

STRATHROY MIDDLESEX GENERAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

FALL NEWSLETTER 2010

WELCOME BACK VOLUNTEERS!!!

It has been a hot, hot, hot summer and I'm sure you are all happy to see things cool down a wee bit. I'm hoping you are all ready for another year of fundraising for our hospital. We need everybody's participation to make this a successful year.

We have a few new volunteers in the Auxiliary and I would like to welcome them. We hope that you will enjoy volunteering your time with the Auxiliary and will come out to our various events and meetings. There is something for everyone at these meetings.

We are happy to see Gladys Juba back at the Gift Shop after her stay in hospital and we wish Eileen Watts well as she too has been in hospital this summer. Sarah Bongers has not been well for several weeks now and has been in and out of the hospital a couple of times this summer. As of this writing Sarah is being moved to a London Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sarah and wish her all the best care possible. If I have missed anyone please forgive me as I was not aware of your illness.

Pillar Community Innovation Award - The SMGH Auxiliary has been nominated by the SMGH Foundation for the Pillar Innovation Award. We are one of three community projects that have been nominated in the "Community Impact" category and if we win the Auxiliary will receive \$2,500 towards our projects. This honour has been bestowed on us for our Java Hut Project and involving our community in it by bringing in volunteers from all over our hospital's catchment area. The awards night will be November 4th in London. Keep your fingers crossed.

Auxiliary Membership Meetings are held the fourth Monday of every month except December, June, July and August commencing at 7:30 pm and finished at 9:00 pm. Our meetings are not only business but we have speakers and refreshments. Please mark us on your calendars but remember it is the 4th Monday not the last. Some months have five weeks and this becomes confusing at times for new members.

Auxiliary Annual Meeting - This meeting is held the fourth Monday in November. It is a pot luck dinner at which time we present the first of two cheques from our fundraising to the SMGH Foundation/Hospital for the purpose of purchasing new equipment. A new slate of officers are installed every two years and reports from the various departments are made. We also do our draws for raffles at this time. We hope that you will all join in and help celebrate. This is our last meeting of the year till the fourth Monday in January.

Strawberry Social - Again this is a special meeting night where we have strawberries, cake and whip cream. We celebrate our achievements of the year and hand over our second donation to the SMGH Foundation/Hospital. It is also our last meeting till the fourth Monday in September.

Did you know that you can make a donation to the Auxiliary in Memory of or in Honour of someone you care about. Many people do and get a registered tax receipt for doing so. All these donations are put in with our fundraising projects and the money is used to buy equipment for the hospital. So next time you have some one dear to you pass away or you want to celebrate a milestone by donating to a worthy cause think of the Auxiliary. We will notify them of your generous donation. Just ask for a donation card at the Gift Shop and return it there for our Treasurer to pick up. She will do the rest.

Fundraising Project 2009/10 - WE DID IT!!! In just over one year we raised the \$80,000 needed to purchase the Blood Analyser. Now it is time to move on to the next project. At the moment we have not been given a wish list but hopefully we will have an idea for our membership meeting.

Executive - A list of our 2010-2011 Executive is attached. Please keep it handy in case you wish to speak to someone concerning their area of the auxiliary.

Dues - Elma Dolansky will be at the Membership meeting collecting our \$5.00 annual dues from members. The dues will be collected from all members unless you are new and have paid after April 30th, 2010. All dues are to be paid before Dec. 31/10. After this date the dues will be \$7.00. If you do not attend the meetings you can leave an envelope with Elma Dolansky's name on it and please tell her who it is from, in the Gift Shop. She will leave a receipt for you at the Gift Shop or Java Hut.

The Auxiliary has various areas of volunteer work for you to work in and I would like to tell you about them. Contacts are listed on the attached Executive Listing.

Gift Shop – Manager, Joyce Bolton; Asst. Manager, Gayle Ferris; Treasurer, Estelle Cameron; Volunteer Convener, Carol Howarth. If you wish to help out in the Gift Shop please contact Carol. The Gift Shop runs three shifts a day and one on Saturday and one on Sunday. Be sure to stop in and see what is new. There are many gift items, purses, jewelry, scarves, sweaters and tops as well as magazines and sundries for those of you who are visiting patients who may have forgot their toothbrush or needs Kleenex etc.. Don't forget you pay **NO TAX** at the Gift Shop. Stamps are no longer available at the Gift Shop.

HELLP Tickets – I am hoping to announce a new volunteer convenor at our membership meeting. We are desperate for volunteers to sell Nevada tickets during the day or in the evening. This is a very easy job, people usually flock to you looking to win cash or free tickets. It is also a great way for husbands to get involved.

