

PHELPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

News and Notes

Sep-Oct 2007

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

EDITED by JIM REIDY

This issue of News and Notes is dedicated to retiring long time Auxilian and volunteer, Joyce Weiser, who has dedicated many years of service to Phelps Memorial Hospital and to its Auxiliary and Volunteer organizations.

IN CELEBRATION OF JOYCE WEISER'S RETIREMENT 2007

Interview by Joyce Moes



On June 29th at an open-house breakfast, we celebrated Joyce Weiser's retirement after almost 40 years with Phelps Hospital Auxiliary. Staff, Auxilians, volunteers and friends were present to say Goodbye and Thank you for so many years of dedicated service. As a volunteer

and member of the Auxiliary, Joyce has been an integral part of our hospital community.

Joyce and I first met five years ago when I began as a contributing writer for the Auxiliary News and Notes as well as a Silver Spoons volunteer at Phelps. At that time, I was so impressed and inspired by her warmth and interest in people, as well as her extensive background in many areas.

She told me that while raising three children, she tried bowling as an activity, but soon found that she wanted to involve herself in something more worthwhile and challenging. Joyce found a lot of challenges awaiting her at Phelps. In 1968 Joyce began as a part-time volunteer working in Central Supply and soon after became a full time volunteer, starting off delivering Patient Menus to patients, filling them out and then bringing the menus to the kitchen for processing.

Since its inception in 1974, Joyce has worked in Transport on Tuesday mornings. Without ever looking back she worked at the Admitting Desk, Tuesday afternoons, and was a contributing writer for the Auxiliary Newsletter. She became a member of the Auxiliary Board in 1988 when she was elected Secretary. During her tenure, Joyce held several leading roles in the Auxiliary including President (3 terms), 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Parliamentarian. More recently, Joyce has been Historian of the Phelps Archives. She has also participated on many hospital

committees where her support and creative ideas have been innovative and valuable to our hospital. In 2002 Joyce was an honoree at the Phelps Ball for her community service. To name just a few of these committees that she served on and was honored for was the Culture Steering Committee, Senior Privilege Advisory Committee and the League of Women Voters of Briarcliff.

At Phelps, Joyce has been an outstanding and special volunteer while keeping and following the guidelines of the Auxiliary, but at the same time her goal was bringing people together to create a social community. While writing for the Newsletter, she highlighted in each issue new volunteers who had been at Phelps one year so that they would be introduced to the community. The Meet and Eat program was started because she felt that volunteers should get to know each other to create a spirit of camaraderie. "I have benefited from sharing friendships with these marvelous groups of people. From the depths of my heart, I believe that bringing people together has enriched my life. That's what it is all about!"

Pam Cardozo, Director of Volunteers, aptly described Joyce's role at Phelps, "She is clearly the rudder on this ship and with her steady hand on the wheel the Phelps Auxiliary has made significant contributions to the Hospital. Her guidance as a Volunteer, Auxilian and friend has been invaluable to Phelps." Apart from family and friends and Joyce's many interests, including tennis and reading, I am sure this lady will never have a dull moment in this new chapter of her life. Joyce is an outstanding and wonderful human being and she will sorely be missed by all of us. We wish her all the joy and good life in her new home at Meadow Ridge in Connecticut.

From the Phelps Staff, Auxilians and the Volunteers, we say Goodbye and Thank you again. You are dearly loved.

Dear Auxiliary Members,

It is hard to believe that after all these years (just shy of 40) I will no longer be volunteering at Phelps. By the time you read this, I will have moved (or almost moved) to Meadow Ridge in Redding, Ct. - a bit too far to commute.

Phelps Auxiliary and the hospital in general have been an integral part of my life. I know I'll miss all of you but I'll have wonderful memories of all our shared time. I also have a very beautiful, wearable memory. I'm referring to the exquisite gold, jeweled chariot pin that was presented to me on behalf of the Auxiliary at my Retirement Breakfast on June 29. I will enjoy wearing it and telling my new community of your very thoughtful gift.

Thank you all for your friendship and for our combined effort to do our best for Phelps. You have enriched my life immeasurably by knowing and working with you. My chariot may not drive me back to Phelps to be with you physically but you'll all be in my heart.

