NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL AUXILARY NEWSLETTER

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CELEBRATING THE AUXILIARY'S 95TH ANNIVERSARY!

On November 21st Auxiliary members from past and present gathered together to celebrate the Auxiliary's 95th anniversary. The celebration honoured the volunteers for their tireless efforts and accomplishments over 95 years by fulfilling their mission to provide effective and compassionate assistance to NHH patients, visitors, and staff. There have been 33 Presidents since 1923 and seven were in attendance including Mary Jane Pocock who was President from 1976-1978.

Brian Driscoll spent countless hours creating an amazing montage of images, along with music appropriate to the period, that conveyed the years of dedication, passion and commitment by countless volunteers who have served to make the Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary a valued community asset. The expression "a picture says 1,000 words" certainly was true while the video was playing...as the familiar faces and events appeared on the screen there were oohs and aahs as the memories came flooding back. One of Brian's slides, Fundraising Over the Years, can be viewed in the event photo section at the back of this newsletter.

Northumberland Hills Hospital is the home of one of the most active hospital auxiliaries in the province that contributes thousands of hours of dedicated service each year, in 2018 more than 42,000 hours. This celebration honoured all that has been accomplished in the past 95 years and just think of what we can achieve before the 100th anniversary in 2023!

Gayle Metson and Brian Driscoll Co-chairs, Auxiliary's 95th Anniversary Celebration

PRESIDENTS & DIRECTORS

Marg Hilborn President

Selena Forsyth Vice-President

Pat Page Hoisak Past President

Marilyn Chapin Director, Ambulatory Care

> **Richard Holland Director of Finance**

Anne Luken Director, Inpatient & Patient Support Services

Linda Smith, Acting Director Business Services

Liz Wardell, Acting Director **PR & Communications**

> Brenda Worsnop **Director Volunteers**

COORDINATORS & TREASURERS

Judy Bournier Margaret Darrah Sally Duncan Karen Gomes **Yvonne Green** Dale Hodge Carol Johns Rita Law Cathy Lingard Bryan MacPherson Ruth Markle Heather Milroy Virginia Mitchell Carmel Murphy Pat Page Hoisak Lorrie Phipps Paul Raven Karen (Kris) Rennie Linda Sedwick-Girard Pat Spalding Virginia Tetz Marilyn Turk Louise Varga Sandy Ward Guylaine Whitwell Dianne Zweerink

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Where does the time go to? I think members are wondering that as we get ready for another Annual General Meeting. Richard Holland our Treasurer has been getting financial documents gathered for year-end scrutiny. Directors determine who is retiring, or changing responsibilities, and our AGM is just around the corner. The AGM presents a perfect opportunity to gather as a group and celebrate our accomplishments, reflect on our past year's activities and commit to the year ahead.

As some NHH Auxiliary members may recall HAAO, of which we are members, voted to dissolve the 108- year-old corporation. That is the reason active volunteers were asked to remove crests from tabards. It is the end of an era but will not change the running of our Auxiliary at NHH. There is now a reduced HAAO Board of three "who will look after dissolution and disperse assets to another charitable organization." For us, as an organization, there is still an opportunity to meet with the Auxiliary groups in our geographic area to share and discuss ideas/issues as needed.

As usual it has been a busy year. We've held flower sales, a fabulous fashion show and a celebration of our 95th Anniversary. In the fall our Volunteers assisted Linda Davis and physicians with tours to areas of the hospital reserved for patient diagnosis and treatment only. Some restructuring has taken place within 2A and 2B and Maternal Childcare with the intent to improve the patient experience and make better use of volunteer skills - NHH Staff and NHH Auxiliary Volunteers working together to enhance the patient experience in what can be a very unsettling time. Water jugs are still a hugely important area of service; some patients so look forward to the arrival of the volunteer who takes the time to chat for a few minutes.

A group of very dedicated past Presidents took on the responsibility of updating our Auxiliary Constitution during the past six months. What an undertaking! A huge thank you to Pat Page Hoisak, Yvonne Green and Gayle Metson.

Finally, we are very excited to roll out the new Auxiliary uniform very shortly. Our former tabards are being retired after many years of service for a more modern look which we hope will serve our purpose of easy recognition; details to follow from your Coordinators.

Whatever your area of Service whether it is the Help Desk, Emergency, Day Surgery, Restorative Care, Elder Help, Coordinator, or "parking machine rescuer" you are all so very important to the NHH team. In closing, thank you for your commitment to the Auxiliary and NHH. We hope you will join us to Celebrate and Reflect at our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday May 29th at 2:00 pm, NHH Education Centre, 2nd floor.

