

SPRING 2011

# HOSPICE HAPPENINGS

*Caring Since 1978*



## VOLUNTEERS ... THE HEART OF HOSPICE



Abbey



VHOCC recently started a program for certified therapy dogs to visit hospice patients and families. Abbey is one of 12 therapy dogs who are in the program. If a patient would like a visit from one of them, they only need to contact the Hospice office or a Hospice nurse and arrangements will be made for a home visit.

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**Dave Shargel** manning the front office



**Marie Goin, Nancy McDonald, and Liz Sullivan** at work in the VHOCC office.



Abbey & her handler, Deb Cox, are also certified as members of Gentle Paws, a local dog therapy organization. Deb & her husband, Tom (a VHOCC driver) raise puppies for Guide Dogs for the Blind.



**Cherie Copsey, Grief Counselor,** leading the discussion on grief support with 21 volunteers at the January In-Service.



From the  
*Director's Desk*  
by  
Sue Hynes

With lightening speed we begin the new year. It has been a time of change. Thanks to tireless hours of the IT crew, Gail Porter, David Gilbert and Ken Brown, we are now beginning to be automated. We have just begun to tap into the benefits that automation will bring. It will cut down on the amount of duplication, improve internal communication, and will allow us to access data that can give us more insight into the types and amount of services we provide. The reports that we receive can be used for marketing, grant writing, improving services and much more. Thank to the IT crew, the data entry is not complicated and it is user friendly!

We have a new Hospice Nurse, Marca Davies, and the nursing team is looking great! Currently we have two full time nurses in Port Angeles and two in Sequim, a full-time float nurse, an admissions nurse and a per diem weekend nurse. As anyone who has used our services know, we have dedicated professionals who embrace their work with grace, knowledge and compassion. This holds true for everyone I share my day with at Hospice. As Bruce Bush will tell anyone he trains, "We do more than just deliver beds." For those of you who don't know Bruce, with the help of his copilot Tom Cox, he oversees the "troops" who deliver the beds. He recently took on the role of chairperson for the maintenance committee and is a new member to the Board.

After many years of service, Kelly Steward, Lois Bakker and Alice Barnett retired last year leaving a huge hole. With the continued help from above, we now have Nell Kravchenko doing Lois's job of recording the donations and Lyn Gilbert and Lynda Phillips overseeing the front desk crew. Mary Brown has taken over Kelly's role as publisher. I recommend you take a peek at our website that Ken Brown has spent many hours creating and updating.

The recent news articles and radio interviews have incited several new volunteers to come aboard. We are so happy to have you. Don't fear...there still is a need for more volunteers ... to work in the office, in bereavement to help those grieving and in our marketing team. Please give me a call if you or someone you know would like to come on board. We will send you an application.

Our committees, our volunteers and our staff are very active. Our enthusiasm is great! We have heard from the community..."We love and support Volunteer Hospice" and so do we. We plan to keep it a vital asset to those in need in our community.

I would love to hear from you about how you feel about Volunteer Hospice. Would you mind if I shared your stories, thoughts or feelings with others? Is there any section of information you would like to have added to our newsletter or web site? You can reach me at the Hospice office or at my email [vhocc@olypen.com](mailto:vhocc@olypen.com).

(continued)

From The Director's Desk (continued)

There are many new faces and many who have been here for many years. I could use this whole newsletter and more to tell you all the wonderful ways each person contributes. Allow me just to say thank you.

HOSPICE HUGS  
T O

- ◆ Our IT committee, Ken Brown, Dave Gilbert, Sue Hynes, Gail Porter & Liz Sullivan for all your hours of work updating our computers and database.
- ◆ The committee who organized the December Volunteer Luncheon at Cedars at Dungeness.
- ◆ Jim's Pharmacy for choosing VHOCC as their December charity.
- ◆ Lock Shop for making keys without charging us.
- ◆ Peninsula College School of Nursing interns for helping with medical records.
- ◆ Nelvina @ KWA for conducting a respite class for our volunteers.

A special thank you to Ed & Phyllis Hophner for your wonderful efforts to re-distribute our excess equipment and supplies to those in need.

