

# Newsletter



Hi Everyone,



I hope you are having a lovely Spring Season. The weather has been pretty changeable and running hot and cold. Hopefully the transition into Summer will bring warmer temperatures and less rain.

Summer for the Auxiliary is holiday time and our quietest time of the year at the hospital. We have just come through another COVID outbreak in "C" ward and one can only assume it's not the last.

Foot traffic is still down from pre-COVID days and is obviously having its effects on revenue for the Coffee Shop and the Gift Shop. To try and add to the coffers, your Executive has asked Catherine Duffin to use our Coffee Shop to provide coffee, tea, soft drinks and snacks for any hospital meetings.

On May 30, our coffee shop volunteers serviced 20 attendees at Catherine's Culture Club meeting in the Board Room and feedback is that it was a great success. The coffee shop has 3 more hospital meetings booked for the future.

We had a SELL OUT for our Strawberry Tea and Fashion Show on June 20th. Kudos to our Fundraising and Publicity Committees for all their hard work.

The fundraising team will be getting together during the Summer to look at events for the Fall/Winter season. The Peach King Arena is being remodelled so it can't be used for Breakfast With Santa for the next couple of years.

Great news from the local municipalities and HHS, our hospital name will remain the same. For once the politicians and hospital executives agreed with public opinion.

Catherine is still looking for volunteers to help in the wards. I know there is a parking issue still but if there is any way ward volunteers can make it into the hospital by walking, or getting a ride in and picked up at the shift end, please let Wendy Hollinshead or Diane Park know and they can schedule you a slot.

FYI, the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act 2010, S.O. 2010, c.15 ("ONCA") has entered into force. Relevant for hospitals, the ONCA clarifies provincial rules of governance. Hospitals are advised to review and revise their governing documents in order to conform with the New Act.

Not-for-Profit and Charitable organizations incorporated under the Corporations Act (Ontario) were given until October 18, 2024, to bring their letters patent and by-laws into compliance with ONCA.

HHS is completing their own ONCA work and their lawyers are offering us their help with this.

So..... onward into Summer, enjoy the weather and stay safe.

Fred Lilley  
President WLMA



IN THIS issue .....

Presidents Message  
Administration  
St Pat's Day Dinner  
AGM  
80th Celebration  
Gift Shop  
Coffee Shop  
Welcomes  
Condolences

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June 2024

## Volunteer Coordinator Report May 2024

### 2024 Annual General Meeting

Many volunteer organizations have struggled to climb back to their pre-pandemic status and our Auxiliary is no different. However, we have made great strides this past year. When we ended 2022, we had a total of 7,700 volunteer hours, and as of Dec 2023, we had a total of 14,200 hours. Still a long way from our pre-pandemic total in 2019 of 26,000 hours, but we had about 150 active volunteers then, whereas we have about 100 volunteers currently on-site. With the completion of the new hospital a year from now and hopefully additional parking space for volunteers soon afterwards, we can expect to recruit many more volunteers into not only existing, but new placement areas, with shifts extending into the weekends and evenings.

The AGM was held on April 18th and as Volunteer Coordinator, I had the pleasure of presenting the service awards to many amazing volunteers who play a vital role in our community hospital.

As you'll see in this newsletter, awards were given to 15 volunteers to recognize their Hours of Service, from 500 hours to 12,000 hours.

Also, we recognized two volunteers, Barb McDermid and Sheila Scott, who achieved over 25 years of committed service to the Auxiliary!

For the Outstanding Service awards, we celebrated three volunteers, Barb Jackson, Jillian Harshaw and Marlene Morais. This award is for those who go above and beyond, working on fundraising events, providing exemplary service and a minimum of 5 years membership. And lastly, one Life Member award was presented to Fred Lilley, a two-time Auxiliary President, who has served in a leadership capacity at the Board or Committee for at least 10 years (2 terms as President!) and has exhibited continued dedication and service to the Auxiliary.

To all of our volunteers, I want to say that we are grateful for your willingness to give your time, energy, and talents. Your support of West Lincoln Memorial Auxiliary allows us to continue fulfilling our mission and serve the people in our community, as we have done for the past 80 years.

