



Volunteer's Voice

September 2009

Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary is a fellowship of volunteers dedicated to supporting each other, the hospital, its patients and the community.

President's Message

by Dolores Garcia Wright

The event of the year was a huge success! The food was outstanding, the show of clothes fantastic, good cheer was everywhere. We all had great fun. Thanks Jan, Darla, and Sharon. You are now known as the POWERHOUSE THREE. Thanks to the members who participated. Our guests were impressed. We are the talk of the Sacramento Valley Area Council. They went home happy.

Again, thanks for all of the hard work. You are awesome.



Editor's Note: Jan McPherson forwarded this email ...

Dear Dolores and Jan –

Words cannot express our gratitude for all you, and your amazing volunteers, did to make our SVAC event such a resounding success!!! From the moment we all arrived, your group was so gracious and welcoming. The lovely gift purses, decorations, delicious meals, and shopping in your thrift store were all wonderful, and we were all excited at what would happen next!!!! The fun games and prizes were an extra treat! We greatly appreciate the huge effort that was put into this event, and you are a shining example of what can happen when people work as a cohesive group!

Everyone is truly amazed at the profit you make out of your store! The Mammoth community is so fortunate to have you! The quality of the merchandise, the store layout, the workroom/kitchen area, all of it was so impressive!!! You are to be commended for running such a successful business.

I wished that I had more time to speak to all your volunteers, and please convey to them our heartfelt gratitude. We look forward to seeing them at future SVAC events, where we will continue to build friendships and support one another, as we serve our hospitals.

We so enjoyed Lori's presentation- she has done amazing things with her son! The tour of the new ER wing of your hospital was very interesting, and many commented on the excellent layout.

In closing, let me say that you live in a beautiful area- we felt privileged to be there! To all of you, thank you so much for all you did to make this one of the best SVAC meetings ever!!!!

Fondly,
Debbie Lund,
SVAC President

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PLEASE ADD THESE NAMES & CHANGES TO YOUR ROSTER:

Renewing Member:

Inman, Darla (S) (David)
300 Lazy Creek Pl.
Ingram, TX 78025
Phone: (830) 367-4450
Cell: (760) 914-1767

New Member:

Longhini, Marilyn (S) (John) 2/9
PO Box 8846
170166 Convict Drive
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Cell: (661) 713-2483
2nd Res.: 26702 Madigan Drive
Canyon Country, CA 91351

Change of Address:

Austin, LaVerne
12700 Red Maple Cir. Sp. 42
Sonoma, Ca 95370-5267

Bennett, Rosemary
PO Box 848
201 Mammoth Knolls Drive
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Committee Reports

Cast Off Update

by Karen Curry

A Volunteer Thank You Party was held at my home on Thursday, August 27th, and 28 Cast Off volunteers were in attendance. We all had a relaxing time enjoying hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and lively conversation. Many won gifts plus gift certificates for the Cast Off as well as gift certificates to local restaurants, which included: Burger's, Giovanni's, The Breakfast Club, Angel's, Roberto's and Fireside Burgers & Tap.

Clean Up Day was Friday, September 4th, and we cleaned the whole store to get ready for the visit of SVAC next week. Those in attendance were: Lenore Lemon, Rosemary Bennett, Bonnie Zwart, Marilyn Longhini, Shannon Clark, Jodi Sage, Jan McPherson and Darla Howley. The store looks great and thank-you volunteers for all your help.

We will hold a Training Session for Cashiers Friday, September 11th, at 10:00 am. We invite all Day & Co Chairmen, current cashiers and anyone who would like to learn to cashier to come. Learn how to "open" and "close" as well as cashier! ***Editor's Note: Due to the timing of this newsletter, this date has passed. Please contact Karen if you need more information.***

Inspirational Quote: Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another.

Erma Bombæk

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesday, October 14th, 9:30 am - Board Meeting AT the Cast Off

Wednesday, October 14th, 12:00 noon - Installation Luncheon at Perry's Pizza

Highlights – Sep. 2nd Meeting

by Irene Molloy

The highlights of the meeting included a report by Joe Button, COO of Mammoth Hospital, election of officers for '09-10, plans for the SVAC meeting on Sept. 8th and 9th and an exchange of ideas for future meetings.

Joe Button reported on the progress of the management team strategic planning sessions. Mammoth Hospital has a 70% market share of the primary service area, which is much higher than most rural California hospitals. Strengths include geographical isolation, little competition and community support. His second topic was discounting hospital bills. Because of the regulation imposed by Medicare and Medicaid, discount policies have to apply to everyone, the policy now in effect is a 10% discount of a bill paid within 40 days of receiving the bill.

