

## SAHF Our Mission

The founding and ongoing purpose of the Sault Area Hospital Foundation is to raise funds for the hospital. The provincial government provides the basics in healthcare, but these basics do not include the cost of new and replacement medical equipment. Equipment and upgrades to patient care facilities and programs have always been considered a community responsibility.

To accomplish this, the Foundation seeks community involvement through donations from patients, their families and friends, businesses, service clubs and other organizations.

## SAHF Privacy Statement

Sault Area Hospital Foundation respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy. We do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to deliver services and to keep you informed and up to date on the fundraising activities of the Foundation.

If at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list, simply contact us by phone at (705) 759-3848 or by e-mail at: [foundation@sah.on.ca](mailto:foundation@sah.on.ca) and we will gladly accommodate your request.

**SAVE PAPER & POSTAGE:** If you would like to help us save on our paper & postage costs by receiving this newsletter by e-mail instead of direct mail, please let us know by contacting our office at: 759-3848 and provide us with your e-mail address. *Every little bit helps!*

## Lasting Tribute

The Sault Area Hospital Foundation has a newly redesigned **Tribute Gift Program**.

When you make an In Memoriam donation directly to the SAH Foundation, we will forward this specially designed card on your behalf indicating that you have made an In Memoriam tribute.

Donations may also be made for other occasions such as a wedding, birthday, thank you, retirement and a host of other happy occasions.

To make a donation, please contact our office at 759-3848 or visit our website at: [www.sahfoundation.com](http://www.sahfoundation.com)

SAHF  
Sault Area Hospital  
Foundation

*In Loving Memory*

# SAHF Spirit of Giving

A Newsletter for the Donors and Friends of the Sault Area Hospital Foundation

November 2008

## Gift From Heart Highlights 80th Birthday



From left to right: Diana Kovacs, Art Gualazzi and Mary Gualazzi

When Art Gualazzi turned 80 years old recently, his family and friends threw a party. There were presents and warm wishes, laughter and kinship. There was one part of that day, though, that stood out in Art's mind - a gift from long-time family friend, Diana Kovacs, and her husband Zoltan.

Diana had pondered the gift for some time and finally decided that an offering from the heart was the best choice. She contacted the Sault Area Hospital Foundation and enquired about the different options available to pay tribute to someone. That was when she learned of the In Honour Program.

"The people in the Foundation office are wonderful," says Diana. "They were ready and willing to be as helpful as possible and they really make it an enjoyable experience. No matter what you are able to give, \$5 or \$500, they just make you feel wonderful for making the effort."

The donation was especially meaningful for Art and his wife, Mary.

"My wife has been on renal dialysis for quite some time," explains Art. "Three days a week, we are at the hospital for her treatments and the nurses and doctors that take care of her are just wonderful. I call them our angels, so it meant a lot when Diana did something to contribute to the hospital."

An In Honour donation is an easy way to show a special person that you care. Simply indicate on your donation form that the donation is in honour of someone, fill in their address and a card will be sent to them with a message that a donation has been made in their name.

Keep in mind that donations to SAHF's In Honour Program are not just for birthdays. They are wonderful gifts to consider for a wedding, thank you, anniversary, retirement and a host of other happy occasions. Just let the Foundation know what the occasion is and the staff will be happy to personalize your message accordingly.

There are many different ways to make a contribution to the hospital. The Foundation's fundraising initiatives include: Annual Giving, Special Events, Corporate & Major Gifts, Endowments, and Planned Giving. All of the various programs are detailed on the Foundation website at: [www.sahfoundation.com](http://www.sahfoundation.com)

"Sault Area Hospital Foundation has been blessed with a long tradition of generous support from its many friends - patients, family members, our community, corporations, organizations and similar groups," says Kimberly Yakasovich, Database Co-ordinator for the SAHF.

For more information about how you can make a donation, contact the Foundation office by phone at (705) 759-3848 or 1-888-623-3904 or complete a donation form online. ☺



Best Wishes!

## Old Imaging Technology makes an 'X'-it

Algoma District residents are benefiting from the purchase and implementation of a new Picture, Archiving and Communications System (PACS). This diagnostic imaging technology enables remote consultations and can even reduce patient travel.

PACS allows medical facilities to capture, store, retrieve and display radiographic images digitally, replacing film, which has served as almost the exclusive medium for this purpose over the past century.

"Overall, PACS has and will continue to play a significant role in the improvement of patient care in Sault Ste. Marie and area," says Rob Medaglia, PACS Manager at Sault Area Hospital. "With each new development, we move closer to our goals related to optimum patient care and much of that is thanks to the generous supporters of the Sault Area Hospital Foundation.

"Films as we know them are no more," explains Rob. "We have moved forward and are gaining in our ability to stay up to date with technology. SAH is now able to provide faster, more accurate and more readily available care for our patients."

PACS technology allows for a near film-free process, with all of the flexibility of digital systems. Patients are exposed to fewer X-rays as retakes are rarely necessary. Instead, the technologist can manipulate the image using the digital systems, zooming and lightening and darkening to get the most accurate image possible.

Film is a fixed medium with usually only one set of images available. With PACS, turnaround time is improved, freeing up time for physicians, staff and patients.

