



Volunteer Services' Quarterly Meeting and Get-together, January 2011

Jeri Flinn, *Volunteer Services Coordinator*, started off the Quarterly Meeting by expressing sincere appreciation for the volunteers, who braved the cold, murky rainy weather to attend the first of the year's meetings. At this important meeting discussions were held about the up-coming new programs for *Volunteer Services* this year. One new program introduced was the Pantry's **Casserole/Soup Project**. This project is underway thanks to a generous volunteer, who bought us a new freezer to store our casseroles and soups.

Volunteer **Kathleen McEwen** has agreed to be Chairman of this project. If you would like to donate or have questions give Kathleen or Jeri a call. Frozen soup or casseroles should be brought to the reception area or nurses station at Hospice Ministries. Food tag sheets are available in the second drawer across from the nurses station and should be filled out before the soups or casseroles are placed in the freezer. Any other soft foods or canned goods are also welcomed for our Pantry. It is a wonderful service for our patients. Thank you all for donating to the pantry or stocking the freezer. Food tags are also available on the website for printing if you want to fill them out ahead of delivery.



Our new freezer



Volunteer **Linda Chase** is seen in the photo to the left tagging her homemade soup and cornbread for the freezer.

Linda Chase



Translators: Mayra Pardo, Han wen Zhang (Ariel) and Jie Li, (Jessie)

At the meeting, Jeri introduced two new exchange students from China who have volunteered to be translators for a home patient. Volunteer **Mayra Pardo** (left) Spanish translator for Hospice, is seen here with exchange students **Han wen Zhang (Ariel)** and **Jie Li, (Jessie)**. We really appreciate their dedication to helping us with language barriers with our patients.

Other new programs are in development for Volunteer Services as well as revamping some of our old programs. If you have ideas please give Jeri a call, and *please come to the next Quarterly Meeting on April 10th* to discuss your ideas.

We would like to thank **Anita Jeminson, Sonya Lee, Aaron Akers, Mary Clare Hogan** and **Susie Cook** for decorating, serving and setting up the meeting.



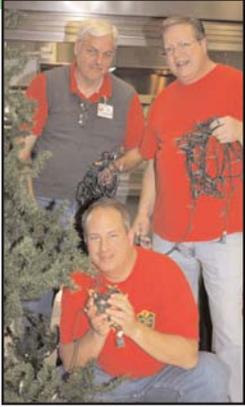
Fantastic Group - Ridgeland's Winter Class 2011

Volunteer Services gained an inspiring new group of volunteers at our training class in January. Pictured from left to right are: **Brenda Lee, Lee Grillo, Kendal Parker, Carolyn Parker, Lynn King**, Volunteer Services' Assistant **Susie Cook, Cathleen Garland, Barbara Sentell,**

Michael Graham, Holly Burris, and Sonya Lee.

We are extremely excited about our new volunteers and welcome them whole heartedly. Our next training Class will be held in mid June. Check the website for more information.

Merry Christmas from Volunteer Services Winter 2010



Volunteers gathered on the first Saturday in December to play Santa's helpers by decorating all of our Christmas trees in the Ridgeland facility. Volunteers reworked the lights on the trees while others placed garland, ribbons and ornaments on them.

Bob Perry, Paul Kennedy with Aaron Akers rewired the lights for the trees.

Sonya Lee, Martha Jones, Mayra Prado and Anita Jeminson helped decorate the Christmas tree in the Dining Room.



Ellie Heitmann, Vangie Hughes, Martha Jones, Julie Cokayne, Terri Spurk and Lem Smith created the lovely tree located in the Day room.



Santa's decorating elves were:

Aaron Akers, Sonya Lee, Paul

Kennedy, Mayra Prado, Lem Smith, Jennifer Barnes, Bob Perry, Terri Spurk, Martha Jones, Vangie Hughes, Ellie Heitmann, Martha Jones, Julie Cokayne and Anita Jeminson.



