



Lady Minto Hospital Foundation

Minto Messenger

CREATIVE GIVING GORDON FORD

One of the many ways to give to the Lady Minto Hospital...



Gordon Ford

Bowls. Large, small, green, wavy moss topped. Gordon Ford's workshop is loaded with hand-turned wooden bowls in various stages of completion. Stacked up high on a shelf are bowls, turned, but green. They will stay there for a year to 'dry out'. Over by the table saw are the stacks of dried bowls, ready for their final turn at the sander.

Not a woodworker by trade, Gordon first graduated from UBC as a Geologist, a career that took him to many places

around the globe. Working as a field Geologist in Australia, Costa Rica and Northern Quebec, he took the remaining courses needed to become a Geological Engineer. From there his focus was mineral exploration, before working as a Government Technical Advisor in mining and smelting. When talking with Gordon one can sense his love of the rock formations that has transferred to his current, prolific hobby.

Bowls made of 'refugees from the woodpile' occupy his thoughts now. He no longer just splits firewood. Each piece of wood is carefully scrutinized for its hidden potential. Neighbours and friends call Gordon when they have a tree down, giving him first pick. Many of them have been recipients of Gordon's generosity in the form of a bowl, which is what prompted his involvement with the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

According to Gordon, "There are only so many family and friends you can give a bowl away to." Now, when someone offers to buy one of his handmade treasures, he says, "Great, and please send your cheque to the Hospital Foundation."

We are always amazed at the way people find to support the Foundation and we are grateful to such open hearted philanthropy. We have many wonderful donors that continually think of us for their charitable giving. We are honored to have been able to feature one such individual. As Gordon took me through

continued next page



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www.ladymintofoundation.com

the process from a chunk of wood to a beautiful bowl, I couldn't help but be touched by the care he took: both in telling me his story and crafting a bowl.

Once a bowl has dried for a year, it takes approximately another four hours to when Gordon feels it's complete. From start to finish he keeps an eye out for cracks and flaws, but throws none of them out. He is always on the lookout for a creative technique, a way to bring out the best both he and the wood have to offer.

The Foundation is pleased that Gordon allowed us to interview and photograph him. Unfortunately, Gordon and his wife Lucy will be moving to the Mainland as soon as their house sells, to be closer to their two daughters. I have no doubt that Gordon will go on to spread more goodwill in their new location amongst family and old friends. And the bowl I picked out as my favourite...well, Gordon said it might not be dry by the time they leave Salt Spring. ■

– Karen Mouat



LADY MINTO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Everyday Ways to Give...

Even something so simple as grocery shopping goes a long way in helping your community hospital. Both the **Country Grocer** and **Thrifty Foods** give generously to our community and allocate a percentage of their income to community charities and groups. When you do your shopping, you can specify the Lady Minto Hospital's Extended Care Unit as your charity of choice. When shopping at Country Grocer, just place your receipts in the box marked #73 for the Lady Minto Hospital. The Thrifty Foods Smile Card program contributions go directly towards activities for the residents. If you don't have a Smile Card, you can pick one up from Activities Coordinator, Jen Ritson. Once you have a Smile Card, just show it to your cashier when making your purchase.





LadyMintoHospitalFoundation

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Feitelberg

Spring and summer bring on certain highlights of the Foundation's year. The Phantom Ball campaign kick-off took place on May 8th with the appearance of the Phantom Couple and their entourage in the Saturday Market, followed by a launch at the Mexico Cafe in Ganges, with many thanks to our host Barry Kazakoff and restaurant staff. The prize this year is a one-week, all inclusive trip for two to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. So when you receive your invitation not to attend, remember that the money you will save can once again go towards helping purchase equipment on the hospital's priority list.

Our Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 10th. The prize of a new Subaru sponsored by Saunders Subaru will be awarded to the golfer scoring the first hole-in-one on the 6th hole. There will be other exciting competitions, many prizes and golf shenanigans to make this year's event even more exciting than previous years. So mark your calendar accordingly and send in your registration early which you can do by downloading the forms on our website (www.ladymintofoundation.com).

I am pleased to inform you that notwithstanding the global recession, the Foundation's Endowment Fund has held

its own with the market value at \$3.25 Million as of March 31st 2010, a considerable increase over the value reported at March 31st 2009.

Dr. Morse, the new General Internist, continues to perform regular endoscopy procedures at the hospital and provide consultations for patients referred by their family doctor.

