

Auxiliary News

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 11, July 2010

High Society Wine Tasting

"What a swellegant, elegant (and profitable) party" this was!

Cole Porter wasn't there, but he would have agreed that his "High Society" lyric applied to the Auxiliary's fourth Wine Tasting in the Park held on June 29th in Victoria Park.

Even before the official start of the event, there were people keen to see what was on offer at the Silent Auction and to buy an arm's length of tickets for the two super baskets of wine.

The Lions' tent was decked out in fine fashion with lights, feathers and flowers. The music, provided by Chris Devlin and The Northside Gang, created the perfect soundtrack of upbeat old and new favourites, which eventually caused toes to tap. Herma and Tom of Herma's Fine Foods provided a selection of fine cheeses, with their accompaniments and enhancements, scattered at stations, served by volunteers.

And, of course, the wine. Poured by some representatives of the wineries involved and by our partner Cobourg Lions, there was a wine to appeal to every taste.

The event was well attended by both sponsors and ticket buyers. A conservative estimate might be that there were 200 ticket purchasers, sponsors and volunteers edging the tempo up to make the party jump.

On page 8 the sponsors, donors and Silent Auction winners are listed. Thanks to all those people the Auction raised \$2,010.00, the draw brought in \$510.00 and with 183 tickets sold, \$5,490.00 was added to the profit. Expenses were in large part covered by our generous sponsors' contributions of \$1,775.00.

The mood was upbeat, the ambience was splendid and the profit to go toward equipment for our hospital is \$6,694.00.

A swell party indeed!

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(The Annual Report will be available online - www.nhh.ca - and at the Auxiliary office in hard-copy at the end of July.)



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS
HOSPITAL
AUXILIARY

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Paul Raven

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Brenda Worsnop

President's Report ...



Should you feel that you've spun backward in time to have my name attached to this report, you can be forgiven.

Those of you who follow the governance process of the Auxiliary will know that we have been through a succession-planning merry-go-round as we approach 2010 – 2011.

The end result is that we have a very strong board in place with Dale serving as Past President (making her also Nominating Committee Chair and taking on the challenge of the Archives as well as Strategic Planning) and Gayle Metson assuming her role as Vice President (responsible for Policies and Procedures) for a training year before she takes on the Presidency in 2011. There is much to do, but – working with the committed board team whose names are on the left of the page – there is no doubt that much will be accomplished.

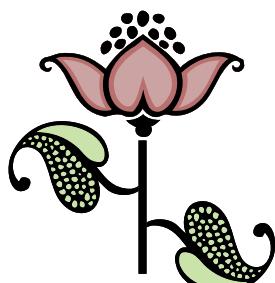
Uppermost in our minds these days is the ongoing sustainability of our beloved NHH and our role in supporting it according to the mandate simply stated in the Auxiliary mission statement – “enhancing the patient care provided by Northumberland Hills Hospital.” We are mandated to do this in two ways – support of patient care and fundraising.

It is very easy to be caught up in strongly held emotional positions and mud slinging and to allow our own emotions to colour our personal opinions. As individuals, we are each free to think what we like. As an organization, we are bound by our Constitution which governs our organization’s behaviour. As individuals and as members of the Auxiliary we have a responsibility to be informed and to continue to conduct ourselves in the best sense of volunteering.

A 12-year-old African boy, dying of AIDS, gave this as his definition of what a volunteer does: “Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are.”

That’s what we all do, every day. Let’s remember what a difference we make.

*Patricia Fenner,
President*





Message from The President & CEO

Northumberland Hills Hospital

(NHH) is a jewel, created by the goodwill and generosity of our community.

In return, you expect quality health services delivered close to home. This is the promise we are working to keep.

Informed by our consultations in the past year, the Board announced its new Strategic Plan 2010-2014 at its Annual General Meeting. It is a comprehensive, long-range road map that takes a multi-pronged approach in transforming NHH to meet today's challenges and take advantage of tomorrow's opportunities.

There are five strategic directions for the new Strategic Plan. Each will contribute to helping NHH achieve long-term sustainability.

Patients First. NHH will not lose sight of its mission to provide quality and safe patient care. The outstanding 2010 Accreditation results demonstrate that we have not wavered from this commitment.

NHH is introducing new initiatives to respond to our community needs and patient demographics—an elder population. We will be enhancing our commitment for an elder-friendly environment; and, investing in a new specialized geriatric nurse to implement our Hospital Elder Life Program. Improving patient safety is also a top priority.

