It’s All About The Pin

The pin is simple. Small and blue with three words: “We Honor Veterans.” But it is enough. Enough to show appreciation for some of the most honor-bound and brave citizens who we have living amongst us.

Philip Morgan couldn’t hold his emotions when the pin was fastened to his shirt. Bill Smith was so proud of his pin that he attached it to the hat that was constantly on his head. It is just one small way that Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region honors veterans, but the impact is strong and deeply emotional for patients who have served this country.

November is a significant month for HPCCR. Not only is it National Hospice month, but it also encompasses Veteran’s Day, a day of remembrance and thanks for the men and women who risked their lives to protect our freedom. Both causes are important to HPCCR because we provide end-of-life care to many veterans, an often underserved portion of our nation’s population.

One out of every four dying Americans is a veteran. That number would probably surprise most of us. But since Americans, in general, are living longer due to progress in technology and science, it stands to reason that a significant percentage of our population would be veterans eligible for hospice care.

Because our veterans have sacrificed so much for their fellow countrymen, Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region has made an intentional effort to demonstrate the respect and honor that we feel, and know, that they deserve. Each veteran under our care receives acknowledgement for their service in a small, private observance that concludes with the presentation of the commemorative pin. At Levine & Dickson Hospice House, the staff members also place a flag on the door of each veteran, put flag stickers in their chart, and drape the body of each patient who passes away with an American flag. The flag is then folded and placed on a table with a candle that is lit in memory of the veteran who died.

But it always begins with the pin. Philip Morgan, a 64-year old career military man, joined the Air Force just out of high school and served overseas in Vietnam, then state-side in Oklahoma, California, North Dakota, Alaska, and Texas. A proud man who enjoyed taking care of others, he now struggles with having to rely on others for his care, especially after a recent stroke robbed him of his ability to communicate. When his HPCCR social worker, Mark Byrd, presented him with the veterans pin, tears were in his eyes and the only words he could say were “thank you,” over and over again. The pin reminds him of his days as a flight line scheduler, working his way over the course of 23 years to the high rank of Master Sergeant.

The pin is simple. Small and blue with three words: “We Honor Veterans.” But it is enough. Enough to show appreciation for some of the most honor-bound and brave citizens who we have living amongst us.

HPCCR Social Worker, Mark Byrd, left, proudly honors veteran and patient, Philip Morgan.

(continued on page 2)
Honoring Our Veterans During Hospice Month

November is National Hospice month. And it is also the month when we honor our veterans. Since Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region is dedicated to providing quality end-of-life care to the men and women who fought for our country, this month has added meaning for us.

The feature article in this newsletter highlights two veterans who have benefitted from our care. These men had two very different experiences in the military. But they both made heroic sacrifices to preserve the freedoms that our Constitution guarantees us. They, and their families, deserve to receive the best care that we can offer.

To demonstrate our commitment to US veterans, HPCCR has joined the “We Honor Veterans” program, a joint initiative of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Comprised of four levels, HPCCR is close to completing the first level – providing veteran-centric education to staff and volunteers – and will be soon moving to level two – building organizational capacity to provide quality care for veterans.

Sadly, despite the growing recognition of the need for quality, cost-effective, end-of-life care in this country, many veterans do not receive it. Whether homeless or out of work, there are veterans who are not aware of the services we can provide to them. To find out how you can help, please contact our Volunteer Services Department. Together we can further the advancement of end-of-life care and enhance the quality of life for veterans living with life-threatening illness.

It’s All About The Pin (continued from page 1)

William G. Smith was a veteran who passed away in August. He was a 2nd Lieutenant who flew P-47 fighters in World War II and was shot down twice. His wife, Peggy, recalls how excited he was to receive the pin from Janet Dagenhart, his social worker.

“He was so proud of his military involvement, and he would talk to anyone and everyone about serving in the war. That pin signifies his dedication to his country.”

The pin now belongs to Bill’s son, Jeff, who will always remember the heroic actions of his father.

Most of the veteran patients cared for by HPCCR are living in their homes or long-term care communities, surrounded by their family and other loved ones. Knowing that not all veterans are afforded this comfort, HPCCR is also joining in the cause to help former military personnel who have fallen on hard times.

Throughout the month of September, HPCCR collected personal hygiene products to donate to the Stand Down 2011 event, which provides support to homeless veterans. HPCCR sponsored a booth at the event, handed out the supplies, and had nurses available to take blood pressures and temperatures of participating veterans throughout the day.

