

# Volunteer Matters

HOSPICE MINISTRIES, INC. A publication for the Volunteers of Hospice Ministries, Inc.

Regional Spring 2006

## February kicks off with a training class for Ridgeland.

Seventeen new volunteers attended the February 4th training class held in Ridgeland. Volunteers started the morning with coffee and donuts, then flew headlong into listening, watching and studying the information given to them concerning training. The all-day session went quickly and left volunteers eager to start.



Volunteer Patty Watson is shown leading the class in a personal "Loss Exercise".



Left, the class is hard at work concentrating on their answers for the "Loss Exercise" Patty is walking them through.

Chaplain Richard Brogan talks with the class about the **Five Wishes Program** and the role of spirituality in the Hospice Program.



Mary Benson and Cherly Mitchell of **Centre Point Energy** think hard over their answers during the "Loss Exercise".

The next class for the Ridgeland area will be **March 18th** at the Center. Call Jeri if you know someone who would like to attend. **(601-898-1053, ext. 258)**



## Valentine's Day Goodies from Hospice Volunteers

Jeri Flinn



Chairman Colleen Holloway displays some of the candy donated for the bags.

One afternoon while chatting with Volunteer Colleen Holloway over our successful Christmas "Cookie Exchange" we decided to put together "Valentine Goodie Bags" for our Home and Inpatients. We wanted to let them know we care. Colleen volunteered to take on the daunting task of organizing the event. Within just a few weeks she had a dedicated group to bake cookies, donate candy, make Valentine cards, buy the bags and put together the Goodie Bags for delivery to the patients. **Well Done Colleen, and Thank You!**



Volunteers Linda Young, Becky Davis, & Ella Weston, in foreground, work on the Valentine bags.



Our Valentine "Cupids" included: (L to R) Linda Young, Linda Chase, Becky Davis, Colleen Holloway, Cookie Sampson, & Ella Weston

A Special Thank You goes to Broadmoor Baptist Church and Cobblestone Church of God Sunday School classes, for creating valentine cards for the Goodie Bags. We would also like to thank Steve & Gina Phelps for donating the adorable Cupid bags.



Plans are being formed for the **Easter Egg Exchange**. If you have any ideas or know of someone or group who might like to donate small items for the baskets, please give us a call. Volunteers are needed to coordinate, collect, bake cookies and deliver baskets.





**The McClean Center** provides grief support services to children 4-18 years of age who have experienced the death of a sibling, parent, grandparent, friend or any loved person. These groups meet in the evening every other week throughout the year. A support group is also available for adult caregivers and meets while the children or adolescents are attending their support group. Volunteers are a vital part of these support groups and volunteers undergo a 12 hour training session in order to become a facilitator in these groups. Besides being group facilitators, volunteers support the McClean Center by cooking meals and by delivering donations from restaurants the nights the groups meet. Other volunteers help with the annual Gala and are instrumental in our fundraising efforts. Volunteers often assist with office work and making phone calls. The "*Friends of the McClean Center*" and the "*Junior League of Jackson*" are two groups who have demonstrated their commitment to helping The McClean Center grow. Members of the community at large and volunteers from Hospice Ministries also add to the ranks of our volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering or want more information please call us at the Center at **982-4405**. We are located at **2624 Southerland Street in Jackson just off Lakeland Dr.**

**Community Outreach**

Leah Griffin, a senior high school student from Northwest Rankin High School, selected The McClean Center for her senior project. This project, which is a requirement for graduation, involves a year long commitment of service to the Center. Leah attended the summer training in July 2005 and now volunteers in the 5-7 year old group every other week. As part of her project she also collected much needed art supplies for The Center. Leah also was a winner in the 2005 McClean Center Art Competition. She is a role model for other young people and is helping plant the seeds of hope in other's lives.



Leah Griffin, winner in the 2005 McClean Center Art Competitions

**Volunteer Spotlight**

**THANK YOU!**  
**For going the extra mile.**

Volunteers Evelyn Hinton & Billie Henry usually come every Monday morning, along with a few other ladies from *Christ United Methodist Church*, to arrange flowers. When a large group of flowers were donated to the Ridgeland Center late one Friday evening, they volunteered to come in the next morning and arrange them for the patients. Thank You Ev and Billie for being so dedicated and brightening the Hospice Ministries rooms and halls for our patients.