Cookie Connection 2010



A large group of volunteers turned out for our Christmas Cookie Connection: **Bob Perry, Vangie Hughes, Kim Carver, Linda Chase, Ellie Heitmann, Ann Kelly, Sandra Jackson, B.B. Watson, Jennifer Barnes, Sri Vavilal, Juanita Powe, Carol Richardson, Anita Jemison, George Hill, Anita Fairchild, Kathy Hilton, Susie Cook, Martha Jones, Pat Perry, Sharon Coleman, Larry Weston (Santa), Aaron Akers, Ella Weston (Mrs. Claus), Gayle Sims, Erica Sims and Ian Watson** in front.



Ian Watson

While **Santa & Mrs. Claus** along with a host of elves, were busy stuffing cookies in boxes, elf **Ian Watson** puzzled over which cookies he needed to sample.



The assembly line flowed quickly as volunteers went down the line filling the boxes full of cookies. After the boxes were



filled, we gathered them together and went a caroling, while Santa and Mrs. Claus delivered our colorful Christmas boxed treats.



Thank You to all of the wonderful cookie bakers who turned in the *largest selection of Christmas cookies* we have ever had. They were all so delicious and tempting. We would like to send a special thanks to Volunteer Cookie Connection Chairmen **Linda Chase** and **Colleen Holloway, our Christmas Angels**, who once again made this event fantastic.

A very Special *Thank You* goes to **Juanita Powe** for baking over 50 dozen holiday cookies for our Christmas boxes. Dedication like this is just outstanding! Thank You all!



Linda Chase and Juanita Powe

Christmas Decoration Take Down

The New Year's weekend brought out the angels. Volunteers dropped by to dismantle and organize our Christmas decorations. Lead by Volunteer Chairman Aaron Akers, this group of dedicated angels removed and tagged all of our decorations for the next year's holiday season.



Volunteers: Sonya Lee, Lana Geissinger, Paul Kenndey, Buera Lee Huff, Aaron Acker, and Bob Perry.

Heartstrings Gala

2011



Gala Host,
Randy & Paula James

The HeartStrings Gala 2011 was a great success. Even though it was literally the coldest night of the new year, the home of **Paula and Randy James** was warm and inviting. Guests were greeted with champagne and lovely music by our volunteer harpist, **Kristi Flake**.



Harpist, Kristi Flake

The evening's cold weather could not stop the warmth of the Gala as guests gathered in the lovely rooms of the James' home, chatting as they moved back and forth from the silent auction to review their bids. Guests included:



Mary & Patrick Kelly with Sally Fletcher and Kristi Bettendorf.



Jana Smith, Helen Morrison, Robbie Carmichael, Rosemary Clark and Kathleen Terry

Once again **Robbie Carmichael** and her crew of kitchen volunteers provided the best food around.



Dr. Dan & Kathy Woodliff with Jay & Mary Ann Fontaine



Dr. & Mrs. Palmer Wilkes with Sandi & Archie Norton.

The garage was where the party really heated up with lots of great silent auction items to bid on. **Ginny Williams** and **Karey Evans**, co-chairs of the silent auction, worked extremely hard pulling together our fabulous silent auction items. With lots of great trips, adorable items and beautiful art work there was something for everyone.



Volunteers, **Bryant Trotter, Ann Christopher Peacock, Leila and Paul Lanning** received and returned the many heavy coats of the evening.



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Bryant Trotter, Ann Christopher Peacock, with Leila & Paul Lanning



Volunteer **Lexanne Guffin** and McClean Coordinator **Jennifer Goodwin**, can testify that the reception desk was brisk during the evening as guests ran in out of the cold winter winds.



Martin & Whitney Quick with Ellen Walker in the middle.



Michael & Natalie Arneemann with Mary Ann & Larry LeFoldt



Glenn & Jean Bush with Martha & Mike Summerford.



