

## Your Auxiliary Supports Vaccine Effort

As the old saying goes, “when the going gets tough, the tough get going,” and after a year-long absence from Tri-City Medical Center, a dedicated group of Auxilians have truly “gotten going” in support of the Medical Center’s Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic.

TCMC is delivering 500 to 700 vaccine doses at each clinic helping our community return to the wonderful San Diego County lifestyle that we all love. Clinics are scheduled when vaccine is available, typically three or four days per week. As an integral part of this activity, the Auxiliary is operating three vital programs, each a tremendous public service.

Managing the Vaccine Clinic Volunteer Operations is Auxiliary First Vice President, Linda Wolff. The Phone Support Program is headed by Bunny McElliott and keeping the Courtesy Shuttle service moving is Rita Gross. This edition of *Auxiliary Pulse* has individual articles dedicated to each of these wonderful efforts. We hope you enjoy reading about each program.



## Vaccine Clinic Volunteer Operations

By Linda Wolff

The Clinic Volunteer Operations Program is helping TCMC deliver nearly 10,000 vaccinations each month. When volunteer opportunities for this program were announced, the response was both amazing and heartwarming.

Each day of the Clinic Auxiliary members are greeting the public, confirming their appointment, directing them to the Clinic in the Assembly Rooms, escorting them to their seats, and cleaning each chair in preparation for the next person. This task is repeated 500 to 700 times each Clinic.

Each Clinic is about eight hours long with Volunteers typically working four-hour shifts fulfilling one these jobs or assisting as requested by the nursing staff. This requires about 90 volunteer hours for each Clinic. By the end of March, we will have served over 20 clinics and delivered nearly 1,900 volunteer hours.

Each and every volunteer deserves the thanks of the entire Auxiliary for once again demonstrating our vibrant contribution to the Tri-City community. I am so proud of our Auxiliary effort.



Leading day-to-day operations within the Vaccine Clinic are Linda Wolff and Tricia Guerra.

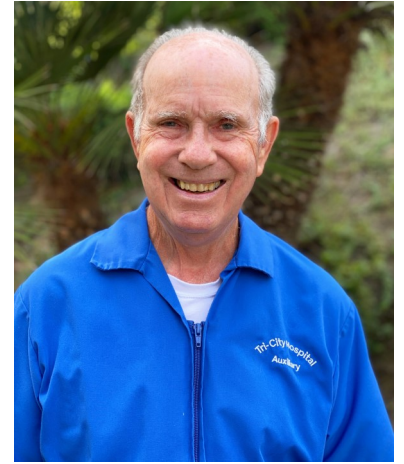


## President's Message - Jeff Marks

The Auxiliary has a heartbeat!

As you all know, it was March 18 of last year when the Auxiliary was asked to suspend volunteer services.

Thankfully in December the Auxiliary volunteers were designated by Tri-City Medical Center management as "First Responders" and eligible to receive Covid vaccinations. Since then, your Board has been meeting on a monthly basis in preparation for the Auxiliary's anticipated return to regular duties, hopefully this Summer.



Prior to this summer, the Medical Center requested special limited return of the Auxiliary for two new needs: the Vaccination Clinic and Vaccine Clinic Phone Support.

After meeting with the Medical Center management, I was in a quandary as to who should take charge of these new responsibilities. Each required a high degree of organizational skill, management, and someone who would dedicate an incredible amount of time both managing on-site as well as working from home.

To my great relief, four people came forward – each truly excelling in the challenging logistics of establishing volunteers in what has become two incredibly well functioning new departments assisting TCMC in providing extraordinarily urgent services to our community.

The Vaccination Clinic, headed up by Linda Wolff (your next President) assisted by Peter Fusselman, provides the Medical Center with volunteers to help expedite the daily distribution of Covid Vaccine to thousands of members of our community.

Bunny McElliott (High School Volunteer Chairperson) is in charge of the Vaccine Clinic Phone Support where her volunteers provide information on updated clinic services to well over a hundred anxious callers daily.

A third department was added and while not new, continues being a wonderful asset to TCMC. Courtesy Shuttle, chaired by Rita Gross, has returned with volunteers being considered "TCMC Ambassadors" as they are often the first contact with the public when they begin their vaccination experience.

Each of these chairs will provide more details elsewhere in this issue of the *Pulse*.

We all owe such a sense of gratitude to Linda, Peter, Bunny, and Rita along with each of their participating volunteers for their contribution to the overwhelming positive public comments being received by Tri-City Medical Center in response to the Covid crises. All these volunteers – more than 70 in all - are a truly wonderful example yet again demonstrating in action and deed, the huge positive impact the Auxiliary makes to the Medical Center and our communities.

