

Volunteer Matters

HOSPICE MINISTRIES, INC. A publication for the Volunteers of Hospice Ministries, Inc.

Winter 2007



The Holidays at Ridgeland's Hospice Ministries brought many smiles.



The end of fall ushered in a busy Holiday season. From Halloween to Christmas, staff and volunteers alike worked to make the holidays more memorable.

Inpatient's nursing staff, Beverly Coleman RN, Laura Wells RN, Fredricka Baker, Unit Clerk, and RN, Shelia Carter, celebrate Halloween bringing a smile to the patients' faces

At the right, volunteers **Jeannette and Bob Prescott** helped with preparing the Halloween Goodie Bags. Contents of the Halloween bags were donated by **First Baptist Church of Madison** for our inpatients and their families.



Staff took a few moments for a quick **Thanksgiving potluck feast** in the home patient's nursing area. Foreground shows **Stephanie Griffith**, from accounting and **Venetta Simmons**, in-home office manager enjoying their feast.

Volunteers spent a Saturday in the inpatient unit decorating the trees and getting the hall ready for the Holiday season.

To the right: volunteer **Lisa Tate**, puts a ball high on the tree while **Iva Shelton** holds the ladder and **Lucie Phillip** (foreground) looks on.



Decoration volunteers included: (L to R): **Jeannette Prescott, Anna Ziemianski, Lucie Phillip, Iva Shelton, Lisa Tate, and Bob Prescott.**

The middle of the month brought the annual "**Cookie Exchange**" lead by dedicated volunteers **Linda Chase & Colleen Holloway**. Pictured left to right are; **Karen Delatte, Kathy Hilton, Aaron Akers, Darlene Buckley, Linda Chase, Jeannette Prescott, Colleen Holloway and Iva Shelton.**



On the left; the Hospice Ministries' staff enjoys the annual Christmas potluck dinner in the dining area.

Chaplains & Social Workers "Enneagram" Workshop in Ridgeland



On October 20, 2006, **Reverend Charles Floyd**, a licensed marriage and family counselor and therapist with the **Samaritan Counseling Center** conducted a workshop for Hospice Ministries' Chaplains and Social Workers in use of the **Enneagram**. The Enneagram is a tool one can use in becoming more aware of ones personality type, strengths and weaknesses. Such self growth helps one become more proficient in ministering to others as they become more aware of who they are. It proved to be a revealing opportunity to say the least. We are grateful to Reverend Floyd for his time spent with us.



Lead Chaplain ,
Duewayne Tullos and
Rev. Charles Floyd
pose for a picture.



Angels in Action during the Holiday season



We would like to thank you for all of the wonderful gifts donated to our patients during the holiday season. I can not express how much these acts of kindness mean to the patients, but I do know they bring warm feelings to our hearts.



St. Joseph High School singers dropped by during their "Day of Service" and spent several hours preparing a mailing, then sang to our

patients and their families.

Urseline Hawkins and Zheng Zhu, Club Med Interest Group at UMC stopped by

to give out Christmas cards to our patients.



Turkeys made from pine cones from the children at **Christ United Methodist Church** brighten the Thanksgiving dinner for our inpatient unit.



Long time volunteer, **Jane Cutrer** shows off her latest donations of afghans for the inpatient unit.



Ridgcrest Baptist Church stopped by one evening to sing to our patients.

Their voices filled the halls with cheer.



Donated Christmas tree from, **Susan Roubion**, of Brandon, daughter of a patient of Hospice, decorated our halls throughout the holiday season.

Ladies of the Philoptochos Society of the Holy Trinity St. John's Greek Orthodox Church, delivered fleece lap blankets to Hospice Ministries for our home bound patients.



L to R: **Dianna Psaris, Maria Psaris, Janet Grillis, Georgia Buchanan, and Sharon Mavridoglou.**

Gifts of the Season

Gifts of the Season, the first event of its kind at Hospice Ministries, took place on the evening of December 7th. Attendees were greeted by the festive sound of carolers from Wells' United Methodist Church, and stepped into the Chapel which was awash in the glow of hundreds of candles. A large tree decorated with white lights and covered with white ceramic doves was the focal point of the décor. The doves, candles, and lights represented different levels of gifts to Hospice Ministries in memory or honor of loved ones. Each dove also featured the name of the individual on the back of the ornament. The dove ornaments were mailed in January to the designated recipients.



A **Gifts of the Season Book**, prominently displayed at the entrance of the Chapel, listed all the names of those honored or memorialized, as well as the name of the donors. Designed by Kathy Mowdy the book was covered in fabric, and featured a green satin bow and ceramic dove on the cover. All entries were written in calligraphy by Mowdy.



The Chapel, hallways, and day room featured beautiful holiday décor provided by A Daisy a Day. Ornaments were donated by Jerry Crystal in loving memory of Charlotte Crystal.

