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## Winetasting '09 A Vintage Event!

One of the first eye-catching sights to be seen on entering the Lions Refreshment Tent on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> was Herma Ender, as she is pictured, presiding over an enormous wheel of Parmegiano Reggiano – a tasting experience that provided a conversation topic for Winetasting guests.

This was the Auxiliary's third "Winetasting in the Park" and as the picture shows, other taste treats followed. Our friends the Lions Club of Cobourg were there to minister to our palates with wines from eight wineries and one micro-brewery. They were: The Grange of Prince Edward, Black Prince Winery, Rosehall Run Estates, Oak Heights Estates, Huff Estate, Sand Banks Winery, Colio Estates, Waupoos Estates Winery, and Barley Days Brewery.

A musical backdrop for the event was provided by the Mike Francis Duo whose blend of jazz and blues tunes seemed tailor-made for the event.

The silent auction table attracted approving attention providing opportunities to bid on unique items such as a four-piece patio set (purchased by Kathryan O'Malley Hamilton), a golf package (Kathryn Dawson), a rare Disney Goofy Watch (Kilorean Germain), a Doulton gravy dish (Sue Morrow), a dining out package (Lynn Hardy), a deluxe wine basket (Denise Kearsey), a Stage Right home staging event) Barb Elsom and a Flying Tour of Northumberland (Karen Cokolat).

On the other side of the tent, draw prizes were also attracting positive response and cash!

The success of evenings such as these depends in great measure on the generosity of sponsors who are listed separately. In the same way, the donors who provided auction and draw prizes add both interest and profit to the event. The committee is grateful to all Auxiliary volunteers who helped in any way, including the setting up and dismantling of the tent.

Mention of the tent brings our Lions partners to mind. Once again, as in previous years, we have been the benefactors of their community spirit. In an age of 'Yes We Can', Yes They Do! Beyond the tent and the tables and tablecloths and their wine-pouring and physical assistance, there is the very real sense that the success of the evening matters to them too.

And finally, the good news of another financial success. The profit for the Winetasting stands at approximately \$6300.00. The committee's work, led by Young Mee Kim, once again bore financial fruit. We thank those who continue to support us by attending this and other Auxiliary events.

**Board &****Dale Hodge**  
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**President's Report****Dale Hodge**

At the Annual General Meeting of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Board, outgoing Chair, Sid Trevail, and CEO Robert Biron reaffirmed that NHH is committed to proactively meeting the challenges facing NHH and the health care system in Ontario through engagement with staff, volunteers and the community at large. The Hospital is dedicated to preserving the services that our community has come to expect with the mandate of a balanced budget. With the *Shared Challenge, Shared Solution* initiative in place, the new Board Chair, John Hudson, is well positioned to guide us through the changes and obligations that face us.

The Hospital is preparing for accreditation that evaluates the performance of the hospital on all services provided to people in its care. Volunteers are very much a part of this process and so we must review our policies and procedures and make whatever improvements are necessary to allow us to continue to assist our patients and visitors in our customary friendly manner. The help we give, great or small, is extremely beneficial to the flow of service throughout the hospital and greatly appreciated by staff and patients.

Summer is often a time to take a break so I sincerely appreciate the dedication of our volunteers who serve throughout the summer and the year. Thank you to all for your commitment in assisting those in need of health care regardless of the season.

I would also like to thank all for their patience and assistance with the new parking system. Many of the problems have been dealt with, but I know people will still need help. Please continue to assist - it is the least we can do to lessen the stress of those visiting NHH.

Enjoy the warm weather, pleasures in the sun and good health.

## Student Program Graduation



**Photo (left to right): Heidi MacDowell, Alex McPhee, Chloe Blais, Erin Fernhout, Nicki McPhee, Irene Harmsen**

On Friday evening, June 5<sup>th</sup> six of our Student Volunteers joined the Coordinators of the Student Program – Pat Page Hoisak, Marg Hilborn, Shirley O’Neil to mark the end of this year’s program. Also attending were President Dale Hodge and Patricia Fenner, Acting Director Volunteers.

The re-invigoration of the program this year has been largely due to the efforts of Pat and Marg, aided by Shirley, and its success is due to their ability to step in, learn the ropes and think on their feet. The Auxiliary is grateful to them for their efforts.

Highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Dixie Mikel Award, an award created by Dixie Mikel to acknowledge the contribution of a student volunteer, intending to pursue a career in health sciences. Originally created to be given to a young woman preparing to go into nursing and funded by a legacy left by Mrs. Mikel, the award is now broader in scope and is co-funded by the Auxiliary.



