

**A Quarterly Newsletter**

**Issue No. 10- Spring 2010**

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## Freezin' for a Reason Again!

With fundraising events, it's often all about the numbers. Hours beyond counting are spent making sure every detail is in place, every ticket is sold, every sponsor is acknowledged and every dollar predicted and collected. There's a number on the beginning time and on the end time. Records are meticulously prepared and a final golden total is announced.

And then there's the Polar Bear Dip – unpredictable in every way, always at the mercy of February weather, numbers of dippers, spectators, growing from 10 to several hundred in a matter of minutes, and families and friends of the courageous participants.

PBD III was no exception. Our dipper numbers soared to 32. Some arrived with meticulously exact pledge sheets. Others arrived on a whim, pulling together loose change to qualify to enter the event. Some were veterans of the event; others were 'newbies'; some even e-mailed their regrets along with a promise to take part next year. Dippers covered numerous kilometres to take part: the NHH Olympians from Colborne; three families in town for the weekend from

Keswick, Stouffville and Markham; an eager dipper from Thessalon; another from Goderich.

The weather numbers were in our favour. There was zero ice to be chipped and piled, zero precipitation, a temperature well above zero and no Force 10 winds. Some dippers even commented that the water wasn't all that cold, although no actual recorded temperature was provided.

Our supporters were 'present and accounted for'. Cobourg's Town Crier, Tom MacMillan, was visible although not audible as he was somewhat upstaged by Captain Polar Dip who was in a hurry and led the count-down. Cobourg's finest fire department provided their usual safety support, as did volunteers from St. John Ambulance. Tim Horton's hot chocolate was welcome and disappeared quickly.

*Continued on Page 3 ...*

**Board & Coordinators****Dale Hodge**  
*President***Vacant**  
*Vice President***Patricia Fenner**  
*Past President***Laura Scrivener**  
*Director, Finance***Sharon Gerber**  
*Director, Ambulatory Care***Gayle Metson**  
*Director, Communication and  
Public Relations***Kathryan O'Malley  
Hamilton**  
*Director, Inpatient Care and  
Program Support Services***Young Mee Kim**  
*Director, Fundraising***Patricia Fenner (Acting)**  
*Director, Volunteers***Leslee Argue**  
*Recording Secretary*

Dorothy Allen

Liz Brock

Maureen Bronkhorst

Susan Clement

Sandy Ducharme

Sally Duncan

Selena Forsyth

Yvonne Green

Margaret Grepe

Marg Hilborn

Pat Page Hoisak

Patti McGlone

Ruth Markle

Virginia Mitchell

Shirley O'Neil

Jean Orviss

Mary Park

Paul Raven

Linda Sedgwick-Sharpe

Sandi Spencer

Dorothy Sommerville

Linda Smith

Virginia Tetz

Eleanor Tryon

Fran Varden

Brenda Worsnop

**President's Report****Dale Hodge**

Our volunteers at NHH are wonderful and we could not do without them. That comment was made by John Hudson on behalf of the NHH Board of Directors. We have been given glowing comments on many occasions by staff and administration, so a big thanks to all of you for the work and support you give to the Hospital. Add to that an excellent report from the Accreditors who gave our Hospital a 97% compliance on 1411 criteria. They praised everyone in the Hospital for their commitment and passion to patient safety and patient-focused care. This is an awesome report that we all should be proud of, from those who led the accreditation process right down to the volunteers who were questioned and observed on many occasions.



An excellent Accreditation is particularly good news during this time of change for our hospital, our community and the whole of the Ontario health network. We are not alone in dealing with hard choices, but we have an excellent hospital which is building a sustainable future. NHH's funding agreement with the Government expired on March 31, 2010 and, with the new plan of action accepted without change by the CE LHIN for achieving a balanced operating budget in 2011/12, the new signed Hospital Service Accountability Agreement guarantees that funding to NHH will continue. The CE LHIN acknowledged the Hospital for the exceptional work undertaken by Staff and Board in successfully presenting a balanced budget as required by law.

Our volunteers have also been very active in other projects. The move by Petticoat Lane to Munroe Street Plaza went very smoothly largely due to the dedication and hard work put in by many volunteers and maybe a number of their spouses and friends. The new store looks very professional and will be the new beginnings to a great future.

Participation in the Polar Dip was very encouraging this year – more than doubling the number of dippers and attracting a large crowd. I think we have an annual success story in the making with a number of people already promising to be involved next year.

Initiatives by our members are always welcome and we have an example of one this year. Alma Draper suggested a Silent Auction be held in May and is doing a great job of organizing this event. If you have an item or idea to help, contact Alma or the office, and don't forget to attend – you might find your treasure.