Two ceremonies were conducted that evening. The first featured an inspirational message by Reverend Ross Olivier, Pastor of Galloway United Methodist Church, and the second by Dr. Dolphus Weary, Executive Director of Mission Mississippi. Both programs featured two solos by Lelon Thompson, Minister of Music at Wells United Methodist Church, and a musical interlude by pianist Jamie Ward. The names of all those honored or memorialized were read aloud by Dave Lorenzo. A reception followed each event in the day room.



L to R: Dr. Dolphus Weary, Jamie Ward, & Lelon Thompson

Swing Into Spring on May 15th

Prepare to swing into spring with the **7th annual Hospice Ministries/Cingular Golf Tournament on Tuesday, May 15th at Annandale Golf Club.**



Players will have the opportunity to experience the new Champions Bermuda greens and top prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Hole in one, longest drive, closest to the pin, as well as 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team prizes will be a part of the tournament. Various levels of sponsorship are available. For more information on sponsorship, to reserve a spot, or volunteer for this fun event, contact **Lisa Ratzlaff at 601-594-4422, or Hospice Ministries at 601-898-1053, ext. 207.**

New Building for the McClean Center

Don Fortenberry, president of the *Hospice Ministries Board of Directors*, recently presented **Isabel Cordua**, director of the McClean Center and **Mary Ann Lefoldt**, advisory board president the key to a new facility donated by **Baptist Health Systems**. The building is approximately 4,400 square feet and is located at 12 Northtowne Drive. Plans are underway for transforming the building into the new McClean Fletcher Center location. Look for updates on renovation and information on ways that volunteers will be able to help in upcoming newsletters.



The **6th Annual Heartstrings Gala** will be held 7- 10 p.m. on **February 15, 2007** at the home of **Maggie and Seymour Pooley**. The Gala includes a cocktail buffet with champagne and desserts, door prizes, a raffle featuring fine jewelry items donated by **Nils & Angela's Gallery Jewelers**, and a silent auction chaired by **Ginny Williams** an Advisory Board member. The annual event brought in over \$82,000 last year and we hope to top that this year. Proceeds will go towards renovation of the new building. Please call **982-4405** for ticket information.

Ridgeland Volunteer Training Classes



Chaplain Richard Brogan discusses spirituality with the trainees.

A small training class on November 11, brought in new volunteers to join our ranks just before the holidays

Volunteer **Terri Spurk**, with "pet therapy volunteer" **Dallas**, dropped by the November training class to discuss pet therapy and how it can help our patients.



Training Class January 27 & 28th 2007



Sixteen new trainees participated in the winter training class at the

Ridgeland center. In the photo above the class is listening to a speaker addressing the group.

Home Nurse, **Rosa Cockerill**, talked with the class about the duties of a home nurse and how volunteers can help with patients and their families.



Eight active volunteers came by to talk about their experiences as volunteers with Hospice.

L to R: Volunteers; **Jeannette Prescott**, **Lisa Tate**, **Dixie Myrick**, **Billie Carroll**, **Cathy Black**, **Ella Weston**, **Jim Chastain**, and **Helen Anthony**



Ella Weston, long time volunteer, describes how to work with the juice cart for the inpatient facility.



We were lucky to have nurse, **Beverly Coleman**, drop by to discuss with the class the inpatient facility and how the volunteers could help with the patients and daily duties.

Bereavement Coordinator, **Jean Nesbit**, stopped by on Sunday afternoon to discuss the Bereavement department in Hospice and how the volunteers can assist this department.



Next training class will be in April 2007 for the Ridgeland area.



New Volunteers for the Natchez office

October 27th ushered in a new group of dedicated volunteers for the Natchez office, increasing our ability to offer more services in the Natchez area.



New volunteers from left to right : **Sherry Crabtree, Devon Lewis, Kathy Hammack, Shirley Hughey and LouVerda Langston.**

The January 19th, 2007 training class



offered more support with these new volunteers: (L to R); **Ed Rand, Alma Timmoms, Hattie Lee Fletcher, LeJean Rand, Emily Scott, (Social Worker), Tiffany Green, Barbara Hughes, Quinnessa Thomas.**



Volunteers, **Kathy Hammond** (left), and **Cleo Campbell** (right), gave the class an overview on what it is like to visit with a family.

“The class was exciting and the information was insightful”, commented one trainee.



Angels at work in Natchez



Volunteers L to R: Shirley Hughey, Sharon Smitherman, Sherrie Crabtree, Johanna Cochran, Dixie Lewis, and LouVerda Langston

Volunteers hosted an office Christmas luncheon for the staff of the Natchez office ...then after lunch prepared the Christmas boxes for patients & their families.