**Dixie Mikel winner Erin Fernhout with mentor Shirley O’Neil**

This year’s Dixie “Chick” is Erin Fernhout. Erin joined the program in 2005 and has spent her volunteer time in the Emergency Department, amassing a total of 200 hours in that service. She has impressed staff and patients alike with her calm efficiency and sensitivity. Present to see the award presented were her justifiably proud parents, two grandmothers (one a valued NHH volunteer) and a beaming grandfather. Sweetening the evening was the news that Erin has been accepted into exactly the place and program she wanted at McMaster.

We appreciate the efforts, energy and commitment of these volunteers and are pleased that many will return next year.

## PR & Communications Report

*Gayle Metson*

This year, for the first time, we launched a printed Annual Report, which will be an additional publication of the NHHHA. Our Corresponding Secretary, Eleanor Tryon has her report attached, and our distribution team of Chas and Jean Orviss continue to do their yeoman service with the delivery of the 'Aux Tales' newsletter. Sandi Spencer has provided the majority of photos of the Winetasting in the Park event and the Student Graduation and as always, thank you!

## Corresponding Secretary Report

Once again it has been my privilege to send cards on behalf of the Auxiliary Members. During the month of JUNE, 2009 the following cards were mailed:

Condolence : 2

Convalescence: 1

Thinking of You: 4

## Palliative Care Report

*Sally Duncan & Dorothy Sommerville*

We are very pleased to have Lois Crider and Gayle Craig volunteering in the Unit. We are still looking for volunteers who have Hospice training and would like to work in the Palliative Care Unit. We need to fill Monday and Friday afternoon shifts and every other Sunday morning. If anyone is interested please let us know.

## Ambulatory Care Report

*Sharon Gerber*

We welcome Pat Page Hoisak to the Ambulatory Care group. Pat is now Day Surgery Coordinator replacing Brenda Worsnop, who has accepted the position of HR Coordinator: Membership Information. Thank you to Brenda for her dedication, enthusiasm and great leadership skills that have helped make the Day Surgery volunteer program run so smoothly these past two years.

The Emergency Department volunteer service was cancelled during the month of May. This was a NHH

management decision based on the presence of the N1H1 virus in Ontario. The ED volunteer is usually the first contact person for a patient entering the emergency area and so this decision was made to prevent volunteers being placed at risk. Volunteers resumed their regular scheduled duties again on June 1st.

A meeting for the Day Surgery volunteers was held at the end of April; Dialysis volunteers had a meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup>; Ambulatory Care Coordinators met on June 10<sup>th</sup>. All meetings were well attended.

## Cardiology Report

*Yvonne Green*

Summer means volunteer holidays as well as fewer clinics.

Subsidized parking has been discontinued.

Patients coming into our clinic no longer stop at the Registration Desk but come directly to us and we check each OHIP card.

We are encountering fewer cases of patients or escorts wearing fragrance and the message seems to be getting out that we are a **fragrance free** hospital.

## Complex Care, Out Patient and Impatient Rehab Report

*Mary Park*

With the arrival of summer months, the scheduling in these departments takes a change as some of our volunteers take holidays, leaving us temporarily shorthanded. We are lucky to have Eva Woodside back for July and August to help in Complex Care, Ashley Bebee, a student working in Complex Care who will continue in Complex Care Wednesdays, and will do Complex Care and Rehab with Mary Park on Thursdays. Kirby Park will be helping in the Rehab Outpatient department on Tuesday mornings. Ruth Markle will be on call to help out occasionally, and Mary Park will do so also, so it looks like the summer schedule will be filled, which is a big improvement from last year!

I have had occasion to do the water jugs and the patients are very appreciative to have the fresh cold water, Kleenex, and new garbage bags, as well as seeing a friendly person who has the time to have a chat with them.

## Diagnostic Imaging Tribute

*Virginia Tetz*

"A WONDERFUL TEAM". This has been a very rewarding 4 years for me. I think back to when I took on the position and how I was accepted by staff, who I must Thank as everything fell into place so easily with their assistance & co-operation. I would like to extend a Special Thank You to all of the volunteers in this area for your dedication in the last 4 years. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME "VIRGINIA TETZ" who has graciously accepted the position as Coordinator.

Sincerely  
Jean Orviss

"THE QUALITY OF OUR LIVES IS MEASURED BY HOW DEEPLY WE HAVE TOUCHED THE LIVES OF OTHERS".

### Diagnostic Imaging Report

I would like to thank Jean for her assistance and patience during this transition period. This is an enjoyable and challenging place to volunteer. It provides a much needed service for the hospital where one interacts with both patients and staff. Both CT/MR and WH are running smoothly thanks to all the volunteers and staff.

In March, CT got a new scanner, which resulted in a week 'off' for all volunteers in this area of service. A special Thanks to all the volunteers in CT/MR who have so graciously agreed to try the rotating every other week schedule. On June 11th, a meeting for CT/MR was held in the Education Room, with a moderate turnout.