As most of you have read, the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) has recently completed a health needs assessment for Salt Spring Island and this review was spearheaded by VIHA's Regional Director for Planning and Community Engagement, Grant Hollett, who met with approximately 16 interest groups on the island. The results of his assessment have now been finalized and our fundraising will continue to benefit local high priority health care services in the hospital to meet community needs as identified in the report's results. I am pleased that this report confirms the ongoing need and support for endoscopy procedures in addition to addressing the important psychiatric, geriatric, diagnostic (including the laboratory) and emergency requirements.

To read the full V.I.H.A. report, please follow the link: http://www.viha.ca/about_viha/news and go to Publications on the bottom of the page where you can download the pdf.

In the 2009/10 fiscal year, we have spent \$145,000 on equipment and projects, with additional items still in the works valued at \$85,000. This brings the Foundation's commitment to a total of \$230,000. Some of the purchases include minor items (under \$5,000) such as emergency room instruments, Medicart for endoscopy, and tonometer. Other items include furniture for the nurses' accommodation, a new cardiac treadmill, mobile digital (Fast) ultrasound system, nurses' education fund, cardiac monitor, emergency room procedure lamps and replacement of the digital fluoroscopic system X-Ray equipment.

Lady Minto Hospital continues to be one of the jewels on Salt Spring, thanks largely to its excellent and dedicated staff.

On behalf of the Foundation Board I hope you all enjoy a fabulous summer and we continue to be grateful to all our supporters and donors for their generous help with our various programs each year. ■

DEPARTMENT PROFILE

HEALTH RECORDS



(L-R) Tina, Leah, and Kristine with Health Records/Admitting Coordinator, Kathy Kendall

HEALTH RECORDS STAFF

Regular Staff:

Kathy
Tina
Elaine
Melanie
Leah
Janet

Casuals:

Pat
Connie
Mihaela
Kristine
Lori
Wendy
Julia

When I asked Kathy Kendall, Health Records/Admitting Coordinator, to describe her department in a nutshell, she said, "You practically have to be perfect to work here!" What she was referring to was the absolute need for accuracy when working with patient records, and the ability to maintain accuracy even under pressure and while multi-tasking, which are apt descriptions of what the pace is like in her department. "*Flexible, problem-solving, and morphing into change constantly*" are also ways to describe her staff during a day in the life of the Health Records and Admitting Departments (the checklist of duties is three pages long!). "You have to have your eye on the big picture here and be technically inclined. We manage the department using a lean design, which means streamlining duties to create greater efficiencies. We have to be very creative with staff and train them to cover a variety of duties while working with a lean budget."

There are six regular staff members and seven casual staff covering the various duties of this department. Kathy is responsible for the Admitting Clerks, Unit Clerks and Health

Records Clerk/Medical Stenographers and many of the casual staff members are proficient in all the positions.

One major change that has taken place over the nearly 30 years that Kathy has worked in the department is the pivotal role of computer technology, referred to as Information Management and Information Technology (IM/IT) within the health authority. Using a sophisticated computer program called Cerner, staff enter and manage patient data and records which can be accessed anywhere in the system by authorized staff. This means greater continuity and less chance of delays when it comes to patient care. Doctors can now review results right away for patients undergoing diagnostic testing in Victoria, and x-rays can be reviewed in the doctor's office, using another program called "Power Chart". Eventually, the patient records will be entirely electronic (paperless), although it will be a while before this takes place in the hospital system.

Keeping up with this new technology is another responsibility that Kathy must cover in her role as Coordinator, and this often involves teaching

the specific computer skills to new staff and physicians. She is also responsible for security and privacy awareness and is the official "Freedom of Information" coordinator for the hospital. In this role, she is responsible for ensuring the privacy and security of all health information and also responding to requests for records. All computers in the hospital are password protected and there are strict guidelines on how to ensure that privacy is maintained at all times.

Another area of expertise is the coding and abstracting of all medical charts. This data is then filed with the Ministry of Health and compiled in province-wide health reports.

When you visit Lady Minto Hospital for blood tests, x-rays, ultrasounds, daycare procedures, emergency or if you are admitted to hospital, you will first encounter the Admitting Clerk, or during off-hours, the Unit Clerk at the Acute Care Nursing Station. The Admitting Clerks handle many tasks throughout the day, including appointments, switchboard, handling the mail, processing standing orders, processing the paperwork for all patients reporting to the hospital for tests or admission and assembling the chart. "They are very versatile staff," Kathy states, "with a broad knowledge of the health care system. The Unit Clerk performs additional duties, including arranging for patient transfers, transcribing medical orders, providing clerical support for the extended care unit and stocking the supplies cupboard on Acute Care, to name a few. "

The Health Records Medical Stenographers transcribe all medical reports, using the Fusion Manager dictation equipment. Gone are the days of the tape recorders for this task. All physicians can log onto this digital system through the telephone and dictate their reports from any location.

