went on to receive a degree in Foreign Trade from a school in Glen Dale, AZ. He moved to San Francisco and worked in public relations for the Hamm Brewing Company for a few years, and later worked in marketing for a commercial insurance broker in San Mateo for 20 years.

He and his wife, Kay, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in June with a well-deserved trip to Maui. The two met in San Francisco, and ironically he and his roommates rented a flat above Kay’s in Pacific Heights, and as they say, the rest was history.

Bill also reminisced about the recent connection and discovery to his family’s history. About five years ago, he and his sisters went to Webster City, Iowa to visit their cousin Nina. There they witnessed the handy work of his granddad who had built the family home. Bill was touched by the family who now reside in his grandfather’s home and happily remarked, “they were kind enough let us come in to see what my granddad had built years ago.”

In speaking with Bonnie Adamson, hospital employee and Road Runners manager for nearly 15 years, she described more about what the service has to offer. In fact, with a total of 46 active volunteer drivers and 9 vehicles, it’s no surprise that volunteers transported nearly 1,400 clients and traveled roughly 116,000 miles last fiscal year.

Bonnie explained that drivers transport men and women to anything from healthcare related appointments, to activities at local Senior Centers, and even to everyday outings to the market, the bank, or a ride to the salon. Drivers start their day at 8:00 a.m. and the last ride of the day is at 3:45 p.m., operating Monday through Friday.

In talking with Bill Neel, Co-Chairman of the Road Runners, he shared what it’s like firsthand as a volunteer driver. Bill has been transporting clients for nearly 10 years. He spoke candidly about the friendships he has made with several of his regular clients and described just how much these individuals have touched his life in return. Bill chuckled as he spoke of one client in particular and how much he enjoys their conversations about old radio soap operas.

As well as learning of Bill’s experiences out on the roadway, Bill shared a little about himself and his favorite pastimes. Bill was born in Portland, OR. Since his Dad worked for the US Air Force, Bill and his family moved around quite a bit. Upon his father’s retirement, the Neel family moved back to their hometown of Portland where Bill attended high school. Graduate of Willamette College in Salem, OR, Bill received a BA in Political Science and a minor in History. He later went on to receive a degree in Foreign Trade from a school in Glen Dale, AZ. He moved to San Francisco and worked in public relations for the Hamm Brewing Company for a few years, and later worked in marketing for a commercial insurance broker in San Mateo for 20 years.

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In speaking with Bonnie and Bill, learning of the great services Road Runners provides to its patrons, it was clear to see how volunteers get just as much as they give in transporting individuals. To learn more about how to become a Road Runners driver, or the services provided, please call (650) 988-7651.
Chair Meeting Success!

A quarterly Chairperson meeting was held on Thursday, January 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the main hospital. The luncheon was attended by 41 people, including Chair and Co-Chairpersons, hospital staff, and speakers. Judy Van Dyck, Co-Director of Services — MV, remarked, “I was impressed with all who attended, especially the new leadership and volunteers that agreed to commit to this invaluable leadership role.”

Event speakers included ECH President and CEO, Tomi Ryba, Chaplain, Maryellen Garnier, Guest Services Mangager, Wendy Gerbrands, and Safety Management Specialist, Steve Weirauch. Introductions were made and the speakers presented on a volunteer’s role in spiritual care, customer service, and hospital safety. Chairpersons were given the opportunity to ask questions and reflect upon the speaker’s presentations. A catered lunch was enjoyed by many. On behalf of the Auxiliary, Judy would like to especially thank the speakers, as well as all who attended and helped to make the meeting a great success!

Auxiliaries in Action at the El Camino Heritage Golf Tournament

By Bettina Rosenberg

El Camino Hospital Foundation is tremendously grateful to the phalanx of Auxilians who volunteered at “For Your Eyes Only,” the 16th annual El Camino Heritage Golf Tournament. Coordinated by veterans Maggie Patch and Jere Schaefer, who were in charge of recruitment and deployment, the volunteers pitched in from the wee hours of the morning right up through the celebration dinner and live auction. They served as greeters and traffic directors and staffed contests and food stations on the course.

The tournament took place at Half Moon Bay Golf Links and The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay on October 24. James Bond was the fun-filled theme of the day, evoking images of the 1960s in homage to the hospital’s 50th anniversary. Braving cool, blustery weather, 180 golfers competed in morning and afternoon tournaments. Non-golfers were pampered at the Diamonds are Forever Spa or gambled at the License to Kill Casino, where they attended martini school when they took breaks from the blackjack and poker tables.

The tournament raised $535,000 for El Camino Hospital Foundation. Net proceeds are benefiting the hospital’s unique fellowship program, a joint initiative of the Heart and Vascular Institute and Fogarty Institute for Innovation that provides a year of postgraduate training to cardiologists who seek to broaden their expertise in multiple disciplines of the field.

