

We restore lives,
one tooth at a time.



www.blueridgefreedentalclinic.org



Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic
P.O. Box 451
Cashiers, NC 28717
828-743-3393

President Lynne Keating
Treasurer Larry Ray
Secretary Ron Freeman
Past President Ron Keller

Board of Directors:
Jodie Cook Dr. Mel Livernois
Nathan Dollar Sue Holmes
Rick Willeford Rev. Dr. Bruce Walker

The Clinic can be reached at
(828) 743-3393

The Free Dental Clinic is located upstairs in Laurel Terrace on Highway 64 East, downtown Cashiers, NC.

Financial Overview

In 2012, the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic took a giant “leap of faith” in its decision to expand the Clinic and modernize it with new equipment. From a financial perspective this meant that in addition to funding a \$230,000 annual operating budget, expansion expenses of \$620,000 would need to be secured.

Once again, through the generosity of our local supporters and a very active grant writing effort by the Board, we met our operating budget requirements. The project funding plan was to mortgage our facilities (\$220,000) and use our Endowment Fund (\$400,000) for the renovation of the facilities and new equipment. The project has been completed with better-than-plan financial results.

Volunteer labor from local churches for renovation construction reduced project costs by \$36,000. We were successful in obtaining project specific individual donations and grants of \$210,000 which have significantly reduced the mortgage and use of the Endowment Fund. We are grateful to everyone that has made this past year and the project successful. The expansion provides the Clinic with the capability to significantly increase dental services to the community. With increased patient visits our operating budget has been increased for the year 2013 by \$65,000 to cover the costs of our Dental Assistants and supplies used for patient care. We also plan to pay down the mortgage as soon as possible.

We see 2013 as an active year for our team to secure additional funds needed to achieve our service needs. We hope our community of givers will continue their support for this amazing and needed service to our community.

-Larry Ray
Treasurer

Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic

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Spring 2013

Time Line: The Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic Expansion



	Old Clinic	New Clinic
Physical space	1400 sq ft	3,000 sq ft
Operatories	three	six – potentially eight
Bathrooms	one – non handicapped	two – handicapped equipped
Admini/waiting rm	175 sq ft	375 sq ft
Sterilization	ad hoc	Patterson Module System
Dental chairs	3 used	3 new plus 3 used

Two additional operatories are plumbing and electrically complete but without dental equipment.

A Community Together Part II

As we indicated in our Fall Newsletter, in October of last year we completed Phase I of our clinic expansion project and began Phase II. The first step in this process was to move the existing clinic into the new unit and prepare for demolition. This involved a couple of “all hands on deck days” where clinic staff, board members, and other community volunteers helped set up the entire clinic in the new space. As always, you never know how much stuff you have until it’s time to move it. Nevertheless, after a few hard days of moving, the new clinic was up and running, the old clinic was cleared out, and we were ready to start demolition. Given that Phase I was a considerably

bigger space and had more walls; we told ourselves that the Phase II demolition would be a breeze – famous last words.

Once again we called on our trusty friends at the Cullowhee United Methodist Church Nail Bender Crew to assist with the demolition. Without fail, they had the entire place gutted in a matter of days. Phase II was shaping up to be the walk in the park we anticipated. Little did we know, the demolition was far from over. The next step after demolition of the walls and such was to cut the trenches in the floors for the plumbing. It was at this point that we realized that there were four subfloors in this unit and the entire floor would have to be taken out and replaced. This

was no easy task, and we hadn’t accounted for this in the budget; but we were able to get the job done with the help of our friends and neighbors.

It took a few weekends, but with the help of my fellow board member, Larry Ray, the Highlands United Methodist Church-Nail Bender Crew, members of the church La Casa de Adoracion in Cullowhee, and Amy Schmidt and Emily Williams of Vecinos, Inc. we got the old floors out, the new floors in, and the walls built before Christmas! After the new year, Larry Ray and the Nail Bender Crew from HUMC hung the sheetrock. Phase II of our clinic expansion project was now complete barring a few minor touch ups. After it

was all said and done we were able to save approximately \$36,000 because of the help and support of our community.