It might seem like HPCCR is taking great strides to support our veterans. And that would be true. But our efforts pale in comparison to the sacrifices that the veterans have made for all of us who live in the United States of America.

Young boys grew up on battlegrounds. Young nurses cared for the men they became. As Bill Smith’s widow said, tears choking her voice, “He saved the world at age 19.” If they can do that for us, the very least we can do is offer them a pin.
Meet Lee Wilson

Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County (HPCLC) is pleased to introduce Lee Wilson, the new Regional Director of Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County. Lee was named to the position following the retirement of veteran Leslie Barlowe in June.

Lee joined HPCLC in 2007 as a social worker. With a Master’s in Social Work and a career history in hospitals, long-term care facilities, and hospice, he was a natural fit for the leadership position of the Lincoln county office.

“Lee has a lot of enthusiasm for hospice, and he’s a very dynamic, engaging young man. He really has a great feel for the Lincoln, Gaston, and Catawba county communities,” said Pete Brunnick, Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region President & CEO. “With his extensive background in end-of-life care, he is uniquely qualified to meet the needs of the community.”

Lee finds himself leading HPCLC during one of the most challenging times that the hospice industry, as a whole, has faced. But during his short time as Regional Director, he has already made significant contributions. HPCLC currently serves, on average, close to 90 hospice patients each day in Lincoln, Gaston, and Catawba counties, a considerable increase for the team. Palliative care, already offered in long-term care, assisted living, and independent living communities, is now being offered in the patient’s home as well. Because of the increased demand and need for this service, additional expert clinicians have been hired, including a nurse practitioner and a palliative care nurse.

All of these changes demonstrate the sincere dedication that Lee and the HPCLC staff have to their patients. “Our staff members have such a passion for what they do,” Lee explains. “They’re not just caring for patients. They’re caring for their neighbors, the people they grew up with.”

A compassionate, competent team combined with creative solutions is a true recipe for success. The future looks bright for Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County. And even brighter for the patients, families, and communities who benefit from their care every day.

Joining Together in Grief and Healing

Meeting new friends who understand grief, and learning with them how to cope with it, creates a natural community and lasting friendships. Each year, HPCCR works in partnership with family survivors, schools, communities of faith, our local Junior League, and organizations within our eight-county service area to host Chameleon’s Journey® weekend grief camp for children and teens.

Chameleon’s Journey helps children deal with the loss of a parent, sibling, grandparent, or special person. Through their unique experiences at camp, these children realize they are not alone in their grief. Since 1999, we have supported over 700 children, and as our newsletter goes to print, the 12th annual Chameleon’s Journey weekend camp is taking place. For more information about the camp, please contact 704.335.4334 or cummingsg@hpccr.org.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEAVING A LEGACY OF CARING?

Leaving a gift to Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region in your will is a simple way to make sure that your commitment to hospice endures.

The amount of your gift is what works for you – no gift is too small. We are deeply grateful for all donations.

To learn more about easy ways to make a legacy gift, please contact: Penelope A. Wilson, MBA, CFRE, Development Officer 704.335.4325 or wilsonp@hpccr.org

“Bunk Buddies,” left to right, Alley Bindics, Brianna Lewis, Tamara Green, Shaina Galeotafiore, Ryely Haller, Alyssa Verrier share in the fun of Chameleon’s Journey Grief Camp.
A Time for Remembering

Let Us Celebrate Life

Holidays can be difficult when you have experienced the loss of a loved one. Helping families celebrate with joy and remembrance during the holiday season is an important mission of comfort that we gladly offer. Holidays are also a time when we remember others, by participating in family traditions and celebrating with family and friends. Let us celebrate life together this holiday season. We invite you to join us during our annual “Light Up A Life,” a holiday tradition that provides a number of meaningful ways to remember loved ones. For information on the times and locations of our Light Up A Life Interfaith Memorial Services, see the yellow side bar on this page.

Remembrance Trees and Tree Lights

Special trees throughout our community have been designated Holiday Remembrance Trees. You may sponsor one or more lights to shine “in honor” or “in memory” of your loved ones on all Remembrance Trees from the first tree lighting in December through January 2, 2012. A tribute card is sent to those being honored, or to the families of the loved ones being remembered. You may purchase bells and lights online at our website: hpcrcr.org.

Proceeds from the Commemorative Bells and Remembrance Tree Lights will help us continue to make a difference in the lives of the many adults and children receiving hospice care. Thank you!

