

volunteer *Connections*



Volunteer Voices

by Ann Lavezzo
Volunteer Coordinator



Summer 2009

“There wouldn’t be this particular Hospice in this particular county if it weren’t for volunteers,” said Marie Andrews, one of the founders of Calvert Hospice. Marie was talking with Executive Director Lynn Bonde in 1999 during an interview celebrating the 15th anniversary of Hospice in Calvert County. When Calvert Hospice opened its doors in 1984 everything was done by volunteers, including care by professional nurses and social workers. Within 6 months the first volunteer training welcomed 22 people to the twenty-eight hour program. In 1985 volunteers who managed the entire operation donated 4,438 hours to meet the needs of those living their last days and those grieving the loss of someone close. Today, volunteers continue to be an intrinsic part of this organization. Even with all of the professional staff working with Hospice, in 2008 volunteers donated 6088 hours to meeting the needs of the community.

So what makes a volunteer come to Calvert Hospice? The answer is generally “I want to give back and help others,” from experienced volunteers and those new to the hospice training program. Year in and year out, volunteers join us for the now-33-hour training program and keep coming back to give of their time, energy and heart. Variations on this theme come from Ann Wolfgang, a former Hospice Board chair who has been a family service volunteer for several years, says, “Simply being a presence in a person’s life and journey is a privilege.” Russ Horton, another long-time family service volunteer says, “I volunteer because I get so much satisfaction from giving patient care.” Barbara Hunt, another long-time volunteer says, “My reason? To give back. After the death of my husband,

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Celebrating 25 Years of Volunteers & Dedicating the Dream

June 20 marked the celebration of 25 years of Calvert Hospice in Calvert County and the dedication of the Burnett-Calvert Hospice House. A steady downpour didn’t phase our dedicated volunteers, who first set up 100 chairs outside in hopes of a break in the weather, then moved the entire program into the as yet unfinished Hospice House. The Chesapeake Community Chorus sang; Hospice Chaplain Willie Davis offered the invocation and benediction; honored



Volunteers Christel Libiot, Eloise “Weazy” Hicks and Heather Young.

Hospice founder and first President of the Calvert Hospice Board of Directors Marie Andrews reminded everyone that there would be no hospice in Calvert County without volunteers. Current Board President Jay Webster honored all of the volunteers over the last 25 years. “The heart of Calvert Hospice truly is our volunteers,” he said.

guests shared their thoughts. Deacon John Verdon, a member of the Board of Directors offered the Dedicatory Prayer. “We pray,” he said, “that this place be a beacon of hope and peace to those who are entering their final days on this earth. We ask that you make this building a house of blessing and a center of love where doctors, nurses, chaplains, social workers, aides, and volunteers serve the patients and their families that pass through these doors with compassion....”



Volunteer Roy Preston



Marie Andrews, Senator Mike Miller, Lynn Bonde and Senator Roy Dyson.

Volunteers are the heart of **Calvert Hospice**

HELP WANTED

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities please email Ann Lavezzo at alavezzo@calverthospice.org with the appropriate "Reference" in the subject line or call 410-535-0892 or 301-855-1226.

Shoppe for Hospice: Persons with retail experience of any kind or just a desire to work in an upscale boutique-type store please call or email Ann with "STORE" as the subject.

Legacy Program: Volunteers needed to meet with families to plan projects, collect memorabilia and mentor teens. People also needed to help design, assemble and oversee projects. Email Ann with "LEGACY" as subject.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TEEN PHOENIX

Seeking friendly, caring individuals who enjoy working with teens. Teen Phoenix will be an overnight retreat being held in September. Teens and volunteers will participate in various creative activities and group discussions.

HOSPICE CUP XXVIII

Saturday, September 26, 2009 Annapolis, MD Benefitting Calvert Hospice and others in Maryland, Virginia and Washington D.C. For more information or to donate go to www.hospicecup.org

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Sat., Sept. 12, 2009; 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Every Thurs., 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Sept. 17 through Nov. 5
Calvert Hospice Office
238 Merrimac Ct., Prince Frederick, MD

All volunteers participate in the Hospice training, which is free of charge. The Saturday program includes the Hospice philosophy and mission and gives an overall understanding of expectations for any volunteer. Those wishing to care for patients and their families will need to complete the full 33 hours to receive education on hospice care, grief, and other topics.

Become a Hospice Volunteer! Email alavezzo@calverthospice.org with "Training" as the subject or call 410-535-0892 or 301-855-1226 to register. If you started training but didn't finish, please call or email to attend classes you may have missed.



Help NEEDED at the Burnett-Calvert Hospice House

- Cooking and serving meals
- Cleaning up after meals
- Kitchen maintenance
- Patient Companion
- Stocking: food, paper and medical supplies
- Shopping- groceries and household supplies
- Laundry- wash/dry/fold/ deliver to rooms
- Office work/receptionist
- Light house keeping

Call the Hospice office or email Ann Lavezzo at alavezzo@calverthospice.org with "BCHH" as the subject.

HAPPY SUMMER Birthdays!