Preparing the gift boxes are from left to right: **Lou Verda Langston, Shirley Hughey, Devon Lewis, Katie Woods, Johanna Cochran and Sherry Crabtree.**



Joan Gandy, Natchez Democrat writer, **Devon Lewis** volunteer and **Rev. Brogan** of Faith in Action

Chaplain Richard Brogan, Coordinator of Faith In Action met with Staff writer of the *Natchez Democrat* to discuss Faith in Action. Volunteer **Devon Lewis'** Church sponsored a seminar for Faith in Action on January 14th, 2007.

Call the office if you would like to help with the Easter Egg Baskets for our patients. **601-446-8000.**



Southaven Hospice News



Cookies for the Soul

The Ladies from **Parkway Baptist Church** stepped up to sponsor *Cookies for the Soul* in Southaven in December.

Around 100 cookies were baked and delivered to the patients in the Southaven area. Thank you ladies, we couldn't have made it without you!

We would like to welcome volunteer **Jerry Price and Linda Jones** to our ranks in the Southaven office.

A new educational campaign about volunteering and hospice has been underway around the Southaven area. Thank You to *Starbucks, Desota Times* and the *Horn Lake Public Library* for their help.

Southaven Announcements

We will be accepting ideas for spring events for volunteers. If you have any suggestions please give Michael or Debbie a call **662-342-9744.**

Watch our website for upcoming volunteer training class this spring in the Southaven area.



Mid-Century Ladies Club of Forest

Hospice Ministries' Volunteer Coordinator, **Jeri Flinn** had the honor of speaking to the *Mid-Century Ladies Club of Forest*, on January 16th about hospice and the need for volunteers in the area. A special thank you goes to **Forest Mayor Nancy Chambers** for setting up the talk



Volunteer Coordinator, **Jeri Flinn** with Forest Mayor **Nancy Chambers**

Brookhaven Hospice News

Volunteers notes

Iris Waldrop



We would like to thank **Wanilla Baptist Church** for being so dedicated to their food pantry ministry. Their van is a welcome sight coming down our driveway.



Thank you **Mrs. Sue Smith** for providing not only many hospital gowns over the many months for our patients,



but also offering to share your talents with others.

Thank You volunteers **Joyce Hughes** and **Darlene Sicks** for working on our Bake sale last fall. It was a great success.



Brookhaven's Memorial Service

Iris Waldrop



Brookhaven's Memorial Service was held on November 28th. We had great attendance and everyone seemed to enjoy our time together. The angels were beautiful. Thanks to **Mrs. Rachel Bullock** and her many volunteer hours making them.



Volunteers, **Gretchen Parsons**, **Dott Cannon** and **Keith McDaniel** helped out with food and we really appreciate them very much!



Our families were very appreciative of the entire service. **Jackye Wiebelt** took care of getting programs printed and delivered; she never lets us down! Thanks, Jackye!

Brookhaven Up-coming Events

February 14th Valentines' Day

Please bring homemade brownies to the office on **2/12 & 2/13**. Please call and let us know how many you can bring and which day you can drop them by as soon as possible, so we can be sure to have plenty.



February 27th Volunteer Training:

8:00a.m. - 2:30p.m. at Hospice Ministries office in Brookhaven. Lunch is provided. Please call for more information **601-835-1020**.

March 5th:

Acceptance of items for Easter baskets to be given out on 4/2/07. Call to find out what items are needed for baskets.



March 13th

Quarterly meeting for volunteers at **Broma's** at 11:00 a.m. We will have lunch and discuss up coming events.

April 10th : TB Test

All volunteers need to come to the Brookhaven office for TB skin test, health screening, ID pictures.

Anonymous

temporary human experience.

We are not human beings going through a temporary experience. We are spiritual beings going through a

The next time someone needs you...just be there. -- Stay.

his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed."

I realized that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was
knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When
"I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also

him?"

"Then why didn't you say something when I took you to

before in my life?"

"No, he wasn't," the Marine replied. "I never saw him
The nurse was startled, "He was your father," she answered.

"Who was that man?" he asked.

ed to offer words of sympathy, but the Marine interrupted her.
what she had to do, he waited. Finally she returned. She start-
had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did

now lifeless hand he
marine released the
the old man died. The
Along towards dawn,



**HOSPICE
MINISTRIES, INC.**

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*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.*

opened.
repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes
"Your son is here," she said to the old man. She had to
A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside.
Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack,
he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside
the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine
wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp
ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement. The
nurse brought a chair so the Marine could sit beside the
bed. All through the night the young Marine sat there in
the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and
offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally, the
nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest
awhile. He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the
ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and the night noises
of the hospital - the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laugh-
ter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the
cries and moans of the other patients. Now and then she
heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said
nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

Night Watch

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 Matters**SM