Remembrance Tree Locations

- Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region – Uptown
  1420 East Seventh Street
  Charlotte

- Matthews Town Hall
  232 Matthews Station
  Matthews

- Levine & Dickson Hospice House
  The Park Huntersville
  11900 Vansory Drive
  Huntersville

- Birkdale Village
  8712 Lindholm Drive
  Huntersville

- Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
  19600 Zion Street
  Cornelius

- Davidson Village Green
  Main Street
  (in front of the public library)
  Davidson

- Lincoln Cultural Center
  403 East Main Street
  Lincolnton

Light Up Life
Interfaith Memorial Services

Invite family and friends to join you at one of our interfaith, candlelight memorial services honoring and remembering the individuals and families served by Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region, Hospice & Palliative Care Lake Norman, Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County, and Levine & Dickson Hospice House. Each ceremony includes thoughtful readings, music, and the lighting of candles in memory of those we have lost.

It is an opportunity for reflection, a time for healing, and a true celebration of life. You are welcome to join us in one of the most meaningful experiences of the season at one or more of the following services:

Hospice & Palliative Care
Charlotte Region
Thursday, December 1, 6:30pm
Emanuel Reformed Church
329 East Main Street, Lincolnton

Levine & Dickson Hospice House
Sunday, December 4, 2:30pm, and
Saturday, December 10, 5pm
11900 Vansory Drive, Huntersville

Levine & Dickson Hospice House
Saturday, December 3, 5pm
St. Martin’s Episcopal Church
1510 East Seventh Street, Charlotte

Hospice & Palliative Care
Lake Norman
Tuesday, December 6, 6:30pm
Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
19600 Zion Street, Cornelius

Hospice & Palliative Care
Charlotte Region – South
Thursday, December 8, 6:30pm
Sardis Baptist Church
3602 Unionville-Indian Trail Road West, Indian Trail

My husband certainly was the light of my life, and purchasing Remembrance Tree Lights is a wonderful way of keeping Bob’s memory present during the holidays. By having the acknowledgment cards sent to his daughters, I am assured that he remains in their holidays also. As I participate in Light Up A Life each year, I feel the comfort of the many good memories he left behind, while at the same time being able to support such a worthy cause.

- Beryl Atchley

“...a special way to open up the Christmas season..." - Judy Caldwell
We are delighted to provide you meaningful ways to honor, remember, and celebrate your loved ones. Please place your orders using this form, download this form from our website, or order online at hpcc.org. Follow the numbered sections and print clearly to ensure that we correctly acknowledge your gift. Your purchases help fund our services throughout the year for our patients and their families.

### 1. Commemorative Bells
Your bell inscription will begin with the dedication followed by the name, and it will end with the current year.

Example: "In memory of Nana – 2011" or "In honor of Art Barnett – 2011"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>BELL(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- [ ] IN HONOR OF: ________________________________
- [ ] IN MEMORY OF: ________________________________

**PLEASE SHIP TO:**

- NAME: ___________________________
- ADDRESS: ___________________________
- CITY, STATE, ZIP: ___________________________

### 2. Remembrance Tree Lights
You will receive a gift acknowledgment for your tree light sponsorship. We will also send a tribute card to those you honor or to the families of the loved ones you are remembering.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>LIGHT(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- [ ] IN HONOR OF: ________________________________
- [ ] IN MEMORY OF: ________________________________

**PLEASE SEND TRIBUTE CARD TO:**

- NAME: ___________________________
- ADDRESS: ___________________________
- CITY, STATE, ZIP: ___________________________

### 3. My Order Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bell(s)</td>
<td>$25 each =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell Stand(s)</td>
<td>$5 each =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Light(s)</td>
<td>$15 each =</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipping and Handling*</td>
<td>$7 each =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Shipping and handling applies to bell and stand orders only. Please add a shipping fee for each (different) mailing address.

**Additional Donation:** = _____

**GRAND TOTAL** = _____

**MY NAME**

- ___________________________

**MY ADDRESS**

- ___________________________

**MY CITY, STATE, ZIP**

- ___________________________

**MY PHONE**

- ___________________________

**MY EMAIL**

- ___________________________

### 4. I'd like to pay with

- [ ] Check payable to Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region, or
- [ ] My credit card:
  - [ ] Visa  [ ] MasterCard  [ ] AMEX  [ ] Discover

- CARD # ___________
- EXPIRATION DATE ___________
- SIGNATURE ___________
Pedaling for Hospice

The threat of thunderstorms on Labor Day kept some Pedal The Park participants away, but almost 200 cyclists came out and thoroughly enjoyed the 60-mile and 30-mile bike ride, followed by a hot BBQ lunch with all the trimmings. It is the fourth year this event was held to benefit Levine & Dickson Hospice House.

