

Volunteer Update by *Barbara Baer Pillay*

Excerpts from the presentation of the Braithwaite Boyle Volunteer of the Year Award at the NABIS AGM, June 19, 2007

NABIS' 2006 Volunteer of the Year

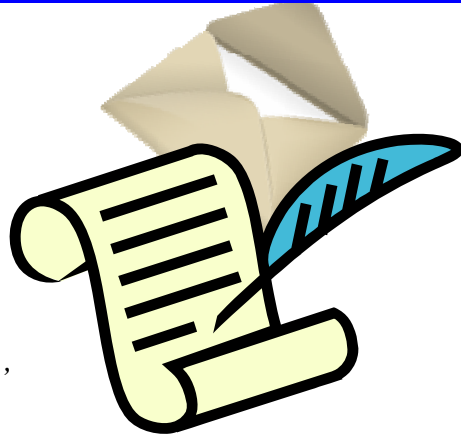
...Every Year Nominees!

- ❖ *Mike Wolfer* – our daily ‘go-to’ guy
- ❖ *John Gartner* – our skilled ‘money man’ who keeps us monitored
- ❖ *Susan Wirtanen* - our ‘social butterfly’ who makes sure everyone is included
- ❖ *Bruno Fantini* - our ‘up to the minute’ guy who keeps us informed
- ❖ *Patrick Hirschi* - our ‘captain of the ship’ committed to the long haul
- ❖ *The patron saints of NABIS - Bill & Mufty Mathewson and carrying on their tradition, daughter, Wendy.*

NABIS' 2006 Volunteer of the Year

“... I often say that **Craig Hicks** started the office volunteer program because he was the first person to volunteer to sit at a desk, in my time here, for a specified time every week and he proved that it could be done. Craig was with us for a couple of years until greener pastures beckoned him on.

So this year’s winner is someone who could have been nominated and/or won in any year in the last 8. The person winning the Braithwaite Boyle Volunteer of the Year Award this year is the person that I credit with solidifying the office volunteer job and showed us that volunteering in a supportive environment, whether you have a brain injury or not, can be therapeutic as well for the volunteer. The winner this year is **Robert Thoman**, otherwise known as Tuesday Bob or the crazy guy who actually paid NA-



BIS to work as a volunteer. Being a good retired government employee, he would actually work out how many hours he put in and then give NABIS a cheque for that amount. We would often argue with him that he should include holiday pay, sick pay, benefits, pension con-

tributions, etc. but we weren’t always so successful with those suggestions. Besides coming every Tuesday, Bob has helped with countless fundraising events, sat at tables, pestered politicians, advocated for people with mobility challenges and for NABIS; believe me, he is known and he has been our Tuesday guy forever. He will tell you it is because I coerced him but I hope it is more because it feels good to contribute and it feels good to make people laugh and it feels good to work with the NABIS staff and community. Bob will also tell you that he hasn’t

been such a good volunteer lately, snow days have happened more often than in the past, but none of that takes away from his legacy to NABIS and his future with us. Congratulations to Bob, our **Volunteer of the Year 2006** and many more years to come!”



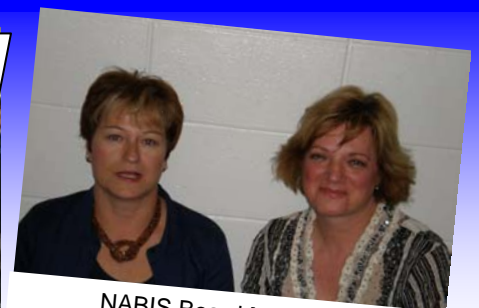
AGM Gallery



Marianne Bobik, Darlene Dube and Jean Macleod at the Glenrose Hospital



Line up for “Just Desserts!”



NABIS Board Members - Fran Zinger and Gail Matazow.