

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

May - Jun 2010

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY



New Wheels for the Cherry Door

Story courtesy Jim Goldsmith

After many months of investigating, planning, inquiring and discussions, the Auxiliary has finally purchased a used van to allow the members of the Cherry Door Thrift Shop to pickup donated furniture and other goods regardless of the weather. Formerly the volunteers of the Thrift Shop, chaired by Dominique Picon, shown here standing proudly by the new acquisition, would use one of the Hospital's open pickup trucks to transport the donations, which could only be done when the weather permitted or had to hire a mover to pick up the items - sometimes at significant cost. The van will pay for itself in no time by allowing bigger and finer items to be brought in for resale and by virtue of the savings often realized by most "do-it-yourself-ers". Good luck to the Cherry Door. It's been a long time coming.

Phelps First Craft Fair

by Pam Cardozo

The first-ever James House Craft Fair, sponsored by the **Phelps Auxiliary**, will take place at The James House Mansion on Saturday, June 19. If you are interested in being a vendor or can volunteer an hour or two to help that day, please contact Pam Cardozo in Volunteer Services, at 366-3170 (pcardozo@pmhc.us). This will be a good opportunity to purchase jewelry, watercolors, handcrafted handbags, pottery, ceramics, decoupage, pillows and many more items. There is no admission charge, and hotdogs and beverages will be available for purchase. Your support as a vendor, volunteer or shopper will be appreciated.

President's Message

Jim Goldsmith, Auxiliary President



Remember the movie, "Gremlins 2", with the tag line "I'm back!?" That's kind of what I feel like as I take the job of Auxiliary President again.

I am also going to take up where I last left off two years ago. We need new Auxiliary members to come to our meetings and decide to take leadership positions in the Auxiliary in order to keep it going. We need new ideas, new thinking, and people willing to make our organization better and more of an asset to Phelps Memorial Hospital.

The consequence of non-involvement will be the

(Continued on page 2)

55th Annual Auxiliary Meeting

By Jim Goldsmith

On April 12th, the Auxiliary held its 55th annual meeting at the James House Mansion. The main purpose of the meeting was to elect the slate of officers for the 2010-2011 year, and to honor Eva Marie Dahling for her many years of unselfish service to the Auxiliary and the hospital.

It was a beautiful day, and we had fifty-five Auxiliaries in attendance, including one of our past presidents, Joyce Weiser.

Rose Marie Parisi called the meeting to order and then

(Continued on page 3)

Just like A.J. Downing with his book, *A Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening*, inspired everyone to appreciate the scenic beauty of nature, George Marsh in his book, *Man and Nature* educated people on the importance of preserving natural resources. One example of unintended consequences was when too many trees were cut, water no longer seeped into the ground but ran off the land, carrying topsoil into streams and rivers. This depleted groundwater and polluted surface water.



Verplanck Colvin

His book helped to influence **Verplanck Colvin**, the New York State surveyor for 28 years. Colvin spent five years as a young man exploring the Adirondack Mountains where he helped to discover Lake Tear of the Clouds in 1872, the source of the Hudson River. He preached the creation of an Adirondack Park in order to preserve the Adirondack forests. His efforts helped to make the Park a reality, but even more significant, was that a state Forest Preserve became part of the state constitution in 1895. Today, the state Forest Preserve has grown to over three million acres, an area larger than the state of Connecticut.

One of the natural wonders that Henry Hudson observed when he navigated the river that bears his name was the steep cliffs along the west side of the river known as the Palisades. Today you see them when you cross the George Washington Bridge from New York City into New Jersey.

A group was formed by the New York State legislature called the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society in 1896 and it became New York's first agency for general conservation purposes. One reason it was established was for many years companies were quarrying the rock and destroying the Palisades.

A New Jersey group was also formed under the leadership of Elizabeth Vermilye to prevent this destruction and eventually the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC) was formed in 1900. It consisted of ten members appointed by the governors of New York and New Jersey to acquire whatever land was necessary to protect the Palisades. Eventually the jurisdiction of the PIPC was extended to cover the Hudson Highlands all the way to Newburgh and west to the Ramapo Mountains.

The Harriman family also aided this effort by creating the Bear Mountain and Harriman State Park, which would eventually provide recreation and camping for the urban poor.

One of the leaders of the American Historic Preservation Society was **Andrew Haswell Green** who was known as the "Father of Greater New York" because in 1898 he helped consolidate municipalities into the five borough city of New York. This urban planner will have a park dedicated to him off the FDR Drive in New York City this spring.



Andrew Haswell Green

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.

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

cessation of the Auxiliary as we know it and its fifty-five year existence will be a thing of the past. I don't know about you, but I don't want to see this happen.



On a less somber note, it looks like the cold and snow is finally behind us and spring-like temperatures are right around the corner. If you were not on the hospital campus during the blooming season you missed a wonderful sight of Dr. Ippolito's more than 4000 daffodils coming to life and blooming around the main hospital entrance and the new Emergency Department entrance. They will be back again next year, so plan a walk around late March or early April and admire his hard work and how good it makes the hospital look.

For those of you who are unaware, the Stellaris hospitals are currently trying to negotiate with Blue Cross/Blue Shield on a new contract, but are being stymied by the health insurer's stand on not negotiating in good faith. It is a horrendous situation that puts the doctors, patients, and the hospitals at extreme risk and, if not settled soon, the consequences could be devastating. Look for more in my next report.

