

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

### Who's *NEW* on the Board

**Kendra Speed** is a Maine native and Bangor High School graduate who has lived in the Bangor area most of her life. She has worked in the banking industry for nearly eleven years and currently serves as Branch Manager for Bangor Savings Bank where she is focused on her customers and the community.

As an undergraduate at Husson University majoring in Business Management, Kendra also serves as the Board Chair for Shaw House and recently joined the EMMC Auxiliary Board. She has a strong commitment to volunteering her time for organizations that make a difference in the Bangor community where she resides with her husband, James, and two children.



New Board Members (L to R): Kelli Roy, Kendra Speed and Jennifer Morin. Kelli and Jennifer have been featured in previous Auxiliary newsletters.

## GOOD CHEER

### An Auxiliary Tradition

The Spirit of Christmas was in the air when Jan Currier, incoming president of the EMMC Auxiliary, and Auxiliary board members Sherry Roberts and Paula Ballesteros walked the halls of EMMC last December 21 spreading good cheer. They visited each patient care unit to deliver gifts in celebration of the holidays. Each patient knew the Auxiliary was thinking of them when they received a handy pocket flashlight that could clip on a pocketbook or belt.

Santa's Elf (and Child Life Specialist) also shopped for appropriate age-related gifts for the pediatric patients on behalf of the EMMC Auxiliary to cheer those who couldn't be home for the holidays.

EMMC Auxiliary has been established for over 100 years, raising and donating over three million dollars to new programs and expansions at Eastern Maine Medical Center. Spreading joy during the holiday season is just one of the many ways they serve their mission.

## What Matters Most?

Some may remember last year was my first term as self appointed EMMC Auxiliary "Minister of Fun". I'm delighted to report I have held on to this very important role. In keeping with my original intention of coordinating activities that are fun and will provide a sense of connection for our members, I started planning early last fall for the holiday season.

I gathered together a group of good-hearted singers willing to give up an afternoon to brighten the spirits of residents at Ross Manor and patients on the Rehab unit at EMMC with carols. Twice as many singers as last year participated and Mrs. and Mr. Claus (aka Mary and Joe Brooks) also joined us! Although the day was cold and snowy, the visit from Mrs. and Mr. Claus and our group of singers sharing the beauty of beloved holiday songs provided warmth and meaning to everyone with whom we connected.

Thinking back, what stays with me from that day of caroling is a sense of how much our presence meant to the people we sang for. It reminds me how important it is to not get so swept up in the "busyness" of the holiday season that we neglect the importance of reaching out and opening our hearts to those who find the holidays to be a very lonely time of year.

The second fun-filled holiday season event involved coordinating a group of seventeen Auxiliary members and friends to attend *It's a Wonderful Life - A Radio Show* at the Penobscot Theatre. The lessons presented by the story of George Bailey and Clarence, his guardian angel, stayed with me long after the final curtain went down.

What Matters Most? For me, it's people, connection, wholehearted service, and generosity of spirit—all qualities that speak to our commitments with the Auxiliary. We will continue to explore more fun and rewarding activities our members might enjoy. So stay with us, and stay connected. Having fun while doing good work is what EMMC Auxiliary is all about!

If you have ideas for me, the self-appointed "Minister of Fun", I'd be delighted to hear from you. Call Ginger Ward-Green at 947-3760, or e-mail [ginger@wardgreengroup.com](mailto:ginger@wardgreengroup.com).



Santa and Mrs. Claus (member Mary Brooks and her husband Joe) accompanied Auxilians during

## Tenth Annual WINTER BEACH BALL

Summer arrived early in Bangor this year! Well, at least that is how it appeared the evening of March 4 at the Cross Insurance Center when the EMMC Auxiliary hosted its Tenth Annual Winter Beach Ball. The Bob Charest Band was back on stage with great dance music for all to enjoy. Our beachgoers were able to be a little silly in our Fun Zone, which included Photo Booths of Maine, sailor and mermaid photo cutouts and other fun props. Also new this year, were our fun themed Chance Auction baskets, ranging from Beer Bash, to Maine Made and Basket of Bling. They were gorgeous baskets, chock-full of amazing items, all donated by our generous community members.