Wendy Hollinshead, Volunteer Coordinator

### Volunteers in the ED

Volunteers have returned after more than ten years to the Emergency Department (ED) waiting room. Seven days a week, they provide support to staff, patients and visitors in the ED, greeting patients upon arrival in the ED; providing wayfinding assistance to visitors/patients; answering basic questions for visitors/patients; and completing various tasks to support the ED staff.

The ED schedule is currently supported by 10 dedicated volunteers, including 4 university students who fill the weekend shifts. We currently have two weekday shifts still open and are in need of additional volunteers to spare when others are away. So please contact the Volunteer Coordinator if you are interested (Wendy Hollinshead at [hollinshea@hhsc.ca](mailto:hollinshea@hhsc.ca)).

## The West Lincoln Memorial Auxiliary has been supporting WLMH since 1944

Early records focused on tasks performed for the hospital including sewing (towels, bedsheets, hospital gowns, etc.) and activities like canning fruit vs. volunteer hours contributed.

As we celebrate our 80th anniversary it is a good time to reflect on our more recent contributions to the Hospital and the community.

WLMA is a 100% Volunteer organization.

WLMA Volunteers currently support these areas at WLMH:

- o Information Desk
- o Auxiliary Office
- o Hospital Admin Office
- o Gift Shop
- o Coffee Shop
- o Same Day Surgery (Courtesy Calls)
- o Diagnostic Imaging - Breast Cancer Screening Program (Courtesy Calls)
- o Mail Delivery
- o Obstetrics/Maternity, Prenatal Tours
- o Emergency Dept – Stocking supplies, Waiting Room Greeters
- o Care Cart

Hours donated also include those contributed by the Fundraising Committee and those accumulated by Committee Heads and our Executive as they manage the administration and planning of volunteer activities.

Our ability to support WLMH was greatly impacted by Covid. Active membership fell from 158 in 2019 to 107 in 2024.

In March of 2020, all volunteer activities ceased. We reopened the Coffee Shop and Gift Shop briefly in the Fall only to close 8 weeks later due to rising Covid cases at the Hospital (during this time contactless payment was introduced).

During 2021 all outlets and fundraising remained closed. Monthly Executive meetings, ongoing discussions about Covid with the WLMH Site Director and Redevelopment meetings for new WLMH all became virtual.

Reintegrations training commenced in May 2022 and the Gift Shop and Coffee Shop re-opened in June much to the delight of our Volunteers!

Annual Volunteer hours were consistently between 20,000 to 30,000 in the decade prior to the pandemic shutdown that happened in March 2020. Happily, we have seen the hours bounce back in the past 2 years :

2019 - 27,703

2020 - 5,264

2021 - 1052

2022 - 7,738

2023 - 14,153 hours

Total Volunteers hours from 2008-2023 - 515,186!

WLMA volunteers are honoured to support WLMH and continue to make a significant contribution to our Hospital.

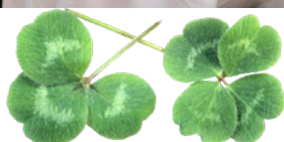
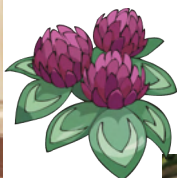




# St Patrick's Day Dinner held at Mountainview Christian Reformed Church on March 15th



Another Delicious Meal served up by our favourite Chef Brad Rempel



# 79th Annual General Meeting 2024

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**Held at Mountainview Christian Reformed Church  
on April 18th**

**Dinner was provided and served by employees of West  
Lincoln Memorial Hospital, catered by Chef Brad Rempel**



**Presentation of  
\$5,000 Donation to  
Leslie Gillies**

Nurses play a crucial role in directly impacting the lives of patients. Through their care, compassion and expertise, they contribute to positive changes in the health and well-being of individuals. On Thursday April 18th, WLMA held our Annual General Meeting and Appreciation Event here in Grimsby. We took a moment to celebrate our amazing volunteers and reflect on our accomplishments in 2023. One highlight was the presentation of a \$5,000 donation to Leslie Gillies, VP of Nursing, Practice and Education and Community Health, and WLMH Executive Site Lead by WLMA President Fred Lilley.

