

Steve Gordon Welcomed as New BMH CEO



Steven R. Gordon

We welcome Steven R. Gordon, as our new BMH President/CEO. He was appointed to the post by the hospital Board of Directors late last year. Steve, as he asked to be called, brings more than 25 years of experience in health

care and hospital management to BMH. He is assuming the presidency following Barry Beeman's recent retirement .

Prior to coming to BMH, Steve was President of Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton, Massachusetts, where he provided leadership direction which successfully positioned the hospital, both organizationally and financially.

Before his time at Good Samaritan, Steve was the Chief Administrative Officer for Children's Hospital Boston where he developed, opened, and operated their Waltham campus. He also served previously as the Vice President for Physician and Business Development at Newton Wellesley Hospital, and was the former CEO of Parkland Medical Center in Derry, NH, for 13 years.

Steve received his Bachelor of Arts from Tufts University where he also obtained a Master's degree in Environmental Health Engineering. Subsequently, he earned a Master's in Hospital Administration from

the University of Minnesota. The new BMH President and CEO is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Steve has always been actively involved in the local community including being a lifelong member of Rotary. He has served on such boards as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, and other local agencies.

Our new CEO and his wife Sharon, a perioperative nurse manager, have now moved permanently to Brattleboro

continued on page 2

Inside

Tech Tour.....	3
New Lab Director.....	7
BMH Welcomes New Doctors.....	11 & 12
Development News.....	14

Prostate Cancer: To Screen Or Not To Screen?

by Craig Rinder, MDCM, FACS

Cancer of the prostate is the most common cancer in men, occurring in 17% of American men and causing 10% of male cancer deaths. The Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) screening is a readily available and inexpensive blood test that can detect prostate cancer at an early, potentially curable stage. It would seem like a no-brainer that every man should have this test and, yet, there is considerable controversy regarding it, and its utility and advisability have been widely questioned. There are several reasons why this is so.

First of all, there are real issues about the ability of the test to detect prostate cancer. PSA, or prostate specific antigen, is a protein that is produced in detectable levels only by prostate tissue. Prostate cancer usually produces a lot more PSA than normal prostate tissue, so higher levels of PSA in the blood may be evidence that prostate cancer is present. Unfortunately, there is no PSA level that can accurately predict whether an individual actually has prostate cancer. This has been suggested to mean that a PSA test is no better than a flip of a coin. In fact, although PSA cannot



Craig Rinder, MDCM

continued on page 2

Prostate Cancer

continued from page 1

identify who has prostate cancer, it does accurately stratify risk and is very useful for identifying which men are at higher risk for having prostate cancer and should therefore be considered for prostate biopsy.

Secondly, it has been suggested that prostate cancer is usually harmless and that its detection and treatment cause more harm than good. Most prostate cancers grow slowly and may not cause harm in a man's lifetime. Furthermore, regardless of the potential benefits, prostate cancer detection and treatment can be potentially harmful, with associated risks of incontinence, impotence, bleeding, infection, and even – in the case of radiation treatment – other cancers. A landmark study published by Johansson *et al* in 1997 reported an extremely low rate of death from prostate cancer in men followed for 15 years after diagnosis. However, five years later, with a total of 21 years of follow-up, the authors found that 46% of the men had died *of prostate cancer*. The authors concluded that men with a life expectancy of at least 15 years would benefit from curative treatment.

Finally, it has been claimed that prostate cancer screening has not been proven to be beneficial. This is based, in part, on a recently published large trial in the United States comparing outcomes in men randomized to either prostate screening or no screening in which no difference was found between groups. However, of the men randomized to screening, only 85% actually had PSA testing, and of those randomized to not receive screening, 52% had PSA testing anyway. Consequently, it is not surprising that the results for the two groups were similar. On the other hand, a European trial found a 20% reduction in the rate of prostate cancer death with prostate cancer screening after only nine years of follow-up. Other large population-based studies, most notably one from Tirol, Austria, have shown clear reductions in prostate cancer death rates with the introduction of PSA testing.

Despite its limitations, PSA screening can be a powerful tool to help identify this common cancer when it's curable. If you are a man between the ages of 40 and 70 or, if you are over 70 years old and in excellent health, you should discuss the potential benefits of prostate cancer screening with your physician or other healthcare provider.

Craig A. Rinder, MDCM, FACS, is a urologist on the BMH Medical Staff with an office at 375 Canal Street, across from the hospital. He received his doctor of medicine at McGill University (Montreal, Canada), and served his residency in urology at Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Rinder is board-certified in urology and is a fellow in the American College of Surgeons.

New BMH CEO

continued from page 1

and look forward to becoming involved in the community. Originally from Massachusetts, they have family in Keene and Southern New Hampshire .

In making the announcement of Steve's selection, BMH board chair Kirsten Beske said (in part), "Our decision was ultimately unanimous to offer the position to Steven Gordon. We believe he possesses the necessary strategic skills to lead BMH in its mission to provide outstanding care to the Brattleboro community."

Steve and his wife really enjoyed what they saw here at BMH when they observed BMH *incognito* before being named hospital President. He told the *Reformer* in an article they wrote about his selection as BMH President/CEO, "After walking through the hospital 'under cover,' I got the sense of what it's like as a visitor or patient and really enjoyed the feel of the hospital and the friendly, informed nature of the staff?"

In the same *Reformer* article, Steve further said, "The high quality patient care and excellent reputation of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, its physicians, employees and staff were instant draws for me. I am inheriting an institution that makes a difference in the lives of so many in the community and I look forward to continuing its exceptional services for patients and leading BMH into the future."

Now that he's here, Steve plans to start his assessment of what the future looks like for BMH in collaboration with all involved parties: staff, physicians, board members, community and, most importantly, our patients.

We agree with the board chair when she said, "He will be a terrific asset to the hospital." On that note, we welcome Steven R. Gordon as our new President/CEO and look forward to getting to know him better as he gets to know us.

"The high quality patient care and excellent reputation of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, its physicians, employees and staff were instant draws for me."

Healthwise is published for our patients and their families, our friends, and our community three times a year by Brattleboro Memorial Hospital.

EDITOR ~ Barbara Z. Gentry
GRAPHICS ~ Nicole A. Zinn

Healthwise articles are written by the editor unless other attributed. Please call the editor at 802-257-8316, if you have comments about this newsletter and/or suggestions for future articles.

