

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Who's *NEW* on the Board

Jennifer Morin is a Brewer native, who has worked in Banking in the greater Bangor area for nearly 17 years. As a Vice President, Senior Relationship Manager with Bangor Savings Bank, she works closely with small business owners and individuals to "quarter back" their banking needs.



Jennifer is an undergraduate of the New England College of Business, majoring in Business Management. She serves as the treasurer for the Bangor Area Recovery Network and volunteers her time with SCORE as the secretary for the Bangor Chapter. Jennifer recently joined the EMMC Auxiliary Board and looks forward to using her skill set in sales to fundraise for great causes that make a difference in the community in which we all live. Jennifer lives in Brewer with her fiancé, James, and her three children.

The Power of Fun, Laughter and CONNECTION

Given the seriousness of the causes the EMMC Auxiliary works to support, it is all too easy to forget that fun, laughter and connection between our members is the key element that brings us together to do our work within the community.

Last year at a membership meeting, it was late in the day when all of us present ended up laughing as we thought of different things we might do to attract new members and strengthen our existing membership base. It was one of the most enjoyable meetings I can recall in my many years associated with the Auxiliary. Laughter is such a powerful, energizing, positive force.

As a result, I light-heartedly appointed myself to be the Auxiliary's "Minister of Fun". I set out in December to experiment with a few activities I thought would be fun and provide a sense of connection. To that end, I worked with the Penobscot Theatre Company to coordinate a group block of tickets for 17 Auxiliary members and guests interested in attending their holiday show, *The Wizard of Oz*. It ended up being a stormy night, but all of us who braved the roads were treated to a terrific production and greatly enjoyed being in company of one another—one whole row of us, plus three seated in the row ahead.

Our second holiday fun activity involved coordination of singers and caroling at Ross Manor and EMMC. Some of you may have seen the Facebook photos. What is hard to capture in a photo is what it felt like to be at Ross Manor and EMMC, sharing songs and smiles, and our presence with others during what can be, for some, a very lonely time of the year. I left both places with a lump in my throat and a feeling of being thankful for being able to do something so positive.

We will continue to explore more fun activities that Auxiliary members might enjoy doing, so stay tuned and stay connected! If you have ideas for the "Minister of Fun", I am interested in hearing from you. Call me, Ginger Ward-Green, at 947-3760 or email ginger@wardgreengroup.com. Having fun while doing our good work is what EMMC Auxiliary is all about in 2015!

HOLIDAY CHEER

On December 22, 2014, Auxiliary president Eileen Hernandez and vice president Jan Currier delivered gifts to patient floors at EMMC to be distributed to inpatients on Christmas Day. Jan is pictured on the left with Patty Miles, Nurse Manager, Grant 6 E and W. This is a very special annual tradition for EMMC Auxiliary. Several nurses and secretaries have mentioned that patients really appreciated the flashlight keychains given out this year. A thoughtful patient even sent a sweet thank you note to us. It is very nice to hear our small gesture helped to brighten someone's day.



Another Successful WINTER BEACH BALL



Auxiliary member, Carolyn Eaton, and Auxiliary board member, Cindy Curran, organized the fun and games at the 2015 Winter Beach Ball.

On Friday, January 16, 2015, the EMMC Auxiliary hosted its ninth annual Winter Beach Ball at the Cross Insurance Center. As usual for mid-January, the weather was frightfully cold, but inside, our guests were dressed up as though it was mid-July. They wore shorts and flip flops, Hawaiian shirts, sundresses and sandals—even a swimsuit top and some bare skin! With approximately 400 people attending, much fun was had by all. There was lots of space on the dance floor for the folks keen on dancing to the terrific music of The Bob Charest Band. Even the band breaks were entertaining this year. EMMC Auxiliary board member Cindy Curran and member Carolyn Eaton organized and ran several activities to engage our guests while the band took their well deserved rests between sets. Activities included a trivia contest, playing with hula hoops, and a limbo contest—providing lots of laughter for both those taking part and those looking on! Guests also enjoyed tasty light refreshments, the catering provided by Carmen Montes and the Ovations staff, that completed this great night out.

