

Hospice Matters

A PUBLICATION OF HOSPICE OF YUMA

Comfort & Compassion When It's Needed Most

MAY/JUNE 2009

27th ANNUAL MEETING AND DONOR/VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

As a cost saving initiative this year's Annual Meeting and Donor Appreciation Event and the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner were combined. It turned out to be quite a day at the Yuma Civic and Convention Center with 204 people in attendance, even with the dust storm brewing. The entertainment was provided by Elva of E. Marie Entertainment and dinner was catered by John & Margie's Ranch House Restaurant. Dessert was donated by the Garden Café.

Board President, Donna Oglesby, welcomed everyone present and Chaplain Wayne Whittaker provided the invocation. After dinner President Donna Oglesby called the meeting to order and Robert Filbey presented the Secretary's

Report, followed by Glen Moss who presented the Financial Report. Donna Oglesby gave the President's Report and introduced members of the Hospice of Yuma Board of Directors. John Williams, Executive Director, introduced the staff members present.



Angel Awards were presented to the following:

Del Outdoor Advertising - More than eighteen years ago Del Outdoor Advertising made a commitment to donate billboards for the annual Roping Round-Up and has been donating them every year since. For the past seven years, they have donated billboards below cost

and waived production fees, saving hospice thousands of dollars while promoting our fundraising events and educating the community about our services. Del Outdoor has also been generous in making banners for us free of charge or at cost for many years.

Time Warner Cable - One of hospice's major goals over the years has been to promote our fundraising events and ensure monies for our charitable care program. For many years Time Warner has partnered with us and provided free advertising for the Roping Round-Up, Ocean to Ocean Gala and the P.K. Hodges Southwest Agricultural Golf Tournament.

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P.K. HODGES SOUTHWEST AGRICULTURAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



A field of 120 golfers played in the P.K. Hodges Southwest Agricultural Golf Tournament held April 16, 17 and 18 raising more than \$27,000.00 for Hospice of Yuma patients. Although a bit windy at times everyone enjoyed the tournament which consisted of a tasty barbecue dinner sponsored by Pan American Insurance Agency at Desert Hills Golf Course on Thursday evening, an afternoon of golf on Friday at Las Barrancas Golf Course followed by a delicious tri-tip dinner catered and donated by Fred & Carolyn Hoffmeyer and Kent &

Elaine Patrick, another round of golf at Desert Hills on Saturday, plus lunch and an awards ceremony.

Unfortunately there wasn't a Hole-In-One winner sponsored by RV World, even though each golfer had two chances (one at each golf course). Closest to the Pin was sponsored by Sonora Nissan. The winners were Jerry Crump and Mark Johnson. Yuma Investment Group sponsored the Putting Contest on Thursday evening with Oscar Martinez placing first, Lynn Williams second and Fernie Quiroz third. Mike Schug came in first at the Friday evening Chipping Contest (only 3" from the hole), and Nate Schug came in second

at two feet from the hole.

The overall tournament winners were:

1st Place - Tony Sellers, Arnold Solis, Paul Muthart and Mike Burnside

2nd Place - Chris Harmon, Mike Daily, Troy Marnynak and Colin Scholle

3rd Place - Ray Griffin, Seth Hodges, Paulo Escalante and Dean Wolfe

Thank you to all who participated in the tournament, including our sponsors, golfers and volunteers. There would be no golf tournament without you!



A Note From the Executive Director



John Williams
Executive Director

I recently read an article that started off with the question of “what is the importance of reliability.” The very next sentence indicated that this was a good question to ask yourself when you are 35,000 feet in the air and are wondering just how reliable those jet engines attached to the plane really are. Now I must admit that even though this brought a smile to my face, I realized the importance of having reliable engines that operated when and how they were suppose to. When I thought about it further, I personalized the question in terms of hospice care.

Hospice of Yuma has taken great strides to improve the reliability and accessibility of the services we provide to terminally ill patients in our community. Modeling our approach based on ideas from Jim Collins’ book, *Good to Great*, we have

taken our program to a higher level of expectancy to better meet the needs and expectations of the patients and families we serve. In October of 2006, Hospice of Yuma began to participate in the National Family Evaluation Survey, conducted by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, in order to compare the results of the services we were providing with other hospice organizations both in the State of Arizona and nationally. Based on the information we received back from these surveys we sought out areas where we believed we needed to improve our services.