Genetic Risk Assessment at BMH *By Agnes Mikijanic, ARNP, BMH Oncology Department*

There have been great strides in the field of cancer genetics this past decade. It is now considered the standard of care in community and comprehensive cancer programs. However many individuals who would be appropriate for genetic risk assessment are not being tested. Barriers include distance to regional cancer programs, lack of insurance and lack of knowledge. The distance factor has now been answered because in the Spring of 2010, I was one of the 20 cancer care providers in the nation selected to participate in the City of Hope (COH) Cancer Genetics Outreach Program. COH is a regional cancer center in California and leader in cancer genetics working to improve outreach and access to genetic counseling. It received a National Cancer Institute grant to provide cancer genetics training to community cancer providers in rural and underserved areas.

What I Learned About Genetic Counseling

We were trained to obtain family histories, calculate risk for genetic dispositions to cancer, and then provide counseling regarding their risk. I receive continual training and support from City of Hope through participation in their weekly online genetics case reviews and lectures. This allows rural cancer providers such as BMH continued access to experts in genetics to assist with complex cases and maintain competency in this specialty.

Genetic Risk Assessment at BMH

The BMH Comprehensive Breast Care Program plans to introduce genetic risk assessment for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer with Dr Joseph Rosen, the medical director of the program. The BMH Oncology affiliate, Norris Cotton Cancer Center currently offers genetic testing for all cancer risks through their Familial Cancer Program.

Because of the media's focus on breast cancer and direct-to-consumer advertising, more Americans are learning of the genetic links to breast cancer. Many individuals, however, are unclear on how their own personal or family history relates to genetic risk for cancer.

How Your Family History Relates to Genetic Risk

About 5% of cancers are considered hereditary. Hereditary cancers develop because of a change (mutation) in certain genes that normally protect the body from cancer (tumor suppressor genes). These gene mutations can be passed from one generation to the next. Genetic cancer risk can be passed from mothers or fathers to daughters or sons. For some cancer genes the risk is linked to more than one cancer. For example, the hereditary breast cancer syndrome also causes increased risk for ovarian cancer.

Signs of hereditary breast-ovarian cancer syndrome may include, but are not limited to:

- Breast cancer at age 45 or younger,
- Breast cancer in both breasts,
- Both breast and ovarian cancer in the same woman,
- Two or more people within a family with ovarian cancer and/or breast cancer, especially if the breast cancer was diagnosed before age 50,
- At least one family member with breast and ovarian cancer,
- Breast cancer in men.

The two genes commonly associated with breast and ovarian cancer are BRCA 1 and BRCA 2. A female without any increased risk for breast cancer has a 12%



Agnes Mikijanic, ARNP

chance of developing breast cancer during her lifetime. An individual with a BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 mutation can have a 50 to 85% lifetime risk of developing breast cancer, and a 20 to 40% lifetime risk of developing ovarian cancer. Testing for the BRCA 1 or 2 genes is performed by a blood test or oral swab. (Unfortunately this testing is

not covered by most health insurance.)
Having Genetic Testing for Cancer at BMH Will Benefit Local Residents

Although a positive test can mean an individual has an increased risk for developing cancer, it does not mean the person will definitely get cancer. Conversely, a negative gene test does not mean a person will never develop cancer, but having the expertise available now at BMH will provide a patient with valuable information. If one does test positive for the BRCA gene there are a number of options for decreasing the risk of developing cancer. A specialist in cancer genetics – cancer genetic counselor, geneticist, or risk assessment counselor such as I am – can help guide the individual through the process of discerning cancer risk and the benefits and drawbacks of genetic testing. For more information, call the BMH Oncology Department at 802-257-8221.

BMH to Host Two Spring Tech Tours

In the past several years, Brattleboro Memorial Hospital has presented Technology Tours for the community to come learn about some of the hospital's state-of-the-art instruments, and visit various departments in the hospital. In addition to some of the newer technology, included in the tours were visits to the newly renovated Ambulatory Care Unit including the operating rooms and the procedure rooms. Tech Tours have also featured digital mammography, bone densitometry, and ultrasound, all technology found in the women's imaging department on the 2nd floor of the new Richards Building.

The two Tech Tours this spring will be to see newly renovated areas at BMH. The first presented on Tuesday, April 19th, will feature the BMH Medical Laboratory, and the second, on Tuesday, May 10th, will feature the newly renovated Diabetes Program area. Both tours are scheduled for 5:15 to 6:30 p.m., and refreshments will be available.

continued on page 5

Vermont Hospitals Experience Shortfall With Medicaid Payments

Hospitals in Vermont contribute significant dollars to the State general fund. As of 2010, hospitals will pay \$94 million in hospital provider taxes to the State, of which Brattleboro Memorial Hospital will pay \$3.0 million. The State spends these tax dollars on the Medicaid program, qualifying the revenues for an additional \$169 million in federal matching funds. The amount of federal matching funds generated by taxes paid by BMH is \$5.3 million. In addition, the 14,718 jobs created by hospitals contribute more than \$34 million to the State in tax revenues. “The portion of that contributed by the 625 BMH-related jobs is \$1.4 million,” according to Michael Rogers, BMH VP Finance.

“The provider taxes that hospitals pay to the State are essentially a sales tax that supports the Medicaid program,” according to Michael Del Trecco, Vice President for Finance at the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (VAHHS). “Combined, the provider tax and federal matching funds total \$264 million and are critical to the stability of the Medicaid program.” Of this amount the BMH accounts for \$8.3 million, according to Rogers. Del Trecco added, “The State uses these funds to pay hospitals and other providers for the care they deliver to Medicaid patients. The provider tax is like ‘growing our own food.’ After paying hospitals, there is \$90 million left over, a contribution the State uses elsewhere within the Medicaid program.” Rogers says that at BMH, the figure is \$1.6 million.

Despite this \$90 million contribution to State coffers, net Medicaid payments to hospitals have steadily declined in recent years. Care-related payments to hospitals this year will not cover the cost of delivering that care. According to the Banking, Insurance and Health Care Administration’s 2010 hospital budget report, all Vermont hospitals expect to be *underpaid* \$99 million by Medicaid (the loss for BMH is \$3.2 million) this year. Known as the Medicaid cost-shift, hospitals absorb some of this shortfall, but much of it will be made up by those who are privately insured, which fuels already high premium increases.

