

# PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

## News and Notes

Jan-Feb 2010

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY



### Thank You All and Best Wishes for 2010

*A Message from Keith Safian, Phelps Hospital President & CEO*

It seems too fast – 2009 is already coming to a close. But, as I look back, Phelps Auxilians and Volunteers have tremendous accomplishments behind them - outstanding efforts to benefit our patients.

The Auxiliary's fundraising successes and generous support permitted us to acquire critically important medical equipment, i.e., laboratory analyzers that are used in the treatment of our patients virtually every day.

Our Volunteers add such a hugely important dimension to patient care – comfort and personal services that would not otherwise be possible. You help to make Phelps the best hospital – the source of bold pride.

It is with great admiration that I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you for your incredible efforts over the past year. We know that we can continue to depend on you in the next decade and beyond. Happy New Year to all!

### Another Successful Year

*by Rose Marie Parisi, Auxiliary President*

First, I'd like to wish you all a very, very Happy and Healthy New Year! As for 2009, I would say Tempus Fugit (time flies), wouldn't you?

In December, the Auxiliary had a very successful Bake Sale. I want to thank all those who made it possible. It could not have been done without the bakers, the cookie-cutters and the purchasers. Thank you, again! Let's make 2010 another successful year for the Auxiliary. Hopefully, our members are thinking about sending in their dues or donations for 2010!

We're very grateful for the proceeds received in 2009 from the Gift Shop, Cherry Door and The James House Mansion. We also did well from the bake sales, flower sales and newspaper sales. Now we are already planning our 2010 Auxiliary fundraisers. With your help in these endeavors, the Hospital is able to provide more up-to-date equipment and amenities, making life more comfortable for our patients.

I'd like to urge you to join our Auxiliary! You are invited to our meetings, held at 9:00 am, every third Wednesday of the month in the Board Room on the "C" level at Phelps. We hope to see you there!

*"We know the truth, not only by reason, but also by the heart." - Blaise Pascal*



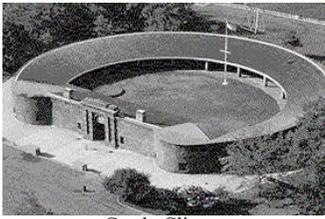
### Goods Times at the Annual Auxiliary Party

*by Jim Goldsmith*

The annual Auxiliary Holiday party was a very festive affair attended by more than seventy-five people. Thanks to the kitchen staff headed by Chef Gordon, the food was not only plentiful (no we didn't run out of shrimp) but also delicious. Having attended these parties for many years, I can honestly say I haven't tasted better food than what was served at our party.

However, once again there was a lack of support shown by the Auxiliary. We have upwards of 350 members and only seventy-five attended. I really don't understand why this is. The party is free, wine and punch are served, the food is delicious and we have a free raffle for prizes donated by the gift shop. This is our party to enjoy and have fun. It starts early and ends early and it is a chance to get to meet other Auxilians you might not know.

**Look for the flyer for next year's party and come celebrate with us!**



Castle Clinton

New York City has been a major worldwide commerce center throughout its history, but the most precious cargo that passed through its portal was people. Today Castle Clinton is a part of Battery Park where it has been preserved by the National Park Service as an interpretive center. Originally, the land on which it stands was an island but landfill helped to make it a part of Manhattan. The building, originally *The Southwest Battery*, was constructed on the rocks off the tip of Manhattan Island between 1808 and 1811. Although fully armed and staffed, the fort never had occasion to fire upon an enemy. In 1817 the fort was renamed *Castle Clinton* in honor of DeWitt Clinton, former Mayor of New York City. The army vacated the fort in 1821 and the structure was deeded to New York City in 1823. In the summer of 1824, a new restaurant and entertainment center opened at the site, now called *Castle Garden*. A roof was added in the 1840s and Castle Garden served as an opera house and theater until 1854. Even with all this history the building is most noted for being the Castle Garden Emigrant Depot where it served as the place of entry for millions of immigrants from 1855 to 1890. It was replaced by Ellis Island in 1890 after it was destroyed by fire. Ellis Island is located one-quarter mile from Battery Park and it served as an immigrant reception center until 1954.