Marg Hilborn

President, NHH Auxiliary

Petticoat Lane Receives a Town of Cobourg Civic Award

The Town of Cobourg Civic award recognizes those who have volunteered their time and talents or have displayed exceptional dedication to the enrichment of the community. Lorrie Phipps, who has been the Co-ordinator for many years, does an amazing job keeping track of the 63 women and 3 men who volunteer at the shop. Anything deemed unsellable in the shop is donated to another cause. Books that have been on the shelves for more than four months now find their way to the little book houses scattered around Cobourg and children's books go to a school or day care centre. Animal shelters receive blankets and towels. Petticoat Lane



more than met the award criteria and enriched not only the lives of the dedicated volunteers but the community at large.

Alma Draper Volunteer, Petticoat Lane

PETTICOAT LANE – STILL GOING STRONG AFTER 50 YEARS!

In 1968, the Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary opened the Petticoat Lane Thrift Shop. Half a century later \$2.5 million has been raised with over \$1.2 million being donated to the Northumberland Hills Hospital since it's opening in 2003 so on December 6th it was time to celebrate!

Their success is thanks to Lorrie Phipps and the passionate and committed group of volunteers. Through their ingenuity and creativity they organize so many very successful events resulting in significant donations to NHH and all on items that are primarily a few dollars or less! Not only does Petticoat Lane support the hospital by accepting unwanted goods, it also prevents them from ending up



as landfill. There is a no-waste policy toward donations. Anything deemed unsellable in the shop is donated to another cause. Here's to another 50 years!

THE LITTLE TREASURE SHOP

In any hospital there is always a degree of stress and sadness. However, there is one area that gives a little happiness and pleasure. At the Northumberland Hills Hospital, that is The Little Treasure Shop (LTS) - the gift shop just inside the main doors. People come in to buy, browse or just to pass the time while waiting. We have heard many comments about hospital gift shops that provide a different range of gifts at good prices with a very pleasing display and certainly LTS fits that description. With a wide variety of clothing, nightwear, garden and home decorations, baby items, flowers, magazines, cards as well as a small selection of personal needs, we can please most who pass through our doors. Important to our shop, though, is attitude which is why customers will find volunteers who give great service, big smiles and even a little chit chat from time to time.

However, a thriving business is not just what customers see. It takes a great team of

volunteers to make LTS successful from those who purchase, display, input, account and sell to all who willingly give help to those who need guidance to find their way around the hospital. LTS is an oasis in the world of Northumberland medical care where people can find a little joy. Judging by our sales and a great number of remarks made throughout this past year, LTS volunteers have done an exceptional job of retail management which shows in our profits for the year. During 2018 - 2019, LTS was able to contribute \$80,000 to the Northumberland Hills Hospital with the money going to help with patient care throughout the hospital.

The LTS team is not only committed but a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers who work well together sometime above and beyond the call of duty. To all of them, my deepest gratitude and thanks.

Dale Hodge

Coordinator, The Little Treasure Shop

THE LITTLE TREASURE SHOP DONATES \$1,000,000!

At the November 21st General Meeting Dale Hodge, Coordinator, Little Treasure Shop and Guylaine Whitwell, Treasurer, Little Treasurer Shop presented a symbolic \$40,000 cheque to Richard Holland, Director, Finance. This contribution brought the Little Treasure Shop's donations to the Auxiliary since it began operating in 1959 to \$1 million dollars! Richard passed on this interesting footnote it took 50 years for Little Treasure Shop to pass the \$400,000 mark but only 10 ½ years to reach \$1,000,000, amazing!



NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS HOSPITAL AUXILIARY CRAFTERS

If you can sew, knit, crochet or create crafty items the Auxiliary Crafters would like to meet you!

The items are sold at their monthly craft sale with all proceeds supporting the hospital.

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining the Crafters' drop in to have a chat on Tuesday mornings between 9:00 -11:00 in the Auxiliary Room on the second floor of the Northumberland Hills Hospital or call Louise Varga, Coordinator, Crafters at 905-372-2406 for more details.

On Tuesday May 28, from 9:00 to 3:00, the Auxiliary Crafters are having an Almost Summer Sale that will not only include an



extensive selection of hand-made items but also one of a kind illuminated folk-art pieces perfect for the garden, cottage or a unique Father's Day gift! Buy local - all crafts proudly made in Northumberland County! The sale will be in the Northumberland Hills Hospital on the first floor near the Bistro.

AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF DIXIE MIKEL

Do you have a grandchild who is in, or headed to university or college, to study health sciences? Then the NHH, Auxiliary Scholarship, in honour of Dixie Mikel a long- time member of the Auxiliary, may be of interest to your family.

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship, in the amount of \$1250.00, may be awarded to two successful applicants during their Fall semester at a university or college.

