A Message from the Co-presidents . . .

Dear Auxiliary Members,

Winter's quiet is a wonderful time to reflect on our accomplishments over the past several months. From fundraisers to patient programs, each of you has committed so much, not just to your chapter, but to the Auxiliary as a whole and, most importantly, to the patients we serve at the Angel Harvey Family Health Center. You are warriors.

November found us "In the Wine Cellar" with wine tasting, dining and dancing at Downers Grove's event and in the midst of "Murder and Mayhem" with a glimpse into the 1920's at Mt. Prospect's annual luncheon. Each event was a huge success and so much fun.

The Oak Brook Chapter kicked off the holidays with its "Sugar and Spice" Preview Party and annual Mistletoe Medley. In addition to the festive Preview Party, a sell-out crowd packed the Drury Lane to shop and enjoy a delicious lunch and dazzling fashion show. As always, it was a highlight of the season.

The Clarendon Hills and Wheaton Chapters joined in the holiday spirit with the sale of more than 35,000 luminaria, and the North Shore Chapter sponsored a "No Frills Fundraiser" while it looks for a new home for its annual "Cheer for Charity" event.

Each Chapter's fundraising, while absolutely vital to the Center's financial well-being is equaled only by the programs the Auxiliary provides to the Center's patients. This year's Coat Drive was superbly organized thanks to the leadership of Celeste Jackson and Cheryl Caveney, the tremendous support we receive from CD One Price Cleaners and the legions of
we receive from CD One Price Cleaners and the legions of Auxiliary volunteers who purchase, deliver, sort and distribute the coats.

On December 7, we hosted our annual See Santa Party. Many thanks to each Chapter for donating toys for the children and the many volunteers who made the day a success, including the Hinsdale Juniors and the Ambassadors-at-Large.

While these high profile events receive the attention they are due, we also are so proud of each Chapter's various "shop and share" events, bridge groups, baby showers, happy hours and other social events that promote the Chapter's "friendraising" in addition to its fundraising. It's what makes us who we are....not simply volunteers, but warriors, who boldly care for their families, maintain careers, battle illness and still give of themselves to those in need. Each of you is an inspiration.

Please mark your calendars for IWS' Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Wednesday, March 4, beginning at 11:30 AM at Maggiano's in Chicago. We look forward to seeing you there. To view the invitation and get your tickets online click here.

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Coat Drive 2019

Dear Friends & Family,

Now in its ninth year, our 2019 Fall Coat Drive was another huge success. We distributed approximately 1100 coats during the Coat Drive to the very appreciative patients of the Clinic. Through the generous donations of our members and friends of the Auxiliary, we distributed 427 new coats and hundreds of new hats, gloves, scarves and mittens. Close to 800 used coats were collected and cleaned at the various CD One Price Cleaners locations. CD One has been an amazing partner since the inception of this program.

In addition, because not all families were able to attend the Coat Drive and we had such a generous bounty of donated new coats, a decision was made to hold back approximately 80 coats and distribute them to needy families at the See Santa Party. This brings our total number of coats distributed to 1180, including 507 brand new coats!

Thank you to the many Auxiliary members who volunteered to sort and distribute coats during the 4 days of the event and at See Santa.

Special thanks to CD One Price Cleaners and Northwest Package & Delivery for their help in advertising the event and collecting, cleaning and delivering hundreds of coats. We greatly value our partnership with them.

Sara DeKuiper
Treasurer
Elizabeth Berglund

Recording Secretary
Arlene Simunek

Corresponding Secretary
Jennifer Mower

Board Advisor
Sharon Smith

NEW MEMBERS

Ambassadors-at-Large
Linda Callaway
Carol Seelig

Clarendon Hills
Amy Campbell
Ashley Gertz
Sandy Serowka
Betsy Striltschuk
Angela Burdi-Trejo

Downers Grove
Jillian Clarke
Eryn Donohue Musachio

Lake Forest
Katy Collins
Shannon Shader

Oak Brook
Rachna Jain

Wheaton-Naperville
Rose Maczek
Rose Reid

HONOR GIFTS

Lake Forest
Claire Maria Gundry

Wheaton-Naperville
Betsy Bennett
Tammy Cetina
Mary Plepel
Debi Zablock

MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCES

Ambassadors-at-Large
greatly value our partnership with them.

With Great Appreciation,

Celeste Jackson & Cheryl Caveney
Coat Drive Program Coordinators

See Santa 2019

On December 7th, the Center's Community Room was transformed into a holiday wonderland by the Ambassadors-at-Large as the Auxiliary hosted our annual “See Santa Party” for the Clinic's youngest patients. Over 275 children sat on Santa's lap and shared their most sincere Christmas wishes with him.

Peter Lessek, aka Santa, did not break character for the 2-1/2 hour event. He was very spirited and made each child feel quite special. Thank you, Peter, for once again ho-ho-ho-ing your way into the children's hearts.

We greatly appreciate the members of the Hinsdale Juniors who led activities to make the time go by while the children waited in line. The children enjoyed a "coloring book table" to showcase their artistic talents and a "wish table" where they could write letters to Santa. Every child left the party with a gift bag of toys and books.

In addition to the Ambassadors-at-Large, special thanks to Pat Danly and her daughter, Heather Pearl, for purchasing and delivering books to the Clinic, to all the Auxiliary members who purchased and assembled the wonderful children's gift bags, and to all who volunteered.

We appreciate your help in bringing holiday cheer to so many of the Clinic's patients and their families.

Consignments Needed - North Shore Exchange

The North Shore Exchange is a non-profit organization that sells upscale and luxury women's designer fashions and accessories, furniture and home decor on consignment in Glencoe, Chicago and Old Orchard. All of their profits are donated to organizations that benefit women and children. Over the years, they have been a generous supporter of IWS. They need to restock their inventory of consignment items after the holidays and have asked for our help. Please use this link for more information.

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