**Mardi Gras at Ridgeland**



Facility Manager Bob Schroeder led a great group of volunteers and staff members into the *Mardi Gras* spirit for *Fat Tuesday*. Bob got up early and along with Crystal Fuqua, CDMCFPP volunteered to make *Beignets and Cafe-au-Lait* for the staff and patients for *Fat Tuesday*. Volunteers Ella Weston, Cookie Sampson and Darlene Schroeder roamed the halls delivering beads and *Beignets* to the nurses, staff and patients.



Ella, Bob & Darlene with beignets



While Crystal Fuqua was busy creating the famous beignets for everyone she displayed the Mardi Gras spirit.

**We would like to Thank everyone who helped make Mardi Gras at Ridgeland a fun day!**



Ms. Marie Mays , Head Cook expressed her Mardi Gras Spirit.



(Staff ) Ellie Heitmann, (Volunteer) Cookie Sampson, (Staff) Josie Walker and (Volunteer) Ella Weston enjoy the beignets before work.





*Volunteers are encouraged to attend all Inservices*

### March:

#### Ridgeland:

- "Watch Your Back" (Body Mechanics) and Safety Orientation on **March 21 at 1:30 p.m.** in the Dining Room at the Ridgeland Center .
- *General Orientation* to Hospice on **March 23** at Ridgeland in the Conference Room from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

### April:

#### Ridgeland:

- "Grooming of the Bedridden Patient" on **Saturday April 8th at 10:00 a.m.** Learn how to wash hair, trim hair and beard and nail care. Lately we have had a few requests for this by family members of some patients. It is a small service, but one which means a lot to the patient and their family. **Patty Watson**, our professional barber, is going to conduct the class.



- "The Gift and Grace of Being a Caregiver-Maintaining Balance as You Care for Others" (TBA)

### Forest:

- "Energy Conservation for Patients and their Caregivers" date (TBA)

### May:

#### Ridgeland:

- "Flower Arranging" inservice conducted by **Master Gardener Francis Morse** from the *Jackson Garden Club*.

For more information on an *Inservice* or for time changes call me at **601-898-1053**, ext. **258** or check our website under *Volunteer Services* at: [www.hospiceministries.org](http://www.hospiceministries.org) click *Volunteer Training* on right side of page.

## Spiritual Bank Account

*From: Whatcom Hospice Volunteer Program  
Shared by Jackie Sedwick-author unknown*

A 92-yr. old, petite, well-poised and proud man, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with his hair fashionably coifed and shaved perfectly, even though he is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. His wife of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, he smiled sweetly when told his room was ready.

As he maneuvered his walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of his tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on his window.

"I love it," he stated with the enthusiasm of an 8yr. old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"Mr. Jones, you haven't seen the room; just wait."

"That doesn't have anything to do with it," he replied.

"Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time.

Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged; it's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it. It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice. I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do."

"Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away. Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you've put in."

**So my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in your bank account of memories! Thank you for your part in filling my Memory Bank. I am still depositing.**

### Tid Bits

#### Attention!!

If you need to update your yearly TB test- contact **Colleen Freeman** or Jeri at **898-1053** on Mondays.

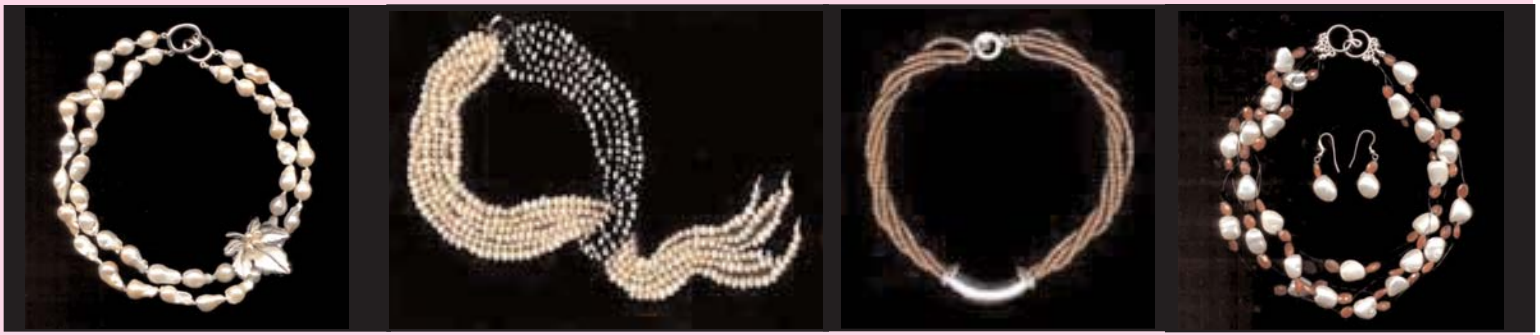
If you need a **photo ID name tag** contact Jeri. We can create name tags again..

