

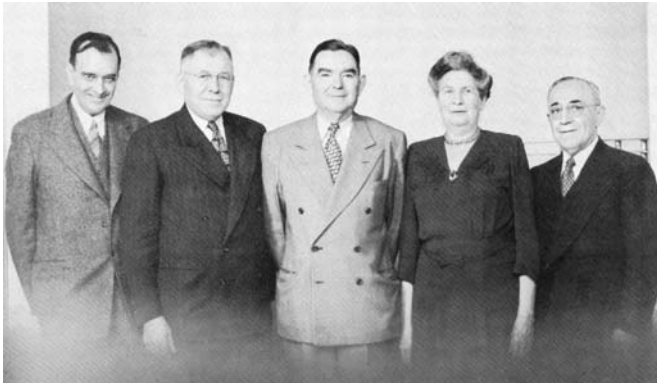
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2007

# pulse



A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR PHYSICIANS, EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS FOCUSING ON THE HOSPITAL'S MISSION OF PROVIDING QUALITY CARE AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE TO THOSE WE SERVE

## **Help link LMH's history to its future**



**Early board officers (l to r), Vincent C. Webb, Secretary-Manager; E. J. Mettler, Vice-President; James Prentice, President; Alice Towne, Vice-President; Anthony Sala, Treasurer.**

Please plan to attend the celebration this Thurs., Oct. 25, at 5p, on the front lawn of the hospital, as LMH officially kicks off the South-Wing-addition effort. While work on the addition began in 1997, and it is expected to be completed by 2010, Thursday will be the juncture when LMH finally ties its past to its future. Founding members of the hospital, which opened in 1952, are expected to be there to help start this celebration. They will be the first of many generations represented on Thursday to honor the work of all those who have made LMH a successful, not-for-profit, independent hospital. At the event those who will carry us into the future will also be featured. All hospital employees, volunteers, physicians and community members are invited to attend. And, yes, Virginia, there will be refreshments, (*Carol Farron, ext. 7535*).

## **Foot-orthotics clinics offered**

October is National Physical Therapy Month. To celebrate, the LMH Physical Therapy Department will hold two foot-orthotics clinics for all employees interested in learning about how custom arch supports can help common problems, such as foot, ankle, knee and back pain, bunions, shin splints, neuromas, running injuries, pregnancy-related pain, or those who spend long hours on their feet. The clinics will be held in the West Campus cafeteria on Mon., Oct. 29, from 11:30a-1:30p, and in the East campus cafeteria on Wed., Oct. 31, from 11:30a-1:30p. The clinics are free, and there are great employee discounts for custom orthotics. Look for fliers around the hospital, or call rehabilitation services, ext. 3136, for more information, (*Jason Locke, ext. 3136*).

## **Congratulations, Dr. Felber**



Rod Felber, DO, was named LMH's 2007 Physician of the Year at a reception held last week for LMH physicians. LMH President and CEO Joe Harrington thanked Dr. Felber for his leadership and his "exceptional efforts, consistent dedication to improving quality of care, the excellent and comprehensive care he provides to each and every one of his patients, his sincere appreciation of all members of the care-giving team and, most importantly, just plain getting along with everybody – everybody!" Dr. Felber serves as the medical director of LMH's hospitalist program and is also a hospitalist physician himself. This hospital program serves inpatients who are admitted through the LMH Emergency Department who do not have relationships with physicians on the LMH medical staff. LMH Physicians of the Year are selected annually by a committee that reviews all the nominations received. The nominations are reviewed, and a selection is made based on how well the physician meets the criteria listed on the nomination form. The criteria are related to clinical expertise, kindness, respect, timeliness and penmanship skills. Nomination forms are printed each October in "Pulse," and hospital staff, medical staff and volunteers are welcomed to nominate physicians for this recognition, (*Carol Farron, ext. 7535*).

## **LMH goes smoke-free Nov. 15**

November 15 is the "Great American Smoke-Out" day. That means only 24 more days until LMH becomes a "smoke-free" campus. Last year, 83 percent of LMH employees surveyed voted to have LMH campuses become smoke-free. This is an important step to becoming a healthier hospital for patients, visitors and employees. Each department director has been given information to share with all staff. For more information on the smoke-free-campus campaign, please contact members of the Patient-Accommodation Committee – Sandy Atwater, Valerie Cronin, Susan Henderson, Lynn McCarty, Gayle Moses, Becky Olvera and Mark Sey, (*Becky Olvera, ext. 7597*).

## **LMHer to chair HSCC board**

Congratulations to TCU director Lynne Mantz, who was recently selected as president-elect of the California Hospital Association's Hospital Services for Continuing Care (HSCC) Board. She will assume the role of president of the board in 2009, (*Judy Begley, ext. 7507*).

