

Volunteer Matters

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

Spring 2007



Talent abounds in Ridgeland with Flower Arranging Workshop, Volunteer Art Show and Recognition Reception



Flower Arranging

April 21st started off with an enlightening workshop presented by **Carol Duggar** and special guest **Sheila Cowart**, on flower arranging. Both women have had over twenty years experience in flower arranging on a professional level, along with many years as *Chairmen of Flowers* for the *International Ballet Competition*, held in Jackson every four years. Volunteers were thrilled to learn many secrets of the trade and receive the opportunity to display their work at the *Volunteer Recognition Reception* that afternoon.



Carol Duggar

Carol showed us how easy it was to put together a small arrangement for a side table, as Sheila worked behind her designing a center table arrangement for the evening's reception.



Sheila Cowart



Evelyn Hinton

Volunteer, **Evelyn Hinton**, displays her arrangement design during the workshop.

Sheila and Carol stand behind the beautiful arrangements made at the workshop for the reception later that afternoon.



Thank You to Green Oak Nursery for donations to the workshop and thank you to everyone who participated in the workshop especially Carol and Sheila.

Art Show & Recognition Reception

Some very talented volunteers, were given an opportunity to show off their work during the *Volunteer Reception* later that afternoon.

Volunteers reviewed what their fellow volunteers do in their spare time.



Some volunteers are musicians, like

Anna Ziemianski (right,) who entertained us at the *Angel Awards* with a folk song from her native Poland.



Jeri (left) is seen here talking with Volunteer **Blair Bingham**, who plays guitar for the inpatients on the weekends.

Volunteers are always ready to lend a hand, **Alice Rice** (right), works during the reception giving out punch to friends. Even a broken foot couldn't keep **James Chapman** (left), away, as he tells the story to **Bob Prescott**.



Social Worker **Donna Evans** (right) and Volunteer **Jane Cutrer** discuss with **Isabel Cordua**, *Director of Support Services*, Jane's latest afghan. **Iva Shelton** and **Dixie Myric** (right), laugh over stories about special events they have worked on together over the past years.



Helen Anthony, **Anna Ziemianski** and **Sandy Crook** take a moment out to smile for Volunteer **Sherry McColgin**, who kindly volunteered to take photos of the reception.



A very special thank you to a very talented young pianist, **Virginia Glover** for





Hospice Ministries' Volunteer Angel Awards of 2006



" Who would win this Year?"

The question was high on everyone's mind as they entered the Chapel to attend *Hospice Ministries' Volunteer Recognition Awards for 2006.*

The *Volunteer of the Year Award* is a Special award given to a Volunteer who has gone beyond the call of duty for our patients and their families, not just once but many times. It is an award based on heart not hours, and dedication to the Hospice mission.

Every year the choosing of the recipient of this award gets harder because so many of our volunteers give so much to our patients. Thus the creation of the *Angel Awards* was started last year so more could be recognized for the jobs they do bringing comfort, dignity and peace to our patients. Each and every volunteer deserves an award just for joining the volunteer staff, for their jobs are hard and require a heart felt dedication to our mission. But some of you go so far ahead of the crowd when helping others, that we felt we must tell everyone how much we deeply appreciate what you do.

I can only say how proud and humbled I am to be able to call on such a wonderful work force of volunteers helping to bring comfort, dignity and peace to those who need it most. I personally feel very honored to be able to work with you and call you my friends. Thank you for allowing me to part of your mission.

So with heartfelt thanks I give you our *Volunteer of the Year* and the winners of the *Angel Awards for 2006.*

Jeri

Best Angel in a Juice Cart Role:

Nancy Williams & Norma Fulcher

Best Angel in a Special Event Role:

Sherry McColgin

Best Angel In-Home patient Support Male Role:

Jim Chastain

Best Angel for Inpatient Support Role:

Norman Turk

Best Angel in a Versatile Volunteer Male Role:

Rene Bodin

Best Angel In-Home Patient Support Female Role:

Barbara Barnett/ Sandy Crook

Best Angel in a Versatile Volunteer Female Role:

Dixie Myrick / Iva Shelton

Best Angel in a Supporting Gardener Role:

Bethan Read / Anna Ziemianski

Best Angel in a Supporting Flower Role:

Evelyn Hinton, / Julieanne Summerford, / Susan Halton

Best Angel in a Administration Role:

Jerry Cauthen / Alice Rice

Best Angel in a Craft Role: *Jane Cutrer*

Best Angel in a Versatile Bereavement Role:

Lucie Phillip / Suzanne Hart

Best Angel in a Committed Bereavement Role:

Mary Ann Miller / Mary Lee Livesay

Volunteer of the Year:

Helen Anthony

Angels from 2005 who got their wings:

Ella Weston, Bill Kopp, Jinx Carroll, Don Guillory,

Helen Anthony, Hobson McGehee, June Stevens,

Rebecca Allen, Jo Jones, Bob Jones, Jeanette Prescott,

Bob Prescott, Linda Chase and John McGregor



Helen Anthony receiving **Volunteer of the Year** Award from Jeri Flinn, Volunteer Coordinator

Silhouetted by the Chapel windows, Jeri gives a *Special Appreciation Award* to the *Gardeners of Hospice Ministries.* Rebecca Allen and Bethan Read receive the award for the gardeners.





Valentine's Day Goodie Bags

Volunteers pulled together the resources donated for the *Valentine Goodie Bags* on Saturday Feb. 10th in Ridgeland. *St. Matthew's United Methodist Church 6th grade youth group*, led by **Jill Smith** and *Girl Scout Troop 986*, led by **Michelle Watson, Troop Leader**, donated Valentine cards and fortune cookies for the Valentine bags.

Volunteers joyously worked filling the bags with help from *St. James Church* members **Betsy, Anne Coursey and Elizabeth Little** (to the far right in the photo above.)



Volunteers helping were (L to R): **Jeanette Prescott, Rene Bodin, Kellum Wilson, Selenna & Richard Lockwood**, (seated) **Betsy Bodin, Carol Richardson, Karen Delatte**, and standing in the back from *St. James Church* is **Eleanor & Eleanor Anthony**.



A special thank you to all who contributed cookies, brownies and toiletries for the Goodie Bags.

Pillow Donations

The *Hob Nobbers Club* from *The Orchard* hand made the pillows for Valentine's Day for our patients.



Dot Fowler, President of the club is seen addressing the group in the photo to the left.



New Arbor for East Garden

Jo and Bob Jones have been busy this spring building and installing the new arbor for the east garden. Almost every Monday you can find both Jo and Bob joining the garden group working on our beautiful gardens around the building.



A Special Thank You!

Easter Egg Exchange - Ridgeland



Volunteers gathered on March 31st at the Ridgeland Center to put together the Easter Baskets for our patients. Cookies, Easter goodies and small toiletries were donated from *St. Matthew's United Methodist Church 6th grade Youth Group* and *Madison Middle School 6th grade Beta Club*.

Volunteers, **Suzanne Cates, Callie Gram** (from M.C.), **LeAnn Nealy, & Mary Beard** won the door prizes donated by Volunteer **Katherine Drake**.



Helping Volunteers were: Back Row, (L to R): **Laura Parson, Emily Ciarlioni, Suzanne Cates, Jeanette Prescott, Lacsresia Stewart** (behind), **Dixie Myrick, Eleanor & Eleanor Anthony** and **Sherry McColgin**. Middle Row: (L to R) **Katherine Drake, Ann Colson, Callie Graham, Mary Beard, Mary O'Neal** and **Anna Swartzfager**. In the front are (L to R) **Taylor Cates, Kathy Hilton** and **Lisa Tate**.



A Special Thank You!



We would like to send a **Special Thank You** to **Deloris Hatton** and the Ladies group *Thumbnails*, from *Highland Colony Baptist Church*, **Jill Smith**, youth leader from *St. Matthew's United Methodist Church* & 6th grade youth group, along with **Sherrie Winstead** form *Madison Middle School* & *the Beta Club* for their generous hearts and tremendous help in supplying the items for our Easter Baskets for our patients and their families. A very Special Thank You goes to **Sherry McColgin** for the extra shrink wrap for the baskets. We could not have had such wonderful baskets without their help. Our patients were *thrilled* by the baskets.



Sherrie Winstead delivering a big box of toiletries for Easter Baskets.



Volunteer Appreciation Week

We celebrated with a reception in honor of our volunteers and **Advisory Board** to thank them for their services and advice on Monday evening April 30th at the home of **Isabel Cordua**, Director of the McClean Center.