Don't forget your time sheets! If you need more timesheets or envelopes let Jeri know.

### Volunteer Market / April 22nd

This is an event designed to promote & acknowledge volunteer opportunities in our area. We are asked to operate a display table showcasing our organization and are encouraged to "fund-raise" by selling food, or drinks or any other creative means to help our organization.

If you are interested in helping with the "**Volunteer Market**" on **Sat. April 22** at **Smith Park** give me a call.



*Come see the latest in clothing & jewelry for Spring*

at

**“Couture At The Inn”**

**Thursday, April 6**

*A luncheon, fashion show, and gift basket raffle scheduled at the Old Capitol Inn to benefit Hospice Ministries.*

Nationally known jewelry designer **Cely Machado Dufau** will display her creations, and five local clothiers will provide fashions that will be modeled by the *Mississippi University for Women Modeling Squad*. Participating stores include **Barbara's Boutique, Fashion Post, High Cotton, Prêt à Porter, and Mon Amici**. Thirty tablescape designs by the **Pine Cone** will highlight the latest trends in seasonal home décor, and an original water-color donated by **Ann Barron** will be available for bid. Rounding out the event will be the raffle of four themed gift baskets containing hundreds of dollars worth of products and services.

Tickets for the event are **\$35.00 for the fashion show and luncheon**, and **\$10.00 each for the raffles** for the baskets. Highlights of the *"Decorator's Delight"* basket include a signed book and opportunity for coffee and advice from *"Trading Spaces"* star **Laurie Smith**, a beautiful home accessory and two hour consultation with Madison based interior decorator **Gloria C. Jones** of *Gloria C. Jones, Inc.*, and home accessories from **Gail Pittman**. *"Stepping Out"* offers gift certificates to a number of well known local restaurants including **Julep's, Nick's, Bon Ami** and **Two Rivers** in Canton, tickets to a **Kessler** production and other area arts events, college sporting event packages, and movie passes. *"Pamper Yourself"* features \$500 worth of **Botox** treatments from **Faces**, \$100 gift certificates from **Barnett's and The Day Spa**, a six month membership to **Fitness Lady**, and a multitude of other salon and spa products and services. Tucked in the *"Garden Party"* basket is a tea for 15 at the **Fairview Inn**, a tour of the **Eudora Welty Home** and

gardens, a four hour consultation and sketches of the winner's front or back yard from **Barry Landscaping, Inc.**, and a variety of gardening books and other outdoor items.

Tickets to the event and for the basket raffles may be purchased by calling Hospice Ministries at **601-573-7465**. A first look at **Cely Machado Dufau's** jewelry designs is available at [www.celydufau.com](http://www.celydufau.com).

"We are very pleased that our volunteers have been able to put together such a wonderful fundraising event. It is because of the generosity of the business and retail community and the commitment of our volunteers that we are able to provide services that deeply impact the lives of our patients and their families."

*Belinda Patterson, Executive Director Hospice Ministries.*

Sponsors include the **The Gertrude C. Ford Foundation, Inc., H. E. Stover, Saks, River Oaks Hospital, Wirt A. Yerger, Jr. Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Holloway, The Van Devender Foundation, Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes, Merrill Lynch, Cellular South, Dr. Jim Sones with G. I. Associates, P.A., Cal-Maine Foods, Underwood Companies, Citigroup/Smith Barney, The Clarion Ledger, and Wimberly & Associates.**

Hospice Ministries has offices in Ridgeland, Brookhaven, Forest, Natchez and Southaven. The **McClellan Fletcher Center**, a grief support center for children, is also a part of Hospice Ministries.

