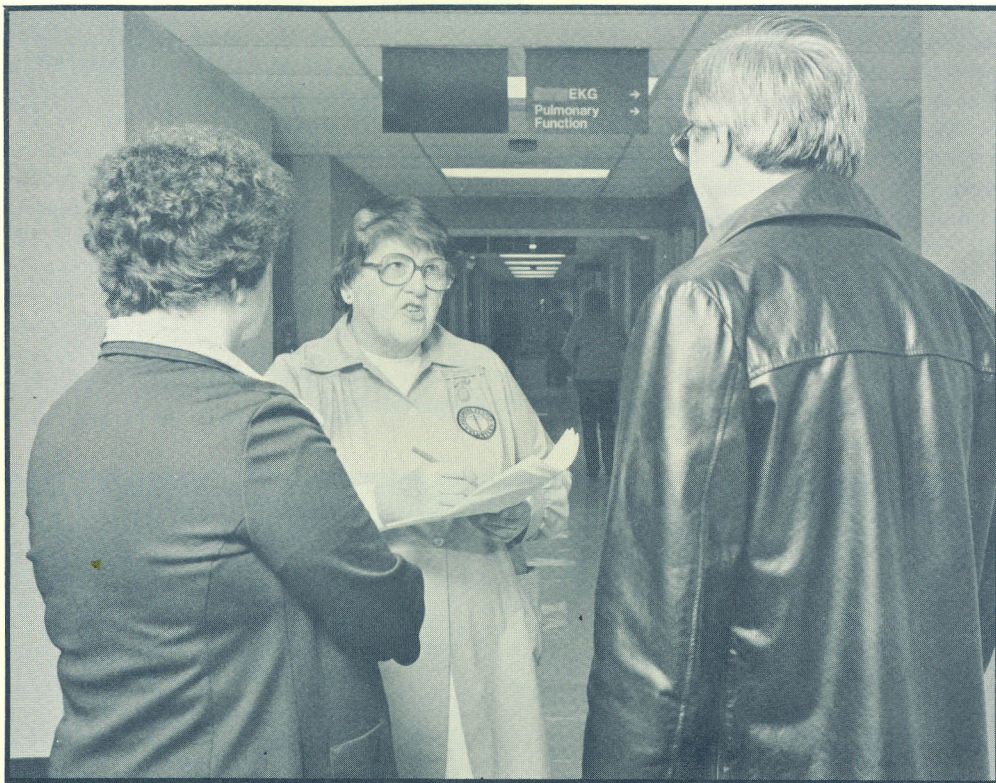


update

Vol. 3, No. 22

November 10, 1980



Outpatients hostess Dorothy Pengely.

A concerned approach...

There is a story about a woman who was sitting in an Emergency Room. Her name had been called many times; she never responded. The receptionist didn't know whether the woman had left the hospital or if she was wandering around the halls. As it turned out, the woman was sitting in the waiting room -- she had a hearing problem and never heard her name called.

Thanks to a new program developed by Elwood Ehgott, Administrative Assistant for Ambulatory Services, this and other types of situations can be avoided

at the Hospital Center.

Enthusiastic volunteers now meet and greet people when they arrive at A&SHHC for outpatient and emergency treatment. And they know the approach works.

Peg Foust, an A&SHHC Volunteer for four years, explains, "We check to make sure people are in the right place, in the right line, and generally ask if we can be of any help. We also escort people to where they are going and get wheelchairs for people who need them."

Volunteer Marge Griffin believes the new program is invaluable. "Patients need to be directed. The hospital atmosphere can be confusing if it's a first visit or if a person is upset or not feeling well. Sometimes people are shy about asking for help."

Both women agree that two volunteers are necessary for the job. That way, one volunteer is able to greet people, while the other is escorting someone.

The women also acknowledged that some outpatients have arrived for "tests" totally unaware of what the test is for or what it involves. In fact, one patient, when asked by a volunteer why he was there, replied, "I don't know. The doctor just said to come in."

Volunteers explain as much as they can to the patients concerning their visit using the paper which the physician sends along with the patient.

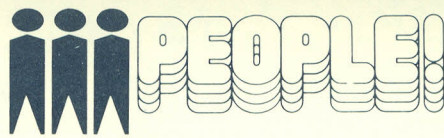
At times, even the volunteer requires assistance. By checking with an outpatient clerk or the emergency room charge nurse, outpatients who have little idea where they are to go for treatment can be helped.

Emergency and outpatients are greeted by volunteers in a friendly, efficient, and professional manner. A&SHHC patients are saved time and trouble because questions can often be answered as soon as someone walks through the doors. And, in the future, these "hosts and hostesses" will have a list of patients expected to arrive for outpatient procedures, for even more effective service.