In Gisela Sellinger's absence (Gisela had been ill but is now recovering), Jan McPherson presented the list of nominees for the board for the next year: President-Ellie Randol, 1st VP-Edith Irvine, 2nd VP-Joan Fletcher, Recording secretary-Scherlee Ruddick, Corresponding Secretary-Irene Molloy and Treasurer-Penny Bourne. A motion was made and passed to accept the slate of nominees.

The plans for the visit of SVAC have been finalized. The welcoming dinner will be at 5 PM at the Cast Off - Mammoth auxiliary members need to arrive at 3 PM so clothing for the fashion show can be priced. Shopping will be before and after dinner. The meeting on September 9th will be at 9:30. Members who are helping with the breakfast need to arrive at 8:30. Members who are not working will pay \$25 for lunch being catered by Anything Goes.

As the tour of the geothermal plant was cancelled because of an "emergency incident", members were asked for ideas about future general meetings. Several made suggestions of how to shorten the business meetings and combining Potluck Cast Off meetings with the general meeting.

Katie's Korner

by Ellie Randol

Another Record Month – the most yet – \$1,947.75

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Annual Membership Drive Begins this Month			1 JULIE HINZE JENNIFER MONTIN New Fiscal Year Begins	2 ANN-LOUISE MIMS Oktoberfest	3 Oktoberfest
4	5 SHARON CROSBY	6 KARILYN MYERS	7 RENEE MORROW	8 SUSY FONTANA	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14 DENNIS BROWN 8:30 Board Mtg 10:00 Annual Mtg 12:00 Inst Lunch	15	16	17
18	19 RUTH KOENIG	20	21 SHIRLEY CURL SHARON THOMAS-GOOD	22 BECKY ARCHER SMHD Mtg	23 JEAN SPEARMAN	24
25	26	27 HAZEL WITTWER	28 NANCY BURKE	29	30 JUDITH SMITH 10:00 Cast Off Work Day	31 CATHY SHEEHAN Halloween
		OCTOBER IS:	Breast Cancer Awareness Month	Domestic Violence Awareness		

OCTOBER 2009

SVAC Report

And A Good Time Was Had By All! Jan & Darla

The Cast Off was filled with Sacramento Valley Area Council members and our own members Tuesday, September 8, and Wednesday, September 9, as we hosted the SVAC General Membership Meeting.

Tuesday was a very busy day as we got the store ready to welcome our guests. So many of you volunteered so much time and effort to make the welcome dinner and fashion show a success. There were 50 people in attendance that evening! The store was open before and after dinner for shopping by both our guests and members. We all wore and modeled new and like-new items carefully selected from recent donations and the foyer was full of racks and trunks of additional special items. The gorgeous gift baskets assembled by Sharon Crosby from donated items were displayed throughout the store and many of them were snapped up immediately. Everyone enjoyed a dinner of BBQ ribs, fried chicken, salads and desserts.

Wednesday was another busy day with all of you arriving early to get ready for the meeting, bringing clean tablecloths, muffins, coffeecakes, fruit, quiche, etc. There were 41 in attendance for the meeting, which included a presentation by our own Lori Ciccarelli and a fabulous lunch catered by Anything Goes. Lots of prizes of gift baskets and gift certificates were awarded for all who participated in the various guessing games and quizzes. The meeting concluded with a drawing for the Opportunity Gifts brought by each auxiliary or guild, a bit more Cast Off shopping, and a short tour of the new wing of the hospital.

An enormous thank you to all of you who participated. Thanks to Mary Jo, Shannon, Karen C., Peggy, Jodi, Gisela, Jeanne, Hazel, and Bonnie for the delicious food. Thanks to Jodi for selling cookbooks and making samples of some of the recipes for everyone to taste. Thanks to Sharon for making the gorgeous gift baskets and Lori for being our guest speaker. Thanks to Judy S. for signing everyone in and taking so many pictures. Thanks to Edith for the beautiful flower arrangements and to Louray, Jeanne and Carolyn for selling raffle tickets. And thanks to Mary Jo, Rosemary, Judy B., Judy S., Penny, Carolyn, Shannon, Carole, Karen C., Karen H., Willi, Marianne, Louray, Irene, Ellie, Peggy, Jodi, Diane, Mary Ann, Gisela, Jeanne, Suzanne, Hazel, Dolores, Bonnie, Sharon C., Sharon G., Shirley C., and Shirley S. for arriving early to clean and set up and staying late to clean up. Heaven forbid we've forgotten anyone! We couldn't have done it without you.