Jeff



## More Than Shots in Arms

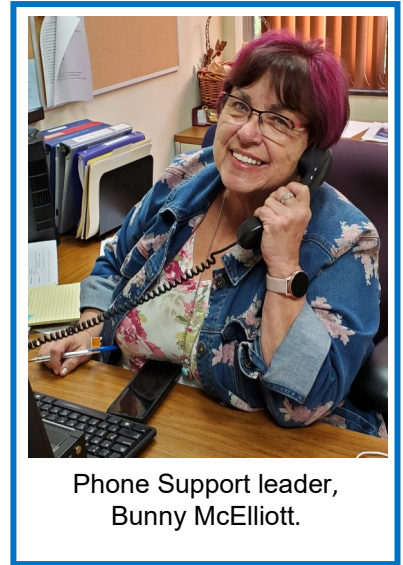
By Bunny McElliott

The logistics of a project of this magnitude are enormous. In order to begin the vaccination process, qualified individuals must first make an appointment. As is so common these days, appointments for the Vaccine Clinic are made on the TCMC website. As one might suspect, such a system is difficult for certain individuals. With this in mind, TCMC and the Auxiliary are operating the Vaccine Phone Support Project.

As manager of this vital service, I see firsthand how we are assuring that our most vulnerable community members are not left behind. Calls from individuals without Internet access or skills are handled by our group of about a dozen dedicated Auxiliary volunteers.

Working in four-hour shifts, this group responds to about 75 to 100 phone messages per day, answering questions, assisting with appointments, and communicating with the nurse managers at the Vaccine Clinic.

Dedicating nearly 300 volunteer hours each month, this program is an important part of the overall effort to heal our community and move forward. My thanks go to the dedicated individuals who navigate language and technology barriers to serve these most at-risk among us.



Phone Support leader,  
Bunny McElliott.



## Keeping People Moving

By Rita Gross

The Auxiliary Courtesy Shuttle is back in action serving the Covid Vaccine Clinic. The first wave of patients was among the most vulnerable to COVID. They were older, immune suppressed, and often with mobility problems. Helping these people get vaccinated has been very rewarding for all our shuttle drivers.



Due to the pandemic, our shuttles have been fitted with Plexiglas shields between the rows of seats and we even have a “Viroblaster,” to spray the shuttles with an anti-viral solution throughout the shifts.

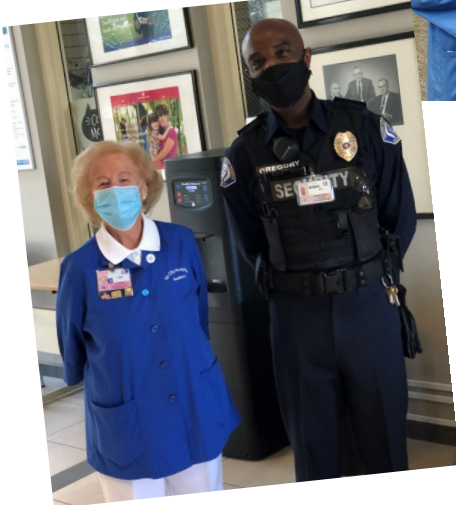
Our Shuttle group has jumped at the chance to return, many taking on extra shifts to cover the need. We are pleased to have staffed all clinic days and hope to continue to do so. So far, we have served nearly 1,700 passengers and worked nearly 200 volunteer hours as we help keep the vaccination process “moving” along.

My thanks to Dave McCarthy, Shuttle Department Co-Chair, for helping make this happen.



## Covid Clinic Photo Shoot

The Auxiliary contribution to the TCMC Covid Vaccine Project has been many things. At times it has been trying, exhausting, tiring, but most of all it has been the wonderful experience of being together with our fellow Auxilians and the hospital staff doing what we all love - meeting the health needs of our community. We hope you enjoy a few photos of our efforts and our joys on these two pages.







## Board Candidates Announced

Each year Auxiliary members select qualified individuals to serve on our Board of Directors. Even during these pandemic times, we remain focused on our future and our future leaders. You will soon receive your ballot and we encourage you to mark it and return it on or before the election deadline.

Unless otherwise described, current Board members (incumbents) who are eligible for re-election will serve a three-year term if elected. Individuals seeking Board membership for the first time are elected to a one-year term. Below are the individuals running for the Board and their Auxiliary involvement.

### **Incumbents**

*Elizabeth Brayton* – Liz is currently Recording Secretary and has served as Corresponding Secretary and on the “Tails on the Trails” event committee. Liz works at the Information Desk. Member since 2014.

*Jane Palmiotti* – Jane is currently Parliamentarian and serves on the Scholarship Committee. Jane is Chair of the Surgery Department. Member since 2008.

*Linda Wolff* – Currently 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Linda has served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Historian, and is presently Volunteer Coordinator for the Hospital Covid Vaccine Clinic. Linda has served on several “Tails on Trails” event committees. She has worked in the Gift Shop and currently works at the Information Desk. Member since 2014.

*Rosalind Bussey* – An Auxilian since 2013, Rosalind serves in the Advocacy Department and Information Desk. She has been Assistant Treasurer or Treasurer since 2015 and, if elected Treasurer, she will serve a one-year term.

*Carole Vance* – Carole has worked in the Gift Shop since 2014 becoming Gift Shop Co-Chair in 2017, and Gift Shop Manager in 2018. If elected Gift Shop Manager, she will serve a one-year term.