Dr. Julia Sherwood and Sock Guffin



Randy & Kathy Eure



Chesley James, Tim & Ingrid Taylor, Lynn Pearson, Judy & Gary Pickering and John Pearson



Marsha Revere, Alice Jean & Lee Hawkins with Judy & Dan Grafton



Tammy & Chris Savell



Ashley Stafford, John & Sally Fletcher with Kristi Bettendorf



Kandi Sims, Betsy Ritter and Sally North



Darden North, Cathy Russell with Betty Ann & Randy Voyles.



Lynn & John Pearson with Dianne Hazard



Leigh Ann Patterson, Sonny Holliday, Dana Traxler, Lindsey Luke, Tina Holliday



Frank & Aurbey Farmer with Rivers & Sean Walker



Jamie & Katy Houston



Matt & Lindsey James with Kristen & Lee Nations



Gary & Judy Pickering with Pam Partridge and Alon Bee



Leland & Amanda Maize with Hannah Griffin and Matt Jordan



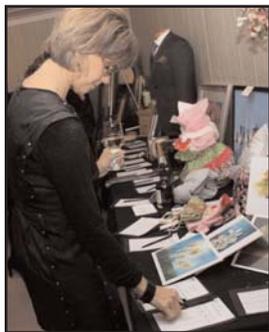
Charles & Pat Decker



Ingrid Taylor & Betsy Ritter



Mack & Susan Deaver



As the evening moved along the bidding war became a little more competitive as each bidder quietly over bid the bid above. The crowd became tighter, as more and more kept coming back to place a bid on their favorite items. By the end of the bidding time the excitement was electric. Everyone was determined to win their favorite item, even if it meant standing guard to out-bid those who came along. But good sportsmanship was the name of the game as the bidding war ended.



Volunteer **Rob Goodwin** joined in the excitement by helping the ladies with the finalization of the bids, and helped the guests sign out with their items.

Once again this year this event could not be accomplished without the countless hours of volunteer work and support. Volunteers addressed envelopes, obtained silent auction items, prepared food, set-up the silent auction along with working the night of the event. A big thank you to all who helped make the Heartstrings Gala 2011 such a success. Thank You!

Volunteer Calendar of Events for Spring 2011

March , 2011

Saturday, March 5

Final TB Test 1:00p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Conference room behind dining room,
Registration required. Call Jeri

Gardeners' Day

9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Christ United Methodist Blitz Saturday

South Courtyard

Come join our Saturday garden day to work in the Hospice gardens with Lead Gardeners.

601- 898-1053 ext. 258



Tuesday, March 8th

8:00 a.m.

Fat Tuesday at Hospice Ministries

Cafe-au-lait & Beignets in Dining Room

Saturday, March 12

St. Patrick Day Bags

10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Dining Room

Bring cookies, shamrocks, & gold wrapped candy

601- 898-1053: 258



Saturday March 19

Troubadours Sing

11:00 a.m. Chapel

We will be visiting patients.

Call 898-1053, ext. 258



Sunday, March 27th

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

5th Annual Gospel Fest & Food Drive

A Benefit for Hospice Ministries

Mt. Nebo Church, Jackson

Special choirs singing heavenly songs, making the music bounce off the walls all of the afternoon.

It is an afternoon to be remembered. We hope you can join us for this heart lifting event.

Call Kim Moore or Trina Wilson for more information.

601- 573-6337 or 601- 622-5102

April, 2011Continued

Sunday, April 10th

4:00p.m. - 6:p.m.

Volunteer Awards Program

Quarterly Meeting & Inservice

Refreshments, entertainment and good cheer.

Did you win an award this year?

***RSVP**

601-898-1053, 258



Saturday, April 16th

10:00 a.m. - 11:00

Easter baskets

Will be filled and delivered to patients

Plastic eggs full of candy

Dining Room



Tuesday, April 19th

11th Annual Golf Tournament

Annandale Golf Club

For more information about the tournament or questions about becoming a sponsor call:

601-898-1053, ext. 207

or email jreynolds@hospiceministries.org



May, 2011

Saturday, May 7th

Gardeners' Day 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

(May change check website.)