As with most departments in health care these days, Health Records has certainly undergone major advances technically, with an ever-expanding role in information management, but the major responsibility of keeping patient information accurate, secure and confidential is still at the top of the priority list. This is where the skills and ability to problem-solve and juggle many tasks come into play. Kathy and her staff run a tight ship and show us each day what teamwork is all about. Kathy attributes the success of the department to remarkable teamwork of the amazing, accomplished and dedicated Health Records, Admitting and Unit clerk staff. ■

— Diana Hayes

*top photo: Wendy and Janet;
middle photo: Elaine, bottom photo: Mihaela*



Meet Our Kids Making Change



*E.C.U. resident, Florence Davidson,
enjoys a visit with Rae*

Rae Ritson Like Mother, Like Daughter

Rae Ritson joined us as a junior volunteer last June and comes by her interest in health care naturally. Her mother, Jen Ritson, has worked at Lady Minto Hospital since 1986 and is the Activities Coordinator for Extended Care.

How long have you/did you volunteer at the hospital?

I've been volunteering since June 2009, four days a week for an hour.

Why do you volunteer?

I volunteer because I know it is helping someone and making someone's life easier and better. It's a great feeling.

How do you manage to juggle volunteering with school and other commitments?

It's not too difficult because I go every day for an hour after school, which still leaves my weekends and evenings free for homework and friends.

What kinds of things did you do?

I help feed residents at supper (sometimes lunch). I sometimes help with bowling on Fridays. I play games with residents and just talk to them.

What was the initial impetus for you deciding to volunteer?

Well I really like to help people. It's a really nice feeling knowing that I'm helping someone. That's really the reason I decided to volunteer.

What made you continue?

Again, it's just that feeling that you are helping someone who needs it.

What are you able to give to others?

I have a good sense of humor so it's nice to make other people laugh.

What have you learned about yourself?

I've learned that I'm actually quite patient and that I really do like to help people. I've also learned that I'm very determined when I put my mind to it.

Tell me about yourself.

I'm in grade 9 at SIMS. I've lived on Salt Spring my whole life. When I'm finished school, I would like to go traveling and eventually go to university and study to be an archaeologist. ■

Palliative Care Room on Extended Care

Long time Salt Spring resident and supporter of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation, Ken Lee, was most appreciative of the new Palliative Care Room on the Extended Care Unit when his daughter Gillian required special care at the hospital. When asked to provide some feedback about his experience, Ken most willingly spoke up on behalf the family, including Gillian's brother, Ingmar and her sister, Jennifer:

"Looking back over Gillian's short stay and eventual passing at the ECU, we all agreed that her placement and care there was an incredible, almost miraculous, stroke of good fortune for all of us.



Sonya Frebold with children Zephyr and Solena perform music for their cousin, Gillian Lee

Gillian was placed in Extended Care in May 2009. She had spent about three weeks in Acute Care where her restlessness and frustration at being confined resulted in her occasionally falling out of bed and alarming her roommates. She was very fortunate to be placed from there into the ECU's newly created palliative care room which includes a private courtyard. Her bed could be easily wheeled from her room into the

courtyard — she always loved the outdoors. The doctors were also able to better adjust her medications and mitigate her symptoms in that setting. The ECU nursing and maintenance staff were wonderful and extremely supportive in spite of their unfamiliarity with Huntington's — a very rare, neuro-degenerative disease. It was always a pleasure to visit Gillian and to get to know everyone on the unit, including the other patients and their daily visitors — it was like family.

We also agree that this wonderful facility deserves a better name than ECU. Might we suggest the CROFTON WING after the road to the Lady Minto and the picturesque Village?"

E.C.U. Palliative Care Room **Donor Recognition**

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation provided substantial funding for the renovation project with annual donations received from our generous community.

Furnishings and comforts to finish off the room were provided by the following donors:

Barbara Archer & Rob Oliver
Betty Dring
Estate Of Albert (Bert) James Underwood
Gulf Islands Shrine Club #39
Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary
Melanie Dick
Salt Spring Stitchers



Gillian Ingrid Lee

Nov 12, 1961 – Dec 31, 2009

Gillian died peacefully in the company of her sister Jennifer, brother Ingmar and father Ken, from pneumonia and complications due to Huntington's disease, a hereditary neuro-degenerative disorder. Born in Wawa, Ontario, Gillian attended schools in Ontario and finally McGill, Guelph, and UVIC. She obtained a degree in English and a Teaching Certificate from McGill, and later, a Diploma in Early Childhood Education from Langara College in Vancouver. Gillian was extremely artistic. She was a gifted and inspiring writer, a visual artist and a musician who played both the flute and banjo. Always fiercely independent, she travelled widely. She loved animals and children and was especially devoted to her niece, Rowan, and her nephew Kane who reside on Denman Island. By an extraordinary coincidence Gillian died on the day of a Blue Moon – a classic that she often asked Ken to play on the piano.