JULY

Robert Anthony
Carolyn Austin
Cheryl Fisher
Chris Gatton
Eloise Hicks
Shannon Kelly
Carolyn Kemp
Michael Lea
Lisa Lewis
Yvonne Micheli
Nancy O'Neal
Mary Oritt
Sharon Pearce
Molly Ridgeway
Forestine Robinson
Rosalind Spriggs
Marilyn Stanley
Barbara Sullivan
Kristin Team
Sven Thulin
Judy Webster
Dinah White

AUGUST

Richard Beers
Rachel Boarman
Norma Buas
Latonya Butler
Ruth Dixon
Debby Hyman
Mary Jo Ireland
Valerie Kirchman
David Lavezzo
Christine Malone
Carol Morehead
Mary Shannon
Grace Strudevant
Mary Swieringa
Rodonna Upshur
Janice Waters
Maria Whedbee



SEPT

Anita Alexander
Pat Annee
Carl Buchheister
Elise Drew
Nancy El Dieahy
Becky Gross
Chuck Knapper
Christel Libiot
Carole Meadows
Dixie Miller
Mary Oursler
Pat Petruskas
Marcia Poland
Tamara Saltman
Jerry Sebold
Cathy Selig
Gina Sullivan
Mary Watson

Don't Miss Volunteer Time With Each Other!

"Sharing Hands & Hearts"

All Calvert Hospice Volunteers are invited to meet on the first Wednesday of each month 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Calvert Hospice office. Bring your own bag lunch and Calvert Hospice will provide the drinks. Mark your calendars- Wed. August 5th & September 2nd.



Volunteers Were "Puttin' on the Ritz" at the "Swing Into Spring" Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon!



The Southern Maryland Swing Band donated an afternoon of swing music of the 30's, 40's and 50's.

Volunteer Barbara Hunt was honored for Most Family Service Hours for 2009 - 99 visits and 250 hours! Calvert Hospice Executive Director Lynn Bonde and Volunteer Coordinator Ann Lavezzo express thanks and congratulations from all.



Volunteers (from left) Nancy El Dieahy, Sharon Pearce, Terry Andrews, Sheila Walls, Cindy Bossert, Michael Parrish and Mary Thulin.



Volunteers JoAnn Turner and Valerie DeToto enjoyed an afternoon of good food and great friends.



Hospice Clinical Director Kendra Logan and husband Philip demonstrate the waltz.

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I came to the drop in group and it was a life saver for me."

Time and again members of the community have been touched by someone at Calvert Hospice and they decide to volunteer. Janie Stutzman said during one of her last training sessions, "The entire organization and all of the people I have met have been outstanding." Betty Gowland adds, "So many good people are associated with Calvert Hospice and I would like to be a small part of it."

So on behalf of all the staff at Calvert Hospice, thanks to YOU, the volunteers who have given so much to so many over the past 25 years.

Guest author this month: Christel Libiot ~ Volunteer

Get In the Spirit! Join us as a volunteer for the 21st Annual Festival of Trees "The Dream Becomes A Reality" November 27-29, 2009



- ✳️ **Tree Sponsorships:** Help make phone calls and follow-ups to secure sponsors for each of the 4 1/2, 6 1/2 or 7 1/2 foot trees in the Festival.
- ✳️ **Tree Decorators:** Bring your friends or group and decorate a 4 1/2, 6 1/2 or 7 1/2 foot Christmas tree on Fri., Nov. 27th from 7AM -2PM.
- ✳️ **Poinsettia Donations:** Help sell poinsettias and assemble the Poinsettia Tree Display on Fri., Nov. 27th and then break-down on Sun. evening, Nov. 29th.
- ✳️ **Gift Shop:** Create or donate a gift to be sold at the Hospice Gift Shop and/or help with working time in the Gift Shop Fri., Nov. 27th through Sun., Nov. 29th. Schedules are flexible.
- ✳️ **Admissions:** Greet guests and take admissions the evening of Fri., Nov. 27th through the afternoon of Sun., Nov. 29th. Schedules are flexible.
- ✳️ **Set-up and Clean-up:** Help assemble and place trees and decorations on Wed. afternoon, Nov. 25th and Fri., Nov. 27th and then break-down on Sun. evening, Nov. 29th. Lots of hands needed!
- ✳️ **Festival Gala:** Provide set-up and support for the Friday evening opening event, Nov. 27th.

If you are interested in helping with the Festival of Trees, please email Carolyn Kemp at cak1996@comcast.net.

Go Green!

Get Your Quarterly Newsletter by Email!
Help us save by having your copy of **Connections** e-mailed to you. Simply email jfields@calverthospice.org with your full name, home address and the email address of your choice.

For Volunteer Information

Contact:

Ann Lavezzo
410.535.0892 or 301.855.1226
Calvert Hospice
238 Merrimac Court
P.O. Box 838
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
www.calverthospice.org



NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS!



Shoppe for Hospice
A boutique to benefit Calvert Hospice
Kaine Industrial Park
4130 Old Town Road, Huntingtown, MD

Bring your gently used women's and children's clothing to **Shoppe for Hospice** every Monday through Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
DONATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT ANY OTHER TIME.

Clean out your closets, then come back to shop!
Shoppe Hours- Starting July 23, 2009:
Thursday 12 Noon - 7:00 PM
Friday & Saturday - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.
~ Aesop ~

Donate to Calvert Hospice ON-LINE
Just go to www.calverthospice.org
and click the "DONATE" button.

Calvert Hospice 

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