The EMMC Auxiliary is happy to announce we surpassed our goal and raised over \$23,000! All of the money will go toward our five-year pledge of \$400,000 to EMMC's new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Much applause and a big thank you to our Penguin Sponsor, Epstein Commercial Real Estate, who jumped right on board and led the charge. Another big thank you to the Bangor Daily News for being our Surfer Sponsor, and to Cianbro, for being our Leis Sponsor. Thank you to all of our many other sponsors, too, and to all of the businesses that donated to our Chance Auction—all were so generous and giving. Lastly, a huge thank you to our board members and volunteers who worked so hard to make this one of our best Winter Beach Ball events to date. We are looking forward to 2017's Winter Beach Ball and hope you will join us again!



## TALBOTS

Please join us & help make a DIFFERENCE

At our event at Stillwater Avenue supporting Auxiliary of Eastern Maine Medical Center. Thursday, April 7th 4PM-7PM. Talbots will donate 10% of pre-tax sales.



## Save the Date...

**May 18 - EMMC Auxiliary Spring Cocktail Social**  
Members and friends are invited to join our membership committee in kicking off a year of education spotlighting the Penobscot Pavilion, 3-6 PM at Seasons.

**August 20 - EMMC Champion the Cure Challenge**  
For more information please visit [cttchallenge.org](http://cttchallenge.org) and search for Team EMMC Auxiliary. You can walk with us or participate virtually!

**October 1 - EMMC Auxiliary Annual Kitchen Tour**



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## A Letter from the President

**W**hat an exciting year we have ahead of us! I am honored and privileged to be in such good company with all of you. I continue to be impressed and inspired by the enthusiasm and creativity that is energizing our membership and our board. Your fresh ideas, ebullience and energy are enhancing our efforts to build and strengthen our skillsets, and to excel in our advocacy and fund raising goals, benefitting the hospital, especially the new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.



This year we will share in the achievement of a major milestone in the *Remarkable Begins With You* campaign with the June opening of Phase One at EMMC, including the new NICU, to which we've made our current pledge of \$400,000.

Congratulations! You have all been an integral part of this extraordinary advance in community care!

I hope to work with each of you this year as we continue to grow our Auxiliary in 2016:

- **Raising funds and connecting** with our community with our Tenth Annual Winter Beach Ball, March 4 at the Cross Insurance Center, and our Twelfth Annual Kitchen Tour this fall on Saturday, October 1.
- **Continuing to create new opportunities** for fun, fellowship and friendship, including our coffee klatches at Bagel Central, holiday caroling at Ross Manor and EMMC, and group outings to Penobscot Theatre.
- **Growing in knowledge and expertise** to enhance our value as effective volunteers and enthusiastic advocates for the good works of Eastern Maine Medical Center and EMHS.

We'll continue to welcome new ideas and new members to enrich our events, lives and activities.

With warm best wishes,

Jan Currier

## NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Would you like to become more involved with a terrific group of people? Consider joining the EMMC Auxiliary this year!

Contact: Membership Chair  
jmorin@camdennational.com

## Celebrating OUR ELEVENTH KITCHEN TOUR

A beautiful and warm fall day highlighted another very successful Kitchen Tour for EMMC Auxiliary, thanks to the hard work of our Kitchen Tour Committee, local homeowners and business owners in the Bangor and Holden area. Vendors exhibiting in the featured homes during the tour included The Maine Cooking School at the RM Flag kitchen, Savage and Sons Gourmet Coffee, Specialty Sweets, Oats Any Time, Brayer Ridge Soap, The Juice Cellar, Peaked Mountain Farm and Native Pollinator Sanctuary, and Right Bag at 'Ya. The homes were a mix of old and new construction with each home featuring different design and decorating ideas. Chapel Hill Floral provided each home with a floral arrangement designed to complement its kitchen. The event raised more than \$15,000!



We will now start in-depth plans for our 2016 Kitchen Tour that is scheduled for October 1, 2016. Some homeowners have already agreed to speak to us about participating in the tour and the committee will start its depth planning in early spring.

Our 2015 Kitchen Tour members were Paula Ballesteros, Mary Brooks, Marguerite Cowan, Jamie Cronin, Cindy Curran, Jan Currier, Nazrin Dixon, Helen Genco, Eileen Hernandez, Linda Lufkin, Jennifer Morin, Susan Nasberg, Valerie Patch, Sarah Quirk, Sherry Roberts, Kelli Roy, Colleen Russell, Suzette Vernon, Ginger Ward-Green, and Danelle Weston.

