



# GENERAL HAPPENINGS

Healthy People, Outstanding Care



Brockville General Hospital

JUNE 2010

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## BGH Honours Employee of 40 Years

Brockville General Hospital held its annual Employee Appreciation Lunch May 14, acknowledging staff with 10 to 35 years of service. This

year, the hospital reached a milestone—honouring Mary Kelly for 40 years with BGH. “Forty years ago,” said Ray Marshall, President and CEO of BGH, “Neil Armstrong stepped on the



*BGH employee of 40 years Mary Kelly stands with Norman Millar (l), Internal Vice Chair of the BGH Board of Governors and Ray Marshall (r), President and CEO of BGH.*

moon, it was the Age of Aquarius, and Mary Kelly was hired at the Brockville General Hospital. As part of my career,” he added, “I have been acknowledging employees for 25 years. This is only the second time for forty years of service. It’s a real accomplishment.”

Kelly joined the staff in the laundry department at BGH January 28, 1970.

Perfect attendance by full-time employees also achieved a record with 66 people without absence due to illness or injury in 2009. Almost 150 employees with service to BGH over 10 years were acknowledged at the event.

“If you add the years of employment together for this group,” said Marshall, “you have contributed over 1500 years of service to this community and the hospital. As the community hospital, we are there from birth to death. Be proud of the work you have done, and the thousands of lives you have touched.”

## Thank you to the 2010 BGH Pedal Pushers for your participation in the Big Bike Ride for Heart and Stroke. Together we raised \$2076.70

Cameron McLennan - co-captain, Shirley Lazurko - captain, Diane Bowen, Jodi Hunter, Ray Marshall, Steve Read, Wayne MacDonald, Maureen Fraser, Patty Hoy, Anne Howison, Brittany Baldwin, Jennifer Clarke, Beth Gibson, Stacey Feig, Noreen Shepherd, Diane Clarke, John Koltans, Eleanor Hogeveen, Jordan Stephenson.



**Thank you for your support!**

## Annual Golf Tournament a Swing in the Right Direction



From cure to prevention of Colorectal Cancer—that's the focus of the Annual Screen for the Cure Golf Tournament being held on June 18 at the Brockville Golf and Country Club.

Colorectal cancer is the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada, and the second leading cause in cancer-related deaths of Canadian men and women. Ironically, if screened and caught early, the chances for survival with this cancer increase by 95 per cent.

Screen for the Cure Golf Tournament will donate all monies raised to purchase new screening equipment for the Brockville General Hospital. Tournament begins on the 18<sup>th</sup> with a box lunch at 11:30 a.m., and

shotgun p . m . fee is (\$95.00 bers), lunch, and din-only is You can through and Dis-



start at 12:30 Registration \$ 1 4 0 . 0 0 for club mem- i n c l u d i n g golf & cart, ner. Dinner \$45.00.

r e g i s t e r the Brockville district Hospital Foundation at 613-345-4478 or via the Pro Shop at the club. Not a golfer? Donations are also appreciated and can be made through the Foundation.

"Colon cancer screening is an important service for this community," explains Dr. William Redmond, Honourary Chair of Screen for the Cure. "Be part of the program in Brockville and support the Screen for the Cure tournament. If you don't golf, any donation will help our local community directly to increase our ability to provide state-of-the-art care."

## ARCC: The Taste of Success



Laurie Bourne-Mackeigan, Coordinator for the Assault Response & Care Centre, and Ray Marshall, President and CEO for Brockville General Hospital, cut cake to celebrate 15 years of effective community service for the Centre. ARCC operates under the umbrella of BGH, and the Centre staff hosted a free public barbeque and cake at BGH to promote awareness. May was Sexual Assault Prevention Month.

## BGH Laboratory Staff Holds Employee Open House



*The management and staff of the BGH laboratories, including (extreme left, standing) Susan Pugh, Lab Manager and (extreme right) Dr. Naguib Yassa, Director of Laboratories.*

It was *CSI: Brockville*—sort of.

