



1946 2021

CGH AUXILIARY

A N N I V E R S A R Y

Communique

November 23, 2021

A CGH Medical Center Publication

CGH Auxiliary Celebrates 75 Years

On November 4, 1946, Mrs. Hellen M. Lawrence met with about 25 women in her home to discuss the shortage of nurses caused by World War II. Together, they had a vision to contribute to the community and serve the Sterling Public Hospital. This marked the start of the CGH Auxiliary.

News of the Auxiliary spread quickly, and soon sewing groups from local churches and community clubs were organized to make hospital gowns and dressings. As the needs of the hospital grew, and the nursing shortage continued, the women realized fundraising was needed. A variety show and gift sale were held in downtown Sterling during that first year, and because of their efforts, the hospital was equipped with a toaster, two chairs, bedside lamps, baby bottle sterilizers and a modern incubator, among other items.

By 1949, the seed of volunteer service was planted not only in the minds of those in the Auxiliary, but also in the minds of hospital officials. Together, they installed a library for hospital patients, and cart service soon followed, supplying patients with necessities and pleasantries.

Seventy-five years later, their story continues to unfold. Their initial enthusiasm and success are still evident in the more than 20,000 hours of "hands-on" service they provide to our patients, visitors and staff. The Auxiliary, whose membership now includes men, women and teens, serves 25 CGH departments with activities ranging from escort and wheelchair transport to encouraging oncology patients and assisting customers in the hospital's gift shop. In addition, with healthcare scholarships and holiday lighting as key projects, fundraising remains a priority.

"Down through the years, so many women deserve credit and thanks for making the Auxiliary what it is today," says a scrapbook page on the Auxiliary's early history. "We call them by name, we can issue tangible awards, but the most fitting tribute we can pay to them is to carry on and build on what they started."

"The list of everything the CGH Auxiliary does for our patients, visitors, employees and physicians could go on and on," said Dr. Paul Steinke, CGH President and CEO. "This is a group of truly dedicated volunteers who give their time, talent and expertise selflessly. We truly appreciate all that they do and for carrying the tradition onward."

The CGH Auxiliary will celebrate its 75th Anniversary throughout the month of November. A celebratory event will be held at the McCormick Event Center in Rock Falls in early spring (due to COVID). A VIP reception for Auxiliary members and past presidents will be held, followed by a "Friends of the Auxiliary" event that will include hors d'oeuvres, desserts, musical entertainment and memorabilia.



CGH Auxiliary Board members share a moment outside the former home of Mrs. Hellen M. Lawrence, the first President of the CGH Auxiliary.

CREAM OF CORN SOUP

1 medium onion, shredded	salt
3-4 stalks celery and leaves	dash pepper
1 can cream style corn	whipped cream
3 cups milk	paprika
1 tsp sugar, heaping	

Cook onion and celery until tender in 1/2 cup salted water. In double boiler, cook one can cream style corn for about 5 minutes. Add onion and celery mixture, sugar, milk, salt and pepper. Cook together for about 10-15 minutes. Put through sieve; serve hot - top with whipped cream and dash of paprika.

Hellen M. Lawrence, First President of the Women's Auxiliary

Above is a recipe excerpt from one of the CGH Auxiliary Cookbooks that were once sold as a fundraiser.

1946 2021
ANNIVERSARY
CGH AUXILIARY
HISTORICAL TIMELINE

To view the historical timeline of the Auxiliary in more detail, visit www.cghmc.com/auxiliary75 or stop by the display in the art gallery hallway at the hospital.

1940s



1950s



1947 By the end of the Auxiliary's first year, 1400 items made by the Auxiliary sewing groups (both robes, baby clothes, hospital gowns, etc.) were presented to the hospital along with 160 jars of jams and jellies.

1947 The Auxiliary also spent \$1548 to equip the hospital with a toaster, chairs, bedside lamps, and other furniture and small items. This money came from two fundraisers. The first being a gift sale and the second being a variety show called "Dream of a Clown".



1950 Junior Auxiliary is formed and creates the gift service to supply necessities and pleasures to patients. Eventually, this service would also provide gifts from the Auxiliary Gift Shop.



1957 TAGS (Teen Age Girls) were added to Auxiliary volunteer service. These girls would provide much needed service during nights and weekends.

1958 The first Auxiliary cookbook, The Best in Cooking in Sterling and Rock Falls, is put on sale. It contained recipes collected from Auxiliary members.

1959 By the end of this decade, several fundraisers paid for hospital furnishings, equipment, and room additions. Common fundraisers were garment raffles, dances, food sales, and dessert parties. Sewing committees also donated more than 8,000 items throughout the decade.

1960s



1961 The Edith Shuman Memorial Nursing Loan Fund is established to help further medical careers of girls in Sterling and Rock Falls.



1965 In conjunction with the Sterling Public Library, a new cart run by volunteers begins providing books to patients.



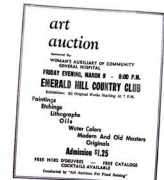
1966 TABS (Teen Age Boys) join the Auxiliary as volunteers.