These two places helped to make the Hudson River a gateway to America as millions of people arrived in pursuit of a better life and the American dream. More Americans can trace their family history to this arrival point than any other place in the United States. Ellis Island was renovated and restored in 1990 as a museum dedicated to the immigrant experience.

Adjacent to Ellis Island was Bedloe's Island where the star shaped Fort Wood had been built during the War of 1812. French sculptor Auguste Bartholdi came to New York City in 1871 looking for a place where he could build a grand statue celebrating the friendship between the United States and France. He found it when he saw Bedloe's Island because he knew all ships entering the harbor passed by it. He also realized that his statue, *Liberty Enlightening the World*, would serve as a symbol for all the immigrants passing through Castle Garden.

The plan was for France to give the statue to the United States as a gift for the centennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence in 1876. It would take much longer however, to complete the project. It took Bartholdi over 10 years, as he built his statue in stages back in his native France. Funds also had to be raised by the French for the statue while Americans raised money for the building of a pedestal. Joseph Pulitzer, publisher of the newspaper *The World*, helped raise \$100,000. The statue had a special meaning for Pulitzer because he had passed through Castle Garden when he immigrated to America from Poland in 1864. One way he raised the money was to appeal to school children through his newspaper, asking them to send in their pennies.

President Grover Cleveland presided over the unveiling of the completed copper statue on October 28, 1886. The magnificent 305 foot structure faced the ocean to welcome all.



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



### **Could this be our last Bake Sale!**

*Submitted by Jim Goldsmith*

The Auxiliary held another successful bake sale netting over \$700 between baked goods and our 50/50 raffle.

There was plenty of action around the entire table as people vied for either cakes, cookies, hand made chocolate lollypops (thanks, Jim Reidy) or the best selling brownies.

Working at the sale were Marguerite Klein, Helen Chanowsky, Rose Marie Parisi, Muriel Ruchti, Ophelia Ticker, Joan Lederman, and myself. I want to thank all those that baked and contributed to the sale and especially those that

worked to sell those wonderful wares.

However (and I have been saying this for years) we are not receiving the much needed help from the majority of the Auxilians either in the form of baked goods or help at the bake sale! I don't know why more of you don't volunteer for this. We hold bake sales only four times a year. That's four days out of three-hundred sixty-five. Surely some of you can find time to participate! These bake sales are fund raisers for the hospital. All the monies raised go to the Auxiliary whose sole purpose is to raise money for the hospital.

We have donated over \$100,000 a year to Phelps for the past fifteen years. Help us to help Phelps, please.

Lucky Pam Cardozo, Director Of Volunteers won the 50/50.



Rose Marie calls 50/50 winner, Pam

## GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

*Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill*

### January

Thurs 01/07 Applause Fashions  
 Fri 01/15 Tupperware  
 Thurs 01/21 Save on Socks

### February

Thurs 02/04 Lillian Wetzel Jewelry  
 Fri 02/05 Classy Karat Jewelry  
 Wed 02/10 Silver Dreams Sterling Jewelry  
 Fri 02/12 A Creative Touch  
 Fri 02/19 Angielyn Scrubs  
 Thurs 02/25 Melvia Sportswear  
 Fri 02/26 Full of Sheets

## In Memoriam

### **ARLEEN KAMROWSKI**

Arleen passed away on Saturday, December 12, 2009. She was 87. Arlene retired from her job as a Stenographer at Readers Digest and volunteered for over 25 years at Phelps Auxiliary. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Joseph, three sons, Joseph, Brian and Bruce, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

### **BENNY SANTELLA**

Benny Santella, age 80, died peacefully at home after a long illness on November 25, 2009. Benny and his wife, Mary, were volunteers in our Transport Service. He is survived by his wife, four children, Benny Jr, John, Joseph and Patricia, as well as nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

### **IRENE ZINCHAK**

Irene Zinchak of Croton died peacefully at home on October 31, 2009 at the age of 81. She was predeceased by her husband, Frank, in 1977. Irene was a member of the Cortlandt Seniors, the Leisure club of Tarrytown, was a volunteer at the Ossining Food Pantry and had been a volunteer at Phelps Memorial Hospital.

