

Spring/Summer 2023

Newsletter

Office Hours: M-F 9 a.m. - Noon Telephone: 905-945-2253 Ext. 11391 Website: wlmauxiliary.ca



Hi Everybody, its me again, back for another term as your Auxiliary President, I am honoured and pleased to be back in the role.

I'm currently looking for a Vice President to work alongside me and complete the Executive. If anyone is interested in the position, please get in touch with me.

Big changes in the hospital's backyard since my last term and I'm so happy the Auxiliary has hung in there, providing excellent services to the hospital under the tremendous guidance of Gail Bartlett. She will be continuing in her role as Past President by focusing her energy on the new build and looking after the interests of the Auxiliary in that regard.

A new face I've had the pleasure of meeting is Catherine Duffin, our new Community Program Director, replacing Kelly Gardner. A lovely lady indeed and

Gail and I will meet with her officially soonest, to give her a run down on the Auxiliary's history, accomplishments and our role in the future providing services to the hospital. It will also be an opportunity for us to discuss with her our complete return to all areas of the hospital particularly OB, ER, day surgery, clinics and the Wards.

Our coffee and gift shops are slowly ramping up with foot traffic increasing slowly. We're not at pre-COVID levels yet, but we're getting there. You may have noticed students in the coffee shop in the afternoons. Credit to Christine for looking after these young folks and providing them with training to allow them to achieve their volunteer hour commitments pre-graduation.

Roz is still in contact with Arrow Games, the supplier of break open tickets and the Town of Grimsby for licensing issues, so hopefully we can have a table set up again in the main lobby, as soon as we can get permission from Catherine.

Despite COVID and the lack of foot traffic, events etc. over the last two years, the Auxiliary has managed to maintain its financial standing thanks to Alicia our Treasurer and I am pleased to announce that at our last committee meeting, we pledged to provide approximately \$60,000 for much needed hospital equipment.

We have a Strawberry Tea and Fashion Show coming up in June, a Soiree des Vin in September, a Craft Show in October then into the Christmas Season with the usual round of events.

Hopefully you can see from the above, that we are somewhat back to normal, so its onward and upwards into the future.

If you have any questions, issues, comments, ideas please feel free to contact me.

A last word from Gail.....

Hello Everyone,

Spring is finally here and it's a good time to express gratitude to all those who have contributed over the last two years.

I am thankful to the many who have worked diligently with the Redevelopment Committee on the plans for our new hospital.

So grateful for the team of folks that prepared for our return to onsite volunteering last June and to all the Volunteers and Student Volunteers who returned to support WLMH.

Our Fundraising Committee also deserves kudos for hitting the ground running last Fall successfully executing seven events between October and April.

Sincerest thanks for everyone for their hard work.

This is an exciting time. We have a new hospital coming, planning is almost complete and it is going to be beautiful.

With Fred at the helm you have an experienced President that knows the hospital and the players and is well versed in our history, traditions and processes. I know he will do a fine job.

Congratulation to all who have made WLMA a success over the last 79 years !

Best regards, Gail



"2022 Bursary Winner" Keira McMaster is the recipient of the Auxiliary's student volunteer bursary. Keira is a grade 12 student at Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School. Her volunteer history is impressive and started at the early age of 9 years old. In grade 8, Keira began volunteering with the Auxiliary. In addition to working in

the coffee shop over her high school career, Keira could be counted on to support the various Auxiliary events. She also lent her leadership skills to train other students in the coffee shop. Keira is pursuing the Pharmacy Assistant program at Fanshawe College (London, Ontario). We thank her for her contributions and wish her every success in her studies and future.

"Congratulations"

Kathy Smart was nominated for a WLMH 2022 Quality Award in the category of Customer/patient Experience Excellence. Kathy played a big role in setting up the new POS system in the Coffee Shop last year, and also stepped up to help out with the Coffee Shop coordination when Frieda was off on leave.





Volunteer Coordinator Report

At the AGM this year, we recognized 12 volunteers who individually exceeded anywhere from 500 to 11,000 hours of volunteer service. Awards are given annually to volunteers who attain an initial level of 500 hours and then at 1,000 hour increments after that.