Love, Joyce Weiser

GIFT SHOP LOBBY SALES

SEPTEMBER, 2007

Thurs.	9/06	Melvia Sportswear
Fri.	9/07	D & D Jewelry
Fri.	9/14	Sock Exchange
Mon.	9/17	Time Plus Watches
Thurs.	9/20	Exile CD's
Fri.	9/21	Echo Linens
Thurs.	9/27	Active Wear Plus
Fri.	9/28	PRA Sterling Jewelry

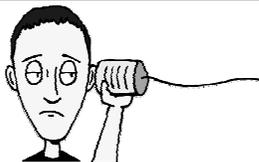
OCTOBER, 2007

Thurs.	10/04	Ring Rage
Tues.	10/16	Glove Lady
Thurs.	10/18	Lillian Wetzel Jewelry
Fri.	10/19	Games & Candles
Thurs.	10/25	Books are Fun
Fri.	10/26	Books are Fun

Lord & Taylor Bash

Your Auxiliary will again be selling discount tickets to the Lord & Taylor Bash at their Eastchester store, November 7th. The tickets cost \$5 each and allow you 15% off your first purchase at the store that day, and 10% of ALL OTHER PURCHASES THAT DAY! Usually nothing is held back cosmetics included, so you are free to shop at whatever area in the store you want. The entire cost of the ticket goes to the Auxiliary and most people end up buying a couple of tickets to take advantage of the 15% first purchase savings, and save themselves a lot of money!

If you are interested in purchasing a ticket or tickets, call Jim Goldsmith at 914 366-3170



Better Living through (and in spite of) Technology

By Jim Reidy

Technological advances in our modern society have made life increasingly easy, allowing for greater portability and easing our everyday burdens. At the same time, it has made life more confusing for many and caused great anxiety, particularly for us older folks. Having done a lot of research to make modern life bearable for my 90 year old mother-in-law and to preserve her independence, I thought I'd share some of my discoveries with you.

Many web sites sell automated lighting modules (commonly referred to as "10X" accessories). My favorite site is www.smarthome.com. A 10X 16-device wall converter is placed in a convenient non-switched outlet. This device can directly operate a table lamp or other small device using a key-ring remote, surface mount wall switch or infrared detector. The latter is my favorite because it "sees" you enter the area and automatically turns on the device plugged into it. The module can also be used to control any other light in your home in combination with other such devices, whether in the same room or not.

Another great add-on is the touch sensor module. Simply plug the sensor in the wall, plug the lamp onto it, touch any metal part of the lamp and it will go on to three levels and off. No need to struggle looking for the switch. You can buy this at most home stores and even at your local grocery store.

Most new home phones are a royal pain. They have so many buttons and are so hard to see that they seem virtually useless. My favorite phone, though, is the Uniden TRU9488 system with the TCX905 remote handsets. The base is a CORDED phone (which will work even with the power out) yet gives the ability to have extensions sets in other rooms without the need for additional jacks. The display is large, lighted and easy to read. The buttons are also lighted and BIG, so it is easy to handle. The "on" button is green and the "off" button is red (how ingenious). It also can be used as a speakerphone from any set. It still has all the bells and whistles, but once it is set up I think it is the easiest to use of the cordless phones available. See <http://www.uniden.com/products/> for more info.

Lastly for this issue, is a new cell-phone that is making headlines - The "Jitterbug" phone. It is a phone, pure and simple. No camera, no music, no "ez-tip calculator", and best of all, it is EASY to see, with 1/2 high numbers and large, easy-to-use keys. The only drawback, in my opinion, is that you must use their service, which may not be so bad. Their pricing seems comparable to other providers and their coverage area is extensive. The phone is available in two models, standard push button dial type, and the "one-touch" which has only THREE primary buttons - "operator", "911" and the third button can be customized to read "FRIEND", "HOME", "TOW", "WORK", or "MY PHONE". The phone can be purchased pre-programmed with up to 15 numbers and can hold up to 50 numbers. Look for it at www.jitterbug.com or call 1-800-733-6632 for more information.

Look for more "Better Living thorough Technology" tips in the next issue.



President's Message

Jim Goldsmith, Auxiliary President

Welcome back from a really torrid summer, everyone. The records say we have had above average rainfall in the area, but it must have missed our house. Where did all that rain go?

We are dedicating this issue of News & Notes to Joyce Weiser, a long time member of the Auxiliary and equally longtime volunteer at the hospital. Joyce is moving away from our area, but her influence on the Auxiliary and the hospital will never be forgotten. She has held every Executive Board position (some more than once) and is always a forceful voice at our meetings.

It is a very exciting time to be a part of Phelps and especially if you are a member of the Auxiliary, because a lot of what we have contributed to is coming to fruition.

The new Parking Garage has received it's Certificate of Occupancy from both the village and state and is now open. The same can also be said for the new Medical Services Building and as doctors and services move in, this will allow work on the final phase of this project, our new Emergency Department to continue with a targeted opening of July 2008.

As you may or may not know, your Auxiliary made the first pledge of \$500,000 towards the Emergency Department and at the end of this year, thanks to your contributions, the Gift Shop, Cherry Door, and James House it will be completely paid off.

We can't rest on the past, however, and all of us must work towards contributing whatever we can to the hospital to make it a modern, medical institution where patient care is the first priority.

I believe the official opening (read "party") is Saturday, Sep. 29, so save the date and join the festivities.

