

*“I like the fact that, in plastic surgery, at the end of the day, I can tell if I have done a really good job.”*

*—Dr. Michael Kreidstein*



## Patient expresses gratitude following procedure

For Dr. Michael Kreidstein, a plastic surgeon at The Scarborough Hospital for 13 years, the variety of plastic surgery is a big part of what he enjoys about his career.

“I consider myself a general plastic surgeon. My practice includes anything that comes into the emergency room – from bad infections and trauma to skin cancer,” Dr. Kreidstein says. “What’s exciting is the variety, and knowing that there will be some days that present a challenge that might require me to crack open a book and read up on things. It would be difficult for me to get excited if I had to do the same procedure day

in and day out.”

Dr. Kreidstein’s bedside manner prompted one of his patients to write to The Scarborough Hospital with high praise.

“When I arrived at the hospital on the day of surgery, I was highly anxious and deeply concerned about my decision,” wrote Rayna Morris. “Given Dr. Kreidstein’s calm manner and his clear demonstration of knowledge, he provided a comfortable and relaxing atmosphere prior to my surgery that eased my tension immensely.”

Self-effacing about the praise, though,

December  
2008

CONTINUED on page 4

# Re-application forms due by mid-January

**I**t is that time of year again....re-applications! Kaaren is busy sending out the re-application forms for next year. There are some changes to comply with the new By-laws and so I urge everyone to carefully supply the requested information. In order to efficiently process the applications, it is essential that the completed packages are received by Jan. 15, 2009. To encourage compliance, unfortunately we are required to charge a \$100 late fee for those applications received after the deadline. Please avoid this and promptly return the completed application package.

## **MASK FIT TESTING**

I would like to thank all of you who have been re-fitted for the N95 masks. We had a great level of compliance and I congratulate you on doing so. If you have not as yet been mask fit tested, I would like to remind you that this is a requisite for re-appointment. Please attend any of the mask fit testing sessions, or contact Rob Brown at ext. 6643 to arrange for an appropriate appointment.

## **HAND HYGIENE REMAINS KEY**

As you are well aware, there has been a great improvement in the rate of new C. difficile cases, but this still remains a serious problem. The significant morbidity associated with this disease is frankly, shocking. We must continue to be even more vigilant in our infection control practices, with hand hygiene being the most important action. Our level of compliance with hand hygiene will be released

publically in the spring. We must all commit to NOT being identified as an outlier in this one important measure. Please continue to use the alcohol hand cleanser before and after every patient encounter.

## **TSH SUPERVISOR'S APPOINTMENT ENDS**

Last week marked a significant milestone in the history of The Scarborough Hospital. The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care confirmed that the Order in Council appointing Rob Devitt as Supervisor, has been withdrawn. I would like to formally thank Rob for his tireless efforts made on behalf of the Hospital. He has placed us well on the path towards a bright future. Our new Board of Directors has been actively performing its duties for a couple of months and I can reassure you all that Rob has left us in good hands. Once again, thank you Rob, and good luck in all your future endeavours.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS**

One of the first major tasks our Board has embarked upon is to develop a renewed Strategic Plan for TSH. External consultants have been retained, and we are beginning the planning process. The success of this project is highly dependent on engaging the Medical Staff in the process. I encourage you all to provide your input and guidance throughout this critical task. I do want to caution that what is being



**Dr. Steven Jackson**  
Chief of Medical Staff

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

From page 2

developed at this stage is the Strategic Directions for TSH, and NOT a clinical services plan. John Wright and I will keep you informed as we work our way through the planning and ask for your participation at focus groups, etc.

### FOUNDATION CHANGES

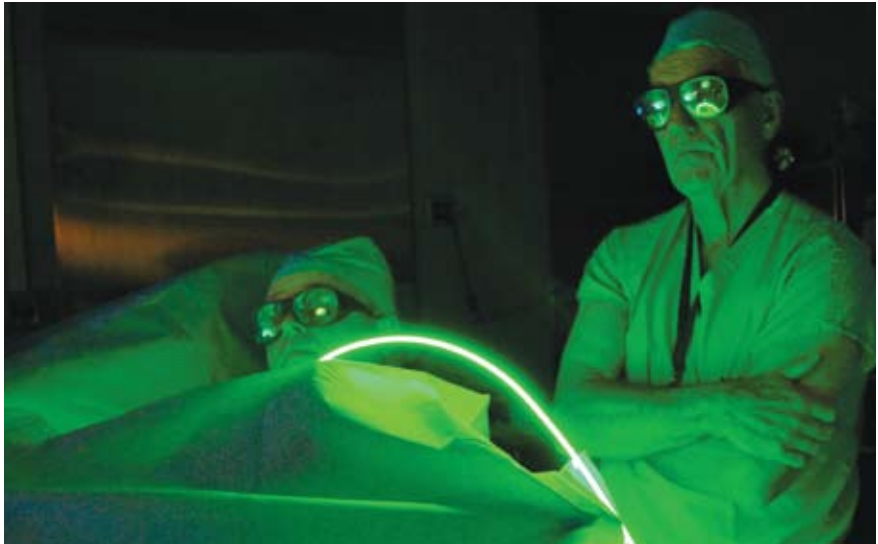
There have been significant changes at the Foundation as well. The Foundation Board now includes the Hospital Board Chair as well as the Chief of Staff and the President of the MSA as ex-officio members. A formal search is underway for a permanent President and CEO of the Foundation, while Rob Peacock, acting as interim CEO, is doing a fantastic job.