“From the State’s perspective, the provider tax is a very efficient way to raise Medicaid funds. From the hospitals’ perspective, the combined pressures of the provider tax, Medicaid underpayments, as well as new restrictions on revenues place hospitals in significant financial jeopardy,” concluded Del Trecco. ***And if the governor’s proposed budget is passed, the increase in the BMH provider tax would be in excess of \$727,000.***

Recent market research conducted by VAHHS indicates that the majority of Vermonters surveyed were either not aware of, or do not understand, this issue. The Association’s top priority this legislative session is to educate lawmakers and the public about this unsustainable decline in net Medicaid payments, particularly in light of ongoing healthcare reform efforts.

BMH Offers Free Healthier Living Workshops

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital and Grace Cottage Hospital are making available a number of six-week free Healthier Living Workshops designed to help people with long-term health challenges maintain active and fulfilling lives.

Occurring on consecutive Mondays for the upcoming session, the next six-week Healthier Living Workshop is at Grace Cottage Hospital and convenes on Monday, April 4th, and continues through to Monday, May 9th. (Please note these dates are a change from those listed in recent Wellness Calendar.) The sessions are held from 1:30-4:00 p.m. in the Holt Conference Center at GCH. To register, e-mail wcornwell@bmbvt.org or call 802-251-8459 before the start of the six-week workshop. A course textbook and CD will be provided.

The next Healthier Living Workshop class in Brattleboro will be held at the Brattleboro Housing Authority (BHA) site, Hayes Court. That six-week free series will also start in April. Check the BMH website (www.bmbvt.org) for the exact dates.

This is a highly interactive class for people with chronic conditions such as arthritis, diabetes, heart disease, fibromyalgia chronic pain, multiple sclerosis, asthma, emphysema, lupus, COPD, chronic pain, and other long-term conditions. Family and friends who help the participant are also invited to attend. The grant also provides funding to offer these sessions to Vermont residents for free. Full of fun activities and useful tools and skills, the group builds mutual support and confidence.

Participants need to attend all six sessions and stay the full time of each class. Enrollment is limited, and future workshops will be offered. Call Wendy Cornwell, Education Coordinator at BMH – 802-251-8459 for future program dates, waiting list information, and/or for fee information for those outside of Vermont. For more information about the class, check out the BMH website at www.bmbvt.org.

Investing in the Future of BMH *By Robert Probaska, Director BMH Plant Services*

The hospital has completed an important group of renovations projects that resulted from the Master Facility Plan. The projects address significant infrastructure issues at BMH.

The clinical **Laboratory** shifted departments to use the space vacated when the Richards Building opened. We created more efficient space for the Histology, Tissue Processing, and Microbiology Departments. The Lab's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system was replaced in order to maintain proper temperatures required by the high tech equipment used to provide quality lab results.

We up-graded our information technology (IT) infrastructure by creating a new **Data Center** in the former Brew Barry Conference Room area. The Data Center was sized to accommodate future growth needs. Our **Information Services** offices and the IS training room have also moved to this area on the ground floor of the main hospital. These investments provide the necessary infrastructure and environment for the many computer servers that all hospital departments, especially patient care departments, now depend on.

Other up-grades related to the project are the waiting area, a new exam room and ventilation system for our **Wound Care, Diabetes Education and Nutrition Counseling** offices. These important patient care areas are located one floor above the new IT area in the hospital's newly designated West Wing. Patients access these services through the main hospital entrance.

A more flexible **Conference Center and Exercise Room** was opened last October, as reported in the Fall 2010 *Healthwise* issue.

Lavallee Brensinger Architects designed the renovations, and HP Cummings was the construction manager. Local sub-contractors were used whenever possible, helping to boost the regional economy. The hospital has many other challenges with our aging BMH facility. The hospital's

ability to continue to make investments to ensure efficient and effective care will depend on our financial performance, community support, and the State and Federal reimbursement environment.

To keep abreast of the necessary and continuous upgrading of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, check out our web site from time to time. Photos of areas and units being upgraded are available there on a timely basis.

BMH Also Makes Invisible Improvements

BMH is investing in the up-grade of systems which are not normally seen, but this work supports the hospital mission in essential ways. In addition to the improvements listed in adjoining article, the short list below outlines a set of improvements happening behind the scenes that will pay back in decreased energy usage as well as improved operational reliability. These projects include:

1. A \$40,000 project to replace lighting on the basement and ground floors. This is being done in cooperation with Efficiency Vermont, and BMH will receive a rebate for approximately 35% of the project cost from Efficiency Vermont. This initiative will decrease our energy usage as well as provide for brighter lighting in the areas where the retrofit occurs.



Wound Care, Diabetes Education, and Nutrition Counseling waiting area.

2. Up-grades to centralized heating and cooling for the areas currently being renovated. These involve the installation of new and more efficient systems and represent an investment of almost \$1,000,000.
3. Installation of a new data center that is highly energy efficient and will allow BMH to pursue Electronic Medical Records. The components for this data center are state of the art in terms of performance which will allow us to have an enlarged data center while using less energy.
4. Installation of new steam traps which are more energy-efficient and reduce maintenance costs as well.

Over the course of the year many projects occur which aim to reduce our carbon footprint as well as improve the reliability of support systems. The list above is a current sample of those projects. More are in the works.

Spring Tech Tours *continued from page 3*

The first tour will take people through the newly-renovated hospital lab to learn the "Science Behind Your Lab Work". People are asked to gather at 5:15 p.m. in the main hospital lobby, as the tour will take place on the lower level in the original Medical Lab where all the instrumentation for testing resides. While visiting the area, attendees will be shown some of the newer equipment used at BMH.

The second tour on May 10th will feature the hospital's conveniently combined area of Diabetes, Wound Care, and Nutrition Services. A new waiting room and exam room have been added to the Wound Care area, and the other offices have also been up-dated. The staff of these areas will be on hand, including the hospital's Certified Diabetes Educator Houghton Smith, RN, CDE; BMH wound care and ostomy specialist Joan Punt, RN, WOCN; and BMH nutritionist Peg Canal-Wittler, RD.

In order to give us a rough count of people, please call Dulcie Gatley at 802-257-8833 if you plan to attend, although walk-ins will also be welcome on the tours.

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Radiology Programs Earn Accreditations

BMH Receives ACR Accreditation in MRI

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR). MRI is a noninvasive medical test that utilizes magnetic fields to produce anatomical images of internal body parts to help physicians diagnose and treat medical conditions.

The BMH Magnetic Resonance Imaging Department is located in a unit contiguous with the main hospital and is accessed through the Emergency Department. Offering a state-of-the-art MRI scanner, the department is staffed by MRI technologists and radiologists to offer critical diagnostic information.

Hospital's Nuclear Medicine Accredited

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital has also been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in nuclear medicine as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR). The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities that meet ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards after a peer-review evaluation.