Also look for your chance to win a free ticket to the Champagne Ball in this issue.

In Memoriam

Roger Soucy

Roger lived in Croton on Hudson and passed away on August 10th, 2007. He volunteered at Phelps for ten years and was the Auxiliary Area Chairperson for Croton in 2002.

Norma Kaufman

Norma Kaufman, of Irvington, NY, passed away at home on June 19, 2007. She Volunteered at Phelps Hospital for 10 years and gave generously to numerous charities.

Josephine K. Daly

Josephine, a lifelong resident of Sleepy Hollow died May 12, 2007 at the age of 87. She had been a volunteer at Phelps Hospital for 12 years.

Priscilla T. "Pat" Bosch

Pat Bosch died on July 21, 2007 after a long illness at the age of 81. Pat was proud to serve as a volunteer for ten years at Phelps Memorial Hospital.

They whom we've loved and lost are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are.

Author - St. John Chryostom

Volunteer Dinner, June 6, 2007

Our annual dinner to thank our volunteers for their invaluable service was held on Wednesday, June 6, at The James House with over 100 attendees. A wonderful dinner was prepared by the hospital Food Services Department. They did a fabulous job and we have received rave reviews daily on the menu. It was a lovely evening and supper was served on the verandah, despite the breezes from the river!

After dinner we raffled off about forty gifts and plants, and each of our volunteers received a special gift.

Throughout the evening, piano music was provided by a local pianist, Dan Moriarty, and our volunteers enjoyed a sing-along, following dinner. It was a lovely evening and a good time was had by all.

It is people like you, such caring experts, who make the difference during our patients' hospital stay.

Thank you again for all that you do.

The Auxiliary welcomes the following new members who have joined our wonderful group

Francis Boanoh, Barbara Brill, Shirley W. Lobenthal
Mary T. O'Reilly, Dominique Picon, Susan Seibert



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) 271-5403.

News and Notes Sep-Oct 2007 Vol. IX No. 4

Editorial Staff and Contributors

Jim Goldsmith Nancy Eichorn Pam Cardozo

Pat Makai Joyce Moes Iris Hill Jim Reidy

**** Photos by Jim Goldsmith & Jim Reidy ****

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.

Welcome to our newest volunteers!!

Larry O'Connell	Pleasantville
Amanda Resnikoff	Croton-on-Hudson
Joan Catherwood	Tarrytown
Lauren Dispenza	Croton-on-Hudson
Nadine Howsen	White Plains
Taina Parra	Tarrytown
Doug Roberts-Wolfe	Pleasantville
Sasha Deutsch-Link	Sleepy Hollow
Kaitlyn Kyi	South Salem
Jennifer Gold	Ossining
Peggy Ramos	Ossining

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SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY 10591

Pam's Corner

By Pam Cardozo

JUNIOR "STUDENT" VOLUNTEERS

This summer we have approximately 25 student (previously called juniors) volunteers working around the hospital in various departments. Many of these students are volunteering in our Transport Service, others are working at the Information Desk, Emergency Room, PT/OT, Infant Hearing Screening and also in departments needing Administrative help. These students have been invaluable, filling the spots vacated by our seniors who usually take the summer off for a well-deserved summer break. The ages range from sophomores in High School to College and pre-med students. The high schools these students represent include The Hackley School, Harvey School, Masters School, Marie Regina, Holy Child, Briarcliff, Croton-Harmon, Horace Greeley, Ossining, Pleasantville, Sleepy Hollow, Henry Hudson, Woodlands and Irvington.



We even had a young lady, Marie Friedrich, from Germany, who returned home to begin Medical School. Marie told us that volunteering here at Phelps has been the highlight of her year in the US - what a compliment!

We are giving out certificates reflecting the students' hours and gifts of appreciation for a job well done! Every year we say "this year we had the best group ever" and we're saying it again! "A big Thank You to our student volunteers - we couldn't have done it without you!"

PHELPS
Student
Volunteering



*Bringing a world
of opportunity
to our
community's
students*

NEW STUDENT VOLUNTEER BROCHURE

As part of our recruitment effort, we asked the students to help us design a brochure that would appeal to high school students. The first change was that the students are no longer called "juniors" but, instead, they prefer to be called "students". The title "Juniors" will now live in history with "Candy-Strippers".

The new brochure addresses student questions and has seven colored photographs of them working in various service areas, with quotes from the students themselves. We have added a bonus for our student volunteers by organizing useful seminars on such subjects as resume-writing and interviewing techniques.

Look for our new brochure entitled "Phelps Student Volunteering - Bringing a World of Opportunity to our Community's Students" with a picture of smiling faces - a sign of how much these young people are enjoying their time volunteering here at Phelps. Soon, you will be able to see the student brochure on-line as well as the adult brochure and application, by logging on to <http://phelpshospital.org>.