Healing of Hearts Art Competition

This year we hosted our Art competition for area high school students. Our theme this year was "*Healing of Hearts*" and proved to be another creative year for our students. Judging was held on March 30th and a reception honoring the student winners took place April 15th at Hospice Ministries.



Next year...Literary Competition!

New Home for McClean Fletcher Center

We are starting the preliminary planning for our new home at 12 Northtowne Drive in Jackson. We are anxiously awaiting the first draft of the plans from the architect. Once construction work begins we will be looking for volunteers to assist in the process with painting, decorating, etc...so get your creative hard hats on!



Once again the **McClean Center "Heartstrings Gala"** was an evening of festive fundraising with over **\$84,000 raised** to benefit the Children's Grief Center. Only with the help of many dedicated and loyal volunteers could an event like this occur. The 2007 Gala was held in the lovely Bridgewater home of **Maggie and Seymour Pooley** in Ridgeland. Heading up the Silent Auction Committee this year was **Ginny Williams** who devoted many hours to ensuring a successful event. **The Friends of the McClean Center** spent weeks enlisting donations for the auction from area businesses and stores. Hotel rooms, spa packages, Gail Pittman place settings, Mississippi Opera season tickets and dinners in the home prepared by local chefs are just a sample of the items in the silent auction. **Scottie Russ** was Chairperson for the Art Committee this year and **Robbie Carmichael**, along with **Rosemary Clark, Kathleen Terry** and a crew of volunteers once again prepared a delicious cocktail buffet. Each event gets bigger and better and helps the **McClean Center** to provide grief support services free of charge to the children and adolescents of Mississippi. Volunteers are what make the Gala so spectacular each year. Many thanks to one and all!



Ridgeland says goodbye as long time Chaplain Bernard Nail retires.

It doesn't seem the same walking down the corridors in the inpatient facility and not see Brother Bernard moving quietly from patient's room to patient's room. "His sweet spirit will always fill the halls of Hospice Ministries and his presence lives on where it has touched lives with his compassionate nature," said **Isabel Cordua**, Director of Support Services. We know we miss his lovely voice in Chapel every Wednesday morning, and will miss it during our holiday carolling, but most of all we will miss his gentle guidance as we work through the days here at hospice - helping us with our own personal trials of the day. "It makes me feel sad when I remember that he has gone", stated longtime inpatient volunteer **Don Guillory**.



Dr. Fortenberry & Belinda Patterson

On March 12, **Brother Bernard** was honored in a retirement reception for his many years of services to Hospice Ministries. There wasn't a dry eye as **Chairman of the Board, Dr. Don Fortenberry** and **Executive Director, Belinda Patterson**, gave emotional

speeches about Brother Bernard's leaving. **Jean Nesbit, Bereavement Coordinator** (right) holds a painting while **Belinda Patterson** describes the symbolism of the painting, given to Brother Bernard as a retirement gift.



Jean Nesbit & Belinda Patterson



He did honor us with one last song before he left.

Ridgeland's Spring Volunteer Training



The last weekend in April held the spring training class for Ridgeland's volunteers. Home nurse, **Rosa Cockerill**(left), is seen

Rosa Cockerill, RN telling the class about the home nurses' role in hospice. Inpatient nurse **Beverly Coleman** (right) discusses the role of the volunteer working with the inpatient nurses.



Beverly Coleman, RN



(L to R) Leo Heller, Bethan Read, Woody Osborn, Don Guillory, and James Chapman.

After lunch volunteer panelist, **Leo Heller**, tells the class about some of his experiences as a Hospice volunteer, as other volunteer panelists

wait for their turn to discuss what they do as a volunteer for Hospice.



Volunteer **John MacGregor** pats Pet Therapy volunteer **Dallas**, with his owner **Terri Spurk**, as they wait for their turn to talk with the class.

Social Worker **Donna Evans** talks with the class about dying and working with the families of our patients.



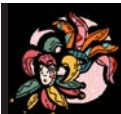
Social Worker, Donna Evans



Bereavement Coordinator, Jean Nesbit

Bereavement Coordinator **Jean Nesbit** explains to the class about the Bereavement department at

Hospice and how volunteers help. The next training class for the Ridgeland area will be held in late summer. If you would like more information please call 601-898-1053, ext. 258, or check Volunteer Services, upcoming events at our website www.hospiceministries.org.



