2015 AUXILIARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES

January 12, 2015  9:30 am  Conference Room #3
March 9   9:30 am  Conference Room #3
May 11   9:30 am  Conference Room #3
June 8   9:30 am  Conference Room #3
September 14  9:30 am  Conference Room #3

*Mandatory Twig Representation Meeting  —  *November 9  9:30 am  Conference Room #3

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Elsa Russell, Co-President, Pulse Editor  elsh2141@aol.com  908-232-5329
Diane Swett, Co-President  djswett@comcast.net  908-273-8257
Christine Cartisser, Media Consultant  ccartisser@yahoo.com  908-598-9397
Madonna Lee, Coordinator, Pulse Layout  madonna.lee@atlantichealth.org  908-522-2004

Spring 2015 Pulse DEADLINE: March 9
Summer 2015 Pulse DEADLINE: June 8

For more information about the Auxiliary please visit us at www.oaux.org

Overlook Auxiliary
99 Beauvoir Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901

2014 AUXILIARY GOALS MET

$37,675.00

$15,000  Overlook Music Program
13,000  Orthopedic Bladder Scanner
3,332  Palliative Care Baskets
5,000  Nursing Scholarships
1,343  Oncology Teas

2014 TWIG GOALS MET

$42,629.00

CH #15  $1,418  Community Health
         1,418  Eating Disorders
         1,418  Liam’s Room
         1,418  Valerie Center

NP #2  463  HealthStart patient Thanksgiving Baskets
        450  HealthStart Pediatric Gifts

SH #17  393  Hospice Camp Clover

SH #27  4,000  Orthopedic Bladder Scanner
        1,000  Behavioral Health Geriatric Recliner

SU #2  2,000  Hospice Camp Clover
       300  Hospice/Homecare
       1,600  Volunteer Service Wheel Chairs (2)
       1,000  Ovarian Cancer
       458  Neuroscience Seizure Pads

SU #3  2,500  Eating Disorders
       2,500  Ovarian Cancer

SU #4  5,125  Hospice Camp Clover

SU #5  2,218  Hospice Camp Clover

SU #11  675  Auxiliary General Fund

SU #19  6,000  Hospice Camp Clover
        6,000  Eating Disorders (8-12 years old)

SU #21  275  Auxiliary General Fund
Happy New Year Everyone, we hope you had a great holiday. The coming year will be a busy and exciting one for your Auxiliary. We will begin celebrating our 100th year in 2015. The 100th Committee is busy planning special events through 2016 to honor past and present Auxiliary members and the Auxiliary itself concerning our accomplishments. The Kitchen Tour Committee is hard at work securing homes and would appreciate any thoughts you might have to add to those already in hand. Summit Twig 3 is busy planning special luncheons for our Annual meetings in 2015 and 2016. Please mark your calendars and save the dates for the following:

- 2015 Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting – Thursday, May 14th at Canoe Brook Country Club
- 100th Anniversary Cocktail Party – Thursday, September 10th at Canoe Brook Country Club
- Kitchen Tour to benefit Eating Disorders – Thursday, October 22nd

We continue to serve Tea in the Oncology areas and thank all the Twigs and Auxiliary Members that make it possible. The program has been so successful we are hoping to expand from two days a month to three. Our Art at Overlook program is about to exhibit a new showing of prints. If you are in the hospital it is well worth a trip down the Administrative Hallway to view the artists’ works. All sales will benefit Cancer Care. This busy year will depend greatly on the Auxiliary membership working together. We need to reach out to family and friends and ask them to join us here at Overlook. In the world of today Volunteers add that special touch to patients and patient care alike. The Auxiliary needs your support.

Volunteer positions are available immediately in our Emergency Department at the Summit and the Union campus. Please make a commitment to change the experience of Emergency Department patients through kindness and human contact. Personalized orientation and training will be provided. If you are a retired healthcare professional who is comfortable in a clinical setting, this experience may be perfect for you.

The Gift Shop is in need of help with register sales and travelling gift cart! The Information Desk seeks friendly volunteers to welcome guests and offer information/direction. Messenger Room Volunteers are needed daily to run errands throughout the medical center. Patient Relations Volunteers are needed to make friendly visits to patients.