The family wishes to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the doctors, nurses, and all the wonderful support staff and residents at Lady Minto and Braehaven for the extraordinary care and love that they gave to Gillian as she succumbed to this brutal disease. A memorial fund was set up by the family and donations were directed towards the purchase of a flat screen television for the enjoyment of extended care residents.

Volunteer Recognition Tea



E.C.U. resident Noreen Clarke, with daughter Maureen Rowell

E.C.U. resident, Lisa Schmah



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON EXTENDED CARE

Jen Ritson, Activities Coordinator

E.C.U. welcomes many visitors and volunteers, including the many Auxiliary members who provide tea and comforts to our residents on a daily basis. We all love it when young people come to visit and share their time and talents with us. Whether it is Junior Volunteers, Rae Ritson and Torri Holmes, who visit regularly with residents, or Mrs. Freeman's Grade One/Two class from the Fulford School, we always appreciate their company. The Junior Volunteers help with one-to-one visits with residents, playing crib, bowling, helping out with decorating the department on special occasions, and joining residents on walks.

We are entering our second year of the Extended Care Excursion Day Program, thanks to the generous support of the Foundation. Originally, we planned to have a trip every six weeks, alternating between the "Out to Lunch" group and the "Sightseeing" group, but as both trips have become so popular, we are now going twice a month. 22 residents have benefited from these outings. We have travelled all over the island and attended the Fall Fair as well as picnics in the park. We have also had wonderful lunch outings in many of the island restaurants. We have great plans this spring and summer, including a trip to Ganges with a walk-about in town, a meal in Fulford and hopefully a trip off island later in the summer.

In February, the residents of Extended Care participated in an island-wide scrabble tournament. The event was a fundraiser for the organization "Grandmothers to Grandmothers". With the help of Lynn Blanche, Delaney Johnson and Nicole Pal, we had a great game with a team total of 688 points, including a seven letter word. The team raised \$242.55 with help from hospital staff, the Auxiliary and family members. ■

Many thanks to Mary Freeman and her class of Grade 1-2 students from Fulford Elementary for brightening up the ECU with their happy smiles and angelic voices.

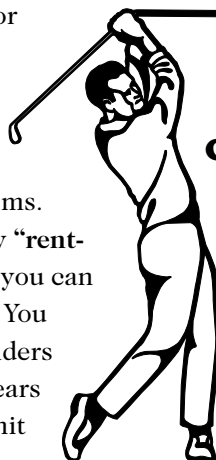


GOLF ANYONE?

Golfers and non-golfers alike are all invited to attend our 19th annual charity golf tournament and dinner on **Saturday, July 10th** at the **Salt Spring Golf & Country Club**. The emphasis is on **fun**, using a Texas Scramble format.

Register on your own, or with your team for a shotgun start at **8:00, 11:00 or 2:00**, then stay for the **buffet dinner** at 5:30. Thanks to our generous business community, we'll have lots of **great prizes**, raffle draws, and silent and live auction items. You'll be able to improve your golf score by "**renting**" a **Junior Golfer** on 2 of the holes and you can **buy Mulligans** to help you do even better! You could win a **new Subaru** (donated by Saunders Subaru) and a **lawn tractor** (donated by Sears Canada) if you you are the first person to hit a hole in one on Hole #6.

Successful, the prize is **\$5000 for the golfer**, plus **\$5000 for the Hospital Foundation**. A consolation prize will be awarded if necessary, and for those who are not among the 20 golfers able to participate in the qualifying rounds, there will be a 2nd chance raffle draw



ENTRY FEE \$40 (tax receipt provided)

DINNER \$25

GREEN FEES \$12 (if not a member of the Golf Club)

For more information:

Please call Sharon Bond at the Foundation office
250-538-4845

DOWNLOAD A REGISTRATION FORM AT
www.ladymintofoundation.com



For the first time this year, RBC Dominion Securities (Salt Spring Island) is sponsoring a **special putting contest** on **Friday, July 9th**, the day before the tournament, from **4 – 6 pm**. We're selling **raffle tickets @ \$5 each or 3 for \$10** and will draw 20 tickets for a chance to participate in the qualifying rounds. Winner of the qualifying rounds will advance to a final round with 1 chance to sink a putt of a designated distance. If suc-

with prizes donated by the Salt Spring Golf & Country Club. With barbecued hot dogs, hamburgers and a beer tent set up, it should be a great time, and we'll have our fingers crossed that some golfer wins the big prize. **Buy your raffle tickets from the Hospital Foundation office, or from the Pro Shop at the golf course.** ■

