

Highlights

200 S.E. Hospital Ave.
Stuart, FL 34994
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News for Martin Memorial Auxilians

November 2005

The President's Corner



Through the Rustling Leaves Came a Whisper...

Recently our family had the opportunity to attend my niece's wedding in Snowmass, Colorado and experienced the daily changing of leaves and the soft swaying of the Aspens. Standing on the deck of our condo early one morning gazing at the hot air balloons as they rose high into the cloudless sky, I could hear the faint whisper of Aspen leaves rustling around me. They brought such calm as I thought about the wonderful opportunities ahead for my niece and her soon-to-be husband and joining of our families. I reflected on her birth, her visits to our home as a young girl, her years growing up in Stuart and making some lifetime friendships, college years, graduation and moving to Denver to start her own life. Where had the time gone? She was so young and now so mature.

I watched as each hot air balloon rose higher and one by one, faded into the distance as they moved over the mountains on their journey to a new destination. Sitting there, amidst this beautiful setting, I could almost hear the leaves saying "this is the way it is supposed to be. Life is a



journey for each and every one of us and her journey is just beginning."

That trip put into perspective the journey each of us takes when we report for duty in our assigned service area(s). We know what the prescribed duties are and what our performance should be. As an Auxilian, we reflect the high standards of Martin Memorial Health Systems and the precepts upon which the Auxiliary was founded. Our journey may have taken us through many years and hours of service. We may have held an office, served as a service area chairman, or on the Auxiliary Board. Perhaps we were a committee member or spent extra hours on fundraising activities. Whatever we may have done, I would like to believe that we did it with enthusiasm, satisfaction and the belief that it is a part of our personal journey.

Listen carefully. I know you too will hear a whisper through the rustling leaves... "I've done a great service and my journey has just begun."

Happy Holiday season and many blessings to you and yours.

Barbara E. Bush, Ed.D.

Membership and Awards Report

October 1 through October 31, 2005

AWARDS

481 volunteers worked 8,592 hours

50 HOUR EMBLEM

Jean Fortune, *ED, Hospital South*
Don Mosiman, *Courtesy Cart, Medical Center*

300 HOUR AWARD

Harold Baxter, *Mail Service, Hospital South*
Cindi Johansen, *Gift Gallery, Hospital South*
Nellie Lewis, *Reception Desk, Hospital South*

500 HOUR AWARD

Patricia Haverland, *Pharmacy, Hospital South*
Carole Hoffman, *Admitting, Hospital South*
Richard Russell, *2nd Floor/OPD, Medical Center*

1,000 HOUR AWARD

Barbara Benton, *Waiting Room, Medical Center and VIM Clinic*

5,000 HOUR AWARD

Mil Lombaer, *Reception Desk, Medical Center*

13,000 HOUR AWARD

Judy Wright, *SLW Coordinator*

PASSINGS

Bob Betcher, son of Jo Betcher, *Crafts, Hospital South*

NEW MEMBERS

Ann Berry, 781-8052, *Pastoral Care, Medical Center*
Jack Caesar, 225-4745, *Reception Desk, Medical Center*
Berta Johnson, 545-3304, *Gift Gallery, Hospital South*
Marjory Perlmutter, 225-3467, *HIM and Volunteer Office, Medical Center*
Penny Trepcos, 288-4190, *Wings, Medical Center*
Louis Valcarengi, 283-2187, *Courtesy Cart, Hospital South*

Family Ties

Back in 1989 Ben and Dottie Coraggio decide to leave South Plainfield, New Jersey for the sunshine of Florida. They settled in the Meadows in Palm City in 1990. They have been married for 53 years and have two daughters.

Ben had worked as a Mechanical Engineer for 22 years at ITT and at Lockheed for another 12.

They joined the Auxiliary on October 6, 1999. "Togetherness" seems to be their theme as Ben is chairman of the PERS program and Dottie is his co-chair.

