

## HG VOLUNTEER UPDATE

April 19, 2011

*Enjoy this collection of news and views to keep volunteers "in the loop" about happenings at Hospice Georgina. This newsletter is also on our website: [www.hospicegeorgina.com](http://www.hospicegeorgina.com).*

*(HG website is temporarily down while we are preparing to launch our new website)*

**TIME TOGETHER** -The May Time Together will be Wednesday **May 4 at 1pm**

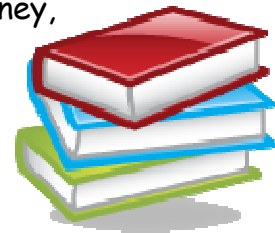
at **Cedarvale Lodge, Keswick, 121 Morton Avenue** just west of Canadian Tire.

Please plan to join us for a light luncheon and a behind the scenes tour of their new retirement community addition. Please RSVP by April 27 so lunch can be ordered.

On Thursday **June 2**, we are planning a pot-luck picnic lunch to Georgina Island thanks to Sue Hoeg. We will take the morning ferry so we need your RSVPs early to book passage. Details coming soon.

**Hospice Library collection** - A big thanks to Linda McBurney,

who has offered to assist us in reorganizing our hospice library. Thanks also to Gayle Clark who sorted books by subject and to Mary Catherine Macaluso who joined us for a meeting with the librarian from the Southlake cancer resource



centre. We received many helpful hints on organizing our collection. Did you know that we have over 350 books on various hospice and wellness related topics. We would like to form a small library & education committee to complete this work. Please contact Crystal if you are interested in helping with the library or planning future educational events for the community. Contact Nana if interested.

**EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM** - We will discontinue our hospice equipment



loan program effective May 1, 2011. We will be referring clients with new requests to several alternative organizations that will offer clean, well maintained used equipment at a very reasonable monthly rental cost or to purchase for hospice clients. Although our existing program has been well received over the years, there are increasing issues around liability, cleaning, safety, appropriateness and ongoing maintenance of our inventory. We are finalizing a new partnership with Vince Attisano at Silver Cross in Newmarket (1-855-830-1337). We will also continue to refer to the Canadian Red Cross in

Richmond Hill. Clients can call directly to arrange for equipment or can contact Jackie at Hospice Georgina to discuss their individual health or financial needs. Silver Cross will deliver larger equipment and instruct on use. We are making arrangements with Silver Cross for small equipment to be picked up at our office through a scheduled drop-off. Returning equipment needs to go directly to the Silver Cross office. Existing loans will continue until the client's need is over. Call Jackie for more information.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**Pansy Sale** – We still need a few more volunteers to sign up for our annual Pansy sale for Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed at the C&G Greenhouse on Hwy 48 in Pefferlaw. Cost is \$15/flat or \$1.50/box of 4 plants. Also please get your pre-orders of flats to Crystal by the April 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be sending out the final volunteer schedule for all pansy locations shortly.

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS** Crystal is back and quickly catching up on projects. We appreciate all the work done by our emergency office volunteers and found real value in having volunteers here. We would like to continue having volunteers 1-2 days each week if possible to phone other volunteers and help with our library and other projects. Please contact Crystal if you are interested in volunteering 1 or 2 half days for our office.

**Wanted-Bookcases** We are looking for 2-3 bookcases to provide additional shelving for our library collection as it has outgrown the current bookcases in the living room. Thanks Delaine for donating the CD player last month which was requested for the grief program.



**Hike for Hospice** – At our last Time Together meeting we had talked about planning a spring hike in Sibbald's Pt. Park as a community outreach event rather than a fundraiser. However the May 15<sup>th</sup> date chosen is after the park is open. So we need to postpone this event until after the park closes in the fall. Watch for more info later.



**ROGERS TV** – June Scandiffio has done a short interview on Rogers cable for the "In Georgina" show with Heather Fullerton. The segment will be shown at various times on Monday at 11:30

am, 4:30 pm, and 7:30 pm. The broadcast will repeat over the summer on various days and times. She will be doing another segment in May for us.

**VOLUNTEER POLICE SCREENING** - We have been reminded that police checks must be completed every two years for all volunteers. Crystal will be contacting you over the next month to remind each of you. This is a requirement of all not-for-profit organizations and schools. In York Region, police checks are taking 6-8 weeks to be processed and that time lengthens once the students start looking for summer work. Please help us to comply with this requirement by keeping your file up to date. The cost is \$20, which can be reimbursed if needed.



## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- **KANE DAYS** - Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> the annual "Take Heart" bereavement seminar will be held at Bayview Glen Church, 300 Steeles Ave in Thornhill from 8:30-noon, followed by a complimentary lunch. The topics this year offered by guest speaker Dr. Harold Smith are "Enfranchising the under recognized Grief" and "Friend grief: A Friend is More than a Pal on Face book". We can arrange carpooling. Call Crystal by April 28, if you are interested in attending this motivational, free seminar. It is always excellent.
- **Dr. Alan Wolfelt** - One of the leading grief experts in North America will be in York Region on Tuesday May 17 at the Country Day School, 13415 Dufferin St, King City from 7-9pm. The evening session entitled, "The Wilderness of Grief: Finding Your Way", is open to the general public, especially those who have experienced death loss. The cost is \$10 cash at the door. Please RSVP directly to 905-773-0155, if you are interested.
- **Grate groan-up spelling bee** - Hospice has finalized its team of Gay Alexander, Mary Catherine Macaluso, and Randy Kaminski (Jackie's husband) for the annual library fundraiser. Make a pledge or cheer us on Fri April 29 at Sutton Arena. Tickets are \$30 including dinner and are available at the library.



**ESAS Training Coming** – The York Region Hospices will provide training to all palliative care volunteers on a new assessment tool for palliative care clients called the Edmonton Symptom Assessment Scale. This tool is designed to assist in the assessment of: pain, tiredness, nausea, depression, anxiety, drowsiness, appetite, well being, and shortness of breath.

The project will start with a train-the-trainer workshop on May 2, for Jackie and Board member Mary Catherine. They will then provide training later in May for HG volunteers, who will assist palliative patients to complete the tool regularly (weekly). Jackie will be announcing the training session dates at the palliative care volunteers meeting this week.

**VOLUNTEER HOURS - Reminder: Hours are due May 5th to Crystal**