Working along with Peg Foust and Marge Griffin are Dorothy Pengely, Charlotte Fink, Edie Halsey, Judith Lipsky, John Koch, Irma Cohen, Betty Rodrigues, Betty Schlechter, Mary Diefenderfer, Albert Egger, Bernie Lewine, Jeanne Hackler, and Ruth Haltzel.



**The Center
Welcomes**



To Nursing Service

Terri Uhler

To Pharmacy

Donald DeReamus

To Radiology

Kevin Parsons

**Don't forget the
"Bazaar"!**

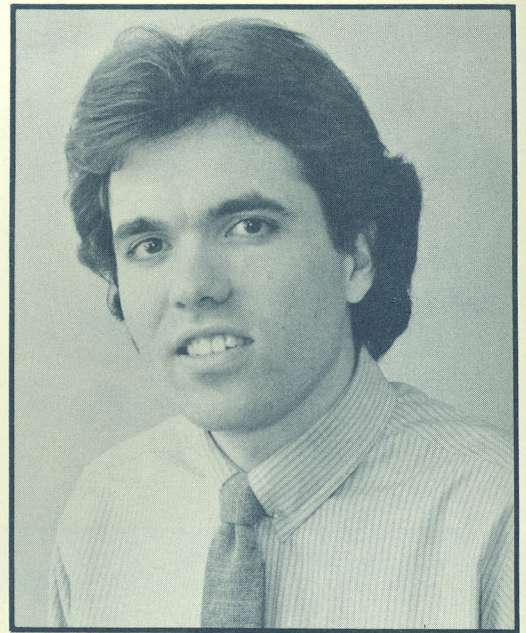
On Friday, November 14, in the main lobby, between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., you'll find baked goods, stocking stuffers, hand knit items, wall hangings, crafts, aprons and matching pot holders, and so much more at the Auxiliary's Annual Christmas Bazaar.

Be a smart shopper -- come to the Bazaar! All proceeds from the sale go to the Auxiliary's \$200,000 pledge for the Burn Center renovations.

James V. Roberts has been hired as Health Physicist for the Hospital Center. He is graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology, in Atlanta, with a Master's of Science Degree in Applied Nuclear Science. He also has a B.S. in Biology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia.

He has prior experience in corporate health physics by working as assistant staff health physicist at Pennsylvania Power and Light, and has provided private diagnostic and nuclear medicine service consultation for the past two years.

As A&SHHC health physicist, Jim will be working with the radiation safety committee to assure compliance with all government regulations relative to radiation; and he will be monitoring areas and personnel in terms of radiation exposure here and at Allentown Hospital.



James Roberts

Robert Kricun, M.D., A&SHHC Radiologist, his brother, **Morris Kricun, M.D.**, Radiologist at Hahnemann Hospital, **George Arangio, M.D.**, A&SHHC Orthopedic Surgeon, and 2 other Hahnemann Hospital staff members co-authored an article entitled "Patellar Tendon Rupture with Underlying Systemic Disease," which appeared in the October, 1980 **American Journal of Roentgenology**.



Celebrating Halloween in subtle fashion has become a tradition of sorts in Medical Records, and this year, Colleen Wesnak, coder (in rear); Carol Walbach, clerk; Inga Meyers, lead coder; Donna Roth, Trauma Registrar; Carol Eisenhardt, lead transcriptionist; and Pam Brunner, coder, are in disguise.



Gale Schmidt — Editor
Jim Higgins — Associate Editor
Janet Laudenslager — Staff Assistant
Jack Dittbrenner — Photography
Darla Molnar — Photography

During November, "On Call: A Valley Health Series," which is hosted by Shelley Brown and co-hosted by Headley S. White Jr., M.D., on WLVT-TV, Channel 39, will present:

November 10, 7:30 P.M., November

15, 3:00 P.M. - Kidney Disorders-

Guests Paul Bosanac, M.D., and James Clark, M.D., discuss various treatments available for kidney disease, which ranks fourth among health problems in the United States. An actual kidney transplant is featured in the program.

November 17, 7:30 P.M., November

22, 3:00 P.M. - Life after Death -Death

may not be the final end to life. Stories of near-death experiences and out-of-body flights have sparked the imagination for decades. Guests Stephen Lammers, Ph.D., and Richard Torpie, M.D., discuss these controversial, supernatural experiences and possible causes.

November 24, 7:30 P.M., November

29, 3:00 P.M. - Phobias - On this "live"

show, David Marvi, M.D., and Richard Miller, Ed.D., discuss fears which can needlessly restrict a person's way of living. Viewers are encouraged to phone in their questions which will be answered over the air by calling 867-4677.