I know I speak for the rest of the board, the clinic administration and staff when I say that it is an honor to be a part of such a dedicated, passionate and caring community. Together we built this clinic and together we will continue to take care of one another and ensure that all of our neighbors have access to quality, compassionate dental care.

-Nathan Dollar
Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic
Exec. Dir. Vecinos

Mission Statement

The Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic delivers high-quality dental care to people who cannot otherwise afford these critically needed services. Motivated by the beliefs and core values of our contributors and founding churches, we restore lives, one tooth at a time.

Presidents Annual Report

Presidents Message

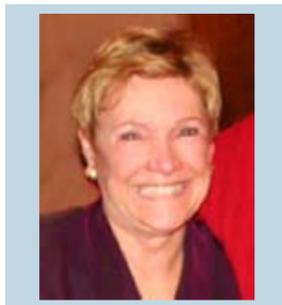
Above and Beyond

of service per year, all that the three small operatories could handle. Now with six working dental operatories the Clinic believes that it can reach 1600 to 1700 hours of service per year. One hour of service translates

roughly to one patient visit, so we are hoping for an increase of 500 more patient visits per year. That is a significant, meaningful increase.

Please stop by any time and have Karen Minton or Michelle Collins give you a tour. Thank you for your generous support. You made this remarkable transformation happen. We can all be extremely proud of what we have accomplished.

- Lynne Keating



Our new Clinic is done and it is magnificent. Very special thanks to Board members Larry Ray and Nathan Dollar, The Highlands United Methodist Church – Nail Bender Crew, members of the church La Casa de Adoracion, in Cullowhee; the Cullowhee United Methodist Church-Nail Benders and Amy Schmidt and Emily Williams of Vecinos, Inc. who put a tremendous amount of effort into the project. These folks saved the Clinic more than \$36,000.

In 2013 there are many exciting opportunities for our new Clinic and the fifteen volunteer dentists who work there. This project is all about serving more people who have no where else to go for the dental care they desperately need. A year ago the Clinic realized it was not able to utilize all the hours our volunteer dentists were offering. During 2011 and 2012, the Clinic was maxed out at about 1150 hours

	2010	2011	2012 to 9/1
New Patients	348	318	221
Returning Patients	811	825	558
Total Visits	1,159	1,143	779
Procedures	3,746	3,484	2,476
BC/BS Calc. Value	\$583,266	\$517,888	\$350,884
Operating Cost	\$191,947	\$196,751	\$147,105

Tooth Fairies

Joe and “Moe” on the Go

Buttercup (aka Joe Goldberg) is one of the more colorful and beloved individuals in the Clinic’s Fraternity of Fairies. He can bring a smile to any adult along the Cashiers and Highlands Christmas parade routes and all the kids flock to his side when he offers a toothbrush and encouragement to keep brushing. However, there is more to Buttercup than his sunshine yellow costume and volunteer spirit: he is a serious vintage truck buff.



From mid-April to late May, Joe fulfilled a bucket-list wish by traveling Route 66 from St. Louis to Los Angeles and back in Moe. Moe is a full restored 1946 Chevrolet truck which Joe has been working on for the past 8 years and today is a pristine restored classic.

Route 66 probably brings back sweet memories for most of us. Also known as the Will Rogers Highway, the road was established in 1926 and eventually covered 2450 miles from Chicago to LA and was the major path west for many seeking agriculture jobs during the Dust Bowl of the 1930s. Route 66 was removed from the U.S. Highway System in 1985 after being replaced in its entirety by the Interstate Highway System. The route was popularized by the TV show Route 66 in the 1960s.

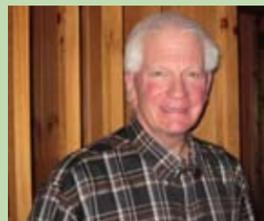
The Tooth Fairies thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing all of you this summer.

-Ron Keller
Tooth Fairies



Two New Board Members

Ron Freeman grew up in Cleveland and graduated from Ohio University with a BBA and a major in management. His business career began at Ohio Bell and he would later transfer to Miami with Southern Bell. He was Vice President Sales in Atlanta for BellSouth and AT&T retiring after 30 years of service to become Sales Vice President for Siemens Corp. for the next ten years



where he retired two years ago.