Java Hut – Carol Howarth, Manager; Lynn Thornton, Treasurer; Sarah Bongers, Scheduling temporarily being taken over by Michelle Minielly. The Java Hut needs lots of volunteers to run a great coffee kiosk. We have four shifts a day and one on Saturday and Sunday. We are in need of weekend volunteers at the moment. Please contact Michelle if you wish to volunteer. Last year, our first year we donated close to \$30,000 just from the Java Hut to the SMGH Foundation/Hospital for equipment. Be sure to stop and have a coffee if you are visiting with someone and tell your friends to pick up a coffee at the Java Hut rather than bringing in a Tim's.

Raffle Tickets – For several years we have had two raffles, one in the fall and one in the spring. These raffles can be on just about anything i.e. quilts, restaurant dinners, queen for a day for Mothers Day and of course the very favorite, Money. We asked that everyone participate and sell at least one book of tickets. We also need people to sell these tickets at the various tables we set up throughout town.

Bake Sales/Penny Auction - Twice a year we have a bake sale and penny auction (Thanksgiving and Easter). We need volunteers the evening before to help price and package the baked goods. We need people to help sell and setup in the morning. We also sell our raffle tickets at that time as well as tickets on a door prize provided by the Gift Shop. Baked goods of all kinds are prepared by our volunteers and we need **new items** to auction. Maybe you're a knitter and could make a fancy scarf and mitts for a lady or children. Maybe you're an excellent woodworker who makes shelves or book racks etc. or maybe you have something that was given to you for Christmas or a birthday but it just isn't your style or colour i.e. necklace or handbag etc.. We have had everything from a bottle of wine and a pair of wine glasses in a basket, large garden bush, Avon product package. This is a very successful fundraiser for us and hopefully you can contribute.

Help Needed - Do you have a particular skill that you would like to share with us? Please call or e-mail Carol Howarth and let us know. People have many skills from hobbies or their past careers. Some thoughts are Public Relations, History (our 100th anniversary is coming up and we need to put together a good history of the auxiliary), flower arranging, photography and so on. Are you good at event planning? Please share with us.

2010 – 2011 SMGH AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	-	Carol Howarth	519-849-5619
VICE PRESIDENT	-	Helen Sharina	519-245-4935
SECRETARY	-	Helen Sharina	519-245-4935
TREASURER	-	Marion Lockwood	519-264-1748
MEMBERSHIP CONVENOR	-	Elma Dolansky	519-245-7543
PUBLIC RELATIONS	-	Becky Tannahill	519-205-0094
HELLP TICKET CONVENOR	-	Joan Emmons	519-245-7803
HELLP TICKET TREASURER	-	Marja VanPinxteren	519-245-0135
GIFT SHOP MANAGER	-	Joyce Bolton	519-245-3790
GIFT SHOP ASST. MANAGER	-	Gayle Ferris	519-245-0373
GIFT SHOP TREASURER	-	Estelle Cameron	519-245-5327
GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEERS	-	Carol Howarth	519-849-5619
JAVA HUT MANAGER	-	Carol Howarth	519-849-5619
JAVA HUT ASST. MANAGER	-	Jennifer Langford	519-247-3856
JAVA HUT TREASURER	-	Lyn Charlton	519-205-0094
JAVA HUT SCHEDULER	-	Sarah Bongers	519-245-0131

(Michelle Minielly until further notice 519-666-0761)

2010 EVENTS CALENDAR

- September 13th Executive Meeting 7:00 pm
- September 14th Tiuta Sales – 9 am – 3 pm in the lobby. The auxiliary gets a share of the profits.
- September 27th Membership meeting 7:30 pm – Guest Speaker will be announced at the meeting.
- October 5th Bra Clinic – Located in the hospital auditorium from 10:30 am – 7:30 pm. By appointment only. Please call 519-245-5295 ext. 5943
- October 8th Bake Sale & Penny Auction 9 am – 11 am in the auditorium
- October 12th Auxiliary Executive Meeting 7 pm
- October 25th Membership meeting 7:30 pm – Guest Speaker will be Yvonne McRae from Diabetes Education. Bring your questions.
- November 5th Gift Shop's Annual Christmas Open House 9 am – 5 pm in the auditorium. Don't forget there is **NO TAX**. Bring your family and friends to see all the great ideas for Christmas decorating around the house for your table, mantel or tree, as well as the new handbags, jewelry, scarves and sweaters which will make great Christmas gifts.
- November 6th Day 2 of the Christmas Sale 10 am - 2 pm
- November 8th Executive Meeting 7 pm
- November 22nd Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm. We will be presenting our first donation to the Foundation/Hospital at this time. Please bring a favorite dish.