

St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation Newsletter

December 2010

3rd Emerald Auction - Great Success!

Our 3rd Emerald Auction and Dinner, at Holiday Inn, St. John's, on September 16, 2010, was a huge success. The larger venue allowed some 225 people to attend and enjoy a fun filled night of Live and Silent Auctions, sprinkled with various raffles. The Celtic Fiddlers volunteered their talent and entertained our guests as they arrived. Appreciation goes to the students from Gonzaga High School, Justice and Peace Committee, who helped out during the evening. Co-chairs for the event, Paula Ellsworth and Isobel O'Shea, are to be congratulated along with other committee members, Brenda Lawlor, Mary Ennis, Rita Janes, Lisa Daly, Jennifer Newman, Ed Roche, and Hugh Gaulton supported by Golda Byrne, Georgina Short, Brenda Stamp, Louise Cormier and Jim Byrne.

A special thank you to all our friends and supporters who made monetary donations or kindly donated items for the live and silent auctions and raffles and to all those who were so generous in purchasing tickets and in their bidding.

The event raised \$29,500 (after expenses) and will be used to purchase electric beds for our residents.

Strategic Planning Session

On Saturday, October 2, 2010 Board Members held an all day Strategic Planning Session to review past activities/accomplishments of the Foundation and to plot a strategic direction for the Foundation for the next 3-5 years.

Visit our website!

<http://www.spmhf.nl.ca>

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About the Foundation

The Sisters of Mercy established St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation in November 1998. The Foundation's mission is to support the on-going efforts of St. Patrick's Mercy Home *to provide a comfortable and home-like atmosphere for all of its residents.* A dedicated, volunteer Board of Directors manages the Foundation, which has a part-time staff person.

The Board is supported by four very active committees: **Finance, Fund Raising, Donor Recognition, and Planned Giving.** To volunteer to serve on the Board or any of the Committees call Rita Janes, Board Chair at 722 3860 or email ritajanes@nf.sympatico.ca.

The **Foundation Office** is located on the First Floor and is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

Did you Know

In January 1953 Archbishop P.J. Skinner of the Archdiocese of St. John's announced a plan for a home for the aged and infirm, to "*provide a desired haven of quiet and care for the aged and infirm, and open to all creeds, and to all classes, with or without sufficient means.*"

That home became St. Patrick's Mercy Home and was officially opened on January 6, 1958.

They still say Thank you!

For the past 9 years the Foundation has received a donation for St. Patrick's Mercy Home, from the Patchells of Tucson, Arizona to say Thank You for the kindness they received during 9/11.

In Loving Memory

We gratefully acknowledge donations made since April 2010 to St. Patrick's Mercy Home in loving memory of:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Gertrude Reardigan | Dermot Evans |
| Margaret A. O'Brien | Howard Mills |
| Pauline Williams | Muriel Hookey |
| Olive Bishop | Ursula Marshall |
| Margaret Chafe | Charles Senior |
| Mercedes Sellars | Frances Bartlett |
| Matthew Quigley | Hazel Tucker |
| Samuel Mitchell | Susannah Young |
| Madeline Tulk | Mary Cove |
| Madeline Foley | Mary Manning |
| Florence Luffman | Meredas Mills |
| Josephine Hickey | Beatrice & Walter Tucker |
| Edith Ash | Moses Tucker |
| Anna Reardon | Hazel Tucker |
| Olivia Giovannini | Elizabeth Duff |
| Ida Bennett | Kathleen Beresford |
| Margaret Maher | Edward Bruce |
| Mary Flynn | Josephine Evoy |
| Margaret Bailey | Violet Willcott |
| Maude Evans | David Lynch |
| Catherine Hickey | Bertha Wickham |

Residents Remember the Foundation

St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation gratefully acknowledges bequests from the Estates of **Mary Flynn** and **Ursula Marshall**. Both were residents at St. Patrick's Mercy Home.

We also gratefully acknowledge a bequest from the Estate of **Eleanor Lawton** who passed away in December 2008. Eleanor's brother, **Msgr. Lawton**, was a resident of St. Patrick for several years.

If you would like to speak with someone, or learn more about **Leaving a Legacy** for St Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation, please contact members of the Planned Giving Committee: Ron Hynes (Chair), Norm Doyle (Board Liaison). You can contact them through the Foundation Office at 726-2687 ext 229.

Working with our Supporters

The St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation, through the generous support of our donors, the hard work of the very caring members of our volunteer Board

and Committees, and the generosity of the Sisters of Mercy, provided the following to the residents of the Home over the past four years.

Five Bathing Systems valued at approximately \$40,000 each, that have greatly added to the quality of life of the residents. With the new bathing systems, residents can be wheeled into a tub with temperature controlled water and bubbles (if they so wish). One elderly gentleman expressed his satisfaction like this: "When I get in, I hate to get out".

Fifteen Electric Beds valued at \$6,000 each. Most of the beds at the Home are the mechanical type and due to wear and tear over the years it is time to replace them. The new beds will greatly add to the comfort of residents and the staff. They are state of the art technology, equipped with bed alarms and can be lowered to the floor. The Foundation has committed to replace the 80 mechanical beds currently in use. We look for your support to help us purchase the 80 beds sooner rather than later.

213 Privacy Screens Many of the rooms at St. Patrick's have two or more beds. The privacy screens between the beds became very worn over the years. The new ones not only provide more privacy but also really brighten the rooms.

Five Electric Resident Lifts costing about \$5,000 each. These allow residents to be more easily lifted in and out of bed to a wheelchair.

Physiotherapy Equipment The recumbent cross trainer (\$6,500) is the first of its kind in a nursing home in St. John's. It allows residents to exercise leg and arm muscles.

New Organ for the Chapel The organ adds to the various denominational religious services conducted in the Chapel.

New Drapes for Stage in the Auditorium where residents have many of their socials and entertainment events.

Christmas Gifts for each resident, delivered by Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. I wish you all could see the excitement, the joy, and the smiles on the face of each resident as Santa, accompanied by many elves, personally delivers each gift.

~Merry Christmas~