

## 2014 AUXILIARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES

January 13, 2014	9:30 am	Conference Room #3
March 10	9:30 am	Conference Room #3
May 12	9:30 am	Conference Room #3
June 9	9:30 am	Conference Room #3
September 8	9:30 am	Conference Room #4
November 10	9:30 am	Conference Room #3

\*Mandatory Twig  
Representation Meeting

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Elsa Russell, Co-President, Pulse Editor	elsab2141@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@atlantichhealth.org	908-522-2004

Spring Pulse DEADLINE: March 10, 2014

Summer Pulse DEADLINE: June 9

For more information about the Auxiliary please visit us at [www.oaux.org](http://www.oaux.org)

Overlook Auxiliary  
99 Beauvoir Avenue  
Summit, NJ 07901



# PULSE

Volume 14

Winter 2013-2014

## DID YOU KNOW...?

As you enter the lobby there is a lady named Felicity that beacons you into a magical kingdom called the "Gift Shop & Bloom." Once inside it is almost impossible not to be enticed into purchasing something, from jewelry to baby clothing to magazines and candy just to name a few items, there is a plethora of goodies awaiting you. The store is a wonderful land of fantasy.

The Gift Shop moved to its present quarters in 2007 and after a contest the name was officially changed to the Gift Shop & Bloom. Some of you might remember the old Gift Shop where the Neuroscience Center is now and where volunteers always greeted you with a smile and a cheerful word. The flowers were cut and set up in another location of the hospital and brought down to the shop. Upon moving to the larger location the Gift Shop & Bloom now work together in the same space. Amongst the many changes was a large refrigerator for the beautiful arrangements made by Blooms in-house florist Laura McDowell. Another change was the shift to a computerized system for recording bar codes and prices in a more professional manner. This made it much easier to keep track of merchandise and to facilitate the year end tally of goods on hand for the auditors. One of the last renovations was the installation of a security system complete with cameras.

Our Gift Shop & Bloom is truly unique in the amount of diverse and quality merchandise sold—not only are the products sold to visitors and to in-house personnel but upon occasion the Gift Shop & Bloom has been asked to carry merchandise used on a nursing floor, found to be of benefit to the patient and the nurses can now tell family members to purchase it in the Gift Shop & Bloom.

Need a stamp? No problem! Need an aspirin or a toothbrush? No problem! Just ask one of the many volunteers to help you find it. From cookies and candy to accessories and toys and many other types of lovely gifts for special occasions the Gift Shop is a one stop experience. Need a flower arrangement to be sent to a friend's home after an unexpected dinner invitation? No problem, Laura has it covered from small and simple to large and beautiful.

Now you ask, "who and what makes the Gift Shop & Bloom operate so smoothly and efficiently?" Why the volunteers of course, all 37 of them under the excellent guidance of Manager Mary Damiano and Assistant Manager Cindy Curley. Each and every one love coming in for their shift...they are the backbone of the Gift Shop & Bloom. Without these dedicated volunteers and the time they give there would be no gift shop capable of allowing the Auxiliary to fulfill as many wishes as we do. Over the past few years the Gift Shop & Bloom has given back proceeds of over \$100,000 yearly. And so what do we do with this money?

The Auxiliary funds all its major commitments with these proceeds. That includes Camp Clover, a camp for children who have experienced a significant loss of a family member, the Music Program, a video to go with the inflatable brain and soon to be joined with a video of the inflatable heart, Palliative comfort care baskets individually put together for each patient and family and the Gift Shop & Bloom made it possible for the Auxiliary to help bring the Care Givers Center to fruition, a unique center and one of the few in the State of New Jersey. This is only a tiny glimpse into what the Gift Shop & Bloom gives back to the Medical Center through your purchases.

The Gift Shop & Blooms newest endeavor with Food Service is to sell the products made from Overlook's bees. During the warmer months of the year if you look out the cafeteria windows you will see bees buzzing about two hives. From this activity pollen is collected and turned into various products such as honey, skin care products and a great lip balm. For those who prefer tea to honey Ajiri tea has made it to their shelves. This is a product for a great cause. The goal is to create employment for women in Kenya and to educate orphans in their communities. Through the sale of Ajiri tea and coffee the aim is to create a sustainable cycle of employment and education. Ajiri means to "employ" in Swahili, the national language of Kenya.

For this and much more about the Gift Shop & Bloom and what they sell please spend a little time on their website, soon to be upgraded. You can also like them on Facebook.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENTS

GREETINGS TO ALL

Unbelievably another year has flashed by – the holidays have come and gone. It has been said time flies when you are having fun! The Auxiliary, thanks to all our volunteers, ends another great year.