Mardi Gras 2007

Once again Facility Manager **Bob Schroeder** and Dietary Manager **Crystal Fuqua** treated the staff and volunteers to a morning of New Orleans style *Cafe-au-lait* and *Beignets*, to celebrate *Mardi Gras* at the Ridgeland Center.



Volunteer **Terri Spurk** and Educational Coordinator, **Colleen Freeman** enjoy the *Cafe-au-lait* and the *Beignets* early on Fat Tuesday morning in the Dining Room.

Bob and Crystal invite you to come by next year to sample their wonderful new Orleans style cooking.

"Y'all come back now...hear?"



Volunteers give party to celebrate Bereavement Coordinator's Birthday

Bereavement Coordinator, Jean Nesbit, relieved a big surprise on Feb.23rd, when the Bereavement volunteers and staff gave her a party for her birthday. Jean, was delighted when she entered her office to find it decorated with streamers and balloons. " I always say, ours is the most fun department and here is proof," explained Jean to her fun loving staff.



(L to R); Luice Phillip, Suzanne Hart, Ellie Heitmann, & Jean Nesbit,(BC)seated.



Journey of Faith

Faith in Action Coordinator, Chaplain **Richard Brogan**, along with Social Worker, **Donna Evans**, and RN, **Ruth Ann**

Buckhalter, presented the FIA program, "*Journey of Faith, Joyful Destination*" at **Crossgates Baptist Church** in Brandon on April 21st to an encouraging crowd. This program is available to Churches and any other interested persons by contacting Richard Brogan at 601-1053, ext. 310 for information & available dates.



Donna Evans, SW & Chaplain Richard Brogan



Natchez Celebrates Volunteer Recognition Luncheon & Birthday of Medical Director



The cake says it all On April 18th, the Natchez office celebrated not only Volunteer Week but



also celebrated **Dr. Kenneth Stubbs'** (Medical Director) birthday. The lively staff and volunteers put together a surprize for him, who is pictured above with his new *LSU* hat and *Tiger* tie.



To the left he is seen resting with volunteers **Alma Timmons** and **Johanna Cochran**.

Staff nurse **Grace Woods** (right)



clowns around with Office Manager **Taneka Reed** while Social Worker **Emily Scott** looks on.



Cleo Campbell was named *Natchez's Volunteer of the Year*.

Cleo has worked with patients and their families, and has also been available to help with events during

the year. She recently has taken on the position of nurse for the Natchez office. She has proven to be dedicated and compassionate with her patients and the staff, always ready to lend a hand.



Special Thank you to volunteers

Sherrie Crabtree, Barbara

Hughes, Lou Verda Langston,

Kathy Hammack, Alma Timmons

and **Cleo Campbell** for donating valentine cookies, brownies, candy & items for the *Valentine Goodie Bags* given to our patients for **Valentine's Day**.



Volunteer Appreciation Brunch



(L to R) Mrs. Carl Wilcott, Juanita Kerby, Brenda Fletcher, Sheila Jaynes, & Debbie Taylor, O.M.

On April 21st volunteers in Southaven were honored with a *brunch* at the office, to thank them for their dedicated services to Hospice Ministries.

Right **Sheila Jaynes** shows



Sheila Jaynes

off her appreciation pin for being named *Volunteer of the Year* for the Southaven area.



Attendees for the Volunteer Appreciation brunch were:

(L to R) Sheila Jaynes,

(Southaven), Brenda Fletcher (Olive Branch), Nellie Anderson (Hernando), Mr. & Mrs. Carl Wilcott (Hernando), Michael Phillips, (VC), Mike Fletcher (Olive Branch), Juanita Kerby (Olive Branch) and Sara Burns (Hernando)

Southaven's Training Class

March 23rd, held the spring class of volunteer training in the Southaven



office. Pictured (L to R): Sheila Jaynes, Robyn O'Neal, Mike Fletcher, Brenda Fletcher, Michael Phillips, (Vol. Coord.) and Debbie Taylor, (O. M.). Sheila Jaynes, Volunteer of the Year, shared with the class some of her experiences during the past year.

Thank you to Parkway Baptist Church of Hernando,

for the *Prime Timers'* lunch every month and the bibs, gowns and canned goods

donated to the Southaven office to be given to our patients. Seen above modeling the gowns and bibs are (L to R) June Hubbard, Dortothy Topy, Nellie Anderson, Michael Phillips, (V.C. of Southaven office) and Carl Willcutt.