The Foundation is thrilled that Maggie and Jere have promised to reprise their roles in 2012 and hope many intrepid Auxilians join them at Half Moon Bay Golf Links on October 8. Nobody does it better!
The Auxiliary would like to thank Christine Kilkenny, Co-Director of Juniors — MV, for her unwavering dedication and support to the junior volunteers and to the Auxiliary. It was humbling to witness Christine’s commitment to constantly improving the application process and services offered to junior applicants.

In talking with Christine, her patience and charisma for helping others was truly evident. She was impressed with how well kids handle everyday stressors in saying, “I'm amazed at how well they do in school — in addition to juggling education and afterschool activities, they work hard to volunteer at the hospital and make a difference.”

In October of last year, Christine, with the help of the Junior Board, worked hard to arrange the Junior Appreciation Luncheon, a gathering at Cuesta Park in Mountain View, for a fun-filled day in the sun. Volunteers and limited staff came together to enjoy a delicious lunch catered by Chipotle, play games, listen to music, and to just hang out! With over 100 volunteers in attendance, the day was thoughtfully planned and arranged for juniors to escape for the afternoon and enjoy the company of others.

In addition to helping juniors through the application process, Auxiliary event planning, and working with the Junior Board, Christine has also served as COD for three years. In this leadership role, as a COD, Christine is the point of contact, responsible for overseeing all volunteer services in the hospital during her shift. A COD often wears many hats in one shift, often delivering supplies, making deposits/change for morning shift volunteers at the Java Junction, and assisting hospital Care Coordinators with Medicare letters for patients.

In addition, it was no surprise to learn of Christine’s dedication to education, dance, and team sports in her youth. As an Irish dancer for the Heally School of Dance, Christine participated in Irish dance team competitions from grades 4 through 9 in open championships.

As an adult, Christine went to UC San Diego and earned her BA in Mathematics/Computer Science with a minor in Economics. Later working for IBM as a computer programmer, Christine decided to shift her interest to Nursing. She attended DeAnza college, where she received a degree in Nursing.

Today, Christine is a bit of a food connoisseur, or popularly known as a “foodie.” She enjoys seafood and loves to try new things. She spoke of recently devouring the heart of a tuna! She swears it tasted great! Yum?

Although Christine will be resigning as Co-Director of Juniors — Mountain View, she hopes to continue volunteering as a Patient Care Liaison once again, and is eager to continue to play an active role in the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary regretfully says farewell to Christine as Director, but wishes her the very best in her future endeavors!

Junior Jargon: Varun Gudapadi

Since its foundation, the Junior program has been quite popular, and understandably so. In early January, with over 100 registrants who either called or came into the Auxiliary office to apply in just over four hours, it’s apparent at just how invaluable the program is for today’s youth.

Junior volunteer, Varun Gudapadi, began his service in Escort in September 2010. Although he is still an occasional substitute in Escort, he serves primarily as a volunteer at the Information Desk in Mountain View. In talking with Varun, it was evident at just how much he enjoys volunteering at El Camino in his enthusiasm for helping people. He said, “volunteering here gives a person social experience and an opportunity to interact with the general public, both valuable in the real world.”

Since the Information Desk is stationed nearest the hospital entrance, these volunteers are role models for the hospital serving a vital (cont. on pg. 4)
Junior Jargon: Varun Gudapadi
(cont. from pg. 3)

role in helping visitors and families with questions and/or concerns. In addition to assisting the public, he also mentioned how much he enjoys learning about the lives of fellow junior and senior volunteers. Varun explained, “it’s always great to work with other Juniors since we all have a lot in common – SAT prep, AP classes, and our afterschool activities.” And with senior volunteers, he spoke of his recent conversation about Facebook, and the effects of social media on generations. Varun is currently in the 11th grade at The Harker School in San Jose. He is very much a team player in all areas of his afterschool life as a soccer player for the school’s team and participant for Harker’s public forum debate team. His most recent debate tournament was held at the UCLA campus, resulting in a co-champion victory by two students from his school. Debate topics are often based on today’s real-world issues and stem from newspaper headlines. His most recent debate was “College Education: Cost vs. Benefit.” When asked about his future, Varun says, “it’s too soon to tell” since he is interested in both biology and business. Although he still has plenty of time to decide, he mentioned possibly attending Duke University as a college pick.

Chairperson Highlights: Farewell to Katherine Forrester

Katherine Forrester has been a volunteer for the Auxiliary since August 2002 and has achieved over 2,000 hours of service. Since her start, Katherine has volunteered primarily in Surgery Admissions, but has also worked in Escort, Hooks and Needles, and Tours Service. As Chair of Surgery Admissions, she has been a true leader, shown through her exemplary commitment and standards for excellence.