The BMH Nuclear Medicine Department is located in the Richards Building. Offering a state-of-the-art CT/SPECT scanner, the department is staffed by lead nuclear medicine technologist Vicky Jelley and nuclear medicine technologist Hayley Crosby who work closely with BMH cardiologists and radiologists to offer critical diagnostic information.

The inspections in both cases are performed by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control procedures, and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report they can use for continuous practice improvement.



BMH Radiology Director Named

Edward Elliott, MD, the Medical Director of BMH Radiology Department, and Prudence MacKinney, Vice President Planning / Professional Services, announced recently that a new Radiology Director has been selected.



Marcy Rushford

Marcy Rushford, who started at BMH in early March, comes to our hospital from having served in the same capacity at

Cottage Hospital in Woodsville, New Hampshire, where she had worked since 2003. Starting in 2008, while at Cottage Hospital, Marcy also directed Rehabilitative Services. Prior to her management position at Cottage Hospital, Marcy worked at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center as a sonographer/radiographer.

Marcy received her Bachelor of Science degree from Johnson State College in Vermont and will be completing an MBA from St. Joseph's College of Maine this May. She holds certifications from the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) in Ultrasound (OB/GYN, Abdomen and Neurosonography), and also from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

Meanwhile, Dr. Elliott and Prudence want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Nancy LaBeau for her outstanding job as the interim Radiology Director.

BMH Now Offers Advanced Testing for Certain Birth Defects

Although most newborns are healthy, approximately 3% have birth defects. There are many kinds of birth defects and it is not possible to screen for all of them. However, BMH is now offering the latest and most accurate screening tests for Down Syndrome, trisomy 18 (extra 18th chromosome), and neural tube defects, such as spina bifida.

These new tests are non-invasive and use a special ultrasound measurement of the fetus along with a maternal blood test in the first trimester, with or without additional blood testing early in the second trimester. These newer methods offer one of the highest detection rates for Down Syndrome and trisomy 18, yet at the same time have the lowest chance of giving a false positive result.

Until now, patients have needed to travel to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center or other large hospitals to obtain these newer tests. BMH is pleased to say that they can now be done locally, right here in our community! We encourage you to speak with your obstetrician or midwife to see if this testing might be right for you.

New BMH Lab Director Named

Carolyn Allan has been named the new BMH Laboratory Director. Carolyn assumed the top leadership position in the department having most recently served as the Lab Supervisor. She assumed this new role following the departure of the former Director, Martha Goodwin.

Carolyn came to BMH in 2003 as a medical technologist. She had worked as a technologist and assistant lab director in South Texas but moved here to be closer to her son in Canada. Carolyn was promoted to BMH Lab Supervisor in 2005.

Carolyn received her education at Colorado Women's College in Denver and served in the US Army at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where she provided laboratory training to troops in conjunction with Baylor University. Before finding her way to Vermont, she spent the next 30 years working in hospital and reference labs, both as a medical technologist and in managerial roles.

Carolyn's move to the directorship at BMH necessitated a replacement for her former position as Lab Supervisor. As it turns out, Cassie Carlson – who actually began working at BMH in 1971 and who left on a couple of occasions, one to give birth to a daughter, and one to take a job for a short while at another hospital – was named the new Lab Supervisor after having come back to BMH in 2009 as the Lead Blood Bank Tech.

Carolyn and Cassie became friends when Carolyn first started to work at BMH. They both say that with all the changes in the lab – leadership, new instrumentation and, more recently, the major renovations in the Main Lab all the while keeping it going 24-7 – they are looking forward to working together and hoping things settle down to a more normal pace.



Carolyn Allan

BMH Initiates New Preop Class

Having surgery, even a planned surgery, can cause a sense of unease. For most people, there are unknowns about what will happen as they enter the hospital. To help ease these apprehensions, BMH has instituted a Total Joint Replacement (TJR) education class for people scheduled to have this surgery. The classes are designed to provide information regarding your hospital stay from beginning to end, with time for you or your support person to ask any questions.

During the class you will see a presentation from our team which includes the preoperative assessment nurse practitioner, anesthesia tech, OR nurse, floor nurse, physical therapist, and a care manager. You will be shown what the equipment used for your joint replacement will look like. You will also be given information regarding postoperative pain management, when you will be up walking, and any other relevant information.

Each care provider is there to answer questions and, at the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to meet individually with both a physical therapist and care manager to discuss your personal needs.

The goal of the TJR class is to provide one place for you to receive all needed information and allow you to meet some of the staff who will be caring for you. Offered two times a month to help keep them small enough for individual attention, patients will receive the information they need in one class. The classes are scheduled for the first Friday at 9:00 a.m., and the third Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. They will be held in the new Brew Barry Conference Center in the main hospital. Registration for the class will be done through the orthopedic surgeons' office at the time your surgery is booked.

Elizabeth McLarney, MD, 802-254-7787
Jon Thatcher, MD, 802-254-3500
William Vranos, MD, 802-254-6211

BMH Coordinating with Other Healthcare Institutions to Fight Hospital Infection Rate

Every Vermont hospital, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, and most of the state's nursing homes have joined together with the Vermont Department of Health, the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in a statewide collaborative to prevent healthcare-associated infections such as MRSA (multidrug - resistant *Staph aureus*).

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital is working with Brattleboro Retreat, Grace Cottage Hospital, and local nursing homes in a group called The Windham County Healthcare Cluster Intervention Team. Together, they are looking for ways to prevent healthcare-associated infections locally.

According to BMH Infection Control and Risk Manager Jan Puchalski, "Vermont hospitals were well prepared to initiate this process because we are already tracking statewide hospital infections and reporting them publicly through the CDC and the National Healthcare Safety Network. BMH has been involved in adopting best practices and interventions to reduce central line infections and ventilator-associated pneumonias in the special care unit and have achieved and maintained a zero infection rate for 2009 and 2010."

In particular, this local team is looking to increase compliance with hand hygiene in all aspects of the healthcare institutions. In addition, the group is working

continued on page 8

BMH Medical Staff Honors Lisa Eaton with Excellence in Clinical Nursing Award



George Idelkope, MD (r) presents Lisa Eaton with her award.

Lisa Eaton, RN, Nurse Manager of MS 2, was the second annual BMH Medical Staff Excellence in Clinical Nursing Award recipient. Lisa was presented this award at the February monthly medical staff meeting.

Lisa has been a registered nurse at BMH since 1992, working in Med-Surg, Care Management, and most recently in Nursing Management.