Participation and new ideas should always be encouraged in any group of volunteers. The more one gets involved, the more enjoyment one experiences. When I moved to this community, I decided to volunteer once a week, and found myself suddenly immersed in a group that has given me great satisfaction. One learns a lot about oneself through community involvement.

This is my last newsletter report as your President, but I will be around and still enjoying your wonderful company on our journey of volunteer life. Thank you for the good times.



## Freezin' for a Reason (continued)

"Freezin' for a reason" indeed. The reason, as always, was to raise funds for the Auxiliary's contribution to capital equipment at NHH. When all the teeth stopped chattering and all the cash and cheques were counted, we were able to add \$4443.50 to our fundraising goal.

What can't be counted or made part of a spreadsheet is the generosity of our dippers, the support of their families and friends, the support of the spectators and the willingness of our volunteers who came out to make this event a success. Without these intangibles, there would be no numbers at all.





# Petticoat Lane Silent Auction

Petticoat Lane and Hospital Auxiliary volunteers hope you will all drop by during the two days the SILENT AUCTION is being held at the Northumberland Mall on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Ten tables full of interesting items will be available to bid on, and photos of really special items can be seen on the website [www.nhhsilentauction.com](http://www.nhhsilentauction.com).

For those who do not need material things, look for the table with gift certificates that have been generously donated by local merchants.

Come out and say hello, support the Auxiliary - and always to remember to bring a friend!

**Items to bid on  
Include**

art work,  
estate items  
precious and  
costume jewelry,  
author signed books,  
china, silver,  
glassware,  
memorabilia....  
and much more,  
including  
gift certificates  
from  
local businesses.

Many thanks to



for their support!

Petticoat Lane is the  
NHH Auxiliary  
Thrift Shop



**Friday May 7th - 10am to 5pm  
Saturday May 8th - 10am to 4pm**

**At Northumberland Mall,  
West Entrance  
1111 Elgin Street Cobourg**



**Pieces of eight may not be up for  
bidding - but many ATTIC and CELLAR  
Treasures will be found**

**All proceeds to Northumberland  
Hills Hospital Auxiliary**

Visit our Web site at  
[www.nhhsilentauction.com](http://www.nhhsilentauction.com)  
for a listing of special items

Contact Alma Draper 905 372-5839  
Petticoat Lane 905 372-9002

## Petticoat Lane

*Lorrie Phipps*

Petticoat Lane, after approximately 350 volunteered hours of packing, moving, unpacking, ironing, steaming, organizing and reorganizing, opened the doors to the new location, as scheduled, February 16th. The new store on Munroe Street is bright, clean and well laid out. The "Grand Opening" of the new store is April 22nd, with invited guests arriving at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited to come join us for this festive occasion and good shopping.

Over the past three months, volunteers have worked approximately 2,500 hours, sorting through mounds of donations which keep the store bustling with enthusiastic shoppers looking for quality and bargains and providing very positive feedback about the new 'look' and location. Just under \$20,000. of merchandise was sold during the same time period. Petticoat Lane is proud to have fulfilled the pledge of \$55,000.00 and contribute an additional \$15,000.00 to the Auxiliary.

None of this would be possible without the generous donors, customers and hard working volunteers. Special thanks go out to all the volunteers who went the "extra mile" during the move. Petticoat Lane saw one volunteer leave and one new one join the team. Welcome Heather Neill. Welcome back Brenda Weatherby and all the snow birds who have flown home. Petticoat Lane is very excited about the upcoming Silent Auction to be held May 7th and 8th at the Northumberland Mall.

Check our Web site [www.nhhsilentauction.com](http://www.nhhsilentauction.com) to preview some of the items that will be found at the auction. Alma and her team of treasure hunters have been busy preparing for this "Premiere Event". This should not be missed by anyone who loves exploring the hidden treasures of Petticoat Lane.

Petticoat Lane looks forward to a bright sunny Spring at Munroe Street Plaza.





Above: New store front

Top right: Volunteer Marg Chapman

Middle right: Some of the many volunteers

Bottom right: More space!



## Membership Information

*Brenda Worsnop*

Currently there are three groups of members:

Those who have paid for the current year and beyond. If you are in this group, you have received a membership card with this newsletter indicating your next renewal date.

Those who have paid for this year only. If you are in this group, you will need to respond to a renewal reminder in the December 2010 newsletter for your 2011 membership.

Those who are in arrears. If you are in this group, you will be receiving personal communication reminding you why you need to pay your membership for the current year.

Your membership includes receiving the newsletter, getting a vote at the general meetings and being covered by the hospital insurance while you work in support of NHH.

Thank you to all the members who have paid their memberships so promptly.