Our Team, Our Strength. NHH is blessed with an exceptional, dedicated team of individuals at all levels of the organization. With the rapidly changing health care environment, and an aging workforce, it is essential that NHH takes steps today to maintain the best prepared workforce to deliver both quality and cost effectiveness in the future.

We will enable our health service professionals to work at their full scope of practice—the full depth and breadth of service that their skills and training permits. This not only improves quality of care, but enhances staff job satisfaction and cost effectiveness for the organization. We will also introduce new health service professionals within our mix of staff, for example, nurse practitioners.

Operational Excellence. As a publicly funded institution, NHH must continually provide and demonstrate "value for money"—quality services through the effective use of our limited resources. Our strategies include the full adoption of LEAN—a continuous quality improvement system—across the organization. LEAN methods help reduce waste and remove unnecessary steps in our processes.

NHH already participates in numerous shared initiatives with other hospitals. We will continue to pursue integration opportunities for shared services with other hospitals without compromising our local autonomy.

Collaborative Networks. NHH is not the single source of health services in west Northumberland. Coordination between health service providers is essential to ensure quality of care and health system affordability. Many services can be provided more efficiently and effectively within the community. Strengthening our formal relationships, particularly with regional hospitals, is an opportunity to build local expertise, enhance service quality and improve access to services that could not otherwise be delivered in our community.

Building a Sustainable Future. The final strategic direction emphasizes the need for NHH to create new opportunities to secure a more stable and predictable future.

We will aggressively pursue new, sustainable revenue streams to become less reliant on government funding. NHH has assets and land that can be used for this purpose. It requires, however, sound business decisions and time to fully explore our options and complete proper due diligence.

While our challenges are many, I am confident that we have the right plan and the right team that will see us through the years ahead. I can't think of a better foundation on which to build our future.

In closing, I would like to again thank the Auxiliary and all of our volunteers for everything that you do to make NHH what it is today. I can't imagine our hospital without your support and talents. I look forward to working with you in achieving our shared pursuit: "Exceptional patient care. Everytime."

*Robert Biron
President and CEO*

Important Notice for Volunteers

At a recent board meeting Elizabeth Vosburgh, Director of HR for NHH, gave a presentation on the new infectious disease guidelines in effect. OHA/OMA communicable disease surveillance protocols require all health care workers to be screened for certain infectious diseases. This is to meet the requirements of the Public Hospitals Act 1990, Revised Statues of Ontario, Regulation 965. The OHA/OMA Boards of Directors, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, and the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee for Ontario hospitals have approved these protocols.

According to the OHA/OMA, health care workers include volunteers as well as students, employees, physicians and contract workers. It is the hospital's responsibility to protect patients from those who may be susceptible to certain infectious diseases.

In keeping with the requirements, NHH will begin to monitor immunization records for volunteers. This information will only be needed once during the time you are a volunteer at NHH. In order to protect yourselves, the patients you may be in contact with, and hospital employees, your immunization status must be determined.

NHH requires that, as a volunteer at this facility, you complete the Volunteer Health Review Form (example on opposite page) by July 1, 2011. The tuberculin two-step test will be administered by the hospital. All other tests should be administered by your physician. Your physician will request the necessary blood work to determine the effectiveness of your other immunizations and whether additional shots are required.

NHH will be holding clinics for volunteers to have the two-step tuberculin skin test. All volunteers will be required to have these tests completed.

The first part will be held on Monday, September 13, 2010 in the education room from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., or Tuesday, September 14 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Reading of this tuberculosis skin test will be on Wednesday, September 15 from 1:00 – 4 p.m. or Thursday, September 16 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the occupational health services office 2H14. No appointment is necessary.

The second part will be held Monday, September 27 in the education room from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. or Tuesday, September 28 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Reading of this test will be Wednesday, September 29 from 1:00 – 4 p.m. or Thursday,

September 30 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the occupational health services office 2H14. Again, no appointment is necessary.

The Volunteer Health Review Form is the standard immunization form. Please bring your completed form to the Auxiliary Office, we will update our records to show it has been completed and forward it to the Occupational Health Services Office

The coordinators will be receiving a package, with the letters and forms for each volunteer in their service, for inclusion in their service binders by July 26th.



**NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS
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Northumberland Hills Hospital Volunteer Health Review Form

This form is to be completed by your Physician. Please complete and return to the occupational health services office 2H14.

Name (please print): _____

Area volunteering: _____

Results

Date Completed

Initials

Mantoux (Tuberculin) Test Step 1 _____ _____

Step 2 _____ _____

(Baseline two-step is required for those whose tuberculin status is unknown. A one-step tb test can be given if previous documentation of 2-step is known and results were negative. A chest x-ray will be required if the tb skin test result is positive).

RESULT

DATE COMPLETED INITIAL

Measles Titre _____ _____

Rubella Titre _____ _____

Mumps Titre _____ _____

Varicella Titre _____ _____

Influenza Vaccine Date given:

Adacel Vaccine (THOSE UNDER 20 YEARS OLD) Date given:

Tetanus Vaccine Date given:

Physician (please print) _____ Date:

Physician signature _____

Occupational Health Claims Manager _____

(signature)

_____ (date)
Occhealthform/hr

2009-2010 Annual General Meeting

On May 18th, at what was acknowledged as the 87th version of an Auxiliary AGM, there were several positive elements to note.

The first was the healthy turnout of Auxiliary members enjoying a continental breakfast buffet at the Lions Club of Cobourg Community Centre. Members arrived in good time to savour the baked goods, fresh fruit and beverages, and to catch up on the news of the day with fellow volunteers.

The meeting, called to order at 10:00 a.m., was attended by an unusually large number of members of the hospital family. In their remarks, John Hudson, NHH Board Chair and Jan Boycott, NHH Foundation Chair added to their congratulatory comments some insights into the effects changing health care at all levels has had on their Boards' activities and expectations in an era of financial constraints and perceived donor "fatigue". Joining them at the event were Helen Brenner, VP Patient Services; Cheryl Turk, VP Finance; Elizabeth Vosburgh, VP Human Resources and Rhonda Cunningham, Executive Director of the NHH Foundation.

Another positive element was the cheque presentation to the hospital. The cheque for \$150,000 representing our 2009 – 2010 commitment had been given to the hospital at the end of our fiscal year. Instead of an empty envelope or mock-up cheque, Laura Scrivener and Dale Hodge presented an additional \$50,000 to CEO Robert Biron and NHH Board Chair John Hudson. Needless to say, applause followed.

As his part of the program, Robert spoke to us about the NHH Strategic Plan, emphasizing that the mission and vision statements captured the commitment of all members of the hospital family to put patients first, providing excellent care, every time.

At the business meeting that followed, Past President Vera Wellman presided over the election and installation of the Board members. Coordinators and treasurers were introduced by the incoming President, Patricia Fenner.

The business of the meeting was conducted expeditiously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30.



Wine Tasting Photos



The Northside Gang



Herma

Coming Events

July 19	Board Meeting
September 9 & 10	Tag Days
September 27 & 28	TB Skin tests (See page 4 & 5 for details)
September 29 & 30	Skin Test Readings
November 28	Poinsettia Tea, Best Western

The following people and companies helped make our annual wine tasting the huge success that it was!

Silent Auction

- Ironwood Bistro Set and Lounge Chair, donated by Dieter Pung Pride International and bought by Faith Jones
- Woman's & Man's Bicycles donated by Dieter Pung Pride International and bought by Don Muir
- Oil Painting – The Forever Hills – donated by NHH Auxiliary and bought by an anonymous wine taster
- Gift from Sameco International and Spa Package donated by Essentials The Spa at Fleming were bought by Karen Parker
- Gift Certificates donated by Lauria Hyundai and East Side Mario's bought by Margaret Anderson
- Dessert at Zest donated by a Friend of the Auxiliary and bought by Dale Hodge
- Gift Certificate donated by Stage Right & L.S.S. bought by Kathy Fobert
- Flight Over Northumberland donated by NorAg Resources bought by Caroline and Robert Stewart
- Cookware package donated by Dieter Pung Pride International bought by Norm Hoselton
- Jewellery donated by Kareri Inc. bought by Louise Stephenson

Sponsors

- Gilmer's Home Hardware; Vandermeer Toyota; Morrow Transport; ACME Electric Ltd.; Vosburgh Refinishing & Upholstering
- HodgesLodges.ca; Friends of the Auxiliary; Cobourg Lions Club

Contributors

- Food by Herma's Fine Foods & Gifts and music by The Northside Gang



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Thank You