

Coming Events

September 28 & 29	Immunization Part 2
September 30	A Night of Bling!
November 28	Poinsettia Tea

Silent Auction

On July 6th Petticoat Lane Co-ordinator Lorrie Phipps, Alma Draper and Petticoat Lane Volunteers presented a cheque in the amount of \$3,794.26 to Auxiliary president Patricia Fenner. It represented the proceeds of the "Premiere Silent Auction" held at the Northumberland Mall in May. Many auxiliary members were present in the store for this special occasion.

Flowers were presented to Alma for master-minding this event. Congratulations to Alma and all who worked so hard to pull it off. It was a huge job and a huge success.

Plans are already in the works for another auction in 2011!



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL

Auxiliary News

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 12, Autumn 2010

Tag We're It!!!!

For the ninth year, Auxiliary Volunteers have taken to the streets and businesses of our community to seek donations to go toward our support of the hospital. They met the public at 17 locations in Cobourg and Port Hope on September 9th and 10th. Through their efforts, we realized \$4462.02, which will be part of our pledge to purchase capital equipment. The generosity of our community is remarkable.

Organizing this event is a major undertaking. Marg Dennis and her committee, made up of Kathy O'Malley Hamilton, Ruth and Paul Morrison, Trudy Irwin and Dale Hodge began putting it together in the spring. The process is full of steps that must be taken. First, permission is sought from the towns to hold the event. Then committee volunteers go to individual merchants and locations to secure permission to canvas. Somewhere along the way, Mary Gill counts the tags. Also somewhere along the way, various parts of the soliciting kit are unearthed from their storage places and cleaned up. Signage must be checked and updated. On the day itself, Paul Raven, Sandy Ducharme and Marg were couriers and collectors. On hand to count the money as it came in were Mary Jane Pocock, Jenny Allison and Carol Henley.

The human element is perhaps the most complicated. For the past two years, coordinators of service areas have been asked to have their volunteers staff a particular location for a specific number of shifts. This can be a daunting task as people's schedules are not always known weeks ahead and things 'come up.' The result can be that not all shifts are filled.

Nevertheless, the success of the day is also reckoned in the friendly contact with the public, questions asked and answered on the spot and, of course, the cash at the end of it all.

Over the past nine years, this event has raised \$46,891.07 for our cause. Lessons learned are already being incorporated into the 10th anniversary event. Well done all!



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President's Report ...



Whatever the Julian and Gregorian calendars say about the year running from January to December, the calendar of the heart and mind for those of us who have been to school, taught school, sent children to school, begins in September...the day after Labour Day.

And so here we are in glorious September, the first month of our year. The summer has been warm and bountiful and some of the news emanating from the hospital as summer drew to an end is pleasing and positive. We have learned that the government, whether Ministry or LHIN-based, is going to assist us to put in place the ALC strategy laid out in the spring. Funds are being allocated to Aging at Home, Home First, restorative beds in the hospital and staff supports for the needs of our population. There has been a great deal of work going on during the warm summer months and more will be required but the sustainability of our acute care status is being assured by the strategies in place

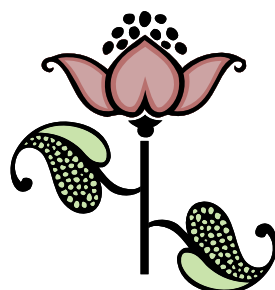
And before you read this, there will have been Tag Days. This will have been an interesting time for our members to be asking the public to support our fundraising and I congratulate, commend and thank those who took on the task. And those who organized it.

