



CHATHAM TWIG #15 ANNOUNCES \$4,000 DONATION

By Sarah H. White



Chatham Twig #15 of the Overlook Hospital Auxiliary is pleased to announce a contribution of \$4,000 to meet various requests from the Overlook Hospital Wish List. TWIG #15 will make donations to Tea Time in Oncology, Oncology Massage Therapy, Oncology Diversional Therapy Kits, Nursing Scholarships and the Neuroscience Entertainment Center.

Chatham Twig #15 has 57 members all of whom are residents of the Highlands neighborhood located in Chatham Township. A long-standing Twig in the community, Twig #15 raises funds for Overlook Hospital through neighborhood gatherings and events such as the Annual Summer Block Party, Christmas Luminaria, and the Spring Party. This year's summer block party featured a D.J., BBQ, children's games and crafts, and a guest appearance from our local fireman complete with a fire engine truck! A very big hit with the children! In the beginning of December, we finished our annual Luminaria for which our membership sold over 251 kits representing over 4,000 individual bags that were folded and assembled with sand and candles. Our neighborhood was beautifully illuminated for Christmas Eve.

Chatham Twig #15 is a wonderful organization that has fostered community and closeness within the Highlands neighborhood. We look forward to continuing to serve and raise money for Overlook Hospital.

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From the President's Desk...

The Auxiliary ended 2005 on a high note – we paid off the remaining balance on our pledge to the Emergency Dept. renovation, a total of \$200,000! Included in that number is \$30,000 raised by the fabulous Kitchen and House Tour, as well as \$14,000 from the Car Raffle. Thanks and kudos to all who contributed to the success of both of those events.

The Auxiliary is a large organization, made up of disparate groups (Twigs) and a general membership made up of a variety of individuals. It is, by its very nature, somewhat fragmented. It might help to better understand the Auxiliary by learning more about the role of President. Some of you may know that the President of the Auxiliary sits on the Hospital Advisory Board and can, if she chooses, also be a member of the Foundation Board. I have embraced both of those roles, and while I won't attend my first Foundation Board meeting until March, I have now had the honor to participate in two Advisory Board meetings. It's an honor because I have heard first hand from the medical staff responsible for providing cutting edge care, the positive results from patient satisfaction surveys and plans to celebrate the Centennial, just to name a few. I leave the meetings energized about the Hospital and its direction for the future, as well as enthusiastic about the Auxiliary's capacity to enhance the patient experience. The Auxiliary is always on the agenda, so the Board is aware of what we are doing and fully supports our efforts. They too are enthusiastic about our role and what we bring to the table.

It is important that we think about the Auxiliary as a cohesive group with a common purpose – to provide value-added services to the Hospital, both its patients and its staff. As you know, we do this through fundraising and through service projects. The nature of some of those projects has changed recently, to move forward in concert with the Hospital, and while change is unsettling, it is what keeps our organization vital. Each and every Auxiliary member, general or Twig, is critical to our success. We are always looking for new members, but that in no way diminishes the value of the longer-term Auxilians. Indeed, we all benefit from the history and experience of the more established Twigs.

And speaking of members, we have some open Board and Standing Committee positions. Vice President, Membership Events is a Board position with a two-year term. This person is responsible, with a committee, for planning and executing all membership/fundraising events, including but not limited to our Annual Luncheon. Nominating Chair also works with a committee to present a slate of candidates for the Standing Committee offices, as needed. The Chair position is a two-year term. And as I mentioned at a recent Board meeting, we are interested in creating a Board position for a Project Coordinator to serve as liaison with the Hospital for both service projects and fund raising opportunities. Our preference is to fill these roles internally, but if that's not possible, we welcome all candidates! If you are interested in one of them, or know anyone who is, please send contact information to Madonna Lee in the Business Office.

I encourage Auxiliary members to attend Board meetings or to stop by the Auxiliary Offices on the 8th floor. Let us know what you are doing and whether the Board or other members can help in any way. There's a lot going on at the Hospital and so many areas in which the Auxiliary can play a critical role.

As always, thank you for your time and dedication to both the Hospital and the Auxiliary. What we accomplish and contribute both as a group and individually is without measure.

Rachel M. Weinberger

Scholarship Awards

The Overlook Hospital Auxiliary has awarded \$5000 in scholarships for the 2005-2006 school years to five deserving students at Union County College! The commitment of our Twigs to fostering and encouraging quality health care professional has made this possible. Congratulations are in order to our membership for providing a valuable community service.