South Courtyard

Come join our Saturday garden day to work in the Hospice gardens with Lead Gardeners.

601- 898-1053 ext. 258

Saturday May 14th

Troubadours Sing

11:00 a.m. Chapel

We will be visiting patients.

Call 898-1053, ext. 258

Saturday, May 28th

Memorial Day 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Dining Room

Goodie Bags of cookies, and candy for our inpatients.



April, 2011

Saturday, April 2nd

Gardeners' Day 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

South Courtyard

Come join our Saturday garden day to work in the Hospice gardens with Lead Gardeners.

601- 898-1053 ext. 258

AKA comes a'caroling

Volunteer Winter Happenings



For 2010 the ladies of the **Gamma Omicron** chapter of **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.** set aside the first Saturday of each month for "A Day of Service." In December, these ladies chose to do their service at Hospice Ministries. With cheer and excitement, the **Gamma Omicron** chapter caroled through the halls to set the Christmas atmosphere in the building. As they sang, the girls passed out Christmas cards to the patients.



Gamma Omicron chapter: left to right) Ladaryl Watkins, Elizabeth Jones, Brettney Beverly, Benoncia Mann, Kimtrele Williams, Kandis Moore, Toni Moore (graduate advisor), Adrienne Fleming, Dornesha Catching, Jasmine Thomas, Porsha Jones and Khirsten Echols. Girls bending down, Andrea Fleming, Keshia Hayes, Doriencia Washington and Ethel Johnson, Those seated in chairs, Tamera Hughes, Jamilah Perkins and Grejika Abram. Three kneeling in front, Margo McNair, Monique Lockridge and Ashlea Brandon.

Valentine's Day Cards



Volunteers **Mayra Prado, Carolyn Grant, Susie Cook, Martha Jones** and **Kathy Hilton** were busy the second Saturday of February creating adorable large Valentine's Day Cards for the doors of our inpatients' rooms for visitors & staff to sign. Volunteer **Delores Barlow** at the right, was busy stuffing chocolates into our **Valentine Day Baggies** for in-home nurses to give to our home patients on Valentine's Day.



Bereavement Volunteers



Mary Ann Miller

Ten Years of Volunteer Service

In January the Bereavement Department celebrated the ten year anniversary of **Mary Ann Miller's** volunteer service with Hospice Ministries.

Mary Ann's faithful service has made such a difference to our families. We appreciate her consistent presence, warm smile, and great attitude plus her willingness to teach others. Thank You Mary Ann! Helping her celebrate

are: (backrow) **Barbara Taylor, Ellie Heitmann, Joyce Burnett** and Bereavement Coordinator **Carla Wilson** with **Mary Lee Livesay & Mary Ann Miller** in the front.



New Bereavement Volunteers

The Bereavement Department has welcomed two new volunteers, **Buena Lee Huff** and **Kare Henley**. Buena Lee and Kare work with the Administration part of the department. Both are a huge asset to our Bereavement Department.

Beta Sigma Phi creates

Valentine's Day door hangers

The Jackson chapter of **Beta Sigma Phi** created lovely door hangers for each inpatient's room. They created these Valentine's Day door handles to go with the Valentine Cards placed on each door.



Troubadours give with a song.



Troubadours visited several patients the Saturday before Valentine's Day to lift hearts and give a little joy with song for Valentine's Day.

Troubadours are from left to right: **Wendy Reddick, B.B. Watson, Ellie Heitmann, Mayra Prado, Melissa Bolland, Libby Bufkin, Nash Nobel** and **Ellen Ford**. If you would like to join us just give Jeri call. We try to get together once a month for our patients. You don't need a great voice, just a great heart.

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

APRIL 16, 2011

Have you signed yours?



By participating in **National Healthcare Decisions Day**, you join with others to help spread the word about the value of advance care planning.

***Planning Ahead**

Planning ahead is about preparing for the future today. Communicating your end-of-life wishes to your loved ones, appointing a healthcare power of attorney, and addressing financial issues such as wills and paying for long-term care are just a few of the issues you can address today to plan ahead.

