



WHAT MY PATIENTS TAUGHT ME



Bette Wood, RN, our Patient Care Manager, painted these pictures of her patients.

Early in my work in hospice, I realized my patients were my teachers. They

taught me then and they still are teaching me. I realize hospice patients are at times more alive than many people who are healthy since they live from moment to moment, realizing their moments are numbered.

Mary, diagnosed with ovarian cancer, saw the role of the hospice nurse as a Sherpa, showing me her way of dealing with her disease, and pain (not my way) was indeed the correct way for her.

Ivy, diagnosed with HIV and Aids, taught me that she didn't need me to protect her. As were her wishes, she died in her greenhouse with her beloved dog at her side.

Sam, a wise man who had cancer, taught me that his doctor didn't have all the answers, but that his family who loved him understood what he needed, which was their love and knowing that he mattered.

Rico, with colon cancer, chose to not eat, since eating caused him pain, when others insisted he HAD to eat. Each of these patients, in their own way, chose how they wanted to live and to die. I see beauty in people at the end of life. It is the beauty of their "being" that compels me to try to capture and share in my art.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOARD MEETING

2nd Tues - 10:00 AM

PORT ANGELES IN-SERVICE

2nd Monday 1:00 PM

Hospice House

SEQUIM IN-SERVICE

3rd Monday 11:00 AM

Trinity United Methodist Church

Grief Support Series

@ PORT ANGELES Hospice House
(Behind 8th Street office)

*Monday 6:30-8 PM 6-week series.

@ SEQUIM

Trinity United Methodist Church

*Monday 1-3 PM 5-week series.

*Call office for dates.

Grief Support Groups

For people who have completed the Grief Support Series.

Port Angeles Support Group

*Twice a month @ the Hospice House
Wednesday 6:30 PM

Sequim Support Group

*3rd Monday @ 1:00

Trinity United Methodist Church

*Call office for dates

Compassionate Friends

(Parents who have lost a child)

St. Luke's Episcopal 525 5th Ave
Sequim 3rd Tuesday 6-8 PM
compassionatefriends.org

Barbara Thompson Facilitator

797-0091 - For additional information, call Hospice office.

HOSPICE HUGS T o

- August Volunteer of the Month Phil Lato for delivering medical equipment to our patients.
- September Volunteers of the Month, Marie & Dick Goin, for your many years of dedicated service.
- Albert Haller Foundation for the grant to purchase a delivery truck for the West-end and tires for the East-end delivery truck and a second grant for operational support for core services.
- Sequim Rotary for your monetary contribution.
- Sequim & Port Angeles radio-controlled airplane clubs for a great time and generous donation.
- Sequim Bay Yacht Club Annual Reach for Hospice fundraiser.
- GWTAZ (Gold Wing Touring Association Sequim Chapter) Run & Camp Out Fundraiser.
- Moose Lodge 996 in Port Angeles for your Dinner and Car Show Fundraiser.
- Our one-on-one bereavement facilitators who share their empathetic understanding and healing presence with grieving individuals and families.

Sequim Bay Yacht Club's Reach for Hospice Race



Radio-controlled Airplane Show at Sequim Valley Airport



November is National Hospice Month

Memorial donations are listed on the VHOCC web site. If you know someone does not have access to a computer, please share this information with them. If you would like a printed copy of the donor list, please call the Hospice office.

As an added convenience for our web visitors, donations can now be made on-line through PayPal on our home page or donation page at vhocc.org

If you are receiving both a printed copy and an email copy of the newsletter, notify us at editor@vhocc.org

VHOCC Radiant Light Christmas Tree

This tree "shines" for a person we are remembering ... someone we love. Some of the lights are shining for those who have died. Some are shining for those who continue to live among us. You are welcome to come into the Hospice office anytime during the month of December. A star with your message will be attached to the light. A Memory Book listing those who designate a light will be available. The donations will be used to assure continued hospice care to families.

Fundraisers and Donations to VHOCC

Ken Brown, VHOCC Board President, accepting check from Sequim Rotary President, Bud Davies.



Ken Brown presents a thank you plaque to Sequim Prairie Grange President, Joy Barrett, after receiving a check for VHOCC from the Ice Cream Social.

A donation was given to VHOCC from a fundraising radio control airplane show at the Sequim Valley Airport held on September 22. From left: Bob Walter, President of Olympic RC Modelers of Port Angeles, Andy Sallee, airport owner, Bette Wood, PCM of Hospice, and Tim Verdick, President of Sequim Aeronauts.



Some of the people who work in our hospice office performing behind-the-scenes jobs to run an efficient organization.



A CLOWN IS BORN

Ret. Lt. Col. Naomi Jean Foley, RN, aka "Peaches the Clown," a member of the Laff Pack Clown Alley, was the presenter at the November 19th In-service, providing some stress relief, fun and relaxation for the volunteers attending. Naomi, a native of Western Pennsylvania, retired from the Army Nurse Corp after 22 years of service. While in the Army, she served as an operating room nurse and administrator in Vietnam, Ethiopia and numerous hospitals across the United States. In her role as a professional clown, Naomi has been practicing the art of clowning for more than 21 years.



Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ in memory of _____

Send acknowledgement of gift to: _____

My donation \$_____ is for the general fund.

My new address is: Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Please send the newsletter to my email address:

Name: _____ Email: _____

As an added convenience for our web visitors, donations can now be made on-line through PayPal on our home page at vhocc.org