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Volunteer Musicans
Your musical talent can bring healing to our patient visitors and staff! Pianists, vocalists, violinists, harpists and guitarists are all in great demand! Music in our atrium lobby enhances the welcoming environment! Please volunteer to perform at Overlook and enhance our healing environment!

If you are interested in learning more about any of our volunteer opportunities, please contact Sue Thomas, Manager of the Patient Experience and Volunteer Services. 908-522-2841 Sue.thomas@atlantichealth.org.
HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR A BRIEF FLU SEASON!

We trust that you had a beautiful holiday season with your family and friends and wish you every happiness and blessing for the year to come! Happy New Year!

With the arrival of the New Year comes the arrival of Flu Season in the hospital setting! Thank you for your willingness to receive the Flu vaccine. The vaccine will help to keep you, patients, staff and fellow volunteers healthy as the season peaks in this area.

It is more important than ever to consistently wipe down wheel chairs and carts…and wash your hands…or use hand sanitizer at every opportunity. You don’t want to bring the flu home to your family and friends.

At AHS, this is the Year of Community. We are so grateful for our wonderful community of volunteers who bring kindness and compassion to all of their volunteer roles at Overlook.

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WHAT’S TRENDS AT THE GIFT SHOP & BLOOM?

Our buyers braved the chilly January temperatures and spent a day at the New York Accessory Show! They returned excited with their purchases for The Gift Shop and were buzzing with anticipation at receiving merchandise from new vendors. The colors for spring are bright and fun – handbags and scarves in sorbet hues will chase the winter blues away. Market tote bags, wallets, and weekender bags….. Summer sundresses, super-soft tunics, beach cover-ups, scarves, shrugs, and wraps….jewelry (Bling is big this year!) and fabulous watches – excellent quality for a reasonable price in fun spring and summer colors. Our buyers claimed that the Accessory show was the best they had ever seen and are anxiously awaiting for the boxes to arrive.

In Bloom, spring brings lilacs and peonies, bursting with fragrance and beauty. Roses, snapdragons, stock, and gerbera daisies in bright yellows, oranges, and pinks are a perfect addition to any design. Fresh flowers are a perfect gift for a friend or colleague, but even better would be to treat yourself to a vibrant arrangement. Bring in a favorite container and have it filled with beautiful blooms or place an order by phone and have it brought out to your car at curbside – what could be easier? Having a party or event? Contact Bloom at 908-522-2117 and order unique centerpieces that will “WOW” your guests.

The Gift Shop & Bloom will have some exciting “news” to report in 2015. Stay tuned!! Check our Facebook page – we’ll post the news there first!

The Gift Shop & Bloom offers free delivery to many Atlantic Health System locations, as well as Summit Medical Group. Delivery available to Summit and neighboring towns for a nominal fee. Curbside pickup available for gifts and flowers. Remember, The Gift Shop & Bloom is YOUR Auxiliary gift shop, raising funds to support vital patient services. We thrive on and appreciate your support.

Please visit our website www.bloomatoverlook.com and “like” our Facebook page for the most up-to-date product information and happenings.

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FULFILL A RESOLUTION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you have the time, skills and interest to volunteer…we want to speak with you! Becoming a volunteer brings great satisfaction and a wonderful sense of fulfillment and appreciation.

We have many unique and specialized volunteer opportunities. We can match your skills and interest for a great and meaningful assignment. Overlook welcomes all new volunteers! Making a commitment to help others will surely change your life in the process! If you are interested in becoming an Overlook Medical Center volunteer, please call Gwen Dabney, Administrative Assistant, Volunteer Services to request an application! 908-522-2099 GwenDabney@atlantichealth.org

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“Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It’s important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It’s the way in which we ourselves grow and develop.”

Dr. Dorothy I. Height

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“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart.”

