Get Back on Your Feet with “Matter of Balance” Classes

You don’t have to live in fear of falling. Join A Matter of Balance, the award-winning program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falls.

Offered through the Gloria Drummond Physical Rehabilitation Institute (formerly Davis Therapy Centers) at Boca Raton Regional Hospital, A Matter of Balance consists of eight two-hour sessions led by a trained facilitator. Classes help participants: view falls and fear of falling as controllable; set realistic goals for increasing activity; change their environment to reduce fall risk factors; and use exercise to increase strength and balance.

The key to getting back on your feet isn’t hard to learn — it’s A Matter of Balance. For more information about the program, call 561.955.FALL (955.3255).
Welcome, New Volunteers

Eliseama Petion
Carol Schulman
Lawrence Schulman
Marlow Harris

February Volunteer of the Month

Working with kids is Iris Wein’s passion. After joining D-RMSL in 2008, she led Boca Regional tours for children. She now volunteers in the Nursery and has logged over 1,000 hours.

Iris was a snowbird with her recently deceased partner, Allan Beyer, for 24 years. She moved here permanently from Fort Lee, NJ in 2005. Iris had a successful career in design and sales management in the fashion industry in New York. While in New Jersey, she formed and ran Days Away, an organization sponsored by the American Cancer Society providing activities for children with cancer.

She has two sons and four granddaughters. Steven lives outside of Boston with his wife, Alissa, and daughters, Ariel and Rachel. Mitchell and his wife, Sandra, live near Philadelphia with daughters Alexandra and Shira.

Iris also volunteers at Deerfield Park Elementary School and at the Jewish Association for Residential Care. She enjoys the outdoors, flowers, boating and dancing.

D-RMSL and Boca Regional thank you, Iris, for all you do.

IN MEMORY OF:
Sheldon Schachter

January Volunteer of the Month

December 9, 2013 marked a good day: Lynn Wilkinson returned to D-RMSL after having taken an 18-month leave of absence. She joined D-RMSL in 2008, serving in the Auxiliary Office. Upon returning, she volunteered at the Lynn Cancer Institute because of the wonderful care her late husband, Robert, had received there. Lynn has served over 1,500 hours with D-RMSL.

Lynn and Robert moved to Deerfield Beach in 1994 from Toronto, where they owned a giftware-importing business. She also worked as an administrative assistant at First Management for over 13 years and now serves at Deerfield Community Presbyterian Church as Stewardship Chairman, Deacon and a publicist.

Lynn has three daughters and seven grandchildren. Robyn and husband Michael live in Toronto with two daughters. Tracey, a breast cancer survivor, resides with husband Tim and two daughters in Madison, WI. Wendy is in Chicago with husband Jason, two daughters and a son.

With her smile and willingness to help in any way, the Lynn Cancer Institute is lucky to have her.

D-RMSL and Boca Regional thank you, Lynn, for your service.
D-RMSL volunteers serve in several departments across Boca Raton Regional Hospital. Here we are introducing our new feature, Volunteers in 'View, a monthly pictorial showcasing D-RMSL in action. This month features volunteers from the Thrift Shoppe.
The “Second Miracle on Meadows Road”

The remarkable story of “miracle mother” Ruby Graupera-Cassimiro was named the fifth “Most Inspiring News Story of 2014” by U.S. News & World Report. The annual listing spotlights “positive news stories that provided a glimmer of hope” in a world otherwise surrounded by chaos, according to the publication.

Ruby had undergone a routine C-section delivery on September 23 at Boca Raton Regional Hospital’s Toppel Family Place when she went into cardiac arrest. A team of over 20 medical professionals from the Hospital worked for three hours to save her. Just when they thought their efforts had failed, Ruby resuscitated spontaneously. The medical staff’s heroic work, coupled with what many consider “divine intervention,” resulted in Ruby’s complete recovery — including no neurological deficits, despite her being pulseless for close to 45 minutes.

The story made headlines across the globe. More than 3,000 media outlets reported Ruby’s story in print and on air, including The Associated Press, The Washington Post, Telemundo, the United Kingdom’s Daily Mail, ABC’s Good Morning America and NBC’s Today Show. Highlighting the coverage was an in-depth segment on nationally syndicated television program The Dr. Oz Show.

Many have called Ruby’s story the “Second Miracle on Meadows Road.” The original miracle refers to the community-driven founding of Boca Raton Regional Hospital — then known as Boca Community — in 1967.

Support D-RMSL When You Shop on Amazon

Did you know that you can support the Debbie-Rand Memorial Service League when you shop on Amazon? It’s easy! Start shopping today at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to D-RMSL at no extra cost to you. Here’s how:

Step One: Visit smile.amazon.com
Step Two: Log in or create an Amazon account if you don’t already have one.
Step Three: Type “Debbie-Rand” and hit Search. Select D-RMSL from the search results.
Step Four: Begin shopping!