1970s

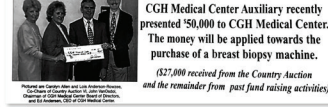


1973 The Auxiliary Snack Shop opens. Its menu consists of tea, coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches and doughnuts.



1980s

CGH Medical Center Auxiliary Presents \$50,000 Check



1984 Auxiliary presents 550,000 check to CGH for a breast biopsy machine thanks to funds raised from the 6th Country Auction and past fundraisers.



1981 CGH Auxiliary founder, Hellen Lawrence, passes away.

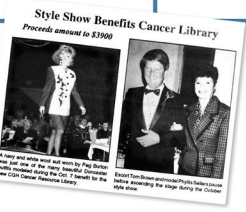
1980-1988 The Auxiliary releases two cookbooks, A Kitchen Sampler I and II, in 1980 and 1988 respectively.

1990s

Sharing the gift of caring
CGH Auxiliary celebrates its 50th anniversary Nov. 4



1992 A style show, The Art of Dressing Well, is held to help fund the creation of a cancer resource library.



2000s

CGH Auxiliary gift benefits foundation

2000 Auxiliary presents \$30,500 check to CGH for a new cardiac heart monitor. Funds were raised at the Auxiliary's 7th Country Auction.

2002 Auxiliary donates \$30,000 to the CGH Health Foundation to help fund a New Lung Cancer Prevention Program and provide support to programs that offer eyeglasses and dental care to children.

2003 Auxiliary raises almost \$20,000 at the 8th Country Auction for a new ultrasound machine.



2010 TO PRESENT



2014 First "Healthy & Bright" Holiday Lighting, sponsored by the Auxiliary.

2016 The Auxiliary celebrates its 70th Anniversary with a banquet.

2016 The volunteer uniform changes to navy blue for men and women.



AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

~ Meet Our CGH Auxiliary Board Members ~

DAVE OSBORN
PRESIDENT

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2017

Hobbies:
Tennis, music
and travel

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Reception desk and
clinic shuttle

Hours: 1,263

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Helping people and
trying to add a bit of levity to an
otherwise somber situation for
patients and guests.



PAT ROSENGREN
PAST PRESIDENT

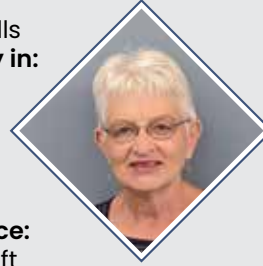
I live in: Rock Falls
Joined Auxiliary in:
Mid-90s

Hobbies:
Reading and
grandkids

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
ED Scheduler, Gift
Shop, Computer Input
and Diabetes Center

Hours: 7,050

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Doing for others and
keeping alert.



CINDY MCKINLEY
SECRETARY

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2011

Hobbies:
Doing puzzles
of all things -
crossword, jigsaw
and word puzzles

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Reception Desk

Hours: 2,683

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** The feeling that I
might have made someone's day a
little better.



PAT ESTES
TREASURER

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2016

Hobbies:
Collecting
teddy bears
and gnomes

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Reception Desk

Hours: 2,593

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Assisting people in
their hospital experience gives me
joy!



STUART RICHTER
VP MEMBERSHIP

I live in: Prophetstown
Joined Auxiliary in:
2018

Hobbies:
Reading and
1/18 scale
die cast cars

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Reception Desk and
Greeter

Hours: 478

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** The smiles that I can
hopefully put on patients' faces, and
being of service to patients, visitors
and staff.



LYNETTE DAMHOFF
VP VOLUNTEER SERVICES

I live in: Morrison
Joined Auxiliary in:
2018

Hobbies:
Gardening,
rock collecting
and decorating
with antiques

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Oncology

Hours: 420

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Getting to know the
patients and laughing with my
co-workers and co-volunteers.



SHARLEY BAILEY
VP WAYS AND MEANS

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2003

Hobbies:
Gardening
**Area(s) of
Volunteer
Service:**

Fundraising

Hours: 133

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Welcoming and
assisting the fundraising vendors
who come to CGH.



SANDRA ARDUINI
CO-VP GIFT SHOP

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2015

Hobbies:
Reading and
listening to
books; our dog,
Picco; puzzles;
travel; and holiday
decorating

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Gift Shop

Hours: 1,442

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** Contact with shoppers
and staff, and shopping for gifts.



CAROL NIEMAN
CO-VP GIFT SHOP

I live in: Sterling
Joined Auxiliary in:
2015

Hobbies:
Cooking,
baking and
playing golf

**Area(s) of
Volunteer Service:**
Gift Shop

Hours: 927

**What I enjoy most about
volunteering:** I enjoy meeting and
helping our shoppers in the gift
shop. I also enjoy being a member
of the great team that keeps the gift
shop running smoothly.