Some 'house rules' to remember as 'school' starts again:

- Please remember that in a community like ours, confidentiality is of the utmost importance. We all know this and we all know how easily confidentially can be compromised.
- Please remember that you should wear your ever-so-chic tabard only on site in the hospital or Petticoat Lane or when you are volunteering at an event such as the flu clinics. The public has some difficulty differentiating between the Auxiliary and the Foundation and 'cross-dressing' confuses the issue.
- Please remember that the hospital's concern about your individual immune status is for your well-being as well as that of patients. If you are unsure about the process, go to the source of information. Don't be alarmed by rumours and mis-statements.
- Please remember that you, as a member of the Auxiliary, have an important role to play in the community outside the hospital. While we have the right to opinions and to free speech, we should be careful not to speak for our organization. We are being kept 'in the loop' at every step of the way. It's important that we take advantage of the information, whatever our personal opinion may be.

Welcome back to school. Keep on doing what you do so well.

Patricia Fenner,
President



Newsletter Distribution

Every time we turn around, something seems to be changing. It's the tempo of our times.

So, getting on the bandwagon, we are advising you in this issue about changes in the delivery of the newsletter.

In the past, there has been an intricate structure combining mailing and hand delivery of what used to be the Aux Tales. That began to change with the advent of e-mail as some members were content to receive the newsletter online on the hospital website nhh.ca/volunteers/publications. For those without high-speed service, this wasn't usually efficient. The cost of mailing seems to increase relentlessly. The delivery method requires not only person hours on the ground, but a mammoth amount of updating and sorting, accomplished in recent years by Jean and Chuck Orviss and a very small team of volunteer assistants.

This newsletter marks the end of that era, or at least a streamlining of the process. Starting with the Winter

newsletter, usually distributed in January, this will be the 'new' look:

- The Auxiliary News will continue to be posted on the hospital website with a notice being sent to members by Brenda Worsnop when it has been posted.
- Active members who are unable to access the newsletter on line will be able to obtain their copy at the hospital or at Petticoat Lane.
- Associate members without e-mail access will continue to receive their newsletter via Canada Post.

We extend our appreciation and thanks to all who have been part of the delivery part of the operation.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

The Ward Clerk in Complex Care is continuing to do Bingo every other week for the patients and would appreciate prizes. The prize cupboard is quite bare and so prizes are needed. This is where you come in! Please help us out. Some things that would be appreciated as prizes are: travel size soaps, shampoos, conditioners and lotions, small sized stuffed animals, ladies necklaces or beads, screw-on earrings etc. - any small odds and ends items that would make a person feel good. Bingo is an important event for the patients.

Thank you, in advance, for your donations.

Mary Park, Co-ordinator

'Calling all knitters'! We are in desperate need of your help as our supply of toques is almost depleted. It is a tradition that each newborn in the maternity unit receives one of these hand knitted toques compliments of the auxiliary. The auxiliary will supply any knitter with the wool and patterns for these hats. If you are a knitter, or know someone who would knit for us, we would certainly appreciate hearing from you.

Virginia Mitchell, Co-ordinator

Merle Zealand

In August, Wilma Lovekin, Mary Gill and I, bought a cake to celebrate Merle Zealand's 90th birthday. Merle is a long time Hospital Auxiliary Member; we all work together on alternate Wednesday afternoons. Reliable and kind, Merle has provided us with cookies or home-baked cup cakes for as long as I can remember.

We didn't make a big splash of the event as it was a surprise and, as we expected, Merle was quite overwhelmed.

Merle was born in Port Hope on August 27th, 1920. Now widowed, she lives in Cobourg in a comfortable house on University Avenue which she and her husband, Wilbert Ross Zealand, also born in Port Hope, built 58 years ago. They moved to Cobourg because Wilbert worked in the Dyeworks. Merle worked at General Foods (later Kraft), in advertising. After having her children, David and Ray, both born in Cobourg, she worked at the hospital in accounts payable for 13 years.

Merle has been an Auxiliary member since 1952 and has been with Petticoat Lane since 1985. She loves to cook and fondly remembers all the bake sales at the old hospital. She also loves to read and she has a wonderful niece who visits her every week, bringing her books.