In celebration of National Medical Laboratory Week, the laboratories at Brockville General Hospital hosted an Open House for BGH employees on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tours, coffee and goodies were enjoyed by staff who came to see firsthand the laboratories' contribution to BGH patient care.

According to the Canadian Society of Medical Laboratory Science, over 85% of decisions about medical diagnosis and treatment are based on lab test results.

"Laboratory medicine is vital to patient care," says Dr. Naguib Yassa, general /anatomical pathologist and Director of Laboratories at BGH. "The laboratory services provided at BGH include surgical pathology, chemistry, hematology, blood bank, microbiology and specimen collection.

"The assays and surgical pathology services provided contribute to the clinical and surgical management from prenatal days to newborn screening through childhood, adulthood and into geriatric cases," explains Yassa. "The lab plays an integral role in health care."

## Welcome New Employees

- Froats, France—Casual RPN GSS
- Gommert, Rachel—Casual RPN GSS
- Libby, Cindy—Casual RPN GSS
- Morrell, Kasidy—Casual RPN GSS
- Sabourin, Stephanie—Casual RPN GSS
- Zakhartchecko, Anna—Casual RPN GSS

## Coffee Kick Off for Nursing Week at BGH



Anne Rodger (r), Director of Surgical Services and Maternal/Child at Brockville General Hospital, serves a fresh cup of coffee to Margriet de Bruyn (l), Director of Critical Care for BGH. Monday morning, May 10, the nurses at Brockville General Hospital started their nursing week activities with a hot cup of coffee, courtesy of BGH. May 10 to 16 is National Nursing Week and a full roster of events is planned for the dedicated nursing staff at the hospital. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) designated May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday, as International Nurses Day in 1971. In 1985, the Canadian Minister of Health proclaimed the second week of May as National Nurses Week, in recognition of the dedication and achievements of the nursing profession. May 12 is also recognized as Canada Health Day.

## Nursing Week Guest Presentation at BGH

Dr. Jennifer Medves (left), Associate Dean for the Faculty of Health Science and Director of the School of Nursing at Queen's University, spoke to the nursing staff at Brockville General Hospital Thursday, May 13. Dr. Medves' presentation "Utilization of Evidence into Nursing Practice" was one of the many activities planned to celebrate National Nursing Week at BGH.

Dr. Medves works with committees at the local, provincial and federal levels whose mandate is to examine maternity practice and sustain health care for women at a time when there are looming health human resource shortages, and with col-



leagues across health sciences on integrating inter-professional education and practice.

The presentation was accompanied by a pizza lunch enjoyed by all, courtesy of Interim VP Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Executive Marnie Dahl (right).

"Dr. Medves' presentation was received with interest and enthusiasm by BGH nurses," says Dahl. "Her ability to demonstrate the value of using evidence in

daily nursing and to demystify nursing research left her audience eager to invite Dr. Medves back to Brockville in the near future."

## Pre-Analytical Best Practices

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, a group of lab staff, RNs and RPNs from CSS and GSS, gathered to attend a full day training session on "Pre-analytical Best Practices". The role for this group of staff will be to assist with the roll out of training for phlebotomies for the remaining nursing staff.



The group consisted of: Deb Mathers, Barb Ward, Cari Bailey, Lorraine White, Beth Gibson, Pam Saunders, Lynn Gallimore, Diane Bowen, Verna Graves, Susan Selleck, Christina Pickard, Ilona Sly, Susan Schaub, Michelle St Pierre, Cheryl Ouellet, Jennifer MacNeil, Jane Mitton, and Deb Benson.

## Physicians at BGH Host Nursing Week Breakfast

Bobbie Annable (l), Charge Nurse Second Floor; and Sherry Anderson, Director of Complex Continuing Care, Re-



habilitation and Palliative Care are served breakfast by Dr. Nikhil Bhatt at the BGH Garden Street Site cafeteria May 14. As part of the activities celebrating National Nurses' Week at Brockville General Hospital, the physicians with BGH sponsored breakfast Friday morning at both sites for the dedicated nursing staff.