One such area was in evening and weekend RN coverage. Hospice is a 24-hour program and most hospices have their primary nurse-case managers share on-call coverage for the evenings and weekends. Even though the initial data from the Family Evaluation Survey indicated that family approval ratings for our services during these time periods were similar to other hospices in the state and nation, we still

felt that we needed to make changes to increase reliability and satisfaction. In order to provide better services to our patients and their families during the evening and weekends, we hired a full-time evening nurse and two full-time weekend nurses. By doing this we were able to have dedicated nurses whose only responsibility was to care for hospice patients during these time frames. The other benefit was that our full-time nurse-case managers were better rested and able to increase the quality of care they were providing during the weekdays. The results of this change is reflected in the 2008 fourth quarter data as follows:

Hospice of Yuma	87.5%
State of Arizona	68.5%
National	59.8%

We are happy to report that the response from our patient families regarding their evening/weekend needs has been positive.

{ From the Hospice of Yuma Staff: Happy Mother's & Father's Day! }

Annual Meeting and Donor/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

continued from front page

These events have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars enabling us to care for those patients who had no insurance or means for paying for their care. Time Warner has also partnered with Hospice of Yuma, providing free commercial time in getting our message out about the special services we provide.

RX Positive - For more than nine years RX Positive has supported Hospice of Yuma. As a hospice organization we have many vendor contracts for supplies to meet the needs of our terminal patients, but we only have one vendor who will store our

supplies for free. Colin Scholle of RX Positive has also donated more than \$10,000.00 over the past two years in major sponsorships for the P.K. Hodges Southwest Agricultural Golf Tournament, the Roping Round-Up and Ocean to Ocean Gala.

Ashlie Davis, Hospice of Yuma Fund Development Director, presented the *Community Advisory Board Member Award* to Teresa Laurent for her eagerness and service for our fundraising events.

Dorothy Toney, Thrift Shop Manager, presented a *Perseverance Award* to Bob

and Janet Bacon; *Stripper Awards* (stripping the thrift shop floor) to Wally McMorris and Trini Vasquez; and a special *Lunch Time Clock Award* to Trini Vasquez. Also recognized was Jerry Sullivan for his 20 years of volunteer service.

Elizabeth Nunez, Volunteer Coordinator, along with Carol Davis, Director of Clinical Services, presented Madge Jones with a certificate honoring her 20 years of service to Hospice of Yuma. Also recognized was Sallianne Gooch for 10 years of services and Lela Adams and Muriel Barrett for their 5 years of service.

Investing in Hospice

In our last newsletter, we mentioned that **Texas Roadhouse** donated their 1st Place winnings from the Chili Cook-off back, but did not mention that **Mitchell's Merchant Patrol** also donated their winnings back. We apologize for not mentioning you, and we are truly grateful for your contribution!

We wish to thank **Cola Gila Rivers VFW 8242 Ladies Auxiliary** for their contribution of **\$1,096.32** designated for VA patients and their families.

A special thank you to the **Welcome Neighbors Newcomers Club** for their

contribution of **\$1,100.00**. This fabulous organization raised enough money to evenly divide between three non-profit organizations, choosing Hospice of Yuma as one of the recipients. Thank you, again for your outstanding contribution!

Thank you to **The Ladies Golf Club at Fortuna del Rey Golf Course** for their contribution of **\$300.00**.

Another very special thank you to **Bonita Mesa RV Resort residents** for their contribution of **\$353.95**. Your continued support is outstanding.

We also wish to thank the following

community groups for their contributions: **Foothills Frilly Fillies Red Hat Chapter, Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Sundance RV Park Chapel, Sun Vista RV Park and Araby Acres Christian Church**. We truly appreciate your continued support of our organization!

We have also received contributions from **Southern Arizona Combined Federal Campaign** in the amount of **\$744.97**; **Maricopa County Combined Federal Campaign** in the amount of **\$27.56**; and the **State Employees Charitable Campaign** for a total amount of **\$1,300.36**.

Bonita Mesa Does It Again!!



Executive Director, John Williams accepts a check from Tex Pate, Bonita Mesa Auctioneer, and residents.

Even in tough economic times, the residents at Bonita Mesa RV Resort were able to raise an astonishing \$12,831.95 for Hospice of Yuma's charitable care program. The residents at Bonita Mesa have been doing this auction for eight years, with items for the auction donated by the residents themselves and by merchants within the community. In the last eight years, they have raised a total of \$86,325.70 to help provide care to those terminally ill in our

community.

Thank you, Bonita Mesa residents, from the staff, patients and families for all your hard work and commitment to our organization. You are very dear to our hearts.

Planning for the Future

Have you made plans for your financial future through a will, trust or other plans? If so, congratulations! By taking this step you have shown your concern for your future well being, that of your family, and perhaps your community through the organizations that are important to you during your lifetime.