55th Annual Auxiliary Meeting *(Continued from page 1)*

introduced Pam Cardozo, who welcomed everyone. The minutes from the 2009 meeting were approved.

Keith Safian, the President and CEO of Phelps then greeted the members and thanked them all for their service the past year.

Jim Goldsmith, the nominee for President of the Auxiliary then presented the outgoing President, Rose Marie Parisi with flowers and a purse pen from Tiffany's.

Then it was his turn to present Eva Marie Dahling, our honoree, with flowers and an engraved vase from Tiffany for her many years of service. At one time, Eva Marie was chair of both the Cherry Door and the James House Mansion, working tirelessly to make the most money from each venue. She would scrub floors, personally show prospective



Outgoing President Rose Marie Parisi is presented with flowers for her years of service.

clients the James House Mansion, mark each item at the Cherry Door, and even ran important functions for the hospital when asked to.

Sylvia Krell, the nominating chair, then read off the slate of proposed officers for the coming year, which was approved. She was followed by our guest speaker, Anne Castioni, MPA, Paramedic EMS Educator/Liaison who gave a wonderful talk entitled "Common Emergencies: what you can do till help arrives". It was very informative and to the point. We all enjoyed it immensely.

The new President, Jim Goldsmith, then thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting so we could partake of the coffee, tea, cookies and sandwiches.



President Jim Goldsmith presents Eva Marie Dahling with thank you gifts

In Memoriam

HELEN L. BELLIO

Helen L. Bellio, 71, passed away Saturday, April 10, 2010. Helen was a volunteer with Phelps in the Continuing Day Treatment program and formerly worked in environmental services. Helen was predeceased by her husband and leaves her brothers Frank and John and her sister Lucy.

ATTILA MAKAI

Attila, late husband of Pat Makai, who works as Office Manager in Phelps Volunteer Department, died peacefully at home in Ossining on March 10th. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Steven and Robin.

"May the Lord keep you safe in his arms"

Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

Courtesy of Pat Makai

Connie Addabbo	Administrative	Dobbs Ferry
Courtney Angle	Information Desk	Sleepy Hollow
Mark Frederich	Transport	Croton-on-Hudson
Lila Jacobsen	Gift Shop	Ossining
Suellen Mosa	Information Desk	Tarrytown
Cindy Ross	Information Desk	Rye Brook
Gail Sclocco	Wound Healing Inst.	Ossining
Betty Taur	Gift Shop	Ossining
Vladimir Tseyltin	Transport	Ossining

Upcoming Auxiliary Board Meetings

The meeting dates for the rest of 2010 are as follows: May 19th (755 Bldg, Rm 225), June 16th, 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.

No meetings are scheduled for July or August.

Welcome to our Newest Auxilians

Submitted by Nancy Eichorn

Constance Addabbo, Lila Jacobson, Sister Gerry McGinn
Virginia Moore, Elizabeth Rossi



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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Editorial Staff and Contributors

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*** Photos courtesy of Jim Reidy and Jim Goldsmith ***

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Contributions, comments and suggestions are welcome.

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

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SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591

Pam's Corner

by Pam Cardozo

National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week was held April 18 – 24. Colorful posters were displayed to bring everyone's attention to our volunteers who are such an important part of the hospital's fabric. Mr. Safian and I visited all the different service areas where he had the opportunity to hand out the 2009 volunteer pins and join me in thanking the volunteers for all that they have done during the year. Refreshments were served twice a day, Monday through Friday, in the Volunteer and Transport Offices. We sincerely thank all our volunteers for a job very well done!

A Reminder to Save the Date Volunteer Supper

Have you marked June 9, 4-7 pm, on your calendars? That's the date of our Annual Volunteer Supper at The James House Mansion. Wonderful weather is still predicted, so we hope to see you there!

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

James House Mansion Renovation Project

The James House Mansion renovation project has nearly come to an end and the Mansion is looking beautiful! The floors were sanded down to their original oak and then stained. Three gorgeous rugs were purchased to replace those that were old and worn and new lampshades have made a nice finishing touch in the parlors.

Knitting Project Who knew?

The comfort shawl knitting project has now taken on a life of its own! We have had an amazing response from people in the community, responding to our article in Phelps Today. To date, 127 women have knitted or crocheted shawls for patients who need that little extra "comfort". Today we received two shawls from Hawaii!

Because the response has been so fabulous we are asking people to put down their needles until after the summer. This will give us a chance to give away the shawls we have already accumulated.

We'd like to thank everyone for all the hours you've spent knitting for Phelps!

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

Schedule courtesy of Iris Hill

May 2010

Mon.	5/03	Sock Exchange
Tues.	5/04	Tupperware
Wed.	5/05	Lillian Wetzel Jewelry
Thurs	5/06	Silver Dreams Jewelry
Fri.	5/07	Classy Karat Jewelry
Fri.	5/14	A Creative Touch
Wed	5/19	Second Story Interiors
Thurs	5/27	Full of Sheets

June 2010

Thurs	6/10	As Seen on TV
Fri	6/11	Angielyn's Scrubs
Thurs	6/17	Melvia Sportswear
Thurs	6/24	Leather Outlet

August 2010

Fri.	8/06	Classy Karat Jewelry
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