FOUNDATION SUPPORTS MUCH NEEDED ACCOMMODATION FOR NURSING STAFF



Over the past two years, Lady Minto Hospital has been grappling with a serious shortage of nursing staff and has needed to call on the services of an agency to provide adequate coverage for both the acute care and extended care units. Agency nurses are called on short notice and provide shift coverage as required. This often involves overnight stays of several weeks and Lady Minto Hospital is responsible for providing accommodation during their stay.

The Foundation Board was happy to assist with this important need and when the opportunity for V.I.H.A. to lease appropriate accommodations at the Kings Lane Medical Clinic came up, the Board approved the purchase of essential furnishings for the apartment.

The new accommodation has two bedrooms and is in walking distance from the hospital which was an important consideration when choosing this location as many of the agency nurses do not bring a car.



The Kings Lane Medical Clinic officially opened on March 29th and provides medical offices for Drs. Barclay, Gummeson, Ryan and Sadouski. Dr. Morse, our General Internist, who is now performing endoscopy procedures at the hospital, also sees patients in the clinic on Tuesdays. ■

*The Phantom Ball Couple visit
Salt Spring Air and Salt Spring Air's
June Vergalen*





THE PHANTOM BALL

Non-Event of the Year

"THE BALL THAT NEVER WAS"

The Lady Minto Hospital Foundation is **NOT** holding a gala ball again this year. It's a Phantom Ball because, well, it doesn't exist. The benefits to you include:

- You don't have to squeeze those extra pounds into that old suit or gown
- No raffle tickets
- You don't have to negotiate the island's non-existent yellow lines
- It's a handy excuse, as in, "I'm sorry, I have to attend the Phantom Ball that night"
- You won't have to dance the "Gum Boot Two Step"



With the money you save by NOT attending, you can help purchase much needed equipment.

Please donate to this most important cause—and remember, every donation makes a difference.
Support your local hospital.

PRIZE DRAW

When you make your donation, we invite you to enter our prize draw for a chance to win.

Draw Date: Saturday, July 10, 2010

MEXICO



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Thanks to these proud sponsors of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Phantom Ball Campaign.





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YES! I would like to make a donation to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation

You choose how your gift helps the hospital by directing your contribution to one of the following Funds or Endowments...

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of \$ _____

☐ Annual Fund

Gifts to the annual fund are directed to the Lady Minto Hospital's greatest needs, including equipment items and projects, at the discretion of the Board of Directors in consultation with the Site Manager, Lady Minto Hospital.

☐ Endowment Fund

This fund provides immediate income from earnings which can either be spent on annual needs or reinvested for long term security as the capital must be retained for at least 10 years.

For Endowment Gifts:

NOTE: If you want this donation to be used to build the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Endowment Fund, please sign and date the following directive.

I hereby give the gift, noted above, to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation under the specific instruction that this gift or any property substituted therefore be held by Lady Minto Hospital Foundation for a period of 10 years or more.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

☐ Extended Care Fund

Provides funding that supports activities and comforts that improve the quality of life for our Extended Care Residents and other patients.

☐ Education Fund

This fund ensures that the health care staff at the Lady Minto Hospital have access to funds that will advance their skills and increase their knowledge of new techniques.

☐ **MEMORIAL GIFTS** are a wonderful way to remember loved ones, and to share gifts that truly make a difference for patients and residents. We are always grateful when families name the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation for this purpose. Memorial gifts are directed to the Lady Minto Hospital's areas of greatest need at the discretion of the Board of Directors, unless otherwise requested by the family. Please include the memorial name and the name, address and relationship of the person you wish to receive acknowledgement of your gift.

Memorial info: _____

Name: _____ (as you wish it to appear for donor recognition)

☐ I prefer my donation to be anonymous

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____ Email address: _____

I prefer to use my VISA or Mastercard in the amount of \$ _____

OR/ I wish to make a monthly donation of \$ _____ to be charged against my account.

Account Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____ Name on card: (please print) _____

Thank you for helping us to ensure that we continue to have excellent health care on the Island. Tax receipts are issued for all donations. Charitable taxation # 135048148RR0001

**This form can be mailed to the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation 135 Crofton Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K1T1
or faxed to, 250 538-4870**