



Bringing Joy, Companionship and Quality of Life to Nursing Home Residents

ONE TO ONE

The Key to Compassion

Volume III Issue I

February 2009

AR Nursing Homes

Alma Health & Rehab
Ashton Place
Chapel Ridge Nursing Home
Covington Court H & R
Crawford R&H
Fianna Hills Nursing Home
Golden Living H&R
Golden Years Retirement
Greenhurst Nursing Center
Greenwood Retirement
Legacy Health & Rehab
Mena Manor
Methodist Nursing Home
Ozark Nursing Home
Paris Health & Rehab
Pinkbud Nursing Home
Rich Mountain Nursing Home
River Valley Health & Rehab
St. Scholastica Infirmary
Van Buren Health Care

OK Nursing Homes

Medi-Home Arkoma
Oaks Healthcare Poteau



**A United Way
Community Partner**

HEARTS OF GOLD KICK-OFF GREAT FUN!



2008 HEARTS OF GOLD WAS GREAT SUCCESS

Thank you to all who donated your time, your dollars and your gifts to help bring joy to our nursing home residents at Christmas. Special thanks to Betty Coots for chairing this event, Simmons First and Channel 40/29 for sponsoring this event that

provides gifts for about 2,400 nursing home residents in 22 area nursing homes. Thank you to all in the community who donated gifts or money. Special thanks to Golden Living, Wal-Mart and Fort Smith Junior League that made major contributions to ensure that all 2,400 residents had

gifts. Thank you, Anne for seeing it through. Those gifts that came in late will be saved to use in our 2009 Hearts of Gold Campaign.

God Bless!!



From the Board President: This and That

What a wonderful way to start a 'new' year by finishing the 'old' year on a high note. Kudos to everyone who worked on our Hearts of Gold campaign to make it a success.

Speaking of kudos! Past President, Calline Ellis, spent many hours these past two years committed to the vision of our organization. Always an eye for detail, she re-established a strategic plan, worked toward a stronger Board, solicited grants and other funding...yes, big shoes to fill.

There are a lot of events coming up! Many of these are listed in the newsletter. One 'event' not listed is Annette Mackey's retirement reception. It will be in June...

sometime...invitations will be sent to all volunteers. Annette announced last summer of her intention to work through this June. And now it's only four months away.

The Search committee will begin their work in March. Their goal will be to have a candidate interviewed and hired by the end of May.

Even though Annette is a 'short-timer', she'll be busier than ever between now and then. She and I are planning a 'new' visitation program for the PC office to have more direct contact with you and the nursing home you visit. More details to follow on this.

Thank you, volunteers! We're off to another great year!

Debbie Findley

President, 2009-2010

Meet Your New Officers

Debbie Findley (back row, right) is our new President. She has recently retired from KHBS/KHOG 40/29 and has served, since joining the board in 1999, as First Vice President and as President. Debbie is an active community volunteer and respected leader. She has her hands firmly on the wheel.

Dr. Eric Stein, Optometric Physician with Eastside Vision Clinic, has been on the board since 2005. He just completed 2 years as Second Vice President and will serve as First Vice President and chair the Key Person Committee.



Betty Coots (back row, left) is Second Vice-President and will chair the Personnel Committee. Betty, Vice President Simmons First Bank, has been a board member since 1989, has served as Presi-

dent and has chaired Hearts of Gold for 17 years!

Toni Holderfield, Administrator of Fianna Hills Nursing Center, (first row, left) is continuing as Secretary. Toni joined the board in 2007.

Kris Hope, CPA will be Treasurer. Kris, an active community volunteer, works with Przybysz & Associates. She has been on the board since 2006.

These officers will work tirelessly with all to help bring joy, companionship and quality of life to our nursing home residents.

