



**A Word from Your
Volunteer Coordinator
Kathy Coombes**

Voluntarily Happy

Our volunteers often go the extra mile to fulfill their commitment. A perfect example is one of our volunteers was in the hospital as a patient on the day of his shift. Instead of leaving the hospital he headed down to the front desk, hospital wristband still on his wrist. He had every intention of covering his shift when he realized there was not a substitute for the shift! Now that is dedication! Thank you Malcolm!!! By the way, we sent him home to rest!!

If you are looking for a way to delay the effects of aging and extending your healthy life, researchers are discovering volunteering gives a positive jolt of what's been called "giver's high". According to Eric J. Schneidewind, President and National Volunteer Spokesman, donating one's time to benefit others has deep individual value. Those who volunteer have lower mortality rates and less depression, along with greater sense of control over one's life and higher rates of self-esteem and happiness.

Auxiliary vs Volunteer

I am often asked "what is the difference between a volunteer and an auxiliary member?"

Defining a Volunteer

Volunteers supplement or enhance the services hospital staff provides to patients, their families and guests. Volunteers will never replace an

employee. According to the Federal Wage and Hour law, volunteers cannot perform work that would otherwise be performed by an employee.

Defining the Auxiliary

An auxiliary is not the same as a volunteer program which is under the guidance of the hospital.

An auxiliary is usually a previously organized entity, a self-governing organization with bylaws. It operates an entity and is usually founded by persons from the community who have agreed to work together to serve the hospital in ways deemed advisable and appropriate by the hospitals' directors.

At OMC all auxiliary members go through the same orientation as those in the volunteer program and are considered volunteers.

We encourage all volunteers to participate and become a member of the Olympic Medical Center Auxiliary. Our auxiliary has a long history with OMC dating back to the 1950's and to date have donated more than \$580,000 to the hospital for the purchase of equipment and scholarships.

Volunteer opportunities

If you have at least three extra hours a week free and would like to be part of our volunteer team, please let me hear from you. Share your life experience and talents with your community and volunteer! OMC would love to have you join us!

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." – *Mark Twain*

Volunteer receives special recognition

Congratulations to Patty Glennon, OMC Auxiliary member and volunteer, who was recently honored by the Soroptimist International of Port Angeles Jet Set as one of seven Port Angeles as Women of Distinction. Awards were announced at a March 16 breakfast at the Port Angeles Senior & Community Center.

The Jet Set group honors women who act as ideal role models for other women in that they have made outstanding achievements in their professional, business, or voluntary activities and they have demonstrated exemplary character and integrity along with outstanding ability and leadership.



Patty has been the OMC Auxiliary gift shop manager for the past two years and has served as Vice President of the OMC Auxiliary Board, as well as served as scholarship chair for the past four years. Patty goes above and beyond for the OMC Auxiliary and we thank her!

OMCA Gift Shop - Patty Glennon, Manager

We have organized a wonderful team of gift shop volunteers who have graciously taken on additional procurement duties that include but not limited to: Kathy Backes - candy, mints, gum, and snack items; Mary K. Conner and Denise Dingle - daily

tally auditing (Denise also assists in merchandise check-in, marking, and pricing); Laurie Dombrowski - greeting cards, shop equipment/Gift Shop paper goods; Judy Gleaton - OTC (over the counter) pharmaceuticals, specialty chocolate, Silver Forest earrings and Judy Graves - inventory management/organization, merchandise pricing.

Additionally we have established methods for merchandise procurement/management that allows oversight and payment processing to happen in a timely fashion. Our schedule is Monday through Friday (closed Saturdays), 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and we invite you to visit the shop for personal or gift items.



AUXILIARY HAPPENINGS By Leif Olson, Interim President of the Olympic Medical Center Auxiliary

The OMC Auxiliary always looks forward

to our June meeting. This is the time for the Auxiliary to shine and take pride in their accomplishments. This year the Auxiliary presented a donation of \$35,000 to OMC CEO Eric Lewis at the annual "wish list" ceremony on June 12th for the purchase of updating our current security system in the hospital obstetrics unit.

More than \$580,000 has been raised by Auxiliary members and donated to the hospital for medical equipment and health related scholarships since 1980. Prior records were not kept.



Thank you to Eric Lewis, CEO, OMC Board of Commissioners Tom Oblak, Jim Leskinovich, John Beitzel, and Jean Hordyk for attending this very

special Auxiliary meeting. Also pictured is Mary K. Conner, wish list chair person, and Julie Black, Director of Support Services.

In addition four \$1,500 scholarships were awarded to medical students. "The scholarship process is very competitive and it was challenging to narrow down the selections," said Patty Glennon, chair of scholarship committee.

The recipients were:

- Nicole Anders pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy.
- Georgia Anderson , nursing student
- Kyle Flotto-Meyers, nursing student
- Jason Kowitz, third year medical student

We would like to wish continued success to these very accomplished students.

The Auxiliary raises funds through proceeds from the OMC Auxiliary gift shop and through various fundraising events.



Fundraising Chair – Bill Whitten



OMC Foundation Duck Derby. For every \$6 Duck we sell the Auxiliary gets a percentage. Once again the OMC Auxiliary had the opportunity to assist the OMC Foundation by selling ducks for the Great Duck Derby. Thanks to our team of sellers and taggers, the Auxiliary earned \$3,479.30 from the sales.