Money raised at the Winter Beach Ball went toward retiring our \$350,000 pledge to the EMMC Raish Peavey Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center. After all Winter Beach Ball bills were paid, we raised close to \$14,000 for this worthy cause. We are very thankful to Cianbro, our Hors D'oeuvres Sponsor; the Bangor Daily News, our Platinum Media Sponsor; and all of our other generous event sponsors. A big thank you, as well, goes to the local businesses who donated the gifts we used as contest prizes at the dance and for the raffle drawing held on February 13. Special thanks also goes to Steve Rich, the Winter Beach Ball guest who won the 50/50 raffle that evening and generously donated his half of the \$1,300 taken in from ticket sales right back to EMMC Auxiliary.

Here in Bangor, we are blessed with a community of individuals and businesses who work together for the greater good. The support EMMC Auxiliary experienced with the Winter Beach Ball event is an example of how enjoyable it can be to do good work and have fun at the same time. Plans are already underway for our tenth annual Winter Beach Ball in 2016!

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Would you like to become more involved with a terrific group of people? Consider joining the EMMC Auxiliary this year! We have exciting projects from our Annual Kitchen Tour, caroling through the hospital and nursing homes with patients, to the fun Winter Beach Ball.

Please join us as we welcome our new EMMC Auxiliary members: Chelsea Sullivan, Kelli Roy, Colleen Russell, Jennifer Morin, Felix Hernandez, Lacey Hernandez, Marie Keane, Kelly Pearson, Rick Gwinn, and Paula Mroz.

Contact: Terri Sleeper, Membership Chair
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www.emmcauxiliary.org



A Note from the President

***"It's not what you look at that matters.
It's what you see."*** ~ Thoreau

I've heard this Henry David Thoreau quotation before, but I never really thought about it until recently, when I stumbled upon it while scrolling through Facebook. I like what it says, and how it can apply to many things. Right now, though, where I am looking, is at EMMC Auxiliary—who we are and how we are doing. And, what I see is a compassionate and fun loving group of diverse individuals who want to help and be involved with our community; people busy with many things, but who still find time to lend a hand.

Through our Kitchen Tour and Winter Beach Ball, we are able to raise money for Auxiliary projects. We award nursing scholarships, help with EMMC Champion the Cure Challenge, and donate to EMHS Foundation Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. We have almost completed our \$350,000 pledge to the EMMC Raish Peavey Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center.

In this day and age where many organizations vie for the support of area businesses, it can be a challenge to reach ambitious goals. EMMC Auxiliary continues to do well as fundraisers for good causes, but that is not all that we do, nor is it all that we are. If you look, you will see the lives we are touching, the friends we are making, and the laughs we are sharing.

This past holiday season we continued our tradition of distributing small gifts to EMMC inpatients. We went caroling at Ross Manor and at EMMC, and went to a play together at Penobscot Theatre. We like to meet for a friendly breakfast, volunteer at the hospital, and have fun together.

The Board of Directors of EMMC Auxiliary appreciates all of our members and we invite you and your friends to continue to join us at our meetings and events and to stretch and be involved. I hope you will like what you see.

Best wishes,

Eileen
Eileen Hernandez

Please send your thoughts and suggestions to eileenzh88@gmail.com or phone 941-0819. Thank you!

Celebrating TEN YEARS OF WONDERFUL KITCHENS



Last fall's fabulous warm and sunny days of 80 degrees encouraged people to get out and tour the selected kitchens we included in our 2014 Annual Kitchen Tour. It is an important event that raises funds to support our pledge. This year's money raised went to EMMC Raish Peavey Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center. The tour provided a diverse selection of homes ranging from ultra-modern to historic. One can always see unique designs and displays to inspire terrific ideas for one's own home on these tours.

At the birthplace of Civil War Hero, Joshua Chamberlain, on North Main Street in Brewer, history buffs delighted at touring the kitchen with a back pantry and its cabinetry built to incorporate the early 20th century icebox. Plus, a "must see" bathroom there with a rare claw foot toilet was a bonus.

On Pleasant Street in Bangor, downtown living at its best was showcased at a contemporary condo, renovated from a factory building, overlooking the Bangor Waterfront.

Another home, on Braodway, was built in 1864 and among a few homes to survive the great fire of Bangor. This beautifully maintained house includes a six-foot Monson slate sink in its kitchen.

Three homes on Fox Hollow in Bangor made for very easy travel between tour locations. The first, a Craftsman cottage style home hosted the tour's tenth year anniversary celebration with a silver tea. Its kitchen has a lovely two-sided cabinet displaying the owner's cut glass collection. The second home has been featured in Susan Susanka's 1998 book, *The Not So Big House*. The third, a colonial with an open floor plan, has unique Ingo Maurer lights from Germany in its kitchen.