An award plaque was presented to Lisa by Dr. George Idelkope, Medical Staff President, who recapped Lisa's nursing career here at BMH. Dr. Idelkope thanked Lisa, on behalf of the BMH Medical Staff for her clinical expertise and professional dedication. The medical staff graced Lisa with a standing ovation.

Lisa thanked the medical staff for this honor and was touched by their consideration. She went on to say that her job is made easier by the growing number of gifted nurses she works with. She reminded the medical staff that we have many excellent nurses at BMH, and asked the physicians to help us continue to teach and mentor the nurses we are lucky enough to have.

Fight Hospital Infection Rate *continued from page 7*

on standardizing infection control policies, education, and compliance. In order to have success with these initiatives, and for a number of other reasons, this intervention team is also looking at improving communication within and between these local healthcare facilities.

Puchalski, the lead person from the hospital says, "This initiative is exciting in that we are from all different institutions and hence bring to the table our expertise and what we know and have learned so we don't have to re-invent the wheel in this process. We are noting the differences in environments we each deal with; particularly as those other than acute care hospitals often have many more ambulatory patients with whom infection control could be more of an issue."

Meanwhile, as Puchalski noted earlier, BMH is pleased to report a very low infection rate.

BMH Facebook 'Likes' Increasing Daily!

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital has had a web presence for the past number of years. Just last year it was completely revamped, revised, and revved up for a more interesting browse.

Then last year, BMH went on Facebook. New, fresh information is put up just about every day – from explicit directions to find our new Brew Barry Conference Center to info about our new Total Joint Replacement Preop Class to information about Genetic Risk Assessment for cancer patients!

There are animated photos set to music that are fun to view, including an interesting one of the recent "Giving From the Heart" gala. You can access the hospital Facebook page by clicking on the "F" icon at the bottom of the page on either the website, or on e-mail sent from the hospital. Or you can go directly to the Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/BMHVT>.

Try it out and then check it out regularly...it's where any urgent info will be made readily available, and meantime, it's just fun to read and a great way to keep up with some of the many goings-on at BMH. We have many people who 'like' us, and the number is climbing every day...we hope you count yourself among them.



Most Recent Addition to BMH Board of Trustees

The most recent addition to the hospital board was the appointment of Richard J. Fleming, Jr. Rick grew up in Brattleboro and was actually born at BMH. Following his graduation from St. Michael's College (Winooski, VT), in 1981, Rick began working for the family business, Fleming Oil Company. He was named president in 1998. Active in a number of business organizations, Rick was recently named president of the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association. He's currently also serving as a director of the New England Fuel Institute and the Brattleboro Savings and Loan. In addition, Rick is a member of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation. A few years ago, Rick was named "2003 Person of the Year" by the Brattleboro Area Chamber of Commerce. The Southern Vermont Health Services Corporation and Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Board of Directors welcomes Rick Fleming.



Richard J. Fleming, Jr.

Health Services Corporators Elect New Board Chair

At the recent hospital annual meeting, the chairmanship of the Southern Vermont Health Services Corporation (SVHSC) board of directors passed from James F. Baker, II to Kirsten Beske. A former attorney, Kirsten currently is an outpatient psychotherapist with Otter Creek Associates in Brattleboro. Also elected by the corporators were John M. Meyer to move into the Vice Chair position formerly held by Kirsten, and Carl Lynde as Secretary of the board.



Kirsten Beske

Richard Fleming, Jr., was newly elected to join the SVHSC board of directors at this meeting, and three board members were re-elected: Carl Lynde, John M. Meyer, and Denise Paasche, MD. This board of directors also oversees the governance of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. Rick is President of Fleming Oil Company; Carl is Senior Vice President of TD Banknorth; John is Chief Executive Office of the Holstein Association, USA, Inc.; and Dr. Paasche is a family practitioner on the BMH medical staff.

Other current SVHSC directors include Deborah Boyle, Richard C. Carroll, Peter Carvell, Leslie Morey, Benjamin Taggard, and Burton Tepfer, MD. *Ex-officio* members are hospital President/CEO Steven R. Gordon, who also serves

as President of the Corporation, and George Idelkope, MD, Medical Staff President.

New corporators of SVHSC who were welcomed following their election at the annual hospital meeting included Evan James Deutsch, Amelia Farnum, Karen Henry, Konstantin von Krusenstiern, Elizabeth Linder, Paul Millman, Bob Neubauer, Bob Soucy, Adam Weinberg, and Jill Zachary. Corporators of the Southern Vermont Health Services Corporation help determine leadership, and serve on committees and other community liaison activities. Corporators going from Active status to the Emeritus list include Ruth Austin and Thomas P. Johnson.

Getting a leg up on
Albert's diabetes was
a real team effort. Find out how >
on page 10



2011 BMH Board of Directors



Seated in front row (l to r): John M. Meyer, Vice Chairman; Leslie Morey; Richard C. Carroll; Peter Carvell; Denise Paasche, MD; Carl Lynde, Secretary. Back row: Burton D. Tepfer, MD; Benjamin Taggard; George Idelkope, MD, *Ex Officio*; Kirsten Beske, Chairman; (and the two newest members) Richard Fleming; and Deborah Boyle. (*Ex Officio* Steven R. Gordon, new BMH President/CEO, was not yet available for photo.)

Birthing Center Baby Christmas Stocking Maker Celebrated

Earlier this year, the BMH Birthing Center lost a very special friend. Edie Manley, who for the past 33 years made Christmas stockings for holiday newborns, passed away at the age of 61. Making these stockings to send babies home in was a tradition started by Edie's mother, Shirley Blanchard, some 50 years ago.

Edie took great pride in continuing this tradition. The stockings were handmade to fit a newborn baby. They were made out of corduroy and each had its own distinctive Christmas lining. Every baby born in December at BMH received one. The first baby of the New Year was also given a stocking...an extra special holiday stocking.

Sending babies born over the holiday's home in Christmas stockings is unique to our hospital. Countless babies have received them.

Every year, like clockwork, she would call in the fall and ask how many stockings would be needed.

This past fall, even when Edie was ill, she managed to make 30 beautiful new Christmas stockings.



Edie Manley holding a BMH newborn in a Christmas stocking many years ago.

Getting a leg up on Albert's diabetes was a real team effort.



Albert Mikuski is a person you can depend upon. After all, he's about to celebrate his 48th year with his wife Carol, not to mention his 48th year at Sanel Auto Parts. But when Albert fell ill with a leg wound that wasn't healing, it was his turn to depend on others—the team at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital that diagnosed his condition, treated his symptoms, and set him on the path to better health.