Important Note: For D-RMSL to receive donations from Amazon, you must visit smile.amazon.com and log into your account prior to making a purchase.
Our Shining Stars

“I am writing in praise and recognition of Margo Hollander, Sandra Kalker, Helio Madrigal, Merfi Madrigal, Phyllis Sacks, Margaret Seeberger and John Silvestri for providing their valuable time and talents at our Specials Holding Area for Interventional Radiology.

Although I work in Nuclear Medicine, the Specials Holding Area shares the same workspace with Nuclear Medicine. I have seen first-hand the remarkable attitudes and invaluable work the volunteers provide for our services Monday through Friday.

They do so much — including making and serving refreshments to our patients; restocking linens, blankets and gowns; restocking our pantry; cleaning and preparing stretchers; changing full linen bags; running errands for the nurses; and comforting our patients.

I am amazed every day by their dedication and enthusiasm. We are blessed and grateful that they have chosen to allocate their time and talents with us and our patients. We appreciate them very much!”

- Deo G. Religioso, Lead Technologist, Nuclear Medicine

Do you know of or have you witnessed a volunteer going above and beyond to help a patient? Or maybe someone who is simply deserving of recognition for displaying an exceptional level of volunteerism? If so, let us know and we will feature them in an upcoming issue.

Attention TAVs: Apply Now for D-RMSL Scholarship

Any TAVs who are interested in applying for a 2015 D-RMSL Scholarship, please note that there have been changes to the application. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please visit the Volunteer Office to pick up a revised application. All completed applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 13, 2015.

Mail Completed Application To:
Debbie-Rand Memorial Service League, Inc. Scholarship Committee,
800 Meadows Road, Boca Raton, Florida 33486
Save the Date:

Daylight Saving Time Begins
SUNDAY, MARCH 8

St. Patrick’s Day
TUESDAY, MARCH 17

$5 Masquerade Jewelry Sale
MARCH 19 – 20
OCTOBER 15 – 16

First Day of Spring
FRIDAY, MARCH 20

D-RMSL Annual Meeting and Pin Award Ceremony
THURSDAY, MAY 14

Therapy Dog Kelly Passes After Eight Years of Faithful Service

By Arthur Dermer, D-RMSL Volunteer

It is with much sadness that I report the passing of Kelly, the therapy dog, after a long illness. Beloved by Boca Regional patients and staff members, Kelly, an 11-year-old Lab/Golden Retriever cross brought joy to all who met her.

This type of dog is bred specifically for service and therapy. They are often used as a companion dog by the blind, deaf and those with other physical or emotional limitations. Kelly could usually be seen wagging her tail as she cheerfully greeted friends around the Hospital.

“Tom DiCicco, owner and trainer of Therapy Dogs of South Florida, Inc., has provided many benefits and much joy to patients, families and staff at the Hospital,” said Jan Savarick, President of the Hospital Foundation. “Studies show that interaction with gentle and friendly pets can lower blood pressure, reduce pain, lift spirits and lessen depression. The generosity of donors to the Hospital has underwritten the Dog Therapy program since 2007, and we are very grateful for Kelly and the years of faithful service she provided us all.”

I, along with several other D-RMSL volunteers such as Jack Rubin and Alice Turner, assist Mr. DiCicco in taking the dogs around the Hospital, visiting patients in their rooms. Two dogs work each day and are rotated after an hour of rounding. The visits last from two to five minutes, depending on the amount of interaction desired by the patient. The dogs always seem to comfort the patients and put smiles on their faces, and are often the only visitor the patient receives during their stay in the Hospital.

Mr. DiCicco has been honored by many community groups for his tireless volunteer efforts with the Hospital and with public schools of Palm Beach County, where the dogs are used to help motivate students.

On behalf of all D-RMSL volunteers, I’d like to thank Mr. DiCicco for his continued service and for introducing us over the years to Kelly and the rest of his heartwarming therapy dogs.
D-RMSL is committed to ensuring our volunteers have the knowledge needed to keep themselves and our patients safe. As part of this commitment, we will provide a monthly safety question in this newsletter. These questions represent what a volunteer may be asked by The Joint Commission surveyor during a visit.

Congratulations to Melody Khoriaty (TAV) and Pamela Reuter, who both correctly answered last month’s question: “TRUE: Annual Orientation is mandatory for ALL volunteers who began prior to June 2014 and is required by The Joint Commission. Orientation is held in January and February.” Please contact Aimee Yahn-Carmichael for your prize!

This month’s trivia is about Tuberculosis: True or False? Tuberculosis (TB) tests are required annually for all volunteers who come into contact with patients? The first person to email Aimee at ayahn-carmichael@brrh.com with the correct answer will win a pair of Cinemark Platinum Supersaver movie tickets. Best of luck!
• Serving Boca Raton Regional Hospital and the surrounding community since 1943
• Arrangements for all occasions: parties, weddings, Bar & Bat Mitzvahs
• Plants, balloons, plush novelties
• We can create very unusual designed personal floral pieces
• All Boca Raton Regional Hospital volunteers, employees and physicians receive 10% discount on all in-store or locally delivered items, plus an additional 5% discount, which will go to the Debbie-Rand Memorial Service League