Last but not least, a contemporary home on Maxfield Drive in Orono had black granite and brown marbled granite counter tops which added an interesting blend to the kitchen and complimented the Patagonian cherry hardwood floors in its living and dining rooms.

*Stay tuned for our 2015 Annual Kitchen Tour
this fall with a whole new list of
fantastic homes*

EMMC AUXILIARY 2014 Annual Meeting

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the EMMC Auxiliary was held on November 13 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bangor. EMMC Auxiliary president, Eileen Hernandez, welcomed members and friends, and Reverend Rex Garrett gave the Invocation. Over lunch, guest speaker, Joan MacCracken, MD, a retired pediatrician and author, entertained everyone while discussing her latest book, *The Winter House*. She spoke about the topic of "aging in place" and talked about ways to find creative solutions to living independently later in life.



Auxiliary Nursing Scholarship recipients, Allison Beaulieu, Brandee Beal, Emilee Graves, and Christine Dossett from Husson University joined Auxiliary members at the 2014 Annual Meeting and luncheon.

During the business meeting, minutes from the November 7, 2013 meeting were approved, along with the proposed budget for 2015. Eileen recognized outgoing board member Kimberly Dagher, and past president, Ginger Ward-Green welcomed new board members, Mary Brooks, Nazrin Dixon, Colleen Russell, Melissa Scott, and Suzette Vernon. Gift shop volunteers were acknowledged and thanked for their service. Helen McKinnon, vice president for Support Services at EMMC, inducted the EMMC Auxiliary officers for 2015.

Auxiliary fundraising efforts were showcased with a \$35,000 check to EMMC Raish Peavey Haskell Children's Cancer and Treatment Center. Helen McKinnon accepted the donation on behalf of EMMC, and acknowledged the Auxiliary's hard work and the significance of the Auxiliary's gift. Additionally, a \$14,300 check from the Auxiliary's endowment earnings was presented to Terri Sleeper from EMHS Foundation for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Keeping with tradition, Paula Ballesteros and Nancy Long, education co-chairs, awarded \$1,000 scholarships to four deserving Husson University nursing students. Following a discussion of upcoming events, the meeting was adjourned and many guests lined up for a copy of Dr. MacCracken's book.

Raffles Net Nearly \$2,000

The 2015 Winter Beach Ball 50-50 raffle added more than \$1,300 to our contribution to EMMC causes. Thanks to our raffle ticket maestros Irv and Karen Marsters, board members Nazrin Dixon and Jan Currier, and new EMMC Auxiliary member Marie Keane.

Our Valentine's Day raffle added nearly \$700 to our fundraising efforts, with merchandise and gift certificates donated by supportive retailers and patrons, including a special kayak package with paddle and personal flotation device.



Lucky raffle winners were: Becky Spaulding, Jim Hernandez, Martha Wildman, Kirsten Shorey, Joann Clark, Bill Vernon, Carmen Curry, Bonnie Johnson, Sharon Theeman, Marie Keane, and Steve Rich (pictured), who donated his 50-50 raffle winnings right back to EMMC Auxiliary.

Gift Shop Updates

Our EMMC Auxiliary Gift Shop, managed by Lori's Gifts, continues to grow and improve. Sales for 2014 were up 34 percent over 2013 and our shop received the Lori's Gifts coveted Shining Star Award for 2014, a special recognition of the stores that exceeded sales 11 out of 12 months throughout the year compared to the previous year. Flower sales are up. We have beautiful arrangements provided by Lougee & Frederick's, Hallmark card sales are also up and, of course, the Alex and Ani jewelry collection has been a huge hit with patients, visitors and staff. If you haven't been in to shop, please stop by. You'll be sure to find gifts for family and friends, and perhaps something to indulge yourself.



Team Members Wanted!

Get your walking shoes on and please join Team EMMC Auxiliary for the sixth annual EMMC Champion the Cure Challenge. This year's fun, fitness, and fundraising event will be held on Saturday, August 15 at 9 AM. Family and friends of Auxiliary members are welcome to join our team as we show our support for this important cause that funds local cancer research in our community.

If you are unable to attend, please consider joining our team as a virtual participant, or by making a general team donation. For more information or to donate to Team EMMC Auxiliary, please visit ctcchallenge.org and search for Team EMMC Auxiliary.