All of us on Merle's shift at Petticoat Lane have enjoyed the baked goodies she has brought in every time. She is so kind and thoughtful. Great at the cash register, too!

Alma Draper



6th Annual Poinsettia Tea with A Twist



Actually several twists! Your Poinsettia Tea committee decided to kick it up a notch or two this year so there are a few changes. We have thoroughly enjoyed a fashion show for the last five years but we thought this year was time for a change. Neil Crone is a well-known actor (Little Mosque on the Prairie), writer (he has a column in Northumberland Today every week) and a very funny speaker. We are delighted that he is available to come and entertain us at this year's tea and can guarantee that you will be chuckling in your teacups. Or wineglasses. Which brings us to another change: there will be a wine

bar for those who would like to purchase a little red, white or pink libation as well as or instead of tea. And of course there will be delectables at each table, which will include a savoury plate, a sandwich plate and the ever-delightful scones and jam.

So mark your calendars: November 28th at 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Best Western Inn Cobourg. Tickets will be \$30 and can be purchased at the Little Treasure Shop. Hours are 9:00-5:00 Monday and Friday, 9:00-8:00 Tuesday to Thursday and 1:00 -4:00 Saturday and Sunday.

And don't forget to put cash in your wallets for the draw. Tickets are \$20 and as usual there will be some amazing gifts to be won. Every single one of them worth considerably more than \$20.

The poinsettias are spreading their roots as you read this and will be ready, in all their glory, for you to take home on November 28th.

It will be a fun afternoon. See you there.



Immunization Process

We have successfully completed Part One of the two-part TB test scheduled for September 2010. Approximately 140 volunteers participated and will have the results of their tests read September 15th and 16th. Part Two will be conducted September 28th and 29th. Volunteers must have completed Part One to participate in Part Two. NHH will run another two-part TB test clinic in the New Year for those volunteers who could not make both parts of this one.

The immunization packages have been distributed to most volunteers and several questions have been raised, especially about the sample form included in your package. The sample form is the one Life Labs (on King St. in Cobourg) requires your doctor to use when requesting your blood test to check your immunization status. The form identifies several different tests but the only one that applies is "immune" status. The only tests we are asking you to have done are a simple blood test to determine your immunity to rubella, measles, mumps and varicella, and the TB test being done at the hospital.

The only requirement is that everyone's immune status be determined; this information is kept confidential, revealed only to NHH's Occupational Health

Services. There has been no indication of any "next steps".

The other things being asked are when you last received a tetanus shot (required every 10 years) and if you have had a flu shot. I hope this helps answer some of the questions that you have. If you have others please contact your coordinator and he/she will follow up as required to get you the necessary information.

Sandy Ducharme
Director, Volunteers



Night of Bling!

Petticoat Lane is proud to present yet another "Premiere Event": "A Night of Bling". It will be on September 30th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Petticoat Lane.

There will be fabulous jewelry, something for just about everyone on your gift list, and a 50% discount off all clothing in the store.

While you are browsing and buying you can enjoy coffee, tea and fabulous homemade desserts

And to top it all off there will be an in-store draw for three dazzling pieces of jewelry generously donated by Ken Bell, owner of 'Bling on King' and 'Kenneth Bell' in Port Hope. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. Ticket sales start after Labour Day.

We hope to see you there. Bring a friend or three!



PETTICOAT LANE'S PREMIERE

"NIGHT OF BLING"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

25 Munroe Street
(behind the Beer Shop – Division/Munroe Streets)

Featuring **FABULOUS JEWELLERY**

Discounted Clothing Prices

Complimentary **TEA, COFFEE & DESSERTS**
made by our Volunteers

Chance to win 1 of 3 Necklace/earring sets

(generously donated by Kenneth Bell of Bling on King, Cobourg, and Kenneth Bell, Port Hope)

Draw Tickets (\$1.00 each/6 for \$5.00) now available at
PETTICOAT LANE
Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary

COME JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF

"Bling"