

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The annual Henderson County American Red Cross Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held on June 4th, at Lake Pointe Landing, in Hendersonville. In addition to our Staff, our Volunteers, and our Board members, we were privileged to have as our Guest Speaker, Pam Jefsen, CEO of the Charlotte Chapter of the American Red Cross and daughter of Ellen Jefsen, one of our faithful volunteers.

The evening began with a welcoming Committee greeting the volunteers and their spouses, friends, or significant others. Each person was given a quiz to fill out highlighting different accomplishments of these present. Prizes were awarded to who found the most correct answers. When the results were given, many a laugh was heard. No one had 100%, but it was fun!

The atmosphere was most cordial, with tables decorated with the theme of the evening, "You're As Good As Gold". The buffet table was a treat to all. Many of those in attendance complimented Chef Dan, on his gourmet delights with the final dessert array bringing many accolades.

The formal part of the evening was kicked off by Mike Williams, our Executive Director. He thanked everyone for all their hard work and total dedication to not only the Red Cross but to their community and community around the country.

As he pointed out, "volunteers are what makes the Red Cross what it is today". Our Chapter has been evolving and although there is still much work yet to be done, all of us can be proud of our accomplishments and take pride in our achievements.

Our Guest Speaker, Pam Jefsen, was informative, humorous, and obviously very dedicated to being a Red Crosser. She talked about her life experiences that gave a personal appreciation for the American Red Cross. She emphasized the importance of the volunteer commitment and asked each member present to

try to reach out and help us in our cause by encouraging others to join our Team.

Several outstanding volunteers were acknowledged for their exceptional time and talents given throughout the past year. Ron Hachet, a blood services program volunteer, was recognized as the Chapter Volunteer of the Year. Ron has been a Red Cross volunteer for over 20 years and in the last 15 years has been a board member and had much involvement with Red Cross committees.

Other special recognitions were given to Michie Rogers for Community Services; Judy Gross for Health & Safety Services; Yolanda Nedwed for Disaster Services; Jeremy Yanavok for Administrative Support; the entire Chapter Blood Drive Volunteer Team; and Tiffany Ervin for Special Events.

The evening ended with the unanimous vote of approval for our new Board members. They will be joining volunteers and staff in helping to move the Chapter forward to an even greater 2010. Volunteers lead our presence within the community and continued growth in our ability to serve. Thank you volunteer Red Crossers!



Touching Lives

The Red Cross impact in Henderson County since July 1, 2008:

- 82 individuals (30 families) have been assisted after house fires, floods and other emergencies
- 4,151 people trained in lifesaving, safety and preparedness skills
- 49 military families assisted, including emergency communications between families and military personnel overseas
- 5,741 units of blood collected resulting in potential of 17,223 lives saved
- 1,612 clients were provided blood screen diagnostic or wellness panels and free blood pressure checks
- Over 5,750 hours of volunteer service that makes all this work possible!

Chapter Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Henderson County Chapter membership was held in conjunction with our June 4th Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. According to American Red Cross bylaws, membership is open to all persons who make a monetary contribution to the Red Cross, perform volunteer service and/or donate blood. After calling the meeting into session after the dinner, our board chair, Jim Bailes, presented the slate of directors for new or second three-year terms. The members present voted to accept the entire slate, putting the following on the board for a first term: Joslyn Bleick, Bob MacDonald, Mary Wall Tucker and John Veazey. Tom Richmond and Julie Thompson were elected to a second term. A complete board roster can be found on our website: www.hcredcross.org.



Operation Blood Drive = SUCCESS!

22nd Annual Operation Blood Drive, Thursday, June 25, 2009, a huge success!

Over 340 people gave of their time and blood resulting in 348 units of blood collected. In other words, in less than 12 hours, 43.5 gallons of blood became available to our patients in need. Every unit can be separated into 3 different components (whole blood, platelets and plasma) which means that our efforts are potentially saving 1,044 lives.

We are a community of heroes. The tremendous support from Dick Miley and his nearly 60 volunteers at Grace Lutheran Church, our Chapter volunteers (Irene Bergell, Kit Cofer, Mary Fye, Julie Garland, Virginia Thompson, BJ Slovacek, Roy and Sally Mabe, Joan Nytrai, Helen Shaver, Robin Stow, Sheena Womack and Angela Wright) members of the Hendersonville Civitan Club (Ron Hachet, John Batzold and Jerry Zink) and the remarkable assistance of everyone in the office taking blood donation reservations, all contributed to this outstanding success.

Additionally, our community sponsors generously provided publicity and food. Our 2009 Sponsors were: 3 Chopt Sandwich Shop, Applebee's, Atlanta Bread Company, Burger King, Clement-Pappas, Domino's Pizza, Food Lion, Harris - Teeter, Hot Dog World, Krispy Kreme, Miller's Fine Dry Cleaning, Morris Broadband, Mountain 1st Bank, O'Charley's, Papa John's Pizza, Pepsi - Cola Bottling, Pet Source, Scott Hooper and Kathleen Rathbone (ReBath), Sonic Drive-In, Subway, Times-News, UCB, Wal-Mart Super Center, WHKP, WLOS-TV and WTZQ.