We would also like to thank **Parkway Baptist Church** for the supplies for the Easter Baskets and the volunteers for filling the Easter Baskets which were given out to our patients. Thank You All, for all you do.



Volunteer Kay Dirskill, Forest's Volunteer of the Year

Volunteer of the Year

Kay Dirskill of Morton, was the *Volunteer of the Year* for Forest Hospice Ministries. Kay has been volunteering with patients and working with the administration staff all year. "We don't know what we would have done without her," said **Sister Camilla**, PCC for Forest's Hospice Ministries.

Memorial Service



Forest's Annual Memorial Service was held Tuesday, May 8 at the **Excel Community Learning Center** in Morton. Soft music played in the background as candles were lit in memory of family members who had died during the past year. The reception followed the service at the Center and was catered by staff and volunteers from the Forest office.

Brookhaven's Hospice News

By Iris Waldrop



Angel's Attic

During February a local thrift store, *Angel's Attic* brought us a check

for our indigent fund. Pictured above are Fannie Williams, RN, Brandi Burgess, RN, Susannah Britt, PCC, Iris Waldrop, Vol. Coodr. Mrs. Bennett, rep. for Angel Attic, Faye Gandy, Office Mgr. Pat Banks, RN & Brenda Smith, SW. If you would like to donate to *Angel's Attic*, please contact me. Money from the items sold returns to community non-profits like Hospice Ministries.

March & April was a busy time for the Brookhaven office. We began the month of March by volunteers bringing items for our *Easter Baskets*. We had plenty to fill our baskets and the patients loved them.



(L to R) Barbara Liesterman, Judy Furr, M.J. McGee & Aline May



A bittersweet day was felt in Brookhaven on **March 7th**, when we had to say goodbye to long time nurse,

Olline Paden. Iris Waldrop is seen here presenting a gift to Olline for all her years of services as friends and family looked on.

March 13th was the date of the *Quarterly Lunch Meeting* for Volunteers at *Broma's*, where up-coming events were discussed for Brookhaven.

Volunteers **Cheryl Banks** and **Joyce Hughes** at our "Bake Sale" to raise funds for the Lincoln County *Relay for Life*. \$600 was raised for the event. Thank you to all who baked and worked on the event. Also we would like to thank *Union Planters Bank* for allowing us to set up in their lobby.



Iris Waldrop, (VC). is seen here discussing Hospice Ministries to a Co-Lin CNA student during Career Day at Co-Lin on April 12th. Over three hundred students attended.

April 10th Volunteers attended a *Brunch* at the Brookhaven office to celebrate **Volunteers Week** and to take the annual TB test, physicals and needed I.D. pictures for volunteers.

We will be participating in Health Fairs soon and are looking for volunteers to work at the booths to give out information and brochures. If you are interested in helping please give us a call.

June 11th, Brookhaven office will offer **Volunteer Training** with a special training "*Man to Man*", where Mr. Billy Hughes, a long-time experienced volunteer will share his heart with the men who are interested in becoming a volunteer. Check the web site (www.hospiceministries.org) for more details on this and other up coming events.

The Hospice Volunteer

Hospice is a special way
of caring for the ill,

but without the work of volunteers
the task could not be filled.

An endless stream of errands
greet them every day.

They do it for the love of others.

A warm smile... their only pay.

Caring committed communicators,
helping people cope,

Many have "been there" with a loved one
and now offer a ray of hope.

They specialize in listening;

They are there to understand,
small things often mean the most,
just holding someone's hand.

The office has its own work,
so, behind the scenes, they go,
file, shred and copy,

the forms are getting low.

To ease the way to a better place
is the goal for which a patient yearns,
lessons in the school of life

through hospice we can learn.

Our Hospice patients teach us
to have courage along the way,
for they are travelers on a journey
we all will take one day.

Sally Roach, RN
Point Pleasant, West Virginia



HOSPICE
MINISTRIES, INC.

450 Towne Center Boulevard
Ridgeland, MS 39157

*Life is a gift
given to share with others
but for a brief moment.
Through sharing this gift,
we learn about the process of dying.*

*We learn what is most important in life.
Our conversations take on new meaning.
Our body, mind and soul
bond in companionship.
And the process of living and dying
touches us and those around us, forever.*

At Hospice Ministries we believe that every human being has the right to a quality end-of-life experience.
For each person, no matter the time left, **Life Matters**SM