Our recipients are a diverse group, ranging in age from a 55year old mother who commutes from Jersey City to fulfill her lifelong dream of becoming a nurse to three mothers of young children who attend classes part time, often balancing this with full or part-time work. One is a former au pair now living with her sponsoring family and attending school on a student visa.

Nigeria, Poland, Eastern Germany and the Philippines are the birth countries of four of our dedicated students. All of our recipients were very eager to share their history with us and asked that we forward to the membership their great thanks for our generous support. For them, this financial lift has made all the difference.

The formal awards ceremony will be held at Union County College in April, 2006.

The Gift Shop Renovation

Loyal customers, be assured that the Gift Shop will remain open throughout the Lobby renovation project, with a full selection of gifts and flowers. While there is limited customer access to the Flower Shop, temporarily located on the 6th Floor, it remains open, ready to fill your orders for Valentine's arrangements, custom designs and patient deliveries. The Gift Shop can be reached at (908) 522-2133; the Flower Shop's number is (908) 522-2117. Thank you for your support!

Bobeck Family Art is Back at Overlook Hospital

Andrew and Mary Bobeck of Chatham, along with their daughter Andrea Robbins of Pittsfield, NH, return for the seventh time to display their artwork in the main floor corridors of Overlook Hospital. Their exhibit, which opened on December 11 and continues through February 3, 2006, features a large collection of watercolors, pastels, acrylics, oils, pencil drawings and photographs. They also maintain a year round display in the oncology wing, located on the main floor.

This exhibit was viewed by visitors and patients who frequent Overlook Hospital over the holiday period and helps to brighten that occasion. Sales are handled by the Gift Shop, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to the Hospital to help fund Continued Cancer Care. For further information contact KyleAnn Ledebuhr at 732-302-1223 ext 20 or Andrew Bobeck at 973-635-7811

Shown below: A still-life photograph entitled "Easy Over" by Andrew Bobeck, which won Best-In-Show at the recent Community Art Show of the Chathams.



New Photo ID's

All hospital volunteers and Auxiliary board members need a new photo ID card. If you haven't already completed the paperwork, you may go to the website (www.ohaux.org) to print out the form, complete the information and contact Susan Manfredo at 908-522-2847 to schedule your picture. We will be in touch when the new cards are ready.

"SPRING IS IN THE AIR" GREAT GATHERING

By Heidi Evenson

On Saturday, March 25, the members of the Overlook Hospital Auxiliary Twig #10 will be hosting the second annual "Spring is in the Air" Great Gathering, an elegant progressive dinner party to benefit Overlook Hospital. As it was in its inaugural year in 2005, the evening promises to be a wonderful event for a good cause. Eight of Summit's loveliest Oak Ridge area homes will be dressed up for the occasion. Great Gathering guests will enjoy one of two champagne cocktail parties and one of five elegant buffet dinner parties. The evening will culminate in a single "Finale" dessert party for all of the Great Gathering's guests. In a departure from last year, guests will not be asked to bring a dish - this Great Gathering Committee and a talented local caterer will be handling all of the details. We hope you can join us! Tickets are \$175/couple. Contact Heidi Evenson at hevenson@comcast.net or (908) 522-9108 to add new names to the invitation list.



Summit Twig 1 News

By Earl R. Pierson

Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness month is April, 2006. Every year in April the Gift of Life Committee goes into action tying green ribbons to living trees in our communities and continuing to urge people to sign Donor Cards. Green ribbons will surround trees at Overlook Hospital as well as the 14 towns being served by the Hospital. As has been done in the past, the Gift of Life Committee will solicit the Empire State Building to display green lights on at least one night during April and upon appearing on NBC's Today Show with Al Roker.

Busy Bees Make Holidays Special!

A sweet holiday tradition at Overlook was observed once again in the maternity ward-infants presented to their parents swaddled in Christmas stockings hand sewn by the "Busy Bees" volunteer group.

Every year around September, about six volunteers, who call themselves "Busy Bees," start working on the stockings which are made from red and white flannel. This year, they made about 50 stockings. These women from the Millburn area, meet every few weeks at the Hospital, which provides the materials and sewing machines. The group members include Mary D'Onofrio Eleanor McGlaughlin, Mary Pagoda, Blanche Harrison, Louise Gilli and Mabel Keating.

(Members of the "Thursday Bees" completing their quota of 50 "Santa stocking" baby buntings are: (l. to r.) **Mary Donofrio, Eleanor McGlaughlin, Mabel Keating and Mary Pedoto.** Missing from picture are members **Blanche Harrison and Louise Gili.**





Save the Date!