Last fall, a small sore on Albert's ankle turned into a larger ulcer, so he visited his family doctor, who referred him to BMH registered nurse Joan Punt, who is a certified ostomy and wound care specialist. "Joan was fantastic," says Albert. "She got me squared away—made me feel very comfortable and knew what she was talking about. I'd call her a friend." Albert's blood sugar levels were also elevated, so from there, Albert met with Houghton (Hoty) Smith, CDE, a certified diabetes educator at BMH. Hoty explained to Albert what diabetes meant for his health, and showed him how he could start to control the chronic disease with medication and by monitoring his blood sugar on a regular basis. He didn't know that elevated blood sugars can delay wound healing.

Albert then met with BMH nutritionist Peg Canal-Wittler, RD, who explained the importance of diet in controlling diabetes, and helped him develop a nutrition plan. "She showed me what to eat, what not to eat, and how much." He admits that it's sometimes hard to adjust to the changes. "When you first start," he says, "you don't really know what diabetes is about, but I'm learning." His biggest surprise is discovering that he can live without doughnuts! Throughout, surgeon Greg Gadowski, MD, FACS, reviewed Albert's progress, to make sure his wound was healing.

Today, Albert is losing weight by adjusting his eating habits, managing his blood sugar, and starting to feel better. His wound is healed and his blood sugars are in excellent control. He credits the whole team at BMH who helped him for improving his health and extending his life.

"Between all of them, I felt very well taken care of," says Albert. "They were wonderful, and I'd recommend for anyone facing what I did, don't hesitate to come to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital." If you ever need hospital care, you can depend on our team to help you.

BMH Increases Local Access to Primary Care

By Prudence MacKinney, Vice President Planning/Professional Services

Have you or someone you know had trouble finding a local doctor? There are now new doctors in Brattleboro with open practices, welcoming new patients. We went through a period where it was difficult to recruit new primary care physicians to Brattleboro because of a nationwide shortage of internists and family practitioners. With some doctors retiring or leaving their regular practices, access to a physician became problematic for adults.



Peter Foote, DO

We are pleased that is no longer the case. Michael Kelliher, VP Human Resources worked with the CEO's office to recruit four new primary care physicians.

- Windham Family Practice has two new board-certified family medicine physicians: Peter Foote, DO (full-time) and Janine Foote, DO (part-time). They are in practice with Thomas Evans, MD, and Barbara Evans, NP. Their offices are located in Suite 2 of the Gannett Building on the BMH campus. They can be reached by calling 802-257-7792



Janine Foote, DO

- Lauren McClure, MD, is a full-time board-certified family medicine physician who opened her practice at 191 Clark Avenue in January. Appointments can be made by calling 802-257-9922.
- Andrea Galasso, DO, is board-certified in internal medicine/geriatric

... more information on these BMH primary care physicians is available on the BMH website: www.bmhvt.org ...

medicine. Dr. Galasso is a Vermont licensed physician coming to BMH from Mt. Ascutney Hospital. Dr. Galasso has applied for medical staff privileges at BMH, and once those privileges are granted, she will begin seeing adult patients on the BMH Campus. Check out the BMH website for her address and phone number to make appointments starting in April.

- In addition to the new physicians, the following practices are accepting new patients: Dr. Craig Goldberg/Emily Talley PA-C, Dr. George Idelkope, Dr. Dean Bresnahan, and Dr. Richard Burtis (part-time in Dr. Richard Orlan's office).

Fortunately, access to pediatricians has not been a problem. Dr. Katya Petrova joined Just So Pediatrics in July, 2010, and soon a new pediatrician will join the Brattleboro Primary Care office.

There may be some movement of two other internal medicine physicians from regular community practice to working only with BMH



Lauren McClure, MD

hospital inpatients (more on the hospitalist program at BMH in the Summer 2011 issue of *Healthwise*).

However, with these new physicians and the expansion of the Putney Family Healthcare (see article elsewhere in this issue) there will be good choices of local physicians to meet your medical needs.

New Internal Medicine Physician Applies for Hospital Privileges

Andrea J. Galasso, DO, is expected to open her internal medicine practice in early April. She is currently in the application process for BMH Medical Staff membership. Pending approval of her credentialing information, Dr. Galasso's office will be located on the second floor of the Gannett Building in Suite 1. The telephone number for appointments with Dr. Galasso is 802-257-2611. In addition to her board certification in internal medicine, Dr. Galasso is also board-certified in geriatrics.

Dr. Galasso received her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in Old Westbury, NY, after which she served her internship and residency in internal medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/ Jacobi Medical Center in Bronx, NY. She followed this with a fellowship in geriatric medicine at North Shore University – Long Island Jewish Health System, Long Island, NY. While there, Dr. Galasso was involved in various research projects and was given the Award for Outstanding Research by the Metropolitan Area Geriatrics Society, New York, NY. Before that, while at Albert Einstein, Dr. Galasso was a clinical research assistant in a study which evaluated the impact of yoga on the quality of life of various cancer patients including those with breast, lung, and colorectal cancer.

Dr. Galasso was most recently a hospitalist on staff at Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center in Windsor, VT. At Mt. Ascutney she also consulted on surgical and emergency services and shared in responsibilities of covering a 25-bed nursing home and a 10-bed rehabilitation unit. Read more about her in the Summer 2011 issue of *Healthwise*.

BMH Pediatrician Valerie Rooney, MD, Appreciated By Dartmouth Medical School

For the past six years, BMH pediatrician Valerie Rooney, MD, has served on the Community Preceptor Education Board of the Dartmouth Medical School. The Board helps the Medical School support doctors in the community who teach medical students. She also served for two years on the School's Continuing Medical Education Committee and successfully lobbied for pediatric grand rounds to be broadcast on the internet so doctors in the community could easily access the lectures.

When her term recently concluded, Dr. Rooney was recognized with a letter of appreciation for her input to the group discussions by the Dean of Dartmouth Medical School. In the letter, Wiley W. Souba, MD, ScD, MBA, told Dr. Rooney that she was invaluable in helping the board team and the school as a whole, improving their educational program and support for preceptors. Dr. Souba further said he hoped she would continue to work with Dartmouth Medical School in educating



Valerie Rooney, MD

their future physicians as she has since 2000, saying that her continued service and dedication is invaluable to DMS and to the students who she has touched through the years. We, too, congratulate Dr. Rooney for her outreach.