### **GENEVIEVE E. CASS**

Genevieve E. Cass, 89, formerly of Briarcliff Manor, NY, passed away peacefully with her children at her side on Sunday, October 25, 2009. In 1993, after over 50 years of marriage, Genevieve was predeceased by her husband, Thomas. Genevieve volunteered in the Transport department at Phelps for over twenty years. She was a member of the Auxiliary and enjoyed helping at bake sales and other fund raisers. She is survived by her son, Colin (who met his wife while they were both working at Phelps), daughters Nancy and Linda, and several grandchildren.

## Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

*Courtesy of Pat Makai*

Gloria Cooper	Briarcliff Manor	Pastoral Care
Peggy Dean	Croton	Silver Spoons
Mary Gallagher	Ossining	Pastoral Care
Shawn Gamble	Elmsford	Pharmacy
Norman Herman	Mount Kisco	Medical Services
Sheila Howard	Scarsdale	Patient Representative
Andre Lamarre	Briarcliff Manor	Atrium Info Desk
Marlyn Moshier	Harrison	Pastoral Care
Lucille Naughton	Ossining	Pastoral Care
Fr. Paul O'Brien	Ossining	Pastoral Care
LT Pang	White Plains	Silver Spoons
Denise Petratos	Scarborough	Information Desk
Peter Thyre	Cortland Manor	Transport

## Welcome to our Newest Auxilians

*Submitted by Nancy Eichorn*

Sandra Kwittken, Eileen McArdle, Eva Marie McGinnis

## Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

Jan 20th and Feb 17th at 9:00AM in the Board Room.

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### 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.

## Congrats to our Star Award "Stars"

Two of our volunteers were recently presented with the Phelps Star award for outstanding service to the Hospital.

**John LeVar**, who began volunteering in April, 2008, is one of our most dedicated volunteers. John comes in five days a week to work in Transport and is one of the mainstays of our Transport Service, who continuously goes above and beyond the call of duty.



**Lynne Hansen**, another most dedicated volunteer, began volunteering in 1978. Lynne currently volunteers at the Information Desk, Hospice and as a Pastoral Care Visitor. Lynne obviously wears many hats and her compassion flourishes in each one of her volunteer services.

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## MAIL FIRST CLASS

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SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591

### *Pam's Corner* by Pam Cardozo

**Comfort Shawl Project** – We have started a new project called the “Comfort Shawl Project” and it’s off to a great start! It is intended to bring a little warmth over the shoulders, as well as emotional warmth. So far we have received ten hand-knitted shawls during the past two months and four have already been given to patients in need of a little “comfort”.

In times of stress, bereavement, illness or recovery, the “comfort” shawl will be a great source of comfort, especially when hand-made by someone who truly cares enough to do the work. You only need to bring the spirit of caring and you will derive such enjoyment and satisfaction from knowing that your creativity will be enjoyed by someone in need of caring and compassion.

If you have some yarn at home and would like to be one of our “shawl knitters”, following are the supplies needed and knitting instructions.

**Supplies Needed:**

- Size 13 needles
- Two 6-ounce skeins of soft, textured yarn.
- Recommended yarn: Lion Brand, *Homespun*, available at most yarn or craft shops. (Any soft, washable yarn is acceptable.)

Note: If you would like us to provide the yarn, please ask and Phelps will supply it.

*Approximate finished size – 30” x 60”*

**Knitting the Shawl:**

- Cast on 57 stitches
  - Choose Option 1 or Option 2
- Option 1: K3, P3 **every** row (this means you will start every row with K3)
- Option 2: (even easier) K **every** stitch, **every** row
- Knit chosen pattern until 2 skeins of yarn have been knitted.
- Cast off.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Volunteer Office at 914-366-3170 and we’ll be happy to help.

**Pajama Program** - Phelps’ volunteers collaborated with New York Life employees and gave dozens of pajamas in October to the very worthy “Pajama Program”. This is a not-for-profit organization and provides new, warm pajamas and new books to children in need in the United States and around the world, many who are waiting and hoping to be adopted.

**Silver Spoons Program** – Silver Spoons is a volunteer program for assisting patients at mealtimes. The goals include improving nutrition, promoting safety for eating and creating a cheerful and caring atmosphere during mealtime, for those who are sick. A new Silver Spoons class was held in November for our volunteer feeders. Five of the volunteers are currently being mentored and will soon be ready to start feeding our patients independently.

**Now I’d like to wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year.**