

Auxiliary News

Summer 2014

Annual General Meeting **2014** REPORT



On May 27th this year the NHH Auxiliary held its AGM. Approximately 150 people attended – a huge number compared to past years!

The high attendance was largely the result of a decision by the Auxiliary board to address the need for volunteer recognition, which has been absent in a formal way from the Auxiliary for quite some time. A committee, Chaired by Director of Volunteers Linda Smith, was assembled to look at criteria, type of recognition, etc., and away they went. It was determined at the outset that eligibility would be based on the volunteer being an active member whose paid membership was up to date. The Human Resources team of volunteers logged over 200 hours going through our data base and documentation on volunteers. They did an outstanding job in both gathering accurate information on years of service and

putting our database in the most up-to-date, relevant condition EVER!

A Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary pin was designed, along with a companion pin showing years of service in increments of 5 years. There were approximately 145 volunteers eligible for recognition this year and almost 130 of them came to the AGM.

The hospital's CEO, Linda Davis, personally greeted everyone arriving at the meeting; she asked their name and where they volunteered, making each person feel welcome and valued at the hospital.

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NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

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President's Report ... JUNE 2014



The Canadian way is to open this report with comments on the weather, which mercifully has changed from endless cold, snow and isolation, to glorious late June and the promise of warm, sunny months ahead. That's my story and I'm stickin' to it.

There are highlights of the past few months that should be noted:

Coordinators Sandi Spencer and Linda Sedgwick-Sharpe spent considerable time in the LTS, as they and their team inventoried, emptied and re-designed their space so that the hospital could install new carpeting. The results are worth it; with the reorganization of the products, the whole space seems to look bigger. Good job!

Petticoat Lane has a new lease agreement that greatly increases their space, ensures greater safety for their volunteers, and keeps them in a location that they value and feel they have 'branded' into. Renovations into the glass location next door will give them almost double their space and provide improved safety for the volunteers, among other advantages.

The donation by the Reta Bevan family of a flower cooler was successfully installed. With her family in attendance a very heartfelt tribute to Reta was held outside the Little Treasure Shop.

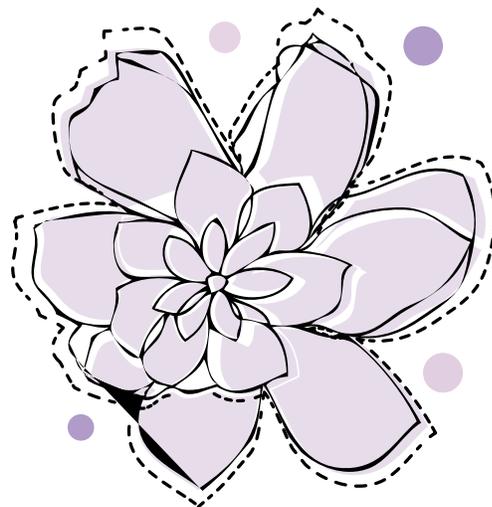
A very successful AGM was held at the Cobourg Community Centre on May 27th when, for the first time in a very long time, Auxiliary volunteers were presented with pins to acknowledge their years of service to the hospital. There were 146 eligible volunteers; over 130 were present to receive their pins. This was a wonderful tribute that will continue as part of future Annual General Meetings. Guest speaker, NHH CEO Linda Davis, gave a warm and laudatory address to those present, emphasising her commitment to the value and necessity of hospital volunteers, and the commitment of the NHH board to supporting the growth and capacity of our Auxiliary.

Our fundraising special events have been challenged, with the Polar Dip cancelled due to weather, and Spring Fever cancelled due to a lack of vendors responding to the invitation to participate. That decision was not made lightly, but given that there were extenuating circumstances beyond our control, and our limited capacity as the 'team' to pull it together, we know we made the right decision.

Recruiting new volunteers continues to be a major priority, and the Auxiliary board is in discussion with the hospital and the membership about how we effectively address this concern. You will be up-dated on these discussions on a regular basis; your feedback is encouraged and most welcome.

Enjoy your summer, stay well and active, and as always, I thank you for the support you give to our wonderful hospital. One person cannot whistle a symphony; it takes a team to make the music, and you definitely make music!

Gayle Metson
President, NHHA



Annual General Meeting **2014**

REPORT



Linda was also the keynote speaker, and gave a warm and genuine message about how much she values volunteers. She talked about her journey up to the decision to move to Northumberland County, why she and her family made this decision and her commitment to the community. She confessed to being a gift shop devotee and gave praise to the Little Treasure Shop, and to Petticoat Lane, exhorting them to be open on more Sundays when she has time to shop!

In summary: a successful event and a rewarding one. It was obvious that we as an organization did the right thing in acknowledging the longevity, dedication, reliability and basic caring that our volunteers bring to making NHH the special place it continues to be.

Gayle Metson, *President*

Deceased Auxiliary Members

This should have been presented at the AGM, and I apologise for my oversight.

For the period of May 2013 – May 2014, our records indicate that the following members have died:

Reta Bevan

Beth Quibell

Marlene Sandercock

Mary McFarlane

On behalf of the NHH Auxiliary, we extend our sympathies to their families, and thank them for the contribution of each of these women toward enhancing the patient experience at Northumberland Hills Hospital.

Gayle Metson, *President*

Annual General Meeting Photos