BMH Welcomes New Radiologist

Mariusz Paluch, MD, has joined fellow radiologists Edward F. Elliott, Jr., MD; Peter D. Gibbons, MD; and Walter C. Wagenknecht, MD, on the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital medical staff. Born in Poland, Dr. Paluch has lived in the United States for ten years. Dr. Paluch is board-certified in diagnostic radiology.



Mariusz Paluch, MD

Dr. Paluch says he is enjoying living in Vermont as he finds it is very much like his home in Poland, where there are mountains and it is cold. He is quite familiar with the ski areas in Vermont because he came here often to pursue one of his favorite sports while in training in New York City. He also enjoys working out, mountain biking, and jogging. He has family in Connecticut.

Dr. Paluch received his doctor of medicine degree from Collegium Medicum Jagiellonski University in Poland after which he had a transitional year at University Hospital in Crakow, Poland. He served residencies in general surgery at Regional Hospital, Limanowa, and at University Hospital in Crakow, both also in Poland.

In 2004, Dr. Paluch served a year of a general surgery residency at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, after which he was in a four-year residency program in diagnostic radiology at Lenox Hill Hospital, both in New York City. He then completed a one-year fellowship in abdominal imaging from Columbia University in New York, NY.

The staff at BMH is pleased to welcome Dr. Paluch to our Radiology Department, to our Medical Staff, and to our hospital.

BMH Radiologist Peter Gibbons, MD, Receives Award

Dr. Gibbons was one of the five Vermonters recently honored by the Vermont Medical Society (VMS) for their outstanding contributions to the health and well being of the state's residents. He was presented the Distinguished Service Award, the highest award VMS can bestow upon one of its members. It is given on the basis of meritorious service in the science and art of medicine and for outstanding contributions to the medical profession, its organizations, and the welfare of the public.

Fellow BMH physician, Richard Burtis, MD, a winner of the award himself in 1999, nominated Gibbons for his commitment to his colleagues and dedication to the medical profession. In his award speech, Dr. Burtis commended Dr. Gibbons for his contributions in keeping the BMH Radiology Department up to date technologically, particularly in making ultrasound, interventional studies, CT scanning, and MRI available to the community. In his presentation, Dr. Burtis further stated, "Dr. Gibbons'

dedication and vigor (he is an excellent squash player and hard-core Nordic skier) enabled him to weather a rather stormy period in Radiology until new staff could be hired."

In addition to Dr. Gibbons this year and Dr. Burtis earlier, other BMH doctors whom the VMS Distinguished Service Award was bestowed upon



Peter Gibbons, MD

include Philip Wheeler, MD, in 1983, and John R. Hogel, MD, in 1966. Other Vermont Medical Society award winners in recent years from the Brattleboro area included Sen. Nancy Chard (Citizen of the Year Award, 2001), and Dr. Wheeler (Physician Award for Community Service, 1971).

BMH Physician Becomes Specialist in Hospice and Palliative Care

Richard M. Orlan, MD, an internist on the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital medical staff with a special interest in geriatrics, received notice recently from the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) that his previous American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Certification (received as a result of passing a certification exam last fall) is now recognized by the ABIM. This acknowledgment allows Dr. Orlan the designation as a Diplomate in Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

To become certified in the subspecialty of hospice and palliative medicine, physicians must be certified in internal medicine; satisfactorily complete the requisite graduate medical education fellowship training and/or demonstrate clinical competence in the care of patients; meet the licensure and procedural requirements; and must pass the Certification Exam in Hospice and Palliative Medicine, all successfully met by Dr. Orlan.

Dr. Orlan is board-certified in internal medicine, geriatrics, and now also in hospice and palliative medicine. He earned his medical degree at Ross University School of Medicine in the British West Indies, and his internship and residency were both at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

To contact Dr. Orlan's office, which is located on the upper floor of the Medical Office Building in Suite 1201, call 802-275-3640, or you can check out his website at www.windhaminternalmedicine.com. Dr. Orlan's office can be reached via the elevator in the new Richards Building by getting off on the 1st floor and following signs to the Medical Office Building (the lower level is the ground floor).

Dr. Orlan concludes, "I am pleased to now be recognized for my palliative medicine certification, and look forward to helping meet the needs of the community."



Richard M. Orlan, MD

"I am pleased to now be recognized for my palliative medicine certification, and look forward to helping meet the needs of the community."



BMH Welcomes New Ophthalmologist

In February, Robert Austin, MD, was welcomed to the BMH Medical Staff roster. Dr. Austin has taken over the ophthalmology practice of now-retired Clyde (Fred) Newton, MD.

Dr. Austin received his medical degree at New York Medical College after graduating *magna cum laude* from Mercy College (Dobbs Ferry, NY) with a bachelor of science degree. His internship in internal medicine was at Stamford Hospital (CT), and he had a pre-residency fellowship (Medical Retina) at New York Eye & Ear Infirmary, NY. Dr. Austin served his residency in ophthalmology at Nassau County Medical Center in Hempstead, NY, where he was chief resident. He is board-certified in ophthalmology.

Dr. Austin also has a private practice in Greenfield, MA. He is in the Brattleboro office one day a week to start. His office is in the same suite (G101) of the BMH Medical Office Building (ground floor) as was his predecessor, Dr. Newton. The telephone number to call for an appointment is 802-257-0110.



Robert Austin, MD

BMH Expands Putney Medical Office

Last October, Dr. Walter Slowinski, a member of the BMH Medical Staff, announced his decision to wind down his practice at the Putney Medical Office. In order to ensure the needs of the Putney community continued to be met, Brattleboro Memorial Hospital is pleased to announce that it has now taken the practice under its wing.

Now known as Putney Family Healthcare, the hospital has retained the staff at the Putney Medical Office, including Richard Fletcher, FNP, and Maggie Lake, FNP. BMH is recruiting a new family practice physician to join the practice. The hospital is currently in discussions with a physician to take over Dr. Slowinski's duties, and we hope to have a formal announcement in the next several weeks.

BMH also plans to expand the Putney Family Healthcare offices with either an addition to the current office space, or the provision of a new building.

The transition formally took effect in January of this year. The telephone number remains the same: 802-387-5581. Putney Family Healthcare is currently accepting new patients.

BMH Donor Profiles - Jay Meyer

It was down in the basement of his childhood home on Washington Street where Jay Meyer first discovered that he had a knack for fixing engines. His father and some of the older boys in the neighborhood were building dune buggies to race in the fields owned by Sportsmen's, Inc., and he enjoyed figuring out how the different components fit together and worked to make them run.