Hospice Happenings

Thank you to the following community groups and friends of HPCCR who organized special events to benefit our mission. These funds support patient care, our area of greatest need. For more information about events, visit hpccr.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Raised Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHOCOLATE FOR THE GREATER GOOD</td>
<td>$148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DON STOUT LAKE JAM AT RUSTY RUDDER</td>
<td>$1,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRIVEN BY GRACE “PORKER” RUN</td>
<td>$3,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACK THOMAS MEMORIAL RACQUETBALL</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMORIES IN MOTION</td>
<td>$2,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TASTE OF BIRKDALE</td>
<td>$1,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER TOURNAMENT</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TICKLED PINKBERRY FOR HOSPICE</td>
<td>$63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WALGREEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT</td>
<td>$2,720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following events listed below occurred after our newsletter went to press: Elizabeth Home & Garden Tour, Plaza Midwood/Chantilly Chili Cook-off, Dennis Lowery Memorial Golf Tournament, Empty Bowl, and US Foodservice Pro-Am. Proceeds from these events will be published in the next newsletter.

If you would like to host an event supporting HPCCR, please contact Nancy Cole at 704.335.4312 or colen@hpccr.org.

Follow Us! Like Us! Read Our Blog!

We invite you to “like” our organizational Facebook page, follow us on Twitter, and subscribe to our Blog. Simply visit our website, hpccr.org, and find the links to all of our social media sites. It’s a great way to continue your support of HPCCR!
Come be Great with Us!

We need your help! Our volunteers provide support and companionship, give caregivers a break, provide transportation to patients’ appointments, and more. Special skills volunteers offer unique gifts like pet therapy, haircuts, notary services, and massage therapy. They also provide office support and help in the community with fundraising, health fairs, and other events. Every day, our volunteers tell us how much they enjoy their service. Come join us!

Volunteer in your own neighborhood. We need volunteers throughout our eight-county service area. While specially-trained hospice experts provide clinical care, it is the caring and kindness of our volunteers that truly make a difference in the lives of our patients. Please see page 8 for a list of our upcoming training sessions. For more information about our volunteer opportunities, please visit hpccr.org or contact Crystal England at 704.335.3578 or englandc@hpccr.org.

Dining for Hospice

November is National Hospice Month! And to acknowledge and celebrate this important month, several area restaurants have partnered with HPCCR to host a “Dining for Hospice Day.” Visit some of Charlotte’s finest eateries, enjoy a great meal, and know that a percent of your bill will be donated to HPCCR.

Check out our website, hpccr.org, for a list of participating restaurants and the day in November they have selected as their “support hospice day.” Bon appétit!

Another Way of Remembering

A memorial gift is a wonderful way to remember someone close to you and to ensure that compassionate hospice and palliative care will be provided to all those who need it. To learn more about memorial giving, or to request gift envelopes to have on hand when you need them, please call Pam Janowicz Gray at 704.335.4324 or grayp@hpccr.org.

This Holiday Season, Give the Gift of Caring

As the holiday season approaches, gift giving can become easier and more meaningful with your charitable donation to Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region. Make your donation in honor of a friend, neighbor, relative, colleague, client, caregiver, teacher, or anyone else on your gift list! Each honoree will receive a personalized greeting card announcing your holiday tribute gift. By making a gift to Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region, you are helping make quality end-of-life care possible for everyone who needs it.

Send the names and addresses of those you wish to honor, along with your donation, to Mary Jo Carrier at Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region, 1420 East Seventh Street, Charlotte, NC 28204. If you have question, you can contact Mary Jo at 704.335.3536 or carrierm@hpccr.org. All of us at HPCCR wish you a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year!

Spread the Joy of the Holidays

During the holiday season, our patients and their families often do not have the energy or resources to prepare a special meal or celebration. Individuals and groups can help by preparing a meal or gathering groceries. Last year, we provided 134 meals to our patients and their families, helping 408 people have a little something to be excited about in the holiday season.