Our guests had a wonderful time and so did we. They said it was the best meeting they've attended and that our auxiliary definitely is the friendliest and the most fun. What a compliment to all of us!

Hospitality

by Bonnie Zwart, Hospitality Chairman

General Meetings Hostesses Serving Refreshments were:

Jodi Sage, Delores Wright, Lisa Shugart, Bonnie Zwart, Penny Bourne, Rosemary Bennett, Lauren Plum, Barbara Smith, Jan McPherson, Lou Bush, Jeanne Standley, Pat Smoogen, Shirley Curl, Scherlee Ruddick, Louray McGrale, Joan Fletcher, Willi Hassle, Ellie Randol, and Peggy Rogers.

Thank you ladies for volunteering to provide the refreshments. It was most appreciated.

Committee Reports



PLEASE READ THIS REPORT CAREFULLY AS THERE ARE SOME CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP FOR OUR NEW FISCAL YEAR.

Membership

By Ellie Randol

Our new fiscal year begins October 1, 2009 so it's that time of year to renew your membership. Included in this newsletter is a new PINK APPLICATION form for 2009/2010. The application needs to be filled out each year even though your information has not changed. If your address, phone number or email has changed, please make a note at the top of the application: "See change of address or whatever".

BRING YOUR COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK OR MONEY TO THE INSTALLATION LUNCH ON OCTOBER 14TH OR DROP IT OFF AT THE CAST OFF IN ELLIE'S BOX OR MAIL IT TO PO BOX 1399, Mammoth Lakes, CA – Attn: Membership.

The hours requirements have not changed:

General Membership – 96 hours required

Sponsor Membership – 36 hours required

Patron & Lifetime – No hours required

Supportive Member – No hours required

National Honor Society Member – 48 hours required

Honorary Member – No hours required

THE DUES REQUIREMENTS FOR SOME CATEGORIES HAVE CHANGED:

1. General Member - \$12.00 (explanation below)

2. Sponsor Member - \$25.00 (still the same)

3. Patron Member - \$100.00 (still the same)

4. Lifetime Member - \$1,000.00 (still the same, we have 2)

5. The Supportive Membership is now in two categories:

A. Supportive w/Newsletter - \$10.00 instead of \$8.00 because postal rates have increased. (These are former members who have moved away.)

B. Supportive Member – \$8.00 - a member who is the spouse or relative of a member – their dues remain the same because their spouse gets the newsletter.

The reason we have increased the General Membership dues is twofold: When a new member joins anytime after April, we pro-rate both hours and dues. Since there are 12 months in a year, it equates to \$1.00 a month and we also raised the dues because of the postal rates.

Most of you have put in the required hours for your category, but a few of you, for one reason or another, have not been able to do so. Then you will need to sign up for the next membership level.

There is now a new added question on the application: "PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE". I just thought it would be interesting to know what all of you talented volunteers did before retiring or do presently if you are still working.

FINALLY, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY the back side of the application "WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY OF MAMMOTH HOSPITAL AUXILIARY". This is now required by the IRS if we are to maintain our non-profit status.

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HOURS OF VOLUNTEERING.

Committee Reports

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN REPORT *by Ellie Randol*

Unfortunately, the tour to the Geothermal Plant had to be cancelled due to an emergency at the plant. So what to do? The Board had been discussing what to do about several members saying we have too many meetings. So, I decided that the members present would be the program of the day. We opened it up for discussion.

Prior to that, I read the following to give us some food for thought:

Too Many Meetings!?

That's what many of our members are saying. That was also the answer when several of you were approached to become an officer. Too many meetings? How many are too many? One a month? Two? Three? Four? We have only ONE – the second Wednesday of each month. The meeting is usually over in two hours, and that's including a half hour of social time! Officers have a bit more of a commitment because they meet for about two hours prior to the General Meeting. You may say what about the quarterly Cast Off potluck? That's really more of a social gathering since we conduct very little business and the rest of the time is socializing and eating.

For an organization as large and as profitable as the Auxiliary, is that "too many" meetings? If you think so, tell our President what you think would be a better schedule and why. The monthly meeting keeps us up to date on the Auxiliary, the Cast Off, the hospital, and is often the only time many of us see each other. Would you like a shorter meeting? We're trying to shorten it and have appointed a Sergeant-at-Arms to help keep us on the agenda and cut down on interruptions and side conversations. Would you like a program every other month, or quarterly, or no program at all? Would you like fewer officer and committee reports? Would you like the Cast Off potlucks incorporated into the General Meeting once a quarter? What would you like? This is your Auxiliary so what would you like to see?