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES**  
The schedule is on our web site [vhocc.org](http://vhocc.org)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**BOARD MEETING** 3rd Tuesday - Noon - Hospice House

**PORT ANGELES INSERVICE** - 2nd Monday 1:00 PM  
Hospice House Port Angeles

**SEQUIM INSERVICE** - 3rd Monday 11:00 AM  
Methodist Church Sequim

**GRIEF SUPPORT SERIES:**

@ PORT ANGELES Hospice House (Behind 8th Street of-  
fice) 6:30-8 PM 6-week series. Call office for dates.

@ SEQUIM Trinity United Methodist Church 100 N. Blake  
Ave 1-3 PM 5-week series Call office for dates.

Grief Support Groups are ongoing meetings for people who have completed the Grief Support Series.

Port Angeles Support Group:  
Twice a month @ the Hospice House Call office for dates

Sequim Support Group:  
3rd Monday @ 1:00 Methodist Church

**COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS** (Parents who have lost a  
child) @ St. Luke's Episcopal 525 5th Ave Sequim  
Tuesday 6-8 PM [compassionatefriends.org](http://compassionatefriends.org)  
Barbara Thompson Facilitator 797-0091

Call Hospice 452-1511 for Additional Information



**Eileen Damian  
VHOCC Board President**

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the community for all the support they have given us over the years. This past year was no exception. Without your generous donations and the untold volunteer hours, we would not be able to continue to serve our patients, their families and the rest of the community.

As we start the new year, we continue experiencing a flurry of activity at VHOCC. We have three new Board members, Dennis Beguelin, Bruce Busch and Jim Mann, each having served with VHOCC for many years and bringing with them a wide range of experience to the Board. We look forward to having them join us in this new capacity. We also have some new committee chairs, as well as new members on a few of our committees. Rose Crumb is now serving on the Advisory Committee.

We want to introduce you to Marca Davies who joined our compassionate staff of nurses last fall. Marca graduated from nursing school in 1974 and earned her Masters in 1983. She has taught at Peninsula College since 1982, becoming director in 1990. Maraca has worked in international and cross-cultural settings in the Sudan, Thailand, Ghana, Italy and Saudi Arabia (in the first gulf war), as well as serving with a migrant clinic in Arizona and in an Indian Health Service clinic. She is a volunteer at VIMO and was a co-designer of the hypertension clinic there. She currently serves as president of the board and on the Chronic Care subcommittee.

We would also like to express our gratitude to our tireless team of volunteers who have spent countless hours working with us as we transition to automating our various records.

In addition, we are revising our bylaws, and a draft of the revision will be presented at the February Board meeting. The proposed revisions will better address the needs of our evolving organization.

As Winston Churchill so aptly put it, "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." This rightly describes our hospice group, helping by giving, and thus making better each life we touch along the way.

**Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County**  
**360-452-1511**  
**540 E. 8th St. Port Angeles, WA 98362**  
**Web Site [vhocc.org](http://vhocc.org)**  
**Email: [hocc@olympen.com](mailto:hocc@olympen.com)**

Your suggestions for the newsletter are always welcome.

**The Long Range Planning Committee  
(LRPC)  
Update by Pam Gates**

The Long Range Planning goals are being carried out by various committees.

- ◆ Updated By-Laws will be ready for Board review in February.
- ◆ The Personnel Committee has produced a comprehensive set of updated policies and procedures which have been approved by the Board.
- ◆ The IT (information technology) committee has spent hundreds of hours designing and implementing new computer systems largely focused on patient records. The next project will be computerizing donations and memorials.
- ◆ There is an ad hoc committee starting to evaluate our utilization of the P.A. office and storage space.
- ◆ The finance and marketing committees are combining forces to address our long term financial needs and goals.
- ◆ The marketing committee is ready to address community organizations detailing the changes and challenges which we are embracing. The web site [vhocc.org](http://vhocc.org) is continually being updated. Please visit it often. We welcome your comments.

If you belong to any community organization which would like a presentation from us, please contact Pam Gates at 452-5061 or e-mail "gatespam@yahoo.com". You may also call the Executive Director, Sue Hynes, at the office, 452-1511.

As always, we welcome your participation on any project or committee. Your experience is a donation to Volunteer Hospice of Clallam County.