*Twig # 10 Great Gatherings
Progressive Dinner
March 25th*

Co-Chairs Heidi Evenson, Kathryn Colao

Chatham Twig #16 News

The diversional therapy cart is no more - it is now Diversional Therapy! Each area of the hospital has a Concierge Station which is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. CH Twig #16 will continue to create the kits and distribute them to each concierge.



The Overlook Hospital Auxiliary wishes to acknowledge and sincerely thank the following Twigs for their generous financial contributions to the Hospital in the 2005 calendar year.

The Auxiliary values your fundraising efforts, which enabled us to complete our pledge to the Foundation for the Emergency Department renovation. Whether you are involved in a fundraising activity or a hands-on project to benefit the Hospital, we hope that all Twig members enjoyed their service to Overlook Hospital this past year.

Art at Overlook	\$1839.00
Chatham #3	600.00
New Providence #2	6698.00
#7	925.00
Short Hills #4	500.00
#14	1995.00
#22	7300.00
#24	750.00
#27	1000.00
Summit #10	6000.00
#11	930.00
#18	49.65

The Auxiliary also thanks the Auxilians who sent tax-deductible contributions with their dues in 2005. We greatly appreciate the financial support of all of our members.

Julie Planck, General Treasurer



BOARD BRIEFS

By Lee Radsch

The Guest speaker at the January Auxiliary Board meeting was Joyce Passen, Director of Overlook Hospital's Community Health Department. She spoke to the Board members about the many activities, both planned and on-going, that are sponsored by Community Health. Among the many activities she discussed were:

- GO RED – This is an educational program which explains the different symptoms between men and women with regard to heart disease. This program will receive a major achievement award this spring from the Association of Critical Care Nurses for its outstanding nature. If your Twig or any other group would like to invite them to a meeting, they are available at no charge through Community Health.
- HEALTHY AVENUES – This van travels to schools, libraries, and other gathering areas to conduct health screenings and education. The Hospital is currently researching the possibility of purchasing a second van with an actual exam room!
- CELEBRATING WOMEN III- This event will be held on June 3rd at the hospital. It will be an all day event with eight break-out sessions specifically geared towards younger and middle-aged women and their health issues. The day includes lunch, and an exciting and well-known keynote speaker. This event is free but registration is required, so watch for further details.

If you have any questions about any of these events, wish to schedule a "Go Red" meeting for your group, or have any other Community Health inquiries, please contact them at x-2963.

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Twig Profile: Summit Twig 18 – Still Going Strong

By Ann Prunier



Summit Twig 18 has been around the block so to speak..they've been a contributing Twig now for approximately 30 years. There are 12 members in Twig 18 including several members who have served on the Auxiliary Board including Past President Christel Dynes. They recently held a December planning meeting.

The group has volunteered many hours in the Hospital and donated money to the Hospital every year. The main function of the Twig group now has shifted to fundraising for the Hospital. Summit Twig 18 is proud of its long standing contributions to Overlook and so is the Hospital Auxiliary!

Gift Shop Updates - By Liza Tulloch



Love is in the Air in the Gift Shop!

Light up the face of your loved one this Valentine's Day with a stunning flower arrangement, beautiful jewelry and a thoughtful card from the Gift Shop. Place your floral order in advance by calling the Flower Shop at (908) 522 - 2117 , or choose from a variety of fresh arrangements made daily by the talented volunteers in the Flower Shop. Whatever your heart desires, you'll find a lovely selection for your sweetie this Valentine's Day at the Gift Shop!

Thanks to Gift Shop Volunteers for Countless Hours and \$75,000 in 2005!

Did you know that there are 48 dedicated volunteers that staff the Gift Shop, the Flower Shop, and the Gift Cart on a weekly basis? As Auxiliary Chairman of the Gift Shop, I would like to take this opportunity to thank these wonderful ladies for so generously giving their time, and for creating such a friendly and pleasant environment for visitors and staff. With the talented leadership of Carolyn Penwell and Mary Damiano, the dedicated efforts of treasurers Joyce Farrell and Liz Gincley, and the tireless commitment from the floral designers and shop staff, the Gift Shop has donated \$75,000 for 2005. With such a supportive and enthusiastic staff, I look forward to another successful year in 2006!