WLMA provides this \$5000 financial support on a yearly basis so West Lincoln Memorial Hospital's nurses may attend conferences, workshops, and courses to enhance their knowledge and skills. Proceeds from the Coffee Shop, Gift Shop and fundraising events allow us to fund this initiative, foster continued learning and growth and show our commitment to empowering our healthcare heroes at WLMH.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all nurses for their empowering dedication, and eagerly anticipate further opportunities to support and uplift them in the days ahead.

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## **Welcome to our new Vice President - Laurie Ellis**

Laurie will serve one year as Vice President before assuming the role of President for a term of 2 years then Past President for 2 years. She is the former Site Administrator following the amalgamation with HHS. Laurie originally began her career at West Lincoln Memorial hospital in 2001 as Director of Maternal/Child, C ward, ICU and Education. She is a Registered Nurse by profession, now retired she resides in Grimsby with her husband Mike.



# 2023 Award Recipients



**Christine  
Gudas-Murphy**



**Sheila McIntyre**



**Mireille Nafekh**



**Melanie  
Pachereva**

**500  
Hours**



**Gail Bartlett**



**Linda  
Andreatta**



**Gail Bartlett**



**Lesley  
Edwards**



**Heda Sinichko**

**1,000  
Hours**



**Theresa  
Cheverie**



**Wendy  
Hollinshead**



**Marilyn Neilson**



**Bob Thompson**

**2,000  
Hours**

**6,000 Hours**



**Gillian Leon**

**8,000 Hours**

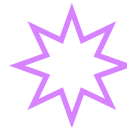


**Jill Howe**

**12,000 Hours**



**Anne Marie Heywood**

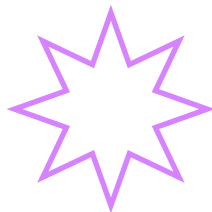
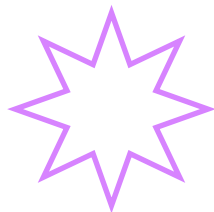


**Sheila Scott**

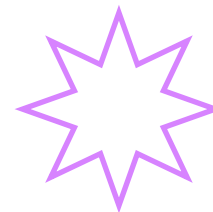
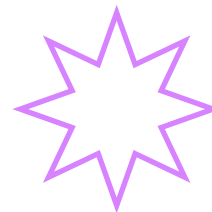
**25 Year  
Member Award**



**Barbara  
McDermid**



**Fred Lilley**



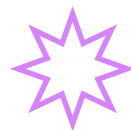
**Life Member Award**



**Marlene  
Morais**



**Jillian  
Harshaw**

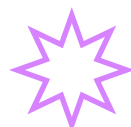
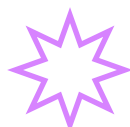


**Barb  
Jackson**

**Outstanding Service Award**



**Shahrukh  
Khan**



**Alexander  
Proulx**

**Student Bursary Award**





*Celebrating our 80th Anniversary  
at Mountainview Christian Reformed Church.  
Our volunteers enjoyed lots of conversation along with a  
lovely Afternoon Tea from Tay's Treats in Vineland*



3350 King St., Vineland  
289-567-0771







# Gift Shop



2 of our smiling volunteers just waiting to serve up a delicious BLT, Corned Beef on Rye or any of our other offerings and enjoy it in peace and quiet in our little cafe!



# Coffee Shop



How about a cuppa tea from our wide selection and a scone supplied by Tay's Treats, or a cold drink and a snack. We would love your feedback on what you would like us to serve you. Let us know.





# *Welcome*

*to our new volunteers*



Karen Partridge

Katherine Fisher

Jim Gilmour

Christina Tallon

Mary Berzaitis

Laurie Ellis

Rebecca Hill

Ian Gonzalez Zavalza

Arnav Brar

JoAnn O'Hagan

Melissa Mouzaya

Karen McRae



# *Condolences*



*Go out to:*

The family of Joan Ceaser (March 2024)

Linda Murphy on the loss of her daughter (March 2024)  
and her husband (May 2024)