***What are Advance Directives?**

A living will allows you to document your wishes concerning medical treatments at the end of life.

Before your living will can guide medical decision-making two physicians must certify:

You are unable to make medical decisions,

You are in the medical condition specified in the state's living will law (such as "terminal illness" or "permanent unconsciousness")

Other requirements also may apply, depending upon the state. A medical power of attorney (or healthcare proxy) allows you to appoint a person you trust as your healthcare agent (or surrogate decision maker), who is authorized to make medical decisions on your behalf. Before a medical power of attorney goes into effect a person's physician must conclude that they are unable to make their own medical decisions. In addition: If a person regains the ability to make decisions, the agent cannot continue to act on the person's behalf. Many states have additional requirements that apply only to decisions about life-sustaining medical treatments. For example, before your agent can refuse a life-sustaining treatment on your behalf, a second physician may have to confirm your doctor's assessment that you are incapable of making treatment decisions.

Five Wishes

Five Wishes is changing the way America talks about and plans for care at the end of life. It meets the legal requirements in 42 states and is useful in all 50. It has become America's most popular living will because it is written in everyday language and helps start and structure important conversations about care in times of serious illness.



Five Wishes lets your family and doctors know:

- Who you want to make health care decisions for you when you can't make them.
- The kind of medical treatment you want or don't want.
- How comfortable you want to be.
- How you want people to treat you.
- What you want your loved ones to know.

Five Wishes was introduced in 1997 and originally distributed with support from a grant by The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**, the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. With assistance from the **United Health Foundation**, **Five Wishes** is now available in 26 languages and in Braille.

To order your copies of Five Wishes go to their website at <http://www.agingwithdignity.org/>

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Caring Connections is a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), is a national consumer and community engagement initiative to improve care at the end of life. And provides free resources and information to help people make decisions about end-of-life care and services before a crisis.

www.caringinfo.org

Together we can Make it

"We are all like one-winged angels. It's only when we help each other that we can fly."

Luciano deCrescenzo

Bob Butler lost his legs in 1965 in Vietnam during the war. He returned home a war hero. Twenty years later, he proved once again that heroism comes from the heart.

Butler was working one summer afternoon in his garage, when he heard a woman's screams coming from a nearby house. He rolled his wheelchair toward the screams, but was met with dense shrubbery. He pulled himself out of the chair and crawled through the dirt and bushes toward the screams.

When he arrived at the scene he saw a three year old child at the bottom of a pool while her Mother stood over her screaming. He knew the little girl, his neighbor, had been born without arms and had fallen into the pool. He dove in and grabbed the girl and brought her up. She was blue, but he immediately started CPR. The Mother called the fire department and stood crying.

As Butler continued with his CPR, he calmly said, *"Don't worry, I was her arms to get out and now I'm her lungs. Together we can make it."*

Seconds later the little girl coughed, regained consciousness and began to cry. As they hugged and rejoiced together, the mother asked how he knew it would be OK. *"When my legs were blown off in the war, I was all alone in the field. A little Vietnamese girl struggled and dragged me to her village. She whispered in broken English, 'It okay, You can live. I be you legs. Together we can make it.'"*

"This was my chance," he told the Mother, *"to return the favor."*

Together we can Make It.

Dan Clark,

Chicken Soup for the Golden Soul.

Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Paul J. Meyer, Barbara Russell Chesser and Amy Seeger



450 Towne Center Boulevard
Ridgeland, MS 39157

*Life is a gift
given to share with others
but for a brief moment.
Through sharing this gift,
we learn about the process of dying.
We learn what is most important in life.
Our conversations take on new meaning.
Our body, mind and soul
bond in companionship.
And the process of living and dying
touches us and those around us, forever.*

***At Hospice Ministries we believe that every human being has the right to a quality end-of-life experience.
For each person, no matter the time left, Life MattersSM***