### FOUNDATION GALA

I would like you all to save May 9, 2009 on your calendars for the Annual Foundation Gala. Once again this year the Gala will be held at the Carlu dinner theatre and hospital and medical staff will be performing a version of the Wizard of Oz. It was a smashing success last year, and I believe it will be even better this year. For more information, or to reserve tickets, please contact the Foundation office at ext 6661.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I would like to wish you all a happy, healthy and festive Holiday Season. Have a Happy New Year....2009 is destined to be a great year for The Scarborough Hospital.



*Dr. Ed Woods, left, and Dr. William Baldwin have been attracting media attention for their use of the GreenLight Laser to treat enlarged prostates.*

## GreenLight Laser therapy shines in media spotlight

Most men cringe at the thought of prostate surgery, but Urologist Dr. Ed Woods has found a way to shine a high power light on the problem.

Dr. Woods, along with colleagues Dr. William Baldwin and Dr. Nick Logarakis, is now participating in a study that uses a 120-watt GreenLight Laser to treat enlarged prostates—an outpatient procedure that offers many benefits over conventional prostate surgery.

“When we generate data comparing conventional prostate surgery with GreenLight Laser Therapy, we find that laser is as good, if not better, and with fewer complications, less bleeding and less need for secondary procedures,” he says.

Other advantages include reducing the procedure from a two-day hospital stay to outpatient

surgery, less pain for the patient, and savings on nursing resources.

The GreenLight Laser Therapy was featured in the December issue of Hospital News, and on a segment recently aired on Global TV.

While TSH’s use of laser technology to treat enlarged prostates is not new—Dr. Baldwin was the first urologic surgeon in Ontario to use laser prostatectomy in 1993—the hospital has treated more patients with GreenLight Laser Therapy than anywhere else in Canada.

The Greenlight Laser study, which is funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, started accruing 80 patients six months ago and compares traditional transurethral resection of the prostate to the 120-watt laser system. Past studies have already been conducted on the lower powered 60- and 80-watt lasers.

# Welcome to our newest physicians

## EMERGENCY

**Dr. Lina Chakrabarty** - Associate (leading to Active) Staff

## FAMILY PRACTICE

**Dr. Bernard Greisman** - Courtesy Staff for surgical assisting

**Dr. Abraham Orner** - Courtesy Staff for surgical assisting

## MEDICINE

**Dr. Girish Bajaj**, MD, FRCP, comes to The Scarborough Hospital as Courtesy Staff with a background

as a family physician in India and a consultant internist in Collingwood. He was also Medical Officer at the Nirmala Health and Maternity Centre in India. Dr. Bajaj was co-investigator on two research projects in Syracuse, NY, and a research associate in India. In February, 2004, he received an award in Excellence in Teaching at SUNY Upstate University in Syracuse. He speaks English, Hindi and Punjabi

**Dr. Yaser Ali** began his medical career in his native Kuwait, and now joins us as Courtesy Staff. He joined the internal medicine department at University of Toronto in 2001, and received his certifications from the Royal College in internal medicine in 2005, adult rheumatology

in 2006, and clinical immunology and allergy in 2007. He has been a certified clinical densitometrist since June of this year. Dr. Ali is an external reviewer for the Journal of Clinical Rheumatology, and a recipient of the Lupus 2007 Young Investigator Award (2007). He speaks English, Arabic and Persian.

**Dr. Edgar Hockman** - Courtesy Staff to work in the ICU

## OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

**Ms Aviva Gao** (Midwife) - Associate (leading to Active) Staff

## SURGERY

**Dr. Sarah Wong** (plastics) - Associate (leading to Active) Staff

## TSH bradma cards being eliminated

When the staff in the Central Registration department move into their new home in the West Wing at the General campus, they will no longer be using patient bradma cards.

The low-tech cards are no longer compatible with the new building's information systems, and are in fact quite expensive to produce.

The Scarborough Hospital, like many other hospitals in Ontario, will begin printing labels to replace the bradma cards.

While there is an initiative to look at the scanning of patient records, this would require the use of bar codes that are not currently present on patient forms.

## DR. KREIDSTEIN

*From page 1*

Dr. Kreidstein's enthusiasm for his specialty goes far beyond the technical challenges.

He described a recent case of a pregnant woman who came into the ER after being assaulted.

"What saved her life is that the knife her assailant used got stuck in her hand," Dr. Kreidstein explains. "So, although there were certainly some technical challenges in doing that procedure, sometimes the biggest challenge dealing with a case on a personal and emotional level.

"It's not just a technical field; you're dealing with people who all have a story to tell."

Choosing medicine was a late

decision for Dr. Kreidstein. His early focus was on research.

"While I was interested in the academic and intellectual side of medicine, I was also very attracted to the idea of dealing with and helping people," he says. "I particularly like the fact that, in plastic surgery, at the end of the day, I can tell if I have done a really good job.

"You don't rely on blood tests or statistics at year five to decide if your efforts were successful; you can tell on the table if you've done a good job."

A father of three young daughters, Dr. Kreidstein enjoys spending time with them and his wife. But he's also a competitive tennis player, playing throughout the province on club teams.