We saw daughters bringing mothers to donate for the first time, mothers bringing daughters, and blood donors who have given for over 20 years. People came because they heard about it through the media or because they have participated in the past. Many came because a core group of volunteers from Grace Lutheran Church spent a Saturday in early June at the Chapter office making phone calls to eligible donors inviting them to make a reservation to donate blood. All came because of their desire to help their neighbors in need.

Once again, the Biomedical and the

all of the donors expected. Computers, blood bags, donation beds, just to mention a few items, had to be ready to go at 7am the following day. Krysta Lovelace (Henderson and Transylvania County's donor recruitment representative), Dick Miley (chair, Grace Lutheran Church) and Beth Golden (Henderson County blood services director) were busy creating the inviting and organized atmosphere.

For the first time this year, we offered a volunteer orientation session allowing the volunteers and staff to coordinate their efforts.

With this kind of effort by so many different people representing so many different aspects of blood collection, it is no small wonder that the 22nd Annual Operation Blood Drive succeeded and strongly reflects the spirit of generous giving in our community.

If you'd like to be involved in this remarkable event next year, please contact Beth Golden, blood services director. You won't be disappointed!



Carolina Blood Services Region teams traveled far distances to support this blood drive. Most arrived the day before to set-up the facilities to accommodate

Apple Festival and the Red Cross?

Do you realize that your opportunity to be a part of a \$10,000 Red Cross funding event is coming up Labor Day weekend? Can't you just imagine the excitement of being a part of that kind of financial action! Well, our annual Apple Fest parking project will be here very soon and we need YOU to help make it happen. We're budgeted to net \$10,800 of much needed funding and that is very



realistic based upon our past five years experience. Please sign up to work one or more 3 hour shifts on either Friday evening (September 4th), Saturday or Sunday between 9am-9pm, or Monday from 9am-3pm. You'll receive an official Red Cross t-shirt and the satisfaction of being a part of the action! For more info or to sign-up, contact us at 693-5605 or email: volcoordinator@hcredcross.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Worplace Workshop

July 24, Friday 8 am- 10 am

Learn how your place of business can take advantage of Red Cross programs and services. Free

Instructor Training Class

July 30,31, Aug 1&2 at the Chapter Office (Training Room)

Get trained to teach CPR and First Aid. The Chapter always needs instructors so consider taking the class.

Wilderness First Aid Friday August 7 and Sat August 8

Get trained to be able to help out on the trail, when professional help may be delayed.

Pet First Aid

August 15 Saturday 12noon - 4pm at Etowah United Methodist Church Community Room.

Learn the basics needed to care for an injured or sick pet. Both dogs and cats are covered in the class. Cost is \$30.

Chapter Blood Drive

August 17, Monday 10 am-2 pm

Be entered in a drawing to win a \$1,000 gas gift card.

Adult/Infant/Child CPR-AED

August 22, Saturday 10 am-5pm

Learn life saving CPR skills for all ages.

APPLE FEST IS HERE!

September 4,5,6,7 Join in the fun of fundraising as we park cars for the Apple Fest and raise much needed dollars for the Chapter. Take a three hour shift or two, bring your smiles and get a tee shirt.

Low Cost Blood Screening Program Now Offering New Tests & Panels

Vitamin B12 & Folate	\$40
Vitamin D 25Hydroxy	\$65
Thyroid Resistance Panel	\$65 Includes TSH, Free T3, & Free T4
Hormone Panel	\$110 Includes FSH, Estradiol, Free Testosterone

*Additional testing available *Metabolic Panels still available from \$75-\$95

For more information call Shelby Lands at 693-5605 or visit www.hcredcross.org

Direct from the Director

On June 30th, we completed our fiscal year and began our year-end audit processes. May I share some observations with you? Our volunteers gave approximately 6,000 hours of their time, probably more, to make the Red Cross an asset that this community turns to almost everyday. We've been there late at night to help families whose home had just burned down. We've ensured that when our community's medical needs require blood and/or blood products – it was there. Thousands of people have become prepared to save a life through Red Cross training in Henderson County. Our low-cost blood screens and free blood pressure checks have saved lives through awareness. We've enabled military service members to maintain critical communications with their local families – despite being deployed all over the world. You can see the difference we've made in our community. You can also see that we spent \$30,000 more to make that difference than

we brought in. Key factors were increased assistance to local disasters, unanticipated major expenses (a new, used, vehicle for disaster response) and a budgeted fundraising event that didn't develop. Fortunately, we had some reserve funds that covered the deficit. Our annual budget again this year is just over \$305,000 but we can't finish with another loss. We need your help! Help financially and, just as importantly, by being involved. Tell others of the good work we do and the needs we have. Get involved in fundraising events. Next spring, you could even become a "HERO" for the Red Cross by organizing your own fundraising event for the chapter! Just like the volunteer hours, our financial fix will take intentional efforts from all of us. Thanks for doing your part!

Mike Williams
Executive Director

Visit our web site at
www.hcredcross.org

Where there's a will... There's a way...

You, and the Red Cross, both need a plan for the future. The Henderson County Chapter has established an endowment fund at the Community Foundation that could benefit us both. To learn more, contact us at the chapter or the Community Foundation of Henderson County at 828-697-6224.

crossroads

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The Henderson County Chapter gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our business CHAMPIONS. Please support these business and organizations for their huge part in making the work of the chapter possible:



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