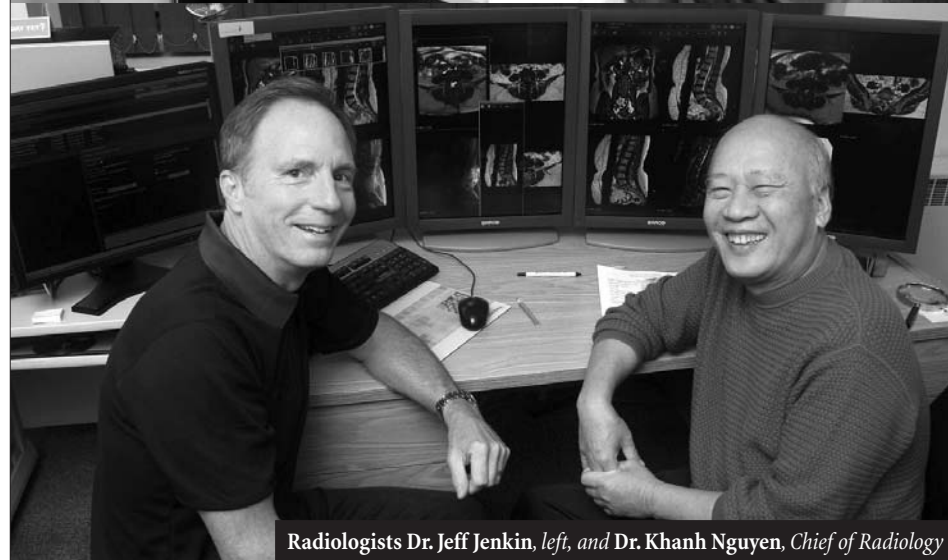
"The transition from old to new at SAH was done as efficiently as possible," Rob says. "All of the PACS equipment will be migrated to the new hospital, making it a long-term investment."

PACS also removes all the costs associated with hard film and frees up valuable space currently used for storage, making it a financial enhancement and a far greener option. This supports the hospital's long-term goal of being as environmentally friendly as possible without compromising the level of care.

There are many other benefits of PACS, including the accuracy of patient identification systems being drastically improved. Information



↑ Amanda Hynes, Radiography Technologist Student ↓



Radiologists Dr. Jeff Jenkin, left, and Dr. Khanh Nguyen, Chief of Radiology

is stored together in patient-specific files so that not only current images can be accessed but past images are available for comparison. Doctor reports are attached to images in the system.

The system also opens doors to remote communication with physicians and specialists outside the community. This is of great benefit in complex cases where consults are necessary. Before PACS, these consults would involve sending films via courier to out-of-town doctors or even require patients to travel to other centres, making healthcare more convenient for the residents and visitors of these communities.

This remote communication is also of great benefit to SAH's satellite sites - Matthews Memorial on St. Joseph Island and Thessalon Hospital.

These facilities do not have on-site radiologists, meaning diagnostic images could be taken but not read at these locations.

"The system also addresses in a small way the issue of accessibility to radiologists," notes Dan Lachowich, PACS Administrator. "Because the images are digital, we can send them wherever we need them to be in order to achieve the highest possible level of care. We would be able to use the remote communications systems to send the patient's information anywhere we need."

PACS will play a significant role in healthcare in Sault Ste. Marie and area. Thanks to the generous contributions of donors, the Sault Area Hospital Foundation continues to support this venture. ☺

### Upcoming Events in support of the Foundation

**Easy Does It Motorcycle Club  
Dinner / Dance**  
December 6, 2008  
Oddfellows Hall

**Empowered Women 2009 Calendar**  
On sale around town

**Five Car Draw**  
June 27, 2009  
Tickets *still* just \$25

**RBC Chilifest**  
September 6, 2009  
Roberta Bondar Pavilion

For further information visit our website at:  
[www.sahfoundation.com](http://www.sahfoundation.com) or  
contact the Foundation office at 759-3848.

## Sault Area Hospital Foundation Announces the "Building a Bridge to the Future" Legacy Society

The Sault Area Hospital Foundation is delighted to announce the launch of **The Building a Bridge to the Future Legacy Society**. The special donor recognition wall was unveiled at our Sept. 24th donor appreciation reception, held in the Riverview Auditorium.

The Building a Bridge to the Future Legacy Society recognizes and honours those individuals whose estate gifts will provide support for the Sault Area Hospital Foundation and its mission in the future. Membership into the Legacy Society enables the SAH Foundation to appropriately recognize donors during their lifetime.

Along with placement of their names on the new Legacy Society wall, each donor received a beautiful commemorative pewter pin engraved with the Building a Bridge logo. This pin expresses the SAH Foundation's appreciation and honours the donors' devotion and commitment to our Hospital and its dedication to serving Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma patients. It is a symbol of our community, its peoples' past, present, and future generations.

The new Building a Bridge to the Future Legacy Society wall is proudly displayed in the Renal Dialysis hallway and will be moved to the new hospital building.

*Special thanks to our inaugural members:*

**Margaret Gould, Dr. Donald & Phyllis Duffin, Pierino Belsito, Bea Mearow, Michael Rosso, Honourable Justice Pat & Linda Fitzgerald, Ross Cutmore, Nora & Franklin Prouse, Donna & Don Ford, and Lottie Linley.**

We recognize that some donors prefer not to be publicly recognized for their gifts. The Foundation respects these wishes and assures them confidentiality. To also respect our donors' wishes, the Building a Bridge to the Future Legacy Society recognition wall does not display levels of giving.

New members will be added on the wall upon acknowledgement of their intention to make a legacy gift.

This new recognition wall was generously donated by Cliffe Printing Inc. ☺

*Building a Bridge  
to the Future*

*Planning Today for Our Hospital's  
Needs of Tomorrow*