Our fund raiser for the Valerie Center at Overlook Medical Center was enthusiastically received by visitors and docents alike. The sun was shining and people just seemed to be happy and enjoying the lovely homes on display. A check for \$32,000 was given to the Valerie Center from the proceeds generated by the hard work of Melissa Satorius, Kim Morander and their committee and the docents who greeted the visitors with smiles and a cheery word .



Due to your support of our Gift Shop & Bloom the Auxiliary was able to pledge \$75,000 over a three year period to the Eating Disorders Program for 8-12 year old children. We continued our support of the Music Program visitors and staff alike enjoy in the Lobby and various places in the hospital. Along with those projects we support the Chaplain for the Palliative Care Program and the comfort baskets so much appreciated by patients and their families.

The Twigs, as always, make the Auxiliary what it is. Some Twigs raise funds to send children to Camp Clover for a week in the summer, others continue to raise for Ovarian Cancer and still another supports and thanks the employees with a Holiday Cookie Reception for which many Twig and General members bake cookies and other home made goodies for the event.

Our Wish List is generously supported by Twigs with various types of medical equipment such as a Lycox Brain Oxygenator Monitor for the Neuroscience Center, bladder scanners and wheelchairs for the transport of patients and Community Health gift cards to needy families. Members of NP Twig 2 donate wrapped presents and Thanksgiving Baskets for families using the Overlook HealthStart Clinic. If you think the hospital looks festive over the holidays it is because of the time given so generously by SH Twig 18 and SU Twig 21. Our members are a wonderful group of ladies who care deeply about Overlook and giving back.


Diane and I send our heart felt thanks for all you do to make Overlook Medical Center so special for patients and their families. We look forward to working with you in this new year and together further expand the Auxiliary’s outreach.

Happy New Year to all!

Elsa [elsab2141@aol.com](mailto:elsab2141@aol.com)

Diane [djswett@comcast.net](mailto:djswett@comcast.net)



 Please like our page "Overlook Auxiliary". This will help promote the Auxiliary and remind the community of our events. It may also help us recruit new members and Twigs!

**2014 Dues - \$25**

**Thank you** if you have already paid your **2014 Membership Dues**.  
Membership Dues paid **after January 31** are considered late and are assessed a **\$20** Late Fee.

The Auxiliary would like to thank the following members for the “extra” donation included in their dues:

- |                |               |                   |                     |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Nancy Burrows  | Mary Joe Herr | Leigh Rosoff      | Kitty Simpson       |
| Alice Dillon   | Carol Kanner  | Elsa Russell      | Diane Swett         |
| Tyler Farrand  | Dodi Peron    | Barbara Cox Sacks | Marjorie Waltzinger |
| Bobbie Gilmore | Liz Pryma     | Mary Sheehan      |                     |

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

**MESSENGER ROOM - URGENT NEED - WEEKDAY EVENINGS!**

The role of our messenger room volunteers is vital to assist in discharging patients throughout the afternoon. We have an urgent need to extend our afternoon hours until 6:00 pm to assist with discharges late in the day. Please contact us if you can volunteer anytime in the afternoon or 4:30 - 6:00 pm on any weekday.

**BEDSIDE COMPANION PROGRAM**

If you are caring and compassionate with a fondness for older adults, this may be the perfect volunteer experience for you! You can touch someone’s life just by being there to listen and provide brief companion visits! Training will be provided to prepare you to comfortably perform this volunteer role.

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

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.

**VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS**

Your musical talent can bring healing to our patients, 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@atlantichalth.org](mailto:Sue.thomas@atlantichalth.org)

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

## FLU SEASON IS UPON US...PLEASE PROTECT YOURSELF!

All volunteers are required to receive a Flu Shot no later than December 30, 2013! If you do not have proof of the flu vaccine...you will not be permitted to volunteer until the flu season has ended in the Spring of 2014! For your protection, and the protection of our Overlook patients and staff, the Occupational Medicine Department will provide free flu shots to all volunteers.

If you need assistance, please reach out to Gwen 908-522-2099.

*"We're all trying to make a big difference,  
not realizing the small difference we make for each other every day."*

Daphne Rose Kingma

## GESTURES OF GRATITUDE



During this winter season, we celebrate the end of one year and our hopes of the year to come! We are blessed to be surrounded by wonderful volunteers, individuals that give selflessly of their time and energy to make each day better because they were here. Celebrate the very special difference that you make to every life that you touch through your volunteer role. May the generosity of spirit that you have shared with others ... be returned to you in the same beautiful way! Wishing you every blessing for the coming year! Happy New Year!