**VHOCC BUSINESS PARTNERS**

- The Solution Centre
- Pacific Office Equipment
- KONP Radio Station
- KSQM Radio Station
- Jim's Pharmacy
- Hartnagel Building Supply
- Brisk Printing
- Olympic Laundry
- Chuck and Mike Athay (Sequim Rental Unit)
- Dr. Michael Crim
- McCrorie Interiors

**VOLUNTEER HOSPICE OF CLALLAM COUNTY**

**2011 COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERIES**

- March 3 - Introduction to Hospice**  
**Sue Hynes, VHOCC Executive Director**
- March 10 - Attitudes about Death and Dying**  
**Gary Lepak, VHOCC Volunteer**
- March 17 - Grief**  
**Cherie Copsey, VHOCC Volunteer**
- March 24 - Families dealing with Death and Dying**  
**Beth Garifalos, MSW**
- March 31 - Legal Issues, Ron Bell, Attorney (1-2)**  
**Mortuary Services, Sequim Valley Chapel (2-3)**
- April 7 - Stress Management**  
**Ruth Marcus, PhD**

**THURSDAY AFTERNOONS 1-3**

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**100 S BLAKE AVE, SEQUIM**

**PLEASE CALL 452-1511 TO REGISTER**  
**FREE and OPEN TO ALL**

**“There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life...Music and cats”**  
Albert Schweitzer

*Memorial Donations*  
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First Baptist Church

Lula Elder

First Federal

(Class of 1941)

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Marty Gault

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E David Peterson

Emma Peterson

Donna & Louis Pinnell

Michael Piotrowski

Rhonda & William

Robinson

Tim Radcliffe

Marc Richard

Ray Santiago

Terry Santos

Patsy Simpson

Beverly Simon

Christine Smith

Evelyn Smith

John P Smith

Kenneth Sowa

Joy Thomson

Earl & Dorothy Thompson

M O Tousey

Patsy Triggs

George Tsukamaki

Barbara Vanderwerf

Joan Walker

Wayne Watters

Teresa Webster

Beverly Welch

*Memorial Donations*  
November 1 2010 - January 31 2011

**MONETARY DONATIONS**

(continued)

William & Kathleen  
Wheeler  
Maureen Wild  
Clarence Yaul  
Mary & Barbara Yonck  
Donald & Gervaise Zanon

**EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES**

Gary Abrams  
Tom Cox  
Mary Ellen Coyle  
Lorie Davis  
The Estate of Jeanis Farris  
Mike Haller  
Ed Krause  
Mary Lee Long  
Walter Mullins  
Michael Nicpon  
Phyllis Pfeffer  
Monti Reese  
Carmella Richardson  
Andy Rose  
Jerry Seaton  
Cheri Stark  
Jeffrey Weir  
Flora Wehrle

**Sequim Bay Yacht Club 2010**

Robert Greer

**Merry Christmas In honor of**

**Scott & Shawn Price,**

**Randi & Jackie Price**

Michael & Tomi Elliott

**In Honor of Bette Wood**

**(Hospice Nurse)**

Helen Hille

**RADIANT LIGHT 2010**

**Dotti Busch**

Bruce Busch

**Jan Chatfield**

Lee Chatfield

**Red Crumb**

Rose Crumb

**Bill & Loretta Cummings**

**David Devine**

**Carolyn Estep**

**Larry Gates**

Pam Gates

**Julia Gomez**

**Harold Hartness**

**Don Jacobson**

**Sandra Kent**

Delores Kent

**RADIANT LIGHT 2010**

(continued)

**Al Lepsak**

Ada Gamero

**Lian & Jack**

**our Great Grandsons**

**Light of our lives**

Great Grandpa & Grandy  
Goin

**Mac McDonald**

Nancy McDonald

**KC Metcalf**

**Bob Miracle**

Joan Miracle

**Carmen Rivera**

**Richard & Lea Waincott**

Harry & Eileen Damian

**Alta & Clay Wolverton**

Laverne Jacobson

**Thank you Rose & Sue**

Angela & David Slack

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[hocceditor@olypen.com](mailto:hocceditor@olypen.com)

**Christmas Volunteer Luncheon**



**Sue Hynes thanking two nurses,  
Bette Wood and Paula Richter  
at Christmas luncheon.**



**Board President, Eileen Damian,  
with new Board Members.  
Bruce Busch, Dennis Beugulin, Jim Mann**



**Volunteers enjoying food and fellowship**



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