## BGH School of Nursing Alumnae Share Tea and Memories



Over 125 current and former nurses packed the Brockville General Hospital auditorium May 12 for the Alumnae Association of the Brockville School of Nursing Victorian

Tea, as part of the roster of Nursing Week activities for all nursing staff at BGH. The Victorian theme for the tea reflected the ongoing celebrations marking 125 years of community service for BGH. For over 80 years, the nursing school was an integral part of the

BGH community—producing 1189 graduates before nursing programs became part of community college curriculum in 1974.

Pictured are (l – r) Ruth Jones, Alumnae Archivist; Cherill Johnston, guest; and Shirley Jones, Alumnae Past President. Johnston holds a picture of her great aunt Nursing Sister Mary Nunn (Class of 1906). Nunn went overseas in 1916 to join the Imperial Service, and ultimately was honoured with the Royal Red Cross by King George V at Buckingham Palace. Many BGH Nursing graduates also served in WWII. The Alumnae was formed in 1923 under the leadership of Miss Maude Arnold (Class of 1909).

## Volunteer Association Marks Another Successful Year of Giving

The Brockville General Volunteer Association (BGVA) held its 121<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting on May 14 at the Brockville Country Club. Anne Rodger, Director of Surgical Services and Maternal/Child at BGH, was guest speaker—presenting information about the Isotope Indicator, an important piece of equipment in the battle against breast cancer on the current BGH equipment wish-list. The BGVA raised over \$35,000 in 2009. A motion was passed to donate \$20,000 to the Brockville Cardiovascular Rehab Program. This is the third such donation from the Association in three years, making a total of \$60,000 in financial support for the program based at BGH which is funded entirely through private and



corporate donations. The BGVA has about 280 full time and part time members who raise funds through a variety of ventures, including the Wagon Gift Shop and Eleanor's Café at BGH. It's not all fundraising, however. The members of BGVA also work with patients in day surgery, on the floors, and in Garden Street Site recreation programs. The Information volunteers greet visitors to the hospital and guide them to their destinations. "As I finish my first year as president of the association," says BGVA President Maureen Overy, "I continue to be humbled by the generosity of our members who give so freely of their time."

The BGVA celebrated 120 years in 2009.

## Palliative Care Coordinator Retires After 16 Years' Service



*Linda Di Labio Osmond stands with Dave Publow (l) and Jim Cooper (r), Co-Chairs of the Friends of Palliative Care Golf Tournament, a major annual fundraiser for the BGH Hospice Palliative Care Program*

On April 29, friends and co-workers gathered at the Garden Street site of the Brockville General Hospital to congratulate Linda Di Labio Osmond on her retirement as Coordinator of the Brockville & District Hospice Palliative Care Service, a service based at BGH. Di Labio Osmond served Brockville and area with the palliative care team for 16 years—a time she says was "a fulfilling and rewarding experience." "I have learned many lessons from patients, families and coworkers," she adds. May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> was National Hospice Palliative Care Week.

## SLC PSW and Office Administration students comment on their experiences at BGH!

Jane recently completed her office administration placement at BGH. She commented that the staff were very helpful. The BGH employee who made her experience great was Catherine S. "She focused on the things that were important to me as well, not just doing the job, but doing it with patient/staff safety and confidentiality as #1."

Nicole, a PSW student at GSS in April, liked the "teamwork" at GSS. She noted that Michelle M-M and all the second floor staff made her experience great because, "They all made me feel welcome. It was a good learning environment. I learned a lot. My experience was great!"

Two groups of RPN students completed their placement at CSS from September to December 2009. Here are some of their comments about their experiences at BGH:

### What did you like the most about your clinical experiences at BGH:

- "The excellent teacher and nurses"
- "Being in the OR/ER, helping the orderlies"
- "Staff were helpful and had a zeal for finding new learning experiences."
- "The staff were excellent."
- "Staff was very friendly and helpful!"
- "policies and flexible staff, cooperation with team members"
- "The variety of assignments and patients"
- "All of the staff"
- "learning new things and being able to perform things that I have not done yet."
- "I feel I gained more experience here at this placement than all the others put together."

