door prizes and plenty of camaraderie.

If you intend to attend, please sign up in the volunteer office or call the office at 366-3170 by December 4th.

Please remember to bring an unwrapped gift and a non-perishable food item. The gifts and the food will be collected and distributed to needy families.



Better Living through Technology

By Jim Reidy



Recently I purchased from Hammacher Schlemmer a device called a "Digital Photo Converter". Basically it is a digital camera mounted inside a case. At the back is a slot where you insert your photograph. Once you start the included software and press the button, your photo is automatically captured and saved in your computer. At \$200 I thought it was a great way to capture and share my memories. Want more info? Write me at newjwr@optonline.net.

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill

November 2008

Mon	11/03	Activewear Plus
Thurs	11/06	Exile C.D.'s
Wed	11/12	Sports Memorabilia
Thurs	11/13	Linen Sale
Tues	11/18	A. Paul Men's Accessories
Wed	11/19	Applause Fashions
Fri	11/21	A Creative Touch
Mon	11/24	Sock Exchange
Tues	11/25	Leather Outlet

December 2008

Tues	12/02	Silver Dreams Jewelry
Thurs	12/04	Art Event
Fri	12/05	Classy Karat Jewelry
Mon	12/08	Tastefully Simple
Thurs	12/11	Lillian Wetzel Jewelry
Fri	12/12	Save on Socks
Mon	12/15	Melvia Sportswear
Thurs	12/18	Gifts and Arts
Fri	12/19	D & D Jewelry
Tues	12/23	Exile C.D.'s

Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

Courtesy of Pat Makai

Sara Boyce	Croton-on-Hudson
Joan Boyle	Briarcliff Manor
Vince Cafarchio	Ossining
Rose DeGasperis.....	Tarrytown
Linda Diaz	Tarrytown
Deborah Filete	Pleasantville
Geum Gim	Thornwood
Jonathon Kroll	Ossining
Maria Lividini.....	Tarrytown
Carmen Mera	Mamaroneck
Sanda Myint	Mahopac
Luisa Ospina	Briarcliff Manor
Elly Sell	Sleepy Hollow
Amy Sundquist	Ossining

Welcome to our Newest Auxilian

Lee Sack

In Memoriam

Phyllis Riffel-Shwedo

Phyllis joined the Phelps Volunteers in 2000. She served in the Transport department for 4 years. Originally from Tarrytown, Phyllis passed away on October 20th at 75 years of age in Lee's Summit, Missouri where she was living near her son after she fell ill.

A little local History (Cont'd)

adjoining East and West Parlor rooms. The East Parlor room includes the painting "Lady Washington's Reception" and a grandfather's clock that was built in 1851, which was a gift from the former PMH Association president, Walter Johnson. Both rooms also contain paintings of Anson Green Phelps and his wife, Olivia. Phelps Hospital is named after him and both paintings were donated by his descendants including his great great grandson, Arthur James Hoe. Arthur Hoe was also one of the authors of *Phelps Place: An Historical Overview* that we have referenced in previous articles. The Dining Room off to the right contains a 12 branch crystal bronze chandelier that was originally from Germany and was donated by the Paschen family. There is a red carpeted stairwell to the right as you enter the Grand Hall that leads to a landing with a stained glass window above it and a divided staircase that takes you upstairs. Here you will find a portrait of Arthur Curtis James, the last descendant of the Phelps family to reside in this historic house.

Today the James House is still used by the Auxiliary for meetings and storage and where they have their annual business meeting in April and their Holiday party in December. The Phelps Hospital Volunteers have their annual Supper during the summer here as well.

The building is also used by the Continuing Day Treatment Center, the Phelps Hospice and is where the Phelps Development offices are located.

Additionally, the James House is rented out throughout the year for weddings, business meetings, birthday and dinner parties, movie shoots and many other activities, as well. The proceeds from the rental of the James House benefit the hospital.

Note- We used *The James House*, written by Phelps Auxiliary Historian, Sally Ackerman, in 1981 and the invaluable assistance of the James House Chairman, Eva Marie Dahling, to help compile this article.

Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

11/19 and 12/17 at 9:00AM in the Board Room.



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, please contact Jim Reidy at (914) 271-1604.

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*** Photos courtesy of Jim Goldsmith & Jim Reidy ***

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

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PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY
SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591

Baked for Success

By Jim Reidy



Once again we have to thank many members of the Auxiliary for another successful bake sale, which earned the Auxiliary \$765.00. On October 16th in the wee hours of the morning (wee to me, anyway) with the help of Celia Mendez, who usually works the cafeteria, the tables were set up and the sale opened for business (OK, so 8:30AM isn't early). There was a mountain of baked goods that were brought in by a number Auxilians - cookies, brownies, cakes, breads and a host of other delectable choices. Among those helping at the sale were Al and Doris Saias, Betty Albertson, Rose Marie Parisi, Pat Jehle (my wife), Helen Chanowsky, Muriel Ruchti, Jim Goldsmith, Sylvia Krell, Sue Aguado, Lynne Hansen and me. Naturally a few of the sellers managed to find some "broken" cookies and brownies, which they sampled so as not to let them go to waste. (They were pretty yummy, too).

Thanks for all your help, as always.

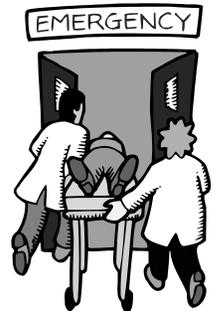
Pam's Corner

By Pam Cardozo



Thank you to those volunteers who participated in the Ossining High School Career Day on Monday, October 20th. Jack Beck, Mary Galgano, Jim Goldsmith, Joan Kent, Trudy Neuhoff, Nancy Eichorn and Joan Lederman assisted in guiding the students around the Hospital as they were introduced to the various departments.

And another **Thank You** to the following volunteers who welcomed people to the Hospital on the evening of November 4th, for the public celebration of the opening of the new Emergency Department. These volunteers were Lynne Hansen, Bob Reibel, Ilene Kreilsheimer, Joan Rink, Ana Mae O'Leary, Eileen Jagoda, Lindea Whalen, Helena Greco, Marguerite Klein, Jim Chalmers, Cathy Ghalebi and Phyllis Weaver.



We have scheduled another class for our **Silver Spoons** patient feeding program on December 5th. This is a very valuable volunteer service, not only for our patients but for the Hospital also.

Remember, **'tis the Flu season** - flu shots are now available in Health Management on the "G" level of the 701 Building. Don't get the **flu**, get the **flu shot!** And please remember wash, wash, wash your hands!!