Some of our members belong to the Auxiliary only because they want to work at the Cast Off or Hospital, and that's OK. But we must have officers to keep the Cast Off open. Without officers, we will lose our non-profit status. The Cast Off has become a big business and provides a major service to our community. To keep it open and profitable it is necessary to meet at least once a month to handle the affairs of the large business we have become.

So, are a few hours one day out of the month "too many" meetings? Not if we want the Cast Off to continue its existence. And, that means we need members to step into officer positions. Besides, it's fun. You need only try it for a year. If it's not for you, that's OK. At least you gave it a shot.

We all want the Cast Off to stay open but unless we can fill our officer positions we are in danger of closing our doors. This is your Auxiliary so please speak up and suggest how we can solve this dilemma.

Everyone was given a chance to give us ideas of what they would like to have at our meetings. The first comment was to have our annual Christmas meeting strictly a potluck party and white elephant gift exchange with no business meeting. So, we'll do that unless there is something that comes up that needs to be voted on at that time. It was agreed that we need to continue our November meeting as our yearly orientation to volunteer at the

(Continued on Page 7)

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN REPORT (Cont.)

hospital. Penny Bourne, our treasurer, said she could post the treasurer's report for anyone who wants to read it. She didn't think it was necessary to read it at the meeting. If anyone had a question about the report, they could ask her about it. The group agreed that many officers' reports could be posted or put in the Volunteer's Voice, which would streamline the meetings.

They asked that we officers be more concise in our reporting and bring only detailed reports when it was necessary for the General Membership to vote on such as Capital Outlay and any Bylaws changes. The Board had already decided to have only one Capital Outlay meeting in January when the hospital CEO will bring us a "wish list" for the year and we would decide what we would want them to purchase with our budgeted amount which is usually \$100,000 a year – sometimes more – sometimes less, depending on our Cast Off income.

They all felt that interesting programs were essential. It was also suggested that instead of having four Cast Off potluck meetings, we could have some of those potluck meetings and Cast Off meetings and that would be the program for the general meeting that day. It was also suggested that we have items to raffle off – like dinner gift certificates or ??? and you must be there to win. Our aim is to get more of you to attend our meetings.

Everyone wanted to continue our April parade of hats and Jan's high tea. We plan to reschedule the tour of the Geothermal plant in the spring. I felt very good about the overall feeling that the members there felt that this discussion brought a positive response that we do need monthly meetings because we are A BIG BUSINESS. So, if you have some ideas to suggest to improve our meetings, put a note in my box and as your incoming president I'll do my best to carry out the wishes of our treasured volunteers.

It is, after all, your Auxiliary. Hope to hear from you.



The world is hugged by the faithful arms
of volunteers.

Editor's Note:

Many Thanks to Jan McPherson for stepping in and publishing a great August 2009 newsletter while I was out of the country!

Jo Bacon

Annual Meeting & Installation Luncheon - *Jan and Darla*

Have you marked your calendar for Wednesday, October 14? That's the date for our Annual Meeting and Installation Luncheon. The meeting will begin at 10 AM at the Cast Off. Dolores will present the President's year-end report as well as a few legal items we're required to cover each year. It would be nice if all members who plan to attend the luncheon would come to the meeting first as we see many of you only once a year.

Darla Howley has found another very nice location for our luncheon. It will begin at 12 noon at Perry's Italian Café in the Luxury Outlet Mall on Main Street. The new officers for 2009/2010 will be installed and awards for hours will be presented. There is a signup sheet at the Cast Off for the luncheon. If you haven't yet signed up, please do so by October 7. You can also call Darla at 934-7201, or Jan at 934-5813. If you must cancel, call Darla or Jan no later than October 7 or you will be charged \$25. The luncheon is open to all members and their guests, however there is a \$25 charge for guests.

Please remember to wear or bring you hours pin. Members who have volunteered 300 or more hours this last year will be recognized. New this year, those who have reached a cumulative total of 300 hours will receive their pins.

Hope to see all of you October 14th.

PS: Your luncheon entrée choices are: Baked Meat Lasagna, Baked Spinach Lasagna, or your choice of Pasta and Sauce. Yum!!!

**Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary
P.O. Box 1399
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546**