Your will or trust should be kept up to date to ensure that your plans still suit your needs. Keeping your will or other plans up to date can be as important as preparing them in the first place. You might never need to change your plans unless you have experienced events familiar to all of us; such as moving to another state, the person you named to settle your estate can no longer serve in that capacity, a change in

financial circumstances or marital status and, of course, there are always tax law changes, just to name a few.

If you haven't made your plans as of yet, or need to update your original plan, it would be wise to discuss them with your financial advisor or your attorney. You might want to ask about leaving a legacy to your favorite charity or charities, which could actually enhance your estate. Legacy giving may not reduce the amount of inheritance that children and heirs receive. In fact, it might even increase the money that is passed along because it prompts an assessment of assets and review of options that lead to proactive planning of one's estate. Legacy giving while one is still alive is a way to reduce tax liability be-

cause it creates an income tax deduction.

As you can see, there are many reasons why you might wish to review your estate plans from time to time, or take that first step. A consultation with your tax advisor could enable you to continue to support things that are important to you. Just imagine if each of the people whose obituaries you read daily in the local newspaper left just \$500.00 to their favorite not-for-profit organization, what a profound impact it would have on the quality of life in our community.

If you would like to receive a complimentary Personal Estate Planning Notebook, please check the box on the back page of this newsletter and return it to us.

Lessons from Helen Keller



Father Paul Gambling

It seems to be almost a lifetime ago that I was actively involved as a classroom teacher, but some of the lessons I taught, and learned, have stayed with me through the years. One that has been reoccurring to me recently is a method I used when teaching the play *The Miracle Worker* by William Gibson. In the story of the early education of Helen Keller, deaf and blind because of a childhood illness, her teacher, Annie Sullivan goes to extraordinary lengths to get her to “see” and to understand. To give the children I was teaching

a better understanding of Helen’s situation, at the beginning of the first class I had them divide up into pairs, and then one would be blindfolded. The blindfolded child would need to rely on the other’s experience for ensuring their safety as they explored the school grounds for the next 15-20 minutes. They were not allowed to speak to each other, and after a time the roles were reversed.

They usually returned to the classroom full of energy over what they had experienced and a little unnerved by the unfamiliarity of that which they had just seen, touched and felt. As well as an exercise in sensory deprivation (to a certain extent) it was also an exercise in trust -- trust that they would not be led astray, trust that the footing would be firm and sure, trust that no harm would become them.

There are times when we all are “blind,” not in the physical sense but when we encounter difficulties and challenges in life. Do we amble blithely on, oblivious to the hazards that lie ahead, or do we trust in others to take us by the hand, others who have been there before us and who know the right paths to tread. Trust is a risk, but not to trust in anyone seems to be a sure formula for harm, pain and sorrow. Whom do you trust to help lead you through life? Whose hand will you place yours in, confident that you will be kept safe and not led into harm?

In the play, it took a long time for Helen to trust Annie, but when that was arrived at, whole new vistas opened up for the little girl. Who is your “Annie?”

Pax, Paul

Thrift Shop News



Dorothy Toney
Thrift Shop Manager

The weather is certainly warming up and it looks like summer is upon us. There’s nothing better to celebrate a new season than to spice up your wardrobe. But, do you hate the thought of shopping at the big stores paying those outrageous prices? Then stop by the Thrift Shop for a unique shopping experience. We have everything you’ll need...cool summer clothing, cute sandals, even a good book to read while

you’re lounging by the pool. Need to spruce up your home? We have lots of treasures to choose from to personalize your space. We also have “experienced” furniture for those wishing to change their décor or for those who are just starting out with their first home.

We are also looking for volunteer help during the summer months. You are not required to take the volunteer training class to work at the Thrift Shop. We do request that you are able to work a minimum of four hours per week on a regular schedule. We will create a work schedule that is convenient for you and assign a job that you will enjoy. Attention, guys, this is for you,

too! We need a few good men who can test the electronics and appliances and assist with handyman jobs around the store. We do have openings for students 16 years or older who are doing community service to meet graduation requirements or service club requirements. Sorry, but we do not offer positions to satisfy court ordered community service. Please call if you have any questions or need more information.

Remember...if shopping doesn’t make you happy, your shopping in the wrong store!

Save the Date...

November 17-18, 2009

Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt will be in Yuma to present two workshops. He is a noted author, educator and grief counselor, and is the recipient of the Association for Death Education and Counseling’s Death Educator Award. He serves as the Director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado and is a frequent guest of the media, appearing on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Larry King Live, NBC Today and Nick News.