March 24, 2009 Key Person Workshop

Dr. Eric Stein, chair of Key Person Committee, announced the Key Person workshop will be held on **Tuesday, March 24 from 9am until noon** at the Saint Scholastica event room by the Project Compassion offices. This year the guest speakers will be the key people them-

selves as they share their "secrets" for success. Topics will include recruiting and retaining volunteers, special programs and activities, as well as how to interact with your administrators and activity directors. Betty Coots will also be stopping in to find out how we can improve Hearts

of Gold for you and your residents. This will be a great opportunity for keys and co-keys to interact with each other in a relaxed, fun setting. Food and drinks will be provided, **so mark your calendars now and plan on a fun morning with your fellow key people!**

Thank You to Our Supporters & Sustainers

Memorials

Theda Willis

Randy & Jill Cutting
Mrs. J.H. Dorzab
J.I. Eubanks
James Evans
Charles Girard
Lewis Hardman
Verneil Hixson
Order of Purple Heart
J.P. Puett
Roy & Karen Slagle
Marlene Tucker
Mary Edwards & Ann Oiem
Gerald & Denise Weakley

Clothing Protectors

Chi Sigma Sorority

Newsletter Sponsor

Dr. Eric Stein

Honorariums

PC Board and Staff

Calline Ellis
Rep. Jim Medley
Calline Ellis
Dr. Carolyn Moore

Hearts of Gold

Julia S. Coleman
Deb Findley
Fort Smith Junior League
Golden Living
Evelyn Mainus
Network of Executive Woman
Simmons First
Wal-Mart

Foundations

Caldwell
Davis
Evans
Hennessy



Donations

Larry & Pat Bates
Bill & Toka Beall
Fianna Hills Nursing Home
Larry & Paula Fox
Stanley Francis
Randolf Jackson
Sr. Judith Keith & Sisters of Mercy
Medi Home Arkoma
Methodist Nursing Home
Dot Rappaport
Jackie Rogosch
Edward Sanders
Larry Schiffner
Pat Shaw
Wiley & Mary Smith
Margaret Swann
Jane Williams

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit agency so your gifts are deductible. Thank you!

2008 Christmas Brunch for Key Persons

Thank you to our anonymous donor who provided funds for the 2008 Christmas Brunch for Key Persons, Facility Administrators and Staff, Project Compassion Board Members and Guests that was held December 16, 2008 with lunch prepared and served by the Benedictine Sisters of Saint Scholastica.

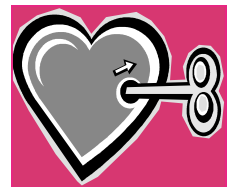
Mayor Ray Baker and our new City Administrator, Dennis Kelly, were our

special guests. Both spoke words of support for our mission to bring joy, companionship and quality of life to area nursing home residents. These are the folks who prepared the way for us to follow.

Mayor Baker installed the new officers for 2009-10 and recognized the importance of the work that Project Compassion does. Mayor Baker has supported Project Compassion since 1973.

Susan Reehl, Program Director for WestArk RSVP, was our guest speaker. Susan, who is an expert on volunteerism, talked to us about how to recruit, retain and recognize volunteers.

Thank you all for making life worth living for our area nursing home residents!



Opportunities to Volunteer/ Support

In addition to the one-to-one visitation in the nursing homes, there are many opportunities to be of service. If you can help with any of the following areas of need: Please call 783-2273 or e-mail projectcompassion@sbcglobal.net

Project Compassion needs:

- New Norton 360 program
- New Quick Books program

- Office supplies (copy paper, ink cartridges, etc.)

- Copy Machine

- **Easter Bunnies**



Office Work

- Answer the telephone or make phone calls

- Assist with mass mailings
- Computer work, e.g. updating mailing lists; inputting data

Special Events

- Represent PC when needed at a booth or special event
- Golf Tournament Sept. 14 (contact office or Mark Burgeler)



A United Way Community Partner

Project Compassion, Inc.
1205 South Albert Pike
Fort Smith, AR 72903

Office Hours: M-Th 8:30-4:30
Friday by appointment only

Phone: 479-783-2273
FAX: 479-783-1849
projectcompassion@sbcglobal.net
www.projectcompassioninc.org

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This issue underwritten by

Eastside Vision Center

7320 Rogers Avenue Phone 452-9173

Dr. Eric Stein

2009 Dates to Remember

- **March 12 ... Mayor Baker's Project Compassion Birthday Party with Gloria White Community Award**
- **March 24 ... Key Person Workshop**
- **April 8 ... Distribute Easter Bunnies**
- **April 16 ... United Way Day of Caring**
- **September 14 ... Golf Tournament**
- **October 15 ... Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**

January 26—April 15
FREE TAX ASSISTANCE
*RSVP, Grand Ave Baptist
& Lavaca City Library*
Call **782-2525** for
More Information