# The Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary

## Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday, May 18, 2010**  
**Doors open – 9:15 a.m.**  
**Continental Breakfast**  
**Call to order: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Business meeting: 10:40 a.m.**

**Lions Community Centre**  
**Elgin Street East**  
**Cobourg**



**Tickets on sale April 20 – May 14**  
**The Little Treasure Shop**  
**Petticoat Lane**  
**\$10.00**

## Albert's AGM

No less an authority than Albert Einstein offered this definition of insanity: "Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results" We can only imagine what Albert would have thought of our AGM model. Over the past few years we have been experiencing declining attendance at our constitutionally required yearly meeting. Various theories have been proposed to explain this. Among them, the following themes have recurred.

- 'Today's volunteers aren't into meetings.'
- 'Same old, same old.'
- 'Long and boring.'
- 'Cost too high'

So this year's AGM will be different.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Lions' Community Centre. The doors will open at 9:15 a.m. A Continental Buffet Breakfast will be available. The meeting will be called to order at 10:00 a.m., at which time guests will be introduced, greetings will be brought and our donation to NHH will be presented. Brief remarks from guests will close this part of the meeting at 10:35. The business meeting, election of officers etc. will commence at 10:40 and should be concluded well before noon. The cost of the event will be \$10.00 per person.

The committee is still working on the fine-tuning and would welcome constructive suggestions from members. On the committee are Dale Hodge, Gayle Metson, Kathy O'Malley Hamilton, Lorrie Phipps, Mary Park, Virginia Mitchell and Patricia Fenner. We would be pleased to hear your ideas and even more pleased to see you and your volunteer colleagues on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Albert would be pleased.

### Important Notice!

Congratulations to Ann Wilson for her much deserved award as the 2009 Cobourg Volunteer of the Year award recently given to her by the Town of Cobourg. She is a tireless worker on behalf of the hospital, and our Auxiliary, and we are proud that she is part of our organization - thank you Ann!

### Nomination Slate Legend

\*Nominated for election

\*\* New appointment

\*\*\*Acting -- to be elected



## 2010 Nomination Slate: NHH Auxiliary

President	<i>Patricia Fenner*</i>
Past President	Dale Hodge
Vice President	<i>Gayle Metson*</i>
Director Volunteers	<i>Sandra Ducharme*</i>
Director, Ambulatory	<i>Potential candidate</i>
Director Inpatient	Kathy O'Malley Hamilton
Director Finance	<i>Laura Scrivener***</i>
Director Communications	<i>Selena Forsyth*</i>
Director, Fundraising	<b>Vacant</b>
Co-Coordiators Palliative Care	Dorothy Somerville & Sally Duncan
Co-Coordiators Student Program	Marg Hilborne & Pat Page Hoisak
Co-Cordinator Little Treasure Shop	Linda Sedgwick-Sharpe
Co-Cordinator Spec. Events	Dorothy Allen
Coordinator Bridge Marathon	Ruth Markle
Coordinator Cardiology	Yvonne Green
Co-Coordiators Inpatient Services	Virginia Mitchell & Mary Park
Coordinator Day Surgery	Pat Page Hoisak
Coordinator Diagnostic Imaging	Virginia Tetz
Coordinator Dialysis	Margaret Grepe
Coordinator ED	<i>Marilyn Chapin**</i>
Coordinator Help Desk	<i>Bill Logan**</i>
Coordinator Inquiry Desk	<i>Judith McEwen**</i>
Co-Coordiators LTS	Dale Hodge & Linda Sedgwick-Sharpe
Coordinator Petticoat Lane	Lorrie Phipps
Coordinator, HELPP Lottery	Paul Raven
Cordinator Chemotherapy	Maureen Bronkhorst
Corresponding Secretary	<i>Marilyn Chapin**</i>
HR Coordinator Intake and Placement	Linda Smith
HR Coordinator Membership Information	Brenda Worsnop
HR Coordinator Volunteer Records/ICC	Patti McGlone
Photographer	Sandi Spencer
Recording Secretary	<b>Vacant</b>
Treasurer HELPP	Susan Clement
Treas. PL	<i>Janice Oliver</i>
Treasurer LTS	<i>Una Gaudaur</i>

## COMING EVENTS

April 22	<i>Petticoat Lane New Location - Grand Opening, 2:00pm</i>
April 23	<i>Volunteer Appreciation at NHH, 10:30am in the Bistro</i>
April 27	<i>HAAO Region 7 Conference: 9:30am, Ajax</i>
May 7 & 8	<i>Petticoat Lane Silent Auction (for details go to page 4 of this newsletter!)</i>
May 18	<i>NHHA Annual General Meeting, at Cobourg Lions Centre, Doors open 9:15am</i>
June 17	<i>NHH Annual General Meeting: Voting starts at 6:00pm, Meeting 7:00pm - location to be announced</i>
June 29	<i>Wine Tasting in the Park @ 7:30pm (watch for more details)</i>



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS  
**HOSPITAL**  
**AUXILIARY**