Ben volunteers for our Pastoral Care Service, and both he and Dottie answer calls at unusual times (could be 4 a.m.) for our new NODA Service (No One Dies Alone).

Ben also recently agreed to assume the vice president's office for the balance of this Auxiliary year. He has compiled 2,337 hours. While Dottie helps Ben with the installation of the PERS, she also works as assistant treasurer and has accumulated 1,476 hours. There is an old cliché that goes something like this: "If you want to get something done, give it to a busy person." It sure seems to be most appropriate when it comes to Ben and Dottie.

FROM LINDA'S DESK



For various and sundry reasons, November is one of my very favorite months. It starts getting a little cooler and we might even get to wear a sweatshirt in the evenings. There are some wonderful college football rivalries to follow. Holiday shopping thoughts start creeping in and, of course, we celebrate Thanksgiving—my favorite holiday.

Why is it my favorite holiday? Thanksgiving is a time when our family gathers together to carry on family traditions. Our combined families and friends usually total close to 25 people—young, old and in between. We work together to coordinate a wonderful meal—more than any we need. But everyone has a specialty and without those specialties it wouldn't be the same.

Mine happens to be a sweet potato casserole, a recipe passed on to me by my sister-in-law from Georgia some 25 years ago. I'm always called upon to make the casserole, and young men in the family have been known to hide the leftovers only to claim them later in the day. It's made of creamy mashed sweet potatoes and has a praline topping that's "to die for." More than the food, though, the gathering is so very special.

We take a moment for people to share their gratitude for life's blessings. It is done informally before our Thanksgiving prayer. The sharing time is an incredible synopsis of our year's blessings. Probably the most powerful comes from my little granddaughter, Ellie. She'll mention the storms, her new baby cousin due in February and all new babies everywhere, her friend's daddy who fell from a ladder and died after last year's hurricanes, her friends and teachers at school, her imaginary friends at home, and all of her family—individually by name! She'll be thankful for her dog, my cat and all the other family animals. She'll be thankful for the beautiful days and the rainy days. She prays for anyone not feeling well—herself

included. And the list goes on! But the beauty of her thankfulness is the simplicity and honesty of it all. I'm so very thankful that I've been blessed with such a precious family. Sometimes when you look at things through the eyes of a child, you realize the importance of life's blessings.

Through your generosity and caring spirit you are a blessing to Martin Memorial. We are thankful for your service, your dedication and your gifts. Enjoy the Holiday season and take time to be thankful for the little things in life.

Happy Volunteering,

Linda

Wannabes Welcome

At this time each year the nominating committee starts searching for possible candidates to fill the officers' spots that, according to our bylaws, must be vacated.

While there is work and responsibility associated with all of the jobs, there are also a few perks: you earn bonus hours commensurate with the position and, in some instances, you have an office with a computer. You have an impact on our ultimate direction by working closely with hospital personnel.

Wannabes should also let it be known that they are willing to become service chairmen, or perhaps help out in another area.

Is your interest piqued? Do not let modesty get in the way of putting your name "in the hat." Pick up your phone and call Jerry Kunter at (772) 288-3757.



MARTIN MEMORIAL

Hospital Auxiliary

www.mmhs.com

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Stuart, FL 34995

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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PERMIT #4709

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Highlights is published monthly by the Martin Memorial Marketing Communications Department in partnership with the Martin Memorial Auxiliary.
If you have article ideas for future publication, call Linda Arnold at ext. 3643.

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Upcoming Meetings and Programs

General Membership

All meetings are held at the Martin Memorial Auxiliary Conference Center.

Refreshments served at 1 p.m. Meeting and program begin at 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

January—No meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

North Chairman

Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

Monday, December 19, 2005

Monday, February 20, 2006

South Chairman

Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

Monday, January 16, 2006

Monday, March 20, 2006

Auxiliary Board Meetings

Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

Monday, December 5, 2005

Monday, January 23, 2006