### **Remember patient confidentiality**

Twenty seven hospital staff at Palisades Medical Center in North Bergen, NJ, have been suspended for four weeks after inappropriately accessing actor George Clooney's confidential-medical information after he was treated at the hospital for injuries he received during a motorcycle accident last month. The local television affiliate has reported up to 40 medical staffers, including physicians, may be suspended. This is an excellent reminder that as LMH employees we all have a responsibility to protect the medical information of our patients and to be ever vigilant. Do not let this happen to you, *(Dave Mack, ext. 7420)*.

### **Fact or fiction?**

Fact or fiction – killing germs on your hands decreases your immunity? This is a myth. The skin on your body is covered with microorganisms. Our environment is contaminated with good and bad microorganisms. You cannot kill all of the microorganisms on your hands. Your large intestine contains large numbers of microorganisms. All of these sources of germs stimulate your immune response. The Centers for Disease Control's guidelines for health-care workers call for alcohol rubs to be used 60 or more times a day between patients and after touching contaminated surfaces. Killing germs on your hands will not decrease your immunity, but it will help prevent disease, *(Scherle Beal, ext. 7521)*.

### **Pharmacy implements changes**

The LMH Medical Staff approved the following changes that were recently implemented: Coreg CR (carvedilol) was added to the formulary. Coreg is a beta blocker and is indicated for the treatment of heart failure, essential hypertension, cardiomyopathy and for reduction in mortality and morbidity in stable patients with left ventricular dysfunction following acute myocardial infarction. Quinine 200mg and 325mg capsules have been removed from the formulary, per the FDA, and replaced with Quaalun (quinine) 324mg capsules. Quaalun is an alkaloid that occurs naturally in the bark of the cinchona tree and is indicated for the treatment of malaria. Amitiza (lubiprostone) 24mcg capsules were added to the formulary. Amitiza is a laxative indicated for the treatment of chronic idiopathic constipation and is administered twice daily; the dose may be decreased to 24mcg daily if significant nausea occurs. Please consult a pharmacist for specific information, *(Sandy Atwater, ext. 7555)*.

### **Trick-or-treat at TCU**



Come join TCU for its annual Halloween Extravaganza on Wed., Oct. 31, from 5:30-7:30p. There will be costumes, trick-or-treating, games and more. So bring your little ones over to TCU for some great Halloween fun, *(Cindy Dennis, ext. 3168)*.

### **Join TCU to collect coats for kids**

The LMH Transitional-Care Unit is once again teaming up with News 10's Coats for Kids in collecting new and gently used coats for men, women and children. Last year LMH collected more than 250 coats that were distributed to those in need in Lodi. This year we need help to collect even more. Please drop off coats in the marked bins in both East and West campus lobbies between Nov. 1 and Dec. 21. Those with questions can contact TCU activity director Maria Krueger, ext. 3151, *(Lynne Mantz, ext. 3181)*.

### **Bon voyage, Sandy**



Sandy Martin is retiring from the LMH Diagnostic-Imaging Department after serving for 42 years at LMH. She describes them as 42 wonderful years, but it is now time to retire. She looks forward to traveling, sewing and, most importantly, spending time with her family, including her seven

grandchildren. Sandy is currently the lead CT technologist and has served in many roles over her many years at LMH. Her last day at LMH is Tues., Oct. 30. Please be sure to stop by to see Sandy before she leaves, *(Mike Lindsey, ext. 7475)*.

### **TCU staffer welcomes baby boy**

Darin Guillot, a CNA in TCU, and his wife had their first baby, Devin Anthony Guillot, on Oct. 14. He measured 19 inches, weighed seven pounds, three ounces and is healthy. Dad said that the baby is already half the height of his mother. Congratulations to the Guillot family, *(Cindy Dennis, ext. 3168)*.

### **Thanks for paying it forward**

Many thanks to all who have given so generously to Home Health's "pay-it-forward" project. We have met our goal every week since we started back at the beginning of September. Together, we have helped pay some bills and provided a little extra for a patient's family during a difficult time. The patient's spirit is good, and she so appreciates the support she has received from our organization. Thank you all, again, *(Rose Mary Radotic, ext. 3116)*.

### **LMHers' caring appreciated**

Donna Frey and the Silveira family write: *We want to thank everyone for the sincere condolences. We really appreciated all of the calls, your caring, understanding, generosity and the many shoulders to lean on. When you lose a loved one, it brings on a new meaning to life, and it reiterates how lives can be shortened. It also renews an appreciation of our lives and our loves. We must treasure life and everyone in it. We are very thankful, and God bless you.*



**Send "Pulse" items to Community Development**