

regional Food Policy Council in conjunction with United Way. The Annual Coffee/Tea was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Jane Seder and Betty LaFreniere co-chaired these successful meetings with the assistance of Marie Taylor and Nancy Woodmansee. Again, the Food and Nutrition Department provided a delicious array of food. Also, at the May meeting, Scholarship Chairperson Fran Leta introduced this year's four scholarship recipients: Cynthia Arpin, Karen Butterworth, Claudette Faucher-Charles, and Michael Tramontozzi. Each recipient received a check for \$2,500.

POLICY – The Policy Committee continues to oversee the parliamentary procedures of The William W. Backus Hospital Auxiliary Board of Directors.

SCHOLARSHIP – Using a pool of \$10,000 the Scholarship Committee provides three to four scholarships to high school graduates pursuing post-secondary study in a medical field. To be eligible for consideration of the awards, applicants must be current hospital employees, volunteers, or children, grandchildren, or legal charges of a hospital employee or volunteer.

SUNSHINE – This committee works in concert with the Corresponding Secretary to assure that board members receive appropriate acknowledgment in the event of a sickness or death in their family.

TRAY FAVORS – At each holiday throughout the year, the Tray Favors Committee provides hospitalized patients with the creative favor for their dining trays. Contributors to this program include Project Outreach at the Norwich free Academy, RSVP, Sprague Senior Smilers, St. Jude Commons, Rose City Senior Center, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

VENDOR SALES – Throughout the year, The William W. Backus Hospital Auxiliary sponsors vendors who offer a variety of goods to employees and visitors at sales held on designated Fridays in the hospital. Recent vendors have sold handbags and wallets, jewelry, apparel, skin products, food items, and artwork. Proceeds help to fulfill the Auxiliary's commitment to the hospital.

**THE WILLIAM W. BACKUS HOSPITAL
AUXILIARY**

326 Washington Street • Norwich, CT 06360
Telephone (860) 889-8331

Auxiliary Office, ext. 2259 • Auxiliary Gift Shop, ext. 2265
Visit the Hospital web site: www.backushospital.org

**2010-2011
THE WILLIAM W. BACKUS HOSPITAL
AUXILIARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

OFFICERS

President	Yvette Jacaruso
President-Elect	Mimi Learned-Daigle
Vice President	Jamie Block
Co-Recording Secretaries	Janice Stewart Barbara Dombrowski
Corresponding Secretary	Albie Czapski
Treasurer	Barbara Dombrowski
Immediate Past President	Janice Stewart

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Basket Raffle	Barbara Tucker
Camisoles	Margaret Aldrich
Canteen	Lori Ashburner
Consignment	Barbara Tucker
Curechiefs/Turbans	Joyce Hastings
Decorations/Centerpieces	Barbara Tucker
Education	Evelyn Guido
File of Life	Sheila Morgan
Finance	Jean Carnaghan Barbara Dombrowski Diane George
Gift Shop	Jean Carnaghan
Legislative	Frances Donnelly
Membership	Gina Hanrahan
Newsletter	Fran Leta Barbara Gladue Joan Kelly
Nominating	Jean Carnaghan Albie Czapski Dorothy Levanto
Open Meetings	Betty LaFreniere Jane Seder Marie Taylor Nancy Woodmansee
Pediatric Surgical Caps	Lori Ashburner Gina Hanrahan Mary Brown
Policy	Yvette Jacaruso
Publicity/Historian/Sunshine	Lori Ashburner
Scholarships	Fran Leta Jamie Block Jean Carnaghan
Tray Favors	Doris LaPre
Vendors	Mimi Learned-Daigle

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Betty LaFreniere, Joyce Hastings, and Brenda Engel

HONORARY DIRECTOR

Margot Gibbs

EX OFFICIO

President and CEO, David A. Whitehead
Senior Vice President and CFO, Daniel E. Lohr
Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, Keith Fontaine
Director of Volunteer Services, Mary Brown, CAVS

*To "... assist
The William W. Backus
Hospital in promoting the
health and welfare
of the community ..."*

Backus

88TH ANNUAL REPORT

of

**The William W. Backus
Hospital Auxiliary**

Norwich, Connecticut
2010-2011

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During my first year as President of The William W. Backus Hospital Auxiliary, I have come to realize that no organization can be truly successful without the support of its membership. And, as a result, I wish to thank all of you for your continual support and encouragement. As you know, the Auxiliary is committed to "assist The William W. Backus Hospital in promoting the health and welfare of the community" and in so doing, we are sponsoring the following activities and ask for your support:

• **Saturday, September 24, 2011:** Our 8th Annual Mini-Golf Tournament will be held at the Knolls and Holes course at Odetah Camping Resort in Bozrah. Once again, we ask your help by being a sponsor or a friend. The cost of the ticket to "compete" in the day's play is \$75 and can be purchased at the Gift Shop, located on the main campus of the hospital, or by calling me at 860-889-0864. The price of the ticket includes brunch at 11:00 a.m., followed by play and then a full buffet at 2:00 p.m. including wine and beer. Door prizes will be awarded and there will also be a fund-raising raffle for a wide variety of items. The event is open only to those 21 years of age or older. Tickets go quickly so I urge you to call soon.