### **New Board Member Candidates**

*Diana Cleary* – Diana currently works in Clerical and has worked in Special Services. She is presently serving the Covid Vaccine Clinic effort as part of the Phone Support effort. Member since 2010.

*Dianne Ellison* – Dianne volunteers in the Intensive Care Department and is part of the Covid Vaccine Clinic effort. Members since 2010.

*Peter Fusselman* – Currently involved in the Covid Vaccine Clinic effort, Peter has been Co-Chair of Pet Therapy and Advocacy. He is currently Editor of *The Auxiliary Pulse* and was involved in redesign of the Auxiliary’s website in 2019. Member since 2014.

*Joseph Quince* – Joe is currently serving in the Escort Department and keeps Hospital patients informed as a regular newspaper delivery person. Member since 2009.

*Donna Rositani* – Donna has volunteered as part of the Covid Vaccine Clinic effort and serves in the Gift Shop. Member since 2017.

*Danielle Salamanca* – Danielle is currently Chair of the Imaging Department and has served in both Escort and Registration Departments. She is part of the Covid Vaccine Clinic effort. Member since 2019.



## Standing Rules Changes

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT THE Board of Directors of Tri City Hospital Auxiliary has approved and recommended the following changes to the Standing Rules at the last Executive Board meeting held on February 17, 2021.

### Standing Rules Revisions

The numbering of the Standing Rules has been changed as follows: Existing Rule 3.1 has been changed to Rule 4 and all subsequent Rule numbers have advanced by one.

Existing Rule 3.1(c) (proposed as new Rule 4(c)) contains rules for three (3) Special Volunteer Programs. The existing order of these programs is:

- Chaplaincy
- Mended Hearts
- Pet Therapy

Under the NEW Standing Rule 4(c), the order for these programs is as follows:

- Mended Hearts
- Pet Therapy
- Chaplaincy

Existing Rule 3.1(c)(1) contains rules for Chaplaincy and presently states:

Chaplaincy Applicants must be referred to the Auxiliary by the Chaplaincy Office. Dues are a one-time 15 dollars (\$15.00) fee. After Orientation, Candidates will report to the Chaplaincy Chair for length of service, duties, tracking sign-in hours, duty attire, getting a proper security badge, and notifying Auxiliary when leaving the Chaplaincy.

Revised Rule 4(c)(3) states:

Chaplaincy personnel are not members of the Auxiliary. They volunteer through the Hospital Chaplaincy Office. The Chaplaincy will advise the Auxiliary when they want one of their personnel to attend an Orientation Class. The name of the Chaplaincy person who attends an Orientation will be submitted to the Human Resources Department along with all other attendees of that Orientation Class, for a Background Check. The Orientation Department will notify the Chaplaincy when the Background Check has been completed. At this time all files on these persons shall be transferred from the Auxiliary to the Chaplaincy for supervision, maintenance, and proceeding.

Submitted by Jane Palmiotti, Parliamentary  
February 2021





## Expressions of Thanks

The vaccination process has made one thing very clear - our community truly appreciates the efforts of your Auxiliary. Volunteers stationed at the first point of contact report regular expressions of gratitude for our volunteer spirit and efforts.

Local residents and businesses have brought everything from flowers to snacks and candy for the volunteers and nurses as their way of saying thank you.

One thoughtful gift came from Don Hein of the famous "Little Cakes Kitchen" in Vista who donated four dozen of his incredible cupcakes to the TCMC for our Auxilians. He was very thankful and grateful for the kindness, care, and efficiency he experienced when he brought his mother for her Covid vaccine. Pictured is Dick Robertson receiving the cupcakes. Yes, they were yummy.



## Speaking of Thanks

Earlier this year we all received word that Auxiliary dues for the year had been waived because of the ongoing Covid crisis. The notice went on to say that if Auxilians wished to donate their dues amount or make a larger donation, these funds would help support our ongoing efforts when we return.

The response to this suggestion has been wonderful, with quite a few for our Auxiliary members donating significantly more than the traditional \$15 annual dues.

Thank you all for your continued support. We look forward to the time when everyone is back in their role as a Tri-City Hospital Auxiliary volunteer soon.



## Working Away

Even during a pandemic babies are being born and holidays are being celebrated. Thanks to our wonderful Auxiliary Workshop volunteers, both holidays and new arrivals were recognized this past Christmas season.



As they have for many years, the Auxiliary Workshop helped make Christmas 2020 festive for the TCMC Childbirth Center by making colorful stockings. The first arrival in 2021 at the Childbirth Center was again recognized with a one-of-a-kind New Year stocking.



Thank you Dorothy Indrieri and Judy Rice for keeping the holiday spirit alive and well!

## TRI-CITY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

4002 Vista Way Oceanside CA, 92056

T: 760-940-3125 E: [auxiliary@tcmc.com](mailto:auxiliary@tcmc.com) [www.tricityhospitalvolunteers.org](http://www.tricityhospitalvolunteers.org)