Scholarship applicants must have the following -

1. Be at least 16 years of age

2. Accumulated a minimum 80 volunteer hours at Northumberland Hills Hospital.

3. Been accepted at, or is attending, a postsecondary institution taking courses that lead to a medical degree in health sciences, nursing, medical research or biotechnology.

The deadline date for this year's application is July 30, 2019. Potential candidates can access information and the application form on the Northumberland Hills Hospital Website:

https:// nhh.ca/volunteers/dixie-mikel-scholarship

WE THINK OUR AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS ARE A BIG DEAL!

The Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary volunteers are the gateway to hospital. They are the front-line dedicated individuals of all ages who work alongside hospital staff every day supporting the work of virtually every department. They literally are everywhere. From delivering water jugs to patients, working in various clinics throughout the hospital, making and selling craft items, taking a shift in the Little Treasure Shop or Petticoat Lane, or providing a warm welcome at the main entrance - they all play a critical role in strengthening the care at NHH. In 2018 Auxiliary members gave more than 42,000 hours of their time providing the necessary support that helps keep the hospital going!

Our 2018-19 donation to NHH was **\$200,000**, bringing the total NHHA donations since NHH opened in 2003 to **\$2,776,700** and since 1938 the Auxiliary donations are **\$4,347,000**. Note, although the Auxiliary has been in existence since 1923-24 the earliest financial records are 1938.

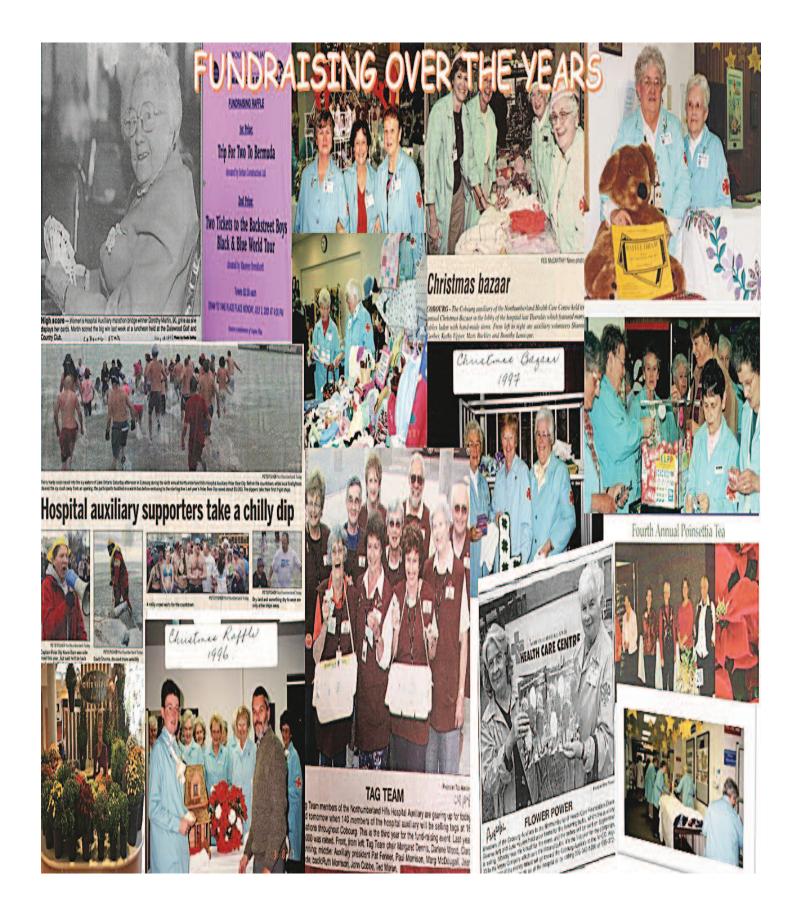
The faces that you see at NHH belong to compassionate individuals looking for a way to give back to their community - people wanting to help other people by giving their time, energy and kindness. There are a multitude of volunteer opportunities in Cobourg and Northumberland County but If you know someone who might want to join this amazing team of dedicated volunteers, have them contact Brenda Worsnop, Director, Volunteers, bworsnop@cogeco.ca, we hope they choose us!

Additional Photos...

95th Anniversary Event -Seven Past Presidents!



AUXILIARY FUNDRAISING EVENTS OVER THE YEARS



AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS ON DUTY

Doug Cunningham – Inquiry Desk



Virginia Tetz - Ambulatory Care & Diagnostic Imaging



Merise Ash and Maria Widdifield - Little Treasure Shop



LITTLE TREASURE SHOP CUSTOMER APPRECIATION EVENT



AUXILIARY CRAFTERS PREPARING FOR THEIR APRIL SALE WHICH WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