The BGH employee who made your experience great was:

- Justin/James (orderlies) and Chaucey B (2 east) "They were my age, they used humor and were fun people to work with."
- "Nicole K and Dr Low – great teacher, eager to find new learning experiences."
- "Nicole – she was extremely patient and knowledgeable" "She is a wonderful nurse and made the experience great"
- "Nicole, all 2 south and 2 east and OR staff – they were all helpful and patient"
- "Tammy & Tammy – they were willing to help and teach me what they knew."
- "Nicole – very patient, knowledgeable and understanding!"
- "Nicole – she gave me great exposure to new nursing procedures."
- "Tammy – she showed me new things, and I was able to help her."
- "Nicole, Tammy – they took the time to teach me new things."

### Overall this was a great learning experience because:

- "I found the staff great and always willing to help us learn."
- "I was made to feel welcome!"
- "I was able to put a lot of skills to use for the first time in the "real world"."
- "The staff are very good to work with, and willing to help us learn."
- "I learned, and everyone was very helpful."
- "I learned new things."

Thanks to all our staff who welcome students into our facility and take time to include the students as part of the caring team at BGH!"

Shirley Lazurko, Organizational Development

## Over \$1350 was raised at the Volunteer Association Garage Sale!

A big thank-you to all staff who participated, either as donors, or shoppers, at the Volunteer Association Garage Sale on April 23, 2010. It was a highly successful event, raising over \$1,350.00. There were some great bargains to be had and local charities like Maycourt, Salvation Army and Goodwill received all the unsold items, so nothing was wasted. The trip to the Diefenbunker, in early May, organized by the Volunteer Association, was sold out and thor-

oughly enjoyed by all who attended. It was approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting on May 14, 2010, that the Volunteer Association will be donating \$20,000, for the third year in a row, to the Brockville Cardiovascular Program.

With funds raised in 2008-09, the Volunteer Association has purchased a ceiling lift for 1E and an epidural pump for Surgical Services.

## *National Immunization Awareness*

Vaccination is very effective in preventing disease. Since most children in Canada are immunized, many diseases have almost disappeared. However, diseases can and do come back. Experience from other countries has demonstrated that diseases return quickly when fewer people are vaccinated.

**It is essential to maintain high immunization rates.**

Routine immunizations protect against 14 serious diseases:

- \_ diphtheria
- \_ pertussis (whooping cough)
- \_ tetanus
- \_ polio
- \_ haemophilis b type influenza type b (Hib)
- \_ measles
- \_ mumps
- \_ rubella (German measles)
- \_ hepatitis
- \_ influenza
- \_ chicken pox
- \_ meningococcal disease
- \_ pneumococcal disease
- \_ human papilloma virus disease

AGE	Diphtheria	Tetanus	Pertussis	Polio	Hib	Pneumo conjugate	Measles	Mumps	Rubella	Meningococcal vaccine	Varicella	Hepatitis B	HPV (females)	Influenza
2 mo.	○	○	○	○	○	○								
4 mo.	○	○	○	○	○	○								
6 mo.	○	○	○	○	○	○								
12 mo.							○	○	○	○				
15 mo.						○					○			
18 mo.	○	○	○	○	○		○	○	○					
4-6 yr.	○	○	○	○										
12 yr.										○		○		
13-14 yr.													○	
14-16 yr.	○	○	○											
Every 10 yrs. thereafter	○	○												
Every autumn														○

Recommended routine immunizations begin at two months of age and continue through childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. See chart for the complete schedule.

Other vaccines are recommended for individuals traveling to countries with diseases that are not

common in Canada. During National Immunization Awareness Week, please review each family member's immunization record to confirm that everyone is up to date with immunizations. If you need immunization, please call your health care provider to make an appointment. If you do not have a health care provider, please call the Health Unit at 613-345-5685 or the Health Action Line at 1-800-660-5853. Remember to keep your personal immunization record (yellow card) in a safe place, and take it with you each time you are immunized so it can be updated. Please notify the Health Unit when you receive immunization.

