

UConn Health Center Auxiliary



FARMINGTON, CT 06030-2815

## DIRECTLINE

WINTER 2008

NEWSLETTER

### **LOOKING BACK - 2007 was a very busy year**

The summary of this past year included:

1) The new format for the administration of the Auxiliary, a paid administrator and an advisory committee made up of members involved in all aspects of the Auxiliary, has worked well.

2) Website <http://auxiliary.uchc.edu> is in place thanks to James Walter and his staff, especially Sheryl Rosen and Chris DeFrancesco.

3) A new brochure has been printed and is being distributed. Pictures were taken by Janine Gelineau, and the wonderful art work was done by Linda Tenukas.

4) Our telephone number is (860) 679-8004.

5) The Newsletter will be on the website (in case you throw this one away by mistake).

6) Office space in the Development Office at 10 Talcott Notch has been made available to us.

7) Our auditors have advised us that the Auxiliary is financially sound and all is in good order. A special thanks to our new Treasurer, Audrey Morgan, for all her effort.

8) We awarded \$50,000 in scholarships distributed to students in the Medical and Dental schools and graduate degree programs.

9) A \$35,000 grant was made to the Research Core Lab for equipment to be shared by several departments.

10) Two new scholarships were initiated for nursing students.

11) A successful Holiday Bazaar – Thank you Phyllis Hills. The basket raffle was fun and profitable. The departments who participated are looking forward to the next one. This is another opportunity to help from a one hour segment to much more.

12) Our Gift and Thrift Shops are thriving and our volunteers are having fun!

This could be another volunteer opportunity.

13) Membership is growing but our membership is way too low for UCHCA. How about asking a friend or friends to join? Membership is open to anyone interested in the Health Center.

This could be another volunteer opportunity

### **LOOKING FORWARD - 2008 – A year of opportunity**

Our new format with a facilitator and committees has been a success and with success comes enthusiasm and a renewed commitment to go forward with new projects. At our December 6, 2007 “board” meeting, we agreed unanimously to raise \$250,000 for **a new neonatal van.** Fund-raising ideas are always needed. Suggestions, so far, include a bed race/antique car rally, book sales, health fair, quarterly raffles for a weekend at a B&B, matching the season with the place, wine baskets etc. Whatever is decided, we’ll need support and help from you. Weigh in with your ideas (860) 679-8004.

Irene Engel, our facilitator, attended a New York State Auxiliary meeting and came back with what the “board” thought was a wonderful idea and is now in the works. **W.H.A.L.E. – “we have a little emergency”** is a program to help first responders. It involves placing decals on car seats and rear windows that alert rescue personnel that a baby/young child is in the car. Babies can too often slip out of seats, no one looks for them on the floor and rescue is delayed etc. An optional pocket can be adhered to the car seat for pertinent information, including allergies, meds, a picture of the child etc. If the driver is unconscious or unable to communicate in any way, emergency people can reunite the child with parents sooner. Thirty-four states are involved in this, but not Connecticut. Our paramedics are very enthused and Irene will be contacting all 169 towns to get them on board. Decals will have the Auxiliary logo on them. Are you interested in helping with this great project? At this point, we don’t know what

specifically is needed – it’s too soon – but call and volunteer. Let us know your talents and that you are interested in being involved in our projects and we will find a role for you! This is a low cost, win-win project for everyone.

The Auxiliary is in the design stage of having the lifetime membership names engraved on the windows of the Gift Shop, which is located in the Hospital Lobby. The initial charter members who established the Auxiliary in 1969 will also be recognized. This would be a good time for anyone who is not a lifetime member of the Auxiliary to join and be recognized. Many of you have supported us year after year.

We did well in 2007, but just wait until you see 2008! Participate with us – make your “giving-self” happy. Happy people are healthy people and then you can fulfill our wish to you and yours.

**SAVE THE DATES!!!**

**UCHC AUXILIARY WILL BE SPONSORING TWO TRIPS TO JORGENSEN IN STORRS AS FUND RAISERS FOR THE NEONATAL VAN PROJECT.**

Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm for GISELLE performed by the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre.

Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8pm Audra McDonald, soprano, performs.

There will be bus transportation to Storrs and a box lunch/supper will be provided.

The bus will depart at 5:30 pm from the academic side of the building.

Details will follow on Broadcast messages and our website.

**HAVE A HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

## GIFT SHOP SALES

**On Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**, Esther Russo, **the Apple Lady**, will be tempting us with her treats. Esther makes a wide selection of chocolate dipped apples. These make a great dessert! She will be in the **Food Court Lobby between 9 and 2.**

Murray, from **In The Bag**, is back with his great selection of handbags. These are sold at 40-70% off regular retail prices. Choose from a selection of fashion, leather and designer handbags. He will be selling his bags in the **Academic Lobby on January 17 and 18 from 6:30-4:00.** Don't miss this one!

The Connucopia welcomes a brand new vendor to the Health Center on **January 31<sup>st</sup>.** "**Much More**" will be showing his line of sterling silver in the **food court lobby between 9 and 3.** Come see the newest addition to the vendor program!

February 8th: **Designs by Diana** in the food court lobby 9:00-4:00  
February 12th: **The Apple Lady** in the food court lobby 9:00-2:00  
February 14th: **Sparkle Jewelry** in the food court lobby 9:00-4:00  
February 28th: **Norboe Glass Art** in the food court lobby 9:00-3:00  
March 7th: **Precious Cargo** in the food court lobby 9:00-3:00  
March 13th: **D's Jewelers** in both the food court and academic lobbies 9:00-2:30  
March 14th: **Barefoot books** in the food court lobby 9:00-3:00  
March 17th: **Much More (sterling jewelry)** in the food court lobby 9:00-3:00  
March 21st: **The Apple Lady** in the food court lobby 9:00-2:00  
March 27th: **A.S. Sneakers** in the academic lobby 7:00-4:00  
March 27th: **Toni's Decoupage** in the food court lobby 9:00-3:00

## THRIFT SHOP

We run category sales at the thrift shop nearly every week. This keeps many of our regular customers coming in weekly for the bargains, and while they are there, they often pick up other regular priced merchandise.

Three to four times per year, we have a store-wide clearance sale. We begin with a half price sale, followed by a dollar sale and ending with our bag sale. The store is usually pretty empty by the end of the bag sale, and what is left is donated to various charities. The store is then cleaned and restocked with a fresh selection of merchandise. In March we will have our Switch over to Spring.