Elizabeth Andrew
SU Twig 5

Summit Twig #5 “Friends of Hospice” participated in the Alternative Gift Market/Mitzvah Mall which was co-sponsored by Christ Church, Temple Sinai and Fountain Baptist Church in Summit on November 16 2014. Many people purchased “Presents for a Purpose” for everyone on their holiday list! Thanks to all those who attended!

Summit Twig #5 also hosted their annual “Lights of Love” during the month of December. Our Tree of Lights, a beautiful nine foot spruce illuminated the lobby of Atlantic Home Care and Hospice at 465 South Street in Morristown. Over 200 people purchased the symbolic lights in memory of a loved one and wooden ornaments with their names were placed on the lit tree. Many families visited the tree during the month, shared stories and memories of their special person and then took the ornament as a remembrance.

Both events benefitted Atlantic Hospice & Camp Clover.

SU Twig 21

SU Twig 21 would like to thank everyone who participated in this year’s Holiday Open House which was held on December 12th. The Overlook Auxiliary Board generously increased our budget so that we could insure plenty of cheer for the entire Overlook family. The Auxiliary office was a diligent partner in insuring that everything happened on schedule. From the towering centerpiece provided by Bloom, the coffee service from Donna’s Café, the assistance by Environmental to set up the room to our specifications, keeping our bins tidy and empty during the day efficiently handled by Housekeeping, and most of all, to the faithful Twigs who stepped up this year with a true bounty of wonderful goodies to make this Open House a success – we thank you all for your part in making this event memorable and very successful.

We had a banner turnout from both staff and volunteers this year. Our guests could not say enough about how lovely it was that the Auxiliary continues this tradition for the hospital. We were also pleased this year that there were enough goodies to provide additional trays to be taken to areas of the hospital (Emergency Department, several of the ICU areas and the surgery centers) where staff really cannot take time out of their busy day to come to our event. The trays were gratefully received by everyone.

Overlook employees and staff enjoying baked goods and treats served at the Auxiliary Cookie Reception.

SU Twig 21 members spreading Holiday Cheer and serving up delicious treats.

SU Twig 5

HAPPENINGS

A HEARTFELT APPRECIATION

...My husband lit the fire and we cried with relief that I was home three days before Christmas. What comfort. So Christmas Eve around 10 o’clock, hovered under my scarf and masque and gloves and wig, my husband drove me back to the hospital where I delivered my gratitude to the dedicated night nurses. The same nurses I’d had that week were on duty, even the one with the two young daughters who would not see their mother until Christmas morning. I will never forget the quiet on the ward, the beeps and hums of machines, the dim lights, and on my right as I hurried away, the beautiful Christmas tree you put there just for me and all of us who were appreciating our life differently from before. And there was the beautiful tree saying goodbye as I hurried back to the elevator and the Christmas Eve fresh air...

THANK YOU FROM PALLIATIVE CARE

December 19, 2014
Dear Presidents and Auxiliary Members,

On behalf of the palliative care program, I want to wholeheartedly thank you for your continued generous support for our comfort care basket initiative. Because of your support, we were able to deliver baskets to 65 patients and families who had received a palliative care consultation. These patients were all facing either imminent death or living with a life limiting illness. Perhaps we will even give a few more during this last few days of the year.

Although this is just a small percent of the patients we serve, without your support we would not have been able to make this gesture which gave comfort to those patients and families who often feel abandoned and confused at life’s end. Each basket was individually created with items that could give comfort to either/or the patient and family. Items most often included were food, massage creams and aroma products, journals, personal items and diversions. The baskets are augmented by donations of hand knit/crochet blankets and shawls. The combination of these goods, makes for a full and joyous basket.

It was particularly gratifying for me to deliver the baskets and watch the joyful reaction of the patients and families. The palliative chaplain and CPE students also deliver the baskets. The gift shop, our partner in this effort, creates the most beautiful baskets with tender loving care. I do believe the expression of kindness by everyone involved is communicated to the recipients.

We were also able to purchase some small items to give to nurses who are having a rough day. Once again the gift shop helped us to identify some low cost, high comfort items like aroma balls and bath salts to raise the spirits of these tireless caregivers.

Again, thank you for your generous support.

Best,

Nancy Gross
Palliative Care