If anyone in Women's Health is interested in the rotating schedule system, we will put it in place. The Friday morning shift has agreed to try it. On June 26 the meet and greet for WH was held in the Auxiliary Board Room which was well attended, and It was nice to get acquainted with the volunteers and be able to put names and faces together. A very special thank you to all volunteers, in both departments, who so willingly put in extra shifts.

## HR Report

*Patricia Fenner*

As Acting Director of this area, I'm pleased to report that the new HR structure is shaping up splendidly. Linda Smith is well into her duties as Coordinator Volunteer Intake and Placement, as is Patti McGlone as Coordinator Volunteer Records. Brenda Worsnop, Coordinator Membership Information, is mastering the Access program under the tutelage of Jim Upper, former Master of the Data Base.

New volunteer applications appear at a steady pace. We are impressed with the wealth and variety of experience these members bring to our organization and report with pleasure that many come because they have had a positive experience at NHH. Others come from 'away' and have learned that the NHH Auxiliary is "the place to volunteer!"

We have a handful of post-secondary students who have requested summer volunteer hours and we have tried to accommodate their requests. Many thanks to those coordinators who have made nips and tucks in their own volunteer schedules to assist us in giving these students a taste of NHH.



**Mike Francis Duo**  
adding to the  
atmosphere

## A Perfect Confluence of Good Things!

*By Patricia Fenner*



**Photo: Garth Holloway and Ken MacDonald, in courtyard of NHH**

The story behind the structure pictured here is a tale of the coming together of a number of good things: A good idea, perfect timing, generosity, skill and talent.

On April 14, Janet Burn, Program Director of Complex Care, Rehab and Palliative Care and I had a chance encounter near the Inquiry Desk. Janet told me that she had just sent me an e-mail, and when I opened the message, I found an attachment with a plan for a garden table to be built for the use of patients in Complex Care as part of a therapeutic program. Janet wondered whether I knew anyone who might be able to build it.

For about 30 seconds, I didn't. But then I turned around and saw Brenda Worsnop (amateur and avid thespian) coming into the office. More in jest than in hope, I showed her the plan and asked if she knew anyone who might take it on. Turns out she did – the set builders at Northumberland Players! Brenda asked them and they agreed, but wouldn't get to it till June, given the demands on their volunteer schedule.

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, Brenda received the news that the table was finished and could be delivered on June 1. And it was. The builders delivered, unloaded, placed the table in the courtyard outside the physio gym, made a few finishing touches and were gone!

Sometimes the timing just works. We extend our admiration and warm thanks to the builders – Garth Holloway, Ken MacDonald and Tony Walker (who was not with his mates on Delivery Day) for their generosity and skill in filling a patient-care support need on our behalf. Thanks for making it happen, Brenda!

# Winetasting '09 -A Vintage Event!



(top left) l-r Audrey Levto, Lori Bernstein and Mary Wood enjoying the convivial atmosphere at the event

(centre left) One of the lovely Gift Baskets donated to the event

(top right) NHH CEO Robert Biron & wife Doris with Liz Vosburgh

(centre right) Young Mee Kim, Event Chair briefs some of our 'Smart Serving' Lions.

(centre left) One of the lovely Gift Baskets donated to the event

(bottom right) Linda Sedgwick Sharpe with husband Keith Sharpe.

## COMING EVENTS

Sept 10 &  
11*Tag Days:* If anyone is able to help out to contact Marg Dennis at 905.885.8320

## Winetasting in the Park: More than the sum of its parts

### We thank...

**Our sponsors:**

Gilmer's Home Hardware, RBC Dominion Securities, M.D. Group Mortgages, Royal LePage Pro Alliance, Vandermeer Toyota, TD Canada Trust, Vosburgh Refinishing and Upholstering, Morrow Transport, ACME Electric Ltd., Stadtke Plumbing and Heating.

**Our partners:**

Herma's Fine Food & Gifts, Cobourg Lions Club

**Draw donors:**

Dieter Phung Pride International Inc., NorAg Resources Inc., Dalewood Golf & Curling Club, Port Hope Golf and Country Club, Ashbrook Golf Club, Northumberland Players, Zest in Port Hope, North Side Grill in Cobourg, The Woodlawn Inn, LSS Interiors, Stage Right, Jan Orviss, Petticoat Lane, NHH Auxiliary, Little Treasure Shop, Kathy Upper, Kathy O'Malley Hamilton.

**The Committee:**

Young Mee Kim, Dale Hodge, Janet Trevail, Linda Sedgwick-Sharpe, Sharon Gerber, Brenda Worsnop.

Thanks also to the volunteers who helped on 'the day.' Many hands make a good party.



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS  
HOSPITAL  
AUXILIARY