We have a few
GOLF SHIRTS

left over from the

Hospice of Yuma P.K. Hodges SW Agricultural Golf Tournament and are selling them for

\$30.00 each

(Please call Sharon or Ashlie at 343-2222 if you are interested in purchasing a shirt)

They are from the Ping Collection, Dry Fiber Dynamics, and retail for \$50.00 each.

Thank You for sponsoring the...

P. K. Hodges Southwest Agricultural Golf Tournament

Gold Sponsors:

Dole Fresh Vegetables	Pan American Insurance Agency	RV World Recreational Vehicles
Arizona Grain, Inc.	Barkley Ag Enterprises	Botsford & Goodfellow, Inc.
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All Seasons Beauty Salon...Heather Grasis at Ambiance Salon...Antonio's Barber & Beauty Shop...Basket Creations & More...Bingham New Holland...Brownie's Restaurant...John & Margie's Ranch House...Victoria Clarkson...Mark Croft at Cocopah Bend Golf Course...Colorado River Pottery...Corona Optique...Del Outdoor Advertising/Sign Pro...Rich Walton and Matt Johnson at Desert Hills Golf Course...Dillard's...Discount Tire Co...Don Quijote Restaurant...Dura Shield...Foothills Shoes...Foxworth-Galbraith Lumber Co...4th Ave. Gym...Paul Fox...Whole Health Foods...Hair Z End by Jay...Jiffy Lube...Lake Powell National Golf Course...Ralph Lehman...Las Barrancas Golf Course...Lotus Day Spa...Mr. B's Bicycles...Oak Tree & More...Old Town Wine Cellar...Olive Garden...Outback Steakhouse...Power Quality Inc...Ciao Bella/River City Grill...Shay Oil Co...Soft Cloth Car Wash...Staples on Catalina...Sun Rental & Sales...Texas Road House...Time Warner...Ussery's Antiques & Gifts...Vegetable Growers Supply...Westwoods...Yuma Vision Center

We also want to thank all the golfers who participated in the event, Desert Hills Golf Course, Las Barrancas Golf Course and our Golf Committee - Johnny Grable (Chairman), Deb Bezdicek, Lonna Brazeel, Bonnie Chandler, Victoria Cline, Paul Fox, John Hodges, Pat Hodges Jr., Al Johnson, Matt Johnson, Millie Kissinger, Alison Kottenbrook, John Kovatch, Ralph Lehman, Bill Murray, Rich Walton and Paul White.

CENTURIONS

February - March 2009

Platinum

Mrs. Gay Anderson in memory of Arvid Anderson
 Mr. Earl Hawes in memory of Emily Hawes
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HONORARIUMS

February - March 2009

Paul Gambling

Johnson Mortuary & Desert Lawn Memorial Park

IN MEMORARIUM

February - March 2009

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 Ms. Gayle Taylor

Roger Boennighausen

Mrs. Luda Soldwedel

Betty Bornt

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Wendell Bowles

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Park

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Marilyn Hanson

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Mr. & Mrs. Laurence
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Ms. Mary Wilcox
Yuma Mesa Fruit Growers
Association

Lance Wozniak
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Edwards

GENERAL DONATIONS
February - March
2009

Anonymous
Ms. Candace Carbajal
Mr. Joseph Delaquila
Ms. Glorya Dunican
Mr. Ronald Garberg
Mr. Eric Hawkins
Mr. Raymond Kruse
Ms. Nancy Lehman
Ms. Joyce Lilleberg
Mr. & Mrs. Scott McMaster
Mrs. Ann Molina
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pauli
Mr. Richard Power
Mr. Robert Replogle
Mr. Ricky Rinehart
Ms. Loida Rodriguez
Sun Vista RV Resort/Ms.
Judy Cox
Mr. Hughie Williams

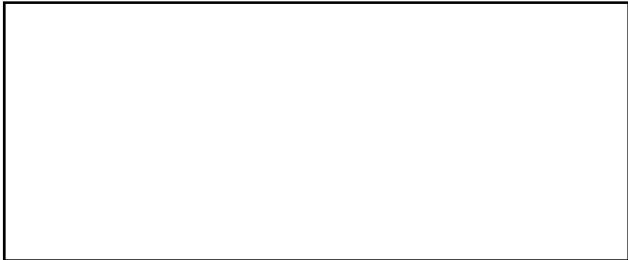


*Mother's Day Tea
Contributions will be
listed in the next
newsletter.*



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Yuma, AZ 85364-5517

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