Ron and Donna, his wife of 37 years, have two sons who live in New York City. Ron stays active enjoying playing tennis and jogging. He and Donna enjoy life here in the mountains and are moving from Atlanta to live here full time.

Two New Board Members Continued

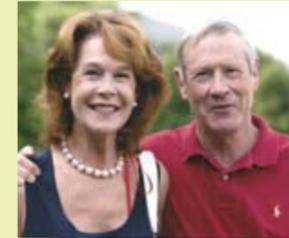
Sue Wyatt Holmes

A native of Virginia, Holmes graduated from Converse College and has served as President of the Alumnae Association. In July 2000, she concluded a five-year term on the Converse College Board of Trustees.

For twelve years, Sue Holmes was a consultant specializing in non-profit training workshops which focused on building strong non-profit boards, fund raising training, and goal-setting.

She is a founding board member and past president of the Central

Carolina Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and a founding board member and past treasurer of the South Carolina Planned Giving Council. She and her husband, Dr. A. Baron Holmes, IV, reside in Columbia, SC and maintain a seasonal residence in Cashiers.



Volunteers of the Year

In December the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic presented Volunteer of the year awards to Nathan Dollar, Executive Director of Vecinos and to Jodie Cook, a Rotary Assistant Governor. Both are Board Members of the Clinic.

In presenting the award to Dollar, Clinic President Lynne Keating cited his on-site project management of the Clinic expansion and management of bi-lingual volunteers for the Free Adult Dental Clinic in July.

Keating recognized Cook for his management, volunteer recruiting and planning of the Free Adult Dental Clinic event sponsored by the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic and held at Western Carolina University in July. Cook organized six area Rotary Clubs and a platoon from the N.C. National Guard – Sylva to form a volunteer base for the event.



Top Right: Jodie Cook
Bottom Left: Nathan Dollar
Also Pictured: Lynne Keating - President of BRFDC

The efforts of Dollar and Cook helped make the event well-run and efficient while establishing dignity and comfort for the record number of patients served.

Children’s Dental Health Program

Summit Charter School

-Jack Talmadge

There is nothing more precious than a child’s smile, and with much gratitude to the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic and Cashiers Rotary, the kids at Summit have reason to gleam. Of the 140 students in grades K-5, more than 120 actively participate in what they have nicknamed “Swish & Spit”. The fluoride rinse program brought into the classrooms weekly by the dental clinic is a tremendous benefit to the children of western N.C. With choices ranging from blueberry to root beer, the fluoride keeps hundreds of teeth well protected each day.

The Dental Clinic Staff, (Lavender Tooth Fairy included) bring a fun level of education and comfort to the kids at Summit during their rounds at school. Hygiene lessons taught by the water-spitting snake and his counterpart, Dr. Michele McDonald are interactive, engaging, and most importantly, memorable. From free dental exams, preventative treatments, continuing education, dental supplies, and invitations for follow-up visits at the clinic, the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic remains an extremely valuable and smile-worthy resource for our kids.

The Blue Ridge School

-Carol Mullarkey

Children look forward to Wednesdays because it’s “Swishing Day” for over 170, K – 6 students that participate in our weekly fluoride program. During Dental Health Month Dr. Michele McDonald visits for the Dental Screening Program through the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic and reports on the students’ dental health are sent home with them.

The Children’s Dental Health Program is “just something we do” and is a part of school that we are very proud of. Dental Education Day is when our young students fall in love with a Tooth Fairy which gives us a chuckle for months. Many thanks to Cashiers Rotary for its support and thank you, Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic.

The Highlands School

-Dr. Jim Rothermel

Early April saw Oral Examinations at the Highlands School with Dr. Chris Dyer, Dr. Bill Stiefel and Dr. Bruce Walker examining 153 students in grades K – 5. Results of those examinations are sent home with the students and as Dr. Rothermel points out, “We are making a difference.”

The Fluoride Rinse Program continues and many thanks go to the teachers and Principal Brian Jetter whose time and energy keep this important program moving.

The Rotary Clubs of Highlands and Highlands MountainTop provide funding and volunteers for the Children’s Dental Health Program which began with a lot of coaching and encouragement from the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic.