This article courtesy of: "Smart Living" Vol. 2, N° 1 • April 2010 by the Leeds, Grenville, and Lanark District Health Unit.



## Recognizing our BGH Employees

"In 2010, BGH celebrates 125 years of offering Outstanding Care to our communities. Staff Council is marking this milestone by recognizing the many employees who demonstrate their strong commitment to **Outstanding Care** and to the BGH core values – **Compassion, Respect, Trust, Accountability and Commitment to Collaboration and Continuous Improvement**.

Any employee can nominate any other BGH employee to receive a recognition certificate. To do so, complete the application form and submit it Eleanor Hogeveen or Shirley Lazurko. Information from the form will be used to complete a certificate for the employee. The application form can be found on the Staff Council home page or contact Shirley Lazurko or Eleanor Hogeveen.

Below is the list of the employees currently being recognized and the comments made for their nomination:

Employee being recognized	Core Values the employee demonstrated	Reason for nomination
Frances Kennedy	Compassion, providing outstanding care, respect	"Frances always goes above and beyond in providing compassionate care. She always manages to find the time to do the little extras that greatly improve the patients quality of life." "Frances is always there for the patients and she always goes the extra mile."
Joe Muisse	Commitment to Collaboration	"Joe is always available to help me with my computer issues"
Christie Thomson	Providing outstanding care	"Christie Thomson (nurse practitioner in ER) provides high level of care to her patients. She truly has their best interests at heart. She draws from a sound and current knowledge base. Christie is also very conscious of treating her peers with respect and concern."
Gary Bernier	Respect	"Gary makes everyone feel welcome. He greets everyone so pleasantly and when he asks "how are you" he is very sincere in knowing how you are really doing! His smile is contagious. He is a great ambassador for our facility"
Sally Cross and the GSS & CSS housekeeping staff	Accountability; commitment to collaboration and continuous improvement	"To Sally and the housekeeping staff at GSS & CSS - for your diligence, perseverance and quick responsiveness to the VRE outbreak – for implementing all recommendations no matter how challenging."

Congratulations to all these employees. Remember that you can nominate a co-worker to receive a recognition award for Living our Vision and Values in 2010. Nomination form next page.

Submitted on behalf of the BGH Staff Council"



Application Form:

**“Healthy People – Outstanding Care”**

**Living our vision and values in 2010**

**Purpose:** In 2010, Brockville General Hospital celebrates 125 years of offering Outstanding Care to our communities. The BGH Staff Council is marking this milestone by recognizing the many employees who demonstrate every day their strong commitment to Outstanding Care and to the BGH core values – Compassion, Respect, Trust, Accountability and Commitment to Collaboration and Continuous Improvement.

**Activity:** Any employee can nominate any other BGH employee to receive a recognition certificate. To do so, complete this application form and submit it to the BGH Staff Council. Information from the form will be used to complete a certificate for the employee.

**Application Form:**

Name of employee being nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of employee making the nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the employee being nominated for (please check one):

- Providing Outstanding Care
- Compassion
- Respect
- Trust
- Accountability
- Commitment to Collaboration
- Continuous Improvement

Tell us why you are nominating this person (100 words maximum, please!):

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Please submit the completed application form to Staff Council – care of Eleanor Hogeveen, HR Department  
 OR  
 Shirley Lazaruko, Organizational Development

**Choose to clean green and keep the UK's Garden Organic Ryton beautiful**

**Small Action: Switch to an Earth-friendly all-purpose cleaner**

Instead of using potentially toxic cleaners that can pollute soil and groundwater, not to mention your home, try using Earth-friendly options. There are a number of green cleaning products available for sale, but it's just as easy to make your own multipurpose cleaner with water, white distilled vinegar and lemon-grass essential oil.

**Big Result:** Gardens like the internationally renowned Garden Organic Ryton in the UK can keep growing beautiful, healthy plants. Experience the 10 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds showcasing the delights of organic gardening northwest of London.