A big quacky thank you to our duck selling team:

Bill Whitten – Top Duck Seller
Nanette Osborne – Top Duck Seller
Mary Flagg, Betty Olzak, Dee Tiemersma, Malcolm Alexander, Leif and Donna Olson, Edna Lees, Donna Geer.

Additional fundraising news:

A non-event fundraiser is **SMILE.AMAZON.com**. This way of using AMAZON gives you all the same access but allows the buyer to donate 0.05 percent (one half of one percent) of the purchase price to the charity (non-profit organization) of their choice. Of course we hope everyone will chose OLYMPIC MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY (they haven't caught up with our updated name change) as your organization. If we can get family and friends involved we will see more of this 'free' money. I am aware of only a few of us currently taking advantage of this opportunity.

Dates to put on your calendar:

September 11 – Auxiliary meeting in Sequim.

September 27 & 28 – Vintage and gently used jewelry sale. Contact Chair Nanette Osborne for more information.

November 13 - 16 – Charitable Art

Our next BIG fund raising event is the Festival of Trees coming up in November. Last year our volunteer effort earned \$1,470 which includes Decorating, Family Days, and Take-Down. We can use lots of volunteers on Thanksgiving weekend and will have lots of fun at Family Days working with the kids...it is a Blast.

Do You Know What Your OMC Auxiliary Does?

The Olympic Medical Center Auxiliary works in partnership with Olympic Medical Center to promote and advance the health and welfare of our local communities. The auxiliary sponsors the hospital gift shop managed by volunteer Patty Glennon and special events which support the vision and organizational values of Olympic Medical Center by providing funding for medical equipment and scholarships.

Where Does The Money Go?

In addition to funding for equipment and scholarships, the Auxiliary also provides Cancer Care Comfort Bags to each patient at the Olympic Medical Center Cancer Center. Cancer Comfort Bags is a project started in 2013 and is still going strong. Each new cancer patient receives a bag and

so far 800 have been distributed to date. The cost annually is approximately \$3,500.

The Auxiliary Board just approved a request to fund the OMC Comfort Care Bags for end of life patients.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Details

Must be 18 years or older and agree to a weekly commitment, attend orientation, pass a Washington State Patrol background check, meet with health nurse, and agree to immunizations as requested.

Volunteer Amenities

Attend OMC in-service programs and seminars, participate in OMC social activities, discounted meals in cafeteria, annual recognition celebration, and no cost flu shot. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to your community.

OMC Auxiliary

The OMC Auxiliary invites you to join them in supporting the programs and patients at OMC that foster and enhance good relations between the community and OMC. The Auxiliary generates income which is donated back to the hospital for Medical Equipment and scholarships for students in the healthcare field primarily through the OMC Auxiliary Gift Shop and sponsoring Special fundraising events.

Cancer Center – Sequim

Volunteers provide assistance to patients in the Infusion Center and maintain the Resource Library.

Emergency Room Liaison

Help keep patients and their families informed about their wait, as well as work closely with Charge RN and Emergency Department staff to communicate patient concerns. Support and comfort to patients and families in crisis. Recognize escalating issues for patient and/or family members and request help, when appropriate.

Floor Runner

Assist in the transportation of patients, documents, and other items. Escort and greet patients and visitors. Must be physically able to be on feet for the majority of a three hour shift.

Gift Shop

Provide a pleasant experience for customers in the OMC Gift Shop. Be able to process the different types of payments. Assist customers with their questions regarding merchandise. To keep the Gift Shop clean and neat and help display merchandise.

Human Resources Volunteer

Assist the Human Resources department with routine tasks. To assist with career days, open houses, and other activities to attract qualified candidates. To

compile new packets for new hire processing.

Information Desk PA and Sequim

Greet visitors, look-up patient room numbers, provide directions to patient rooms and areas of the hospital, alert staff when a person needs immediate medical attention or transport aid at the front entrance, answer inquiries of classes and/or other events being held at OMC.

Pet Therapy

Must be certified by a nationally recognized pet therapy program. Pet Therapy handlers come in daily.

Physical Therapy/Rehab

Assist the Rehabilitation Services with day-to-day tasks.

Short Stay

Assist the staff in Short Stay to make the experience as comfortable as possible for patients. Explain about the logistics of being in Short Stay. Escort patients when required. Depending on the type of patient (medical or surgical), perform the required duties.

Special Events

Work with an outstanding team of volunteers and OMC employees to provide assistance with community-wide events like blood drives, flu shot clinics, health fairs, and other events.

Volunteer Coordinator Support

Assist the Volunteer Coordinator with day-to-day routine tasks. Previous office experience preferred.

Volunteers

Must be between 16—17 years of age and have completed sophomore year in high school. Duties are to assist in providing hospitality items to patients, greeting and escorting patients and visitors, and clerical duties.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities are always being added and are subject to change. If you would like more information on how we can use your talents, please contact:

**Kathy Coombes, Volunteer Coordinator at
360-565-9110 or**

kcoombes@olympicmedical.org