If anyone would like to be part of the Kitchen Tour committee or help in any way, please contact Martha Wildman at the Volunteer Office at EMMC or Valerie Patch at [vpatch@myfairpoint.net](mailto:vpatch@myfairpoint.net).

## Gift Shop Update

Our staff in the Gift Shop, managed by Lori's Gifts, is very excited about our new shop opening this coming June along with the new EMMC tower. They are busily planning to offer many new items and have already brought in new Alex and Ani products.

*Remember, there are special sales each month and ongoing discounts are as follows (some exclusions may apply):*

- **20% off** every day for active, retired and reservist military personnel.
- **20% off** every Wednesday for senior citizens age 60 and better.
- **20% off** every day for hospital volunteers.

## EMMC AUXILIARY 2015 Annual Meeting

The One Hundred Twenty-second Annual Meeting of EMMC Auxiliary was held on November 20, 2015, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bangor. Outgoing Auxiliary president, Eileen Hernandez, welcomed members and guests and recapped the Auxiliary's accomplishments for the past year. Reverend Rex Garrett gave the Invocation, and a delicious lunch was served.

The meeting's special guest speaker, Jay Hagerty, MD, EMMC neonatologist, discussed the past, present and future of EMMC's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the challenges and successes of some of its tiny patients. Dr. Hagerty shared photos and architectural drawings of the new NICU.

During the business meeting, minutes from November 13, 2014 were approved, and the proposed budget for 2016 was accepted. Outgoing board members, Nancy Careskey and Sharon Theeman, were recognized and new board members, Jennifer Morin, Kelli Roy, and Kendra Speed were introduced. Nominating Chair, Ginger Ward-Green presented the proposed slate of officers for 2016 and it was approved unanimously: President, Jan Currier; Vice President, Sherry Roberts; Secretary, Sarah Quirk; and Treasurer, Terri Sleeper.

Gift Shop volunteers, Lura Williams, Darlene Carr and Cindy Curran, were recognized and thanked for their service. The Auxiliary's fundraising efforts were then showcased as Eileen presented a \$100,650 check to Debbie Carey Johnson, President and CEO of EMMC, who accepted the donation on behalf of the hospital. This represented the Auxiliary's planned giving for 2016, which includes our first payment on our \$400,000 pledge to the Remarkable Begins with You campaign. EMHS Foundation was presented with a \$14,000 check representing the Auxiliary's anticipated endowment earnings to be donated to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Husson University nursing scholarships were presented to four nursing students by board member, Sherry Roberts. Congratulations to Heather Currier, Meghan MacDonald, Shelby Scribner, and Hannah Uhl, all recipients of \$1,000 awards. Upcoming Auxiliary events were highlighted, and the meeting was adjourned.



Husson University Nursing Program scholarship recipients (L to R): Meghan MacDonald, Shelby Scribner, Dr. Val Herbert, Director of Nursing Program, Hannah Uhl, Heather Currier



Newly Elected Officers (L to R): Jan Currier, President, Terri Sleeper, Treasurer, Sarah Quirk, Secretary, Sherry Roberts, Vice President



EMMC Auxiliary Board Members, March 2016. (Front L to R): Susan Nasberg, Sarah Quirk, Cindy Curran, Ginger Ward-Green, Sherry Roberts, Jan Currier, Jenn Morin, Kelli Roy, Terri Sleeper, Sue Vernon (Back L to R): Helen Genco, Mary Brooks, Kendra Speed, Martha Wildman, Eileen Hernandez, Jen Brooker

## A GRANT FROM BANGOR ROTARY

This past November, EMMC Auxiliary was excited to learn it had been selected to receive a \$3,000 grant from the Rotary Club of Bangor, to be used for a wonderful program to aid pediatric patients at EMMC.

For many years, EMMC Auxiliary has had a strong interest in causes that benefit children. By receiving this grant, the Auxiliary will be able to further solidify its commitment to helping children in our area. Once awarded this summer, the money will purchase iPads for pediatric patients at EMMC to use. This will give younger patients an educational way to relax and pass what can be stressful time. Pediatric staff and child life specialists will tutor the children and their families on how to use the iPads. Possible applications include homework assignments, e-mail access, and appropriate educational games for distraction during procedures.

The 2016 Bangor Rotary's annual Music Off Broadway show at Peak's Auditorium is *Salute to the Grammy's* on April 22 and 23 at 7:30 PM. Please plan to attend this great event. For more information or tickets please visit [www.bangorrotary.org](http://www.bangorrotary.org).