Also at the AGM, we recognized 4 volunteers as Life Members based upon years of service, service on the Executive or Committee and continued commitment and service to the Auxiliary. Even though the Auxiliary moved several years ago from recognizing years of service to hours of service, there are volunteers who have committed to continued service for decades that deserve mention. This year we recognized 8 individuals with 25 plus years, 5 are still active today and 3 were actively volunteering in early 2020 but have since become inactive. Had we been able to hold an in-person AGM in 2020, we would have recognized those 3 at the time.

You will find a complete list of all the 2023 Service Hours recipients, Life Member recipients and Long Service Appreciation recipients in this issue.

Lastly, please know how very much the participation and dedication of each and every Auxiliary member is appreciated. Every single contribution made by every single volunteer makes a difference and contributes to our Auxiliary's overall success.

Wendy Hollinshead, Volunteer Coordinator

"CARE CART"

The "Care Cart" is a new initiative at West Lincoln based upon a successful pilot project at other Hamilton Health Science (HHS) sites last year. The purpose of the "Care Cart" is to help boost staff morale, well-being, and offer staff a moment to look after their own wellness needs by providing a quick break, nourishing snack, and a small gesture of appreciation for their hard work.

In early 2023, HHS Volunteer Resources asked the WLMA to help rollout the new initiative for clinical and non-clinical staff at the hospital. Under the able-bodied stewardship of volunteer, Melanie Pachereva, the Care Cart makes it rounds once a month to all areas of our hospital, top to bottom floors.

When available, HHS staff member, Mindy Chmielewski from Diagnostic Imaging, accompanies Melanie on the rounds. Items on the cart are purchased by HHS and shipped monthly to WLMH, for the Auxiliary to coordinate delivery of the program with the help of volunteer time.

Three months in, the feedback has been positive and staff have been incredibly appreciative for the cart.

Here's a photo of Melanie on the first round on March 6, 2023.







Shop in our Gift Shop



For that next celebration:

New Baby

Birthday

Wedding

Graduation

Father's day











St Patricks Dinner

Held at Mountainview Christian Reformed Church on March 17th, catered by THE BEST, chef Brad and his crew served up another excellent meal.













Another successful Easter Bake Sale held in the hospital lobby on April 6th



Upcoming Events ***

Poinsettia Sale and Breakfast with Santa still to be determined ***



Annual General Meeting held on April 13th at Mountainview Christian Reformed Church.

Meal provided and served by the staff of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital, catered by our favourite chef, Brad Rempel and his team.



2022 Award Recipients



Christine Vaughan





Photo not Available

Carrie Tseng 1000 Hours



Jillian Harshaw





Fred Lilley





Barb McDermid



Kathy Smart





Alicia Kubrynski





Marlene Morais











Mary Giesbrecht

4000 Hours

Cathy Buchinski

5000 Hours

Lois Hanson

7000 Hours



Anne Marie Haywood 11000 Hours



Life Member Awards 2023



Dianne Hogg



Brian Johnson



Marlene Morais



Barb Wright

Long Service Appreciation







Cathy Buchinski, Mary Giesbrecht, Judy Jordan, Brenda Jorritsma, Barb Phelps, Shirley Riding Missing from picture: Lois Davis and Diane Boustead

"A New Face"

I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past few weeks as I've been settling into my new role at WLMH.



I was born and trained as a nurse in England, and emigrated to Canada 16 years ago. I am an experienced healthcare leader and have held many positions from frontline nurse, to nurse educator, manager and now director. Most recently, I was the clinical director of the Women's Health and Newborn Care Program, Nursing Resource Team, Corporate Operational Command Center and Patient Flow (Acute) at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton. I am a Masters prepared Registered Nurse with a commitment to care delivery, education and research.

I am strongly focused upon the collaborative partnerships and implementation of systems to support a work environment that drives positive patient experience and staff engagement and wellness. I also live in this community and am excited to be a part of this organization and drive excellence in the care we provide for our community members.

Catherine Duffin RN, BScN, MN Director of Community Programs & Site Administrator, WLMH



Welcome



to our new volunteers

Peter Westerterp

Karri Spiece

Annita Champion

Janice McEdward Sharon Stone



Pondolences

Go out to:



The Family of Susan Moule (April 2023) The Family of Norma Allan (April 2023) The Family of Leona Rolls (February 2023) The Family of Louise Belanger (February 2023) Barb Phelps on the loss of her Husband (May 2023)