Focus of the Gift Shop's Talented Buyers

We all know that the Overlook Gift Shop is filled with unique merchandise, but have you ever wondered **who** finds such a special selection of gift ideas? It is a team of talented volunteer buyers! These ladies dedicate countless hours each week to finding the new and distinctive merchandise that our customers have come to expect from the Gift Shop. Whether traveling to local gift shows, visiting the permanent wholesale showrooms in New York, or researching new items through wholesale catalogs or trend publications, these buyers ensure that the items in the Shop meet the high standards of quality, style and value that our loyal patrons deserve. **Special thanks to ... Cheryl Bartlett and Cindy Curley** for the cuddliest plush and most entertaining toys ... **Flora Schlanger and Mary Ann Boden** for the adorable layette items... **Kathy Zerweck** for the heartfelt selection of cards for all occasions... **Betty Tolles** for the classic and stylish jewelry... and **Jayne Roth and Fran Harrison** for the unique containers for their stunning floral arrangements. Contributing \$75,000 to Overlook Hospital in 2005, the Gift Shop is a valued service within the hospital and a favored shopping destination of the entire Overlook community.

Stunning New Gift Shop is Planned for Lobby in 2006!

This year, the Overlook Lobby will be completely renovated, and with these renovations will come a stunning new Gift Shop! A talented team of retail space designers, involved Shop leaders, and dedicated volunteers have been working together throughout this planning process to ensure that the new Shop will reflect the warmth and spirit of service that the Auxiliary represents within the Overlook Community. To be located in the central lobby, the new Shop will continue to offer the same quality merchandise at fair prices and exceptional customer service that you have come to expect, just in a fabulous new environment!



Valentine's Day Dinner

By Terry Andrews

For your sweetheart, check out these recipes in the Great Gatherings cookbook for a full course romantic dinner sure to please!

Appetizers:

Wild Mushroom Brie Toasts
Winter Cheese Fondue

Entrée:

Lisa's Lamb Chops

Vegetables:

Savory Bread Pudding
Spinach Gratin

Salad:

Sauteed Pear Salad

Dessert:

Zabaglione with Fresh Berries



Join The team!

Would you like to brighten the day of patients, visitors, and Overlook staff, while fundraising for patient services? The Gift Shop is looking for a few friendly faces to staff the Shop. If you enjoy retail, and have a few hours to commit, a warm smile, and a desire to serve the Overlook community, call Shop Manager Carolyn Penwell at 522-2122 to learn more.

Do you want to use your marketing skills in a rewarding volunteer position that benefits the entire Overlook community? The Gift Shop is looking for a spirited individual to promote the Gift Shop throughout Overlook, the Auxiliary, and the surrounding communities. If you are interested, please call Liza Tulloch at the Gift Shop for more information on the Marketing Manager position.

Calendar of Events

Wed Feb 08	Organ and Tissue Donor Table	Organ and Tissue Donor table in the Overlook Hospital lobby with Mickey Wynne and Mae Lynch. 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Organ and Tissue Donor table for Women's Heart
Sat Feb 11	Organ and Tissue Donor table for Women's Heart	Health Day at Overlook Hospital. Working at the table are: Setup - 9am - Diantha and Earl Pearson; 9-11am, Simone Shelby, Maryann Menk 11-1pm, June Wessel, Sally Solan
Mon Feb 13	Meeting of Auxiliary Board	9:30 AM-11:30 AM Conference Room #2
Thu Feb 23	Gift of Life Committee Meeting	1:00 PM-3:00 PM Overlook Hospital Conference Room #4
Mon Mar 13	Meeting of Auxiliary Board	9:30 AM-11:30 AM Conference Room #2
Mon Mar 13	Cardiac Bypass Operation	11:30 AM-2:30 PM Gift of Life Committee to view cardiac bypass operation at Morristown Memorial Hospital. Please meet in the Hospital Lobby at 11:15am

Volunteer Opportunities

Spring Luncheon Chairs Needed!



We are in need of Co-Chairs for the Spring Luncheon. This is a very important fundraiser for the Auxiliary.

Board Positions Available

The Auxiliary is also looking for volunteers to fill the following board positions.

- Vice President, Events
- Nominating Committee Chair
- Project Coordinator

If you are interested in any of these open positions, please contact the business office at 908-522-2004.



Deadlines for Submissions to the Pulse

March-April 2006 Issue: March 31

May-June 2006 Issue: May 31

**REMEMBER TO VISIT THE OVERLOOK
HOSPITAL AUXILIARY WEBSITE AT
WWW.OHAUX.ORG**

Contact Carol Aronson at craronson@comcast.net to submit articles or upcoming events to the website.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PULSE

Contact Laura Brown via email at lbrownsummit@hotmail.com or call at 908-608-1208. You may also contact Susan Hubbard at 908-273-8109 or email at erhubbard@aol.com regarding any and all news publications and pictures for submittal to the Pulse and other news publications. The Pulse is produced every two months, from September through the last issue in the May-June publication period. Pictures may also be emailed or sent to Madonna Lee, Business Manager, phone 908-522-2004, email at Madonna.Lee@ahsys.org or just drop off at the business office.

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