Providing a meal requires no volunteer training, and it’s a great way to support our patients and their families. To learn how you or your group can help spread the joy of the holidays, please contact Mary Fink at 704.905.6686 or mary@navarac.com.
VOLUNTEER TRAINING
A volunteer application, interview, and reference checks must be complete before we can guarantee placement in one of our trainings. For more information about volunteer opportunities, specific times for training sessions, and/or to apply to become a volunteer, please contact Crystal England at 704.335.3578 or englandc@hpccr.org.

Adults:
Monday & Tuesday, November 14 & 15, 8:30am-5pm Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County 107 North Cedar Street, Lincolnton Tuesday & Thursday, January 17 & 19, 5:30-9pm, and Saturday, January 21, 9am-4:30pm Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region 1420 East Seventh Street, Charlotte

Teens:
For information about teen volunteer opportunities, please contact Elise Hurst at 704.335.3577 or hurste@hpccr.org.

GRIEF SUPPORT
Life after a loss can be challenging. It calls for making adjustments while at the same time learning ways to make sense of life without a loved one. Sharing experiences and being with people who understand can offer healing. We invite you to participate in the following programs.

IN GOOD COMPANY: GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS
All are welcome!
Charlotte
4th Wednesday of each month, 10am Julia’s Coffee House 1133 North Wendover Road, Charlotte Contact Marge Brokaw at: brokawm@hpccr.org or 704.375.0100.

Huntersville
2nd Thursday of each month at 6pm, and 4th Thursday of each month at 11:30am Bob Evans Restaurant 16706 Northcross Drive (I-77, Exit 25) Contact Amy Thomas at: thomasa@hpccr.org or 704.375.0100.

Lincoln County
2nd Thursday of each month, 11am Court Street Grill 113 Court Square, Lincolnton Contact Carol Anne Lawler at: lawlerc@hpccr.org or 704.732.6146.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS
Groups are forming now for “Grief: The Reluctant Journey” support groups beginning early fall, and in February 2012, at our various HPCCR locations. A pre-group interview with one of our grief counselors is required prior to registration for the group. Call 704.335.4334 or cummingsg@hpccr.org. For our Lincoln County support group call 704.732.6146 or email lawlerc@hpccr.org.

Dealing with Life’s Losses
Wednesday, November 16, 6:30pm New Beginnings Moravian Church 201 Seagle Street, Huntersville Contact Janet Kaufmann at 704.992.2003. Certificate of attendance will be offered.

Men’s Grief Support Group
Mondays October 3 – November 21, 6:30pm Levine & Dickson Hospice House 11900 Vanstory Drive, Huntersville Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Healing Grief for Mind, Body and Spirit
A gentle yoga practice, with reflection and discussion Tuesdays, September 20, October 4, October 18, 6pm Levine & Dickson Hospice House 11900 Vanstory Drive, Huntersville Bring a yoga mat or a towel; dress comfortably.

HOLIDAY GRIEF WORKSHOPS
Join us for “Skipping the Holidays?” an engaging workshop that will address the approaching holiday season and the variety of emotions, decisions, and alternatives survivors face after the loss of a loved one.

Tuesday, November 1, 9:30am Lincoln County Senior Center 514 South Academy Street, Lincolnton Call 704.732.6146 to register.

Monday, November 7, 6pm Hospice & Palliative Care Charlotte Region 1420 East Seventh Street, Charlotte Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Tuesday, November 8, 10:30am Fitzgerald Senior Center – Union County 323 South Hayne Street, Monroe Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Thursday, November 10, 10:30am Tyvola Senior Center 2225 Tyvola Road, Charlotte Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Monday, November 14, 12pm McCreary YMCA 3801 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Tuesday, November 15, 6pm Mt. Zion United Methodist Church 19600 Zion Avenue, Cornelius Call 704.335.4334 to register.

GRIEF WORKSHOPS – WINTER 2012
NEW HOPE, NEW VISION, NEW YEAR
The New Year stirs hopefulness for a new beginning and a wish for healing from the loss of a loved one. Through supportive discussion and the creation of your personal vision board, discover the way forward in your grief journey.

HPCCR – South Charlotte
Tuesday, January 24, 2pm 7845 Little Avenue, Charlotte

HPCCR – Uptown
Tuesday, January 24, 6pm 1420 East Seventh Street, Charlotte

Hospice & Palliative Care Lake Norman, and Levine & Dickson Hospice House
Thursday, January 26, 6pm 11900 Vanstory Drive, Huntersville Call 704.335.4334 to register.

Hospice & Palliative Care Lincoln County
Thursday, January 26, 6:30pm 107 North Cedar Street, Lincolnton Call 704.732.6146 to register.