*"I have never been especially impressed by the heroics of people convinced that they are about to change the world.  
I am more awed by those who struggle to make one small difference after another."*

Ellen Goodman

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 [Gwendolyn.dabney@atlantichealth.org](mailto:Gwendolyn.dabney@atlantichealth.org)

## VOLUNTEER OPENINGS - URGENT NEEDS!

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 Receptionist** is needed to receive calls and dispatch assignments to volunteers on duty  
**Messenger Room Volunteers** are needed daily to run errands throughout the medical center.  
**General Office Assistance** - Clerical assistance --- filing, organizing, general office tasks and data entry.  
**The Health Science Library** seeks friendly volunteers to visit patient to offer free informational research on health conditions and treatments. (Training will be provided)

## AUXILIARY HAPPENINGS

## SAVE THE DATES

AMISH GOODIES  
WINTER SALE

Friday, January 24  
10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Bouras Auditorium

Hosted by  
SH Twig 27

JONES NY  
COAT SALE

Monday, February 24  
8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Bouras Auditorium

Hosted by  
SH Twig 17

SPRING  
VENDOR SALE

Thursday, May 1  
8 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Bouras Auditorium

Hosted by  
SH Twig 27

SPRING LUNCHEON

Annual Spring Luncheon and Meeting  
Friday, May 9  
Baltusrol Golf Club.

Hosted by  
SU Twig 3

## AUXILIARY NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

The Auxiliary awarded five \$1000 scholarships to very deserving recipients at a luncheon hosted by The Overlook Foundation on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The scholarships are awarded to help defray the cost of achieving advanced degrees in a chosen field of nursing or related area. All recipients of money from the Auxiliary are nurses with long term employment at Overlook Medical Center. Many are often juggling careers in the field they love, attending classes and also caring for children and family obligations. Their resumes are beyond impressive and a credit to the training and nurturing culture which encompasses Overlook Medical Center.



Left to Right: Veronica Thomas, Ed.D; Marcie Rabin, MD; scholarship recipient Sharon Ann Drozdowski, RN, MA, LP; Diane Swett, Auxiliary Co-President; Elsa Russell, Auxiliary Co-President; Pamela Ogens, RN, MSN; scholarship recipient Karen Suczewski, RN; scholarship recipient Diane Babek, RN and scholarship recipient Mary Ellen Daly, RN. (Not pictured is scholarship recipient Mary Szymanski.)

TWIG HAPPENINGS

NP Twig 2

Members of New Providence Twig 2 always have an extra-busy holiday season, but they like it that way. For the last many years, they go the extra mile to make the holidays special for many of the families who use the services of the HealthStart Clinic at Overlook. These volunteers purchase and assemble food baskets for Thanksgiving. All baskets include a full breakfast and a complete turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

Members also spend many hours shopping and wrapping Christmas presents which are then given to the children who visit the HealthStart Clinic. Overlook Staff and patients are remembered as well during this joyous time. Over the holidays, members of NP Twig 2 stroll through the halls of the Medical Center, bringing yuletide carols and cheer to everyone.

Gift giving for Thanksgiving and Christmas doesn't end in December for this service Twig. These dedicated volunteers meet every month to sew Benji puppets. The puppets are used for both pediatric and geriatric patients. As long as there is need, New Providence Twig 2 will be ready to help.



Front row, left to right: *Judy Campbell, Nancy Smith, Gerri Sofman, Mimi Whelan, Jan Schryer.*

Back row, left to right: *Ginny Rapp, Sharon Meola, Karen Jenshoej, and Joyce Farrell.*

Missing from photo: *June Leatherbee, Lenore Ford, Sandy Olson, Sandy Mollica, Sue Reich, Leslie Kreuzer, and Nancy Kuhn.*

SU Twig 5

SU Twig 5, Friends of Atlantic Hospice, sponsored their annual *Lights of Love* in December. As in years past, during the month of December, *Lights of Love* was a way for many to remember their departed loved ones. For a suggested donation of \$15 per each symbolic light, a wooden ornament with the name of the loved one was placed on the tree by family members and friends to honor them. The tree then remained lit during the entire month of December for all to experience.



TWIG HAPPENINGS

SU Twig 21

A BIG shout out to members of SU Twig 21 for the wonderful Holiday Reception they hosted for Overlook Medical Center Employees, Staff and Volunteers on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Many Twigs and General Members donated homemade goodies to be served along with bagels, fruit, cheese, punch, and coffee and tea. This event is much anticipated and well received by the guests.

Have you ever wondered how this all began? Well....SU Twig 21 began hosting in 1982 what was originally called "Christmas at Overlook" - the same year SU Twig 21 was founded. Two years later, it became "Holidays at Overlook". Pat Steadman, a founding member of SU Twig 21 reminisces that the Twig embraced the entire holiday theme by also taking on the wonderful decorating of the Medical Center. The Twig has been providing trees, ornaments, garland, lights and wreaths in various locations throughout the hospital since adopting this tradition from a retiring Twig. SU Twig 21 has recently been joined by SU Twig 3 who now also assists with the decorating.

SU Twig 21 "elves" decorating Christmas trees throughout the hospital.



SU Twig 21 "elves" preparing for their guests to arrive.

Guests enjoying the fruits of Auxiliary member's labors!