• **Sunday, October 2, 2011:** Our Annual Heart Walk will take place at Rocky Neck State Park in Niantic. Please join us for this very special activity. If you cannot attend, feel free to support our team or become a sponsor. Call Jean Carnaghan, our Team Captain, at 860-887-8045 for further information.

• **Tuesday, October 11, 2011:** Our Annual Meeting will take place in conference rooms 1, 2, and 3 of the hospital at noon. To reserve a space for this event, your \$5 payment must be received in the Auxiliary Office by September 30, 2011. Due to limited space in the conference rooms, this reservation is required; tickets will not be sold at the door. Your cooperation with this fairly new process is appreciated.

• **Thursday, October 27, 2011:** Once again, the Liberty Bank at 77 Salem Turnpike will host our Ghoulish Goblets Wine Tasting Party in the lobby from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$22 per person and can be purchased at the hospital gift shop or by calling Liberty Bank at 860-892-2505. This event is open only to persons 21 years of age or older.

As always, you can call the Auxiliary Office at 860-889-8331, ext. 2259 for information on any of the aforementioned events.

In closing this brief address, I once again wish to express my deepest gratitude to you for allowing me to serve as your president. Please know that the Auxiliary is truly committed to the needs of our community hospital, and we count on your support.

**Yvette C. Jacaruso, Ed.D.,
President**

AUXILIARY COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAMISOLES – This committee provides camisoles for post-operative breast surgery patients.

CANTEEN – This committee oversees the three vending machine refreshment facilities within the hospital which contribute substantial income toward the Auxiliary's annual budget. Hospital patients, visitors, and employees find a wide variety of beverages and snacks available in the Canteens, located along the main corridor (near the Gift Shop), adjacent to the Emergency Services waiting area, Same Day Surgery waiting area, and the Birthing Center.

CURECHIEFS/TURBANS/PEDIATRIC CAPS – This committee provides "curechiefs" and turbans, hand-sewn head dressings for those patients who have chemotherapy treatments. Additionally, the auxiliary also supplies colorful surgical caps to pediatric patients in the Same Day Surgery area.

DECORATIONS – This committee enhances our Gift Shop's display cases as well as provides appropriate floral accessories and decorations at our Open Meetings throughout the year.

EDUCATION – Speakers this year included Dr. Setu Vora, Medical Director of the Critical Care Unit; Dr. Sandeep Varma, a specialist in rheumatoid arthritis; Dr. Mark Tousignant, Chief of Bariatrics; and Mr. Jerry Delamato, Reverse Mortgage Specialist from Liberty Bank.

FILE OF LIFE – During 2010-2011, File of Life packets were distributed through AARP Driver Safety classes, at our Gift Shop, and in response to individual telephone requests as well as at programs presented at AARP and Senior Center meetings. Requests were also received from the Cardiac Rehab program at the hospital and from community service organizations.

FUND-RAISING – As part of our fund-raising efforts to help meet the needs of the hospital during the 2010-2011 fiscal year, two major successful events took place: a Mini-Golf Tournament at the Odetah Camping Resort in Bozrah and our Ghoulish Goblets Wine Tasting Party at Liberty Bank in Salem Plaza.

GIFT SHOP – The Auxiliary Gift Shop at Backus continues to be a success, both as a fund-raiser for the Auxiliary's projects and as a source of greeting cards, candy, flowers and other gifts for hospital visitors,

patients, and staff. The branch shop at the Backus Outpatient Care Center (BOCC) on Salem Turnpike is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The hospital shop is open seven days/week with the following hours: Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Both shops are staffed primarily by Volunteers. Anyone who might be interested in volunteering to serve at either shop is encouraged to contact Candis Gioia, Shop Manager, at 860-889-8331, ext. 2265.

HISTORIAN/PUBLICITY – This committee is responsible for maintaining records, both written and photographic, of our yearly works. In addition, it is of this committee's function to work in concert with other committee chairpersons to assure there is appropriate publicity within the hospital or in local media regarding our community activities.

MEMBERSHIP – Auxiliary membership currently is 500 Regular and Life Members. Annual dues for Regular Members are \$20 (\$10 for those 60 and older). A one-time contribution of \$100 (or four quarterly payments) ensures Life Membership. Members are notified on a regular basis as to when their annual dues are payable. The Auxiliary is always seeking new members to bring ideas and energy to its committees. Current members are encouraged to recommend membership to their friends. Remember, all members are eligible for a 10% discount on most items in our gift shops!

OPEN MEETINGS – The Annual Luncheon was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010, in the conference rooms on the first floor of the hospital. Attendance was at full capacity. As always, the very capable Food and Nutrition Department staff served a sumptuous petite luncheon. Dr. Setu Vora, Medical Director of the Critical Care Unit of The William W. Backus Hospital, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Vora gave a succinct overview of the workings of the Critical Care Unit. President Elizabeth Trudelle then presented David A. Whitehead, President and Chief Executive Officer of Backus Hospital, with a check for \$50,000 as part of the \$120,000 the Auxiliary donated to the hospital in 2011 in support of the Annual Fund's initiative to combat obesity. This donation was the lead gift in the annual appeal and helped Backus launch a Medical Weight Loss Center, provide nutrition education programs throughout the region and create a