Rehabilitation of the Hand

Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital will sponsor a series of lectures and workshops in the comprehensive analysis of hand rehabilitation on November 20 and 21, beginning at 8:00 A.M., on both days.

The course is designed for physicians, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and rehabilitation therapists; the fee for the complete course including lunch and two workshops is \$80.00, or \$50.00 for lectures only, and lunch.

Faculty for the program includes A&SHHC medical staff members Albert Abrams, M.D., rheumatologist; Peter A. Kewish, M.D., orthopedic surgeon; Robert A. Morrow, M.D., neurosurgeon; Walter J. Okunski, M.D., plastic/reconstructive surgeon and Director of the Burn Center; Charles J. Scagliotti, M.D., vascular surgeon; and David Sussman, M.D., orthopedic surgeon.

For more information, contact the Occupational Therapy Department, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, 821-3965.



Wellness Center News

by Judy Stavisky, Wellness Editor

Another Chance for Wellness ... And a Free T-Shirt!

Volunteers are needed to assist the Wellness Staff in the evening hours. If you choose to lend a hand once a month, the Wellness Center will present you with a free t-shirt, hours to use the gym equivalent to those you volunteer, and a reduced rate for enrollment next year.

If you didn't get selected the first time around, or you forgot to sign-up for Wellness, here's a chance to become involved in the A&SHHC Wellness Center.

Call the Wellness Center at Ext. 3184 for more details.

To your health!

Kid's vitamins with iron dangerous!

Parents should think carefully before offering their children good tasting, chewable vitamins with iron, according to Dr. Robert Fenstermacher, Director of the Lehigh Valley Poison Center. To date this year, the poison center has treated 29 cases involving toxic reactions to iron ingestions.

"Providing an iron supplement in bright-colored, chewable tablets that look and taste like candy is dangerous," Dr. Fenstermacher continued, "Large amounts of iron can be harmful, even fatal when taken by children under six years of age."

He explained that many parents, inspired by advertising claims, buy these attractive, tasty vitamins plus iron products at a drug store. Then they keep them right on a kitchen counter or table, where children can reach them easily.

When the child originally is given the vitamin/iron medication by parents, he is told they are good for him. But a young child does not understand that something "good" which tastes like candy is dangerous when eaten in large quantities.

An overdose of iron can produce symptoms such as stomach cramps and vomiting or diarrhea, with or without blood, within two hours following ingestion. Iron poisoning (a toxic amount) can cause shock, bleeding in the stomach and gastrointestinal tract, liver damage, and even death.

Dr. Fenstermacher suggests that parents take these steps before deciding to give a child vitamins with iron.:

- 1) Check with your pediatrician to determine whether or not your child needs medicine of this kind. Very few children actually need an iron supplement. And plain vitamins usually will be eliminated by the body if too many are taken.
- 2) When giving vitamins to children, explain that they are a medicine...not candy...even if they are chewable and good tasting.
- 3) Return vitamins and all medicines to storage promptly following use. Keep them in a place children are taught is "off limits."
- 4) Identify all medications and other dangerous household products with Mr. Yuk poison warning stickers, available from the Lehigh Valley Poison Center.

Christmas Party

It's that time again and the A&SHHC Recreation Committee is sponsoring a Christmas Party!

The party will be held Friday evening, December 19, 1980, from 7:30 P.M. to 12:00 Midnight, at the Fearless Fire Company on South Front Street in Allentown. The party includes a buffet, beer and soda (cash bar available), plus for your listening and dancing pleasure entertainment will be provided by Gene Werley of WAEB. All this plus a few surprises for only \$6.00 a person.

Tickets are available in the Public Relations Office. For more information, contact Janet in Public Relations, Extension 3084.

Candy Sale

As part of our fund raising activities, the Recreation Committee is selling candy -- peanut crunch, mint patties, pecan log rolls, caramello bars, coconut delights, cashew clusters, and more!

These delicious treats are arriving just in time for the holiday season. If you have not been contacted by a Recreation Committee member, contact Janet.

Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center
1200 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18105

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"Roller Boogie on Wheels" -- was great fun and over 100 people, many in Halloween costumes, had a super time!

Look for the next party to be sometime in February!

Attention Funseekers! Ski Trip

The Recreation Committee has been very busy planning many new and exciting activities. We need help. If anyone is interested in joining the committee to have some fun and help plan for the future, contact Janet.

The Ski Trip to Killington, Vermont, scheduled for January 30, 31, and February 1, has been filled. All individuals who are going on the trip will be contacted shortly with final details.

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