"My brother had a knack for it, too. But he'd take the engines apart and never put them back together," Jay recalls with a laugh. So no one in the Meyer family was surprised when Jay pursued a career in auto repair. First apprenticing at the Toyota of Keene and then working for various Toyota dealerships in New England and other parts of the United States.

Now, almost 30 years later, he is a Master Technician at Rod's Mobil in Putney, where he and his wife, Anne, also make their home. The couple celebrated their first year of marriage on New Year's Day, an anniversary made extra special by the fact that Anne had survived a bout with breast cancer that was initially detected by a routine mammogram at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital in August of 2009.

"It scared me pretty good. I went and had a big talk with my dad, and from there I just supported her," Jay says. "I took time off every day to go to Keene with her for radiation treatments. She had two surgeries and I was there for both."

Shortly after Anne's diagnosis, Jay read an article where a government panel recommended women delay routine mammograms until they were in their fifties. His reaction was visceral. "If my wife had waited until she was fifty to get one, I hate to think about what would happen. There was no history of breast cancer in her family, so it was kind of a shocker," he says. Jay had also lost a childhood friend to the disease a couple of years previous. That woman was also in her mid-forties.

Emotion quickly turned to action for Jay. Last October he launched his own fundraising campaign by purchasing pink ribbon "Find a Cure" car magnets and pink-and-white footballs (a nod to the National Football League's support for National Breast Cancer Awareness month). Rod's Mobil let him put up a sign soliciting donations from customers coming into the shop in exchange for the trinkets. They also made a contribution that enabled Jay to meet his goal for Brattleboro Memorial Hospital's Department of Oncology Services.

"It went into a fund where some people are really going to benefit from it," said Jay, citing gas cards the oncology department distributes to patients as one example. "I know first-hand that those gas cards are a big thing; going to Keene four or five days a week uses a lot of fuel."

"I know first-hand that those gas cards are a big thing; going to Keene four or five days a week uses a lot of fuel."



Jay Meyer presents a donation for the Oncology Department to its director, Agnes Mikijanec.

Like the engines that he works on for a living, Jay is tinkering away at more ideas for raising funds for the Oncology Department as well as convey the importance of breast cancer prevention.

"If these women didn't have these services, and men too, we'd have people dying more than necessary and suffering more than necessary. My wife was very fortunate, all she needed was a couple of surgeries and radiation."

One organization Jay is reaching out to is Pink Heals, a group of firefighters that travels to communities across the United States in a pink fire truck to raise awareness about breast cancer among women.

"The way the Pink Heals puts it, 'We are men doing what we're supposed to do and that's protect our women and children,'" says Jay. "It's really important that women understand how important it is to have a mammogram and do self-examinations."

A Star is Born!

New parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles now have a new and lasting way to celebrate the latest addition to their lives. Introducing a Brattleboro Memorial Hospital recognition opportunity called, a Star is Born! With a commemorative gift of \$50 to BMH, an engraved star will be hung just outside of the Birthing Center with the child's name and birth date. All proceeds go to Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, helping with our commitment to "provide the best patient experience, every patient, every time". For more information contact the Development Office at 802-257-8314 or email development@bmbvt.org.



Giving From The Heart Gala A Huge Success



The 3rd Annual Giving from The Heart Gala took place on Saturday, February 12th and attendance surpassed prior years, as did the dollars raised. More than 200 people came out and approximately \$34,000 was raised to support Brattleboro Memorial Hospital and the oncology services.

A highlight of this year's event was a special tribute to Stephen and Jane Baker, for their many years of service to BMH and the greater Brattleboro community. A video tribute was shown that evening and the couple was given a commemorative scrapbook.

Fabulous food was provided by North End Butchers, a cash bar by the Putney Inn, and dancing to the New York-based band Johnny & the Triumphs. And the night was topped off by a "CinderFella" Auction sponsored by Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee. Fourteen local "fellas" and their services were auctioned off, making for light entertainment, lots of laughs, and extra dollars of support.

To see photos from the evening, view a list of the "CinderFella" auction packages and see the video tribute to the Bakers, visit the BMH website at www.bmhvt.org/giving.

- Benefactors**
\$10,000 & OVER*
- Patrons**
\$5,000-\$9,999*
- Fellows**
\$2,500-\$4,999*
- Stewards**
\$1000-\$2,499*

- Donors**
\$500-\$999
- Associates**
\$250-\$499
- Supporters**
\$100-\$249
- Friends**
\$1-\$99

*Donors of \$1000 or more are President's Circle Members.



Brattleboro
Memorial Hospital

I wish to make a tax-deductible gift of _____.

I would like my gift to support:

- Electronic Medical Records Uncompensated Care Area of Greatest Need

Name(s) _____
Please print name(s) as you would like to be listed in acknowledgements.

Address _____

I prefer to make my contribution by credit card: VISA MasterCard Discover

Card number _____ Exp. date _____ VTC# (3 digits on back of card) _____

Print name on card _____ Signature _____ My phone number _____

I prefer my gift to be anonymous

This gift is made: in memory of in honor of _____

Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Please make your check payable to: **Brattleboro Memorial Hospital.**
Mail contribution to: BMH Development Office, 17 Belmont Avenue, Suite 1, Brattleboro, VT 05301-3498



Brattleboro Memorial Hospital
EXCEPTIONAL CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

17 Belmont Avenue
Brattleboro, VT 05301

Nonprofit Org
U.S Postage
PAID
Putney, VT
Permit 1

Mission

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital will provide community-based health services delivered with compassion and respect.

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Vision

Best patient care experience-
every patient; every time
Best place to work-
employees / volunteers / medical staff

In order to save the hospital money, we distribute the Healthwise by sending to POSTAL CUSTOMER. Hence, there is no mailing list (other than specifically to our donors). If you have received more than one copy of Healthwise, we request that you consider passing it on to a friend or neighbor. Thank you.

**April & May 2011
Wellness Programs**

April 5th

Arthritis Exercise Program (8-weeks, for fee)

April 11th

Discussion on School Sports and Head Injuries
Drs. William Vranos & Valerie Rooney

May 4th

Mediterranean Dining: A Healthy Approach to Living

May 9th

Carbohydrates in Your Diet – *Dr. Lauren McClure*

May 16th

New Treatments for Diabetes – *Dr. Margaret Ferry*

*Call 802-257-8877 to register for any of these sessions
More information available on BMH website: www.bmbvt.org*