In preparation for Katherine’s departure in March, Katherine has thankfully recruited fellow Surgery Admissions volunteer Bob Freeborn to accept the role as the incoming Chair. Bob has been a volunteer since 2009, and accepts his upcoming role with humbling pride.

Katherine was born in Sheridan, WY, but resided in Covina, CA for most of her upbringing. Katherine and her older sister made it a point to stay involved in their church and community. She said, “we were always taught to give back and serve.”

In adulthood, Katherine graduated from USC majoring in Sacred Music, a path far different from her original thought of pursuing Business Administration. She began her career as a church organist for a men and boys choir at an Episcopal church in Los Angeles. She later attended Long Beach State receiving her MS in Teaching. Upon moving to the Bay Area, Katherine worked as a church organist at Trinity Presbyterian Church in San Jose for 24 years. She was also the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church in Mountain View for 14 years, and retired last year.

Katherine was happily married to her late husband, Jack, for 56 years and had five children. In addition to music and teaching, Katherine was also a travel agent for Sun Microsystems for 23 years, retiring in 2001.

Katherine is unable to continue volunteering at El Camino since she will soon be moving to a retirement community in Oakland. She naturally boasted about living on the 14th floor of the high rise building with her picture-perfect view of the three bridges, and only steps away from local gift shops, restaurants, and markets. Her upcoming departure in March is bittersweet, but the Auxiliary would like to thank you for being such an integral part of this organization and wishes you the very best!
Dates to Remember:

**Friendship Luncheons**
MV — February 6, 7, 8, & 10 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Conference Rooms E & F

MV — Thursday, February 9 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Conference Rooms A & B

LG — February 13 11:30 a.m. - 1:00pm
Conference Room 1

LG — February 15 11:30 a.m. - 1:00pm
Conference Room 3

**Mandatory Junior In-Services**
Saturday, February 11 1:00 p.m. - 2:30/3:00 p.m.
Conference Rooms E, F & G

**OR**
Sunday, February 19 2:00 p.m. - 3:30/4 p.m.
Conference Rooms E, F & G

**Mandatory ED In-Service Meeting**
Saturday, February 25 (time and details to follow)

**Telecare Luncheon**
Friday, March 30 (time and details to follow)

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**Day of Dance**  Saturday, February 25, 2012

ECH Women’s Hospital is sponsoring a Day of Dance on Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Addison-Penzak JCC of Silicon Valley, 14855 Oka Rd in Los Gatos. Bring family and friends along for a day of dance, education, free heart health screenings, great music, and videos and tips to stay healthy and keep moving! Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend. For more information, please visit the website www.elcaminohospital.org/dayofdance.

The Women’s Hospital is seeking volunteers to come and help out at this year’s event in the following positions:

- Registration
- Line control
- Event floater
- Food distribution
- Gift bag attendant
- Volunteer headquarter
- Stage/performer help
- Event set-up/tear down

For more information and for those who’d like to help out, please contact Marketing Coordinator, Shauna Bushman, at (650) 988-3225 or at shauna_bushman@elcaminohospital.org.

We are also seeking a few volunteers to help out at the Auxiliary booth. If interested, please call the Auxiliary office at (650) 940-7214.

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**Nominations for 2012-13 Slate of Officers**

Ballots for the 2012-13 Slate of Officers were recently mailed to all active senior Auxilians requesting your nominations. As a reminder, please submit your responses to the Auxiliary Offices in either Mountain View or Los Gatos no later than Friday, February 10, 2012. The Nominating Committee would like to thank you for your participation!
Board of Directors — MV 2011-12

PRESIDENT
Anne Kusian

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT
Karron Whitehead

VP — DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
Judy Van Dyck

VP — DIRECTOR OF SENIOR MEMBERSHIP
Chuck Hebel

VP — DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP
Christine Kilkenny

SECRETARY
Mariana Latham

TREASURER
Ray Flores

ASSOCIATE TREASURER
Bill Neel

PARLIMENTARIAN
Corky Kelley

DIRECTOR OF RECRUITMENT & PLACEMENT
Linda Heider

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS
Dee Domingo

Board of Directors — LG 2011-12

VP — DIRECTOR OF SERVICES LOS GATOS
Linda Johnson

VP — DIRECTOR OF SENIOR MEMBERSHIP LOS GATOS
Janice Gleason

VP — DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP LOS GATOS
Helen Hoang

The Auxiliary News Flash is managed by Amy Pereira. It is sent to all volunteers via email and is available on El Camino Hospital’s website and in limited printed quantities. We’d love to hear from you! If you have comments or suggestions for the Auxiliary News Flash, please email auxiliary@elcaminohospital.org

We’re on Facebook! All are welcome to join our group El Camino Hospital Auxiliary! Here you’ll find Auxiliary news updates, photos from events, and of course, converse with fellow volunteers and friends! If you have a Facebook account, just search for the group El Camino Hospital Auxiliary. If you’re not yet a member, we hope you’ll join us! See you online!