

# REHAB ROUNDUP

Issue 22



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2008

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## Good News: A New Law to Open the New Year

By Amy Morse, CEO

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an opportunity to spend some time during the holidays with family and friends. The end of the old year brought with it a tremendous achievement and marked an important milestone for our industry: the passing of the law to preserve patient access to inpatient rehabilitation.

The new law, passed by Congress and signed by the President, halts the progression of the 75% Rule – permanently fixing it at 60%. Additionally, the law preserves co-morbidities and mandates research into the outcomes achieved at acute rehab hospitals versus skilled nursing facilities. In effect, this law allows us to manage our hospital with the same mix of patients as we have for the past two years.

The "Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007" is the result of many years of hard work by several organizations and individuals across the country and in our own organization. I view the passing of this law as confirmation that our message and position has been correct – our place in the continuum of care is appropriate, needed and beneficial to our patients and community.

I am very appreciative for the work of the Maine Hospital Association, HealthSouth, Maine Medical Center, and our own staff and physicians for the phone calls, letters, visits, and time and energy spent on this important cause. Of course I appreciate the steadfast support of our Maine Delegation in Washington, DC: Senators Snowe and Collins, Congressmen Allen and Michaud. This new law removes uncertainty from our future and sets the stage for our continued clinical development and ability to plan for tomorrow – for the benefit of our staff, our healthcare community and our patients.

## NERHP's Medical Staff Highlight

This month the *Rehab Roundup* is pleased to feature  
**Dr. Elwood Fox, Medical Director  
of the Cardiopulmonary program.**

For many of us, there is some motivational force that drives us to be the person we are when we reach adulthood. It could be a relative, a teacher, a book, an organization, a course of events. For Dr. Fox, it was – and is – a statement from his dad that he says he repeats almost every day, "You shoot for the stars and even if you don't reach them, you'll land on the roof top and not on your butt!"



Dr. Fox grew up in Bermuda. His dad worked three jobs to make sure he and his brother would have an education, a work ethic that Dr. Fox always respected and emulates today. Mom was ill and when he was about 7 years old he told her not to worry because he was going to be a doctor and take care of her. When he was 15 years old, he fell from a three story building during a school trip and shattered his right hip. He then participated in a rehabilitation program to make sure he could continue to play sports. The young "Mr." Fox was an excellent student and loved science, and with those motivational forces behind him, the paths of medicine and rehabilitation were already starting to form the way toward his future.

After graduating from high school, Dr. Fox attended Queens University in Canada, majoring in science and computers. An educator, impressed with his science and research skills, thought he would make an excellent doctor. She gave him some material on osteopathic medicine and he was captivated by the treatment philosophy. He decided to pursue a career in that field.

Continued on page 2 →

## Optimizing Patient Experience

Kathleen Stuchiner, Director, Quality Management

Developing strong patient relationships and high levels of satisfaction is challenging, but it is a realistic and important goal. Today, the definition of “quality services” in any organization includes a commitment to excellent customer satisfaction. At NERHP we are proud of the quality of care and services we provide to patients and their families. To make sure that we are optimizing our patients’ experience, we regularly monitor patient satisfaction results and recently instituted the **Patient-Centered Care Team**.

The Patient-Centered Care Team is charged with understanding our patient perception of care scores, recognizing those areas in which we excel and identifying opportunities for improvement. This group of committed staff has identified the following dimensions of care as **priority focus areas**:

**Coordination of Care:** Addresses the need to manage smooth transitions from one setting or provider to another and refers to the need for providers who work together as a team to ensure that care, services and information reach those who need it at the right time.

## An Interview with Dr. Elwood Fox *(continued from page 1)*

Dr. Fox transferred to the University of New England, where he completed his undergraduate education. It was during his first year at UNE that another motivational force affected his life – he met his future wife, Karen, who was a physical therapy student. Following his UNECOM education, Dr. Fox went on to complete his internship and residency in internal medicine at Berkshire Medical Center. A Psychiatry residency followed at JFK Rehabilitation Institute. “I enjoyed the broad spectrum of internal medicine and rehabilitation, and being able to follow the patient from the onset of a disability through rehabilitation,” says Dr. Fox.

**Why did you choose to practice at NERHP?** “Karen is from Machias and I told her I’d go anywhere in Maine as long as it was no further than Portland,” he chuckled. Dr. Fox joined NERHP in 2001 and Karen works as a per diem physical therapist in the outpatient department. The Fox family lives in Gorham and travel to Bermuda as often as they can.

**What are some of the most satisfactory accomplishments of your career?** “I call them my Maine Miracles,” Dr. Fox explains, “those patients that leave me feeling humbled and make me realize why I am in this field.” Dr. Fox says he sees patients who appear unlikely to survive, or brain injury patients, or the disabled elderly, not as a lost cause but a challenge. He wants to be able to give his patients a chance and give the families hope. Young or old, he has seen miracles that were not expected. He loves being a member of a team of professionals who never give up working with the patients. And, he has been witness to what can’t be explained. “That’s such a great feeling! To give back, that’s what I want to do.” he says.

**What do you feel are the most important contributions you have made?** Remember the three jobs that Dr. Fox’s dad worked to see that his children received a good education? The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree. Dr. Fox holds down four jobs! He practices at Riverridge Rehabilitation, as the Medial Rehabilitation Director; at NERHP as Medical Director of the Cardiopulmonary program and treats a full spectrum of diagnoses here; at the MMC Spine Center; and he has his own practice in Bermuda where he will be developing a stroke program at King Edward Memorial Hospital.

**How would your children describe you?** Dr. Fox has two children, Emerson, age 9 and Sydney, age 5. His face lit up and he exclaimed, “I’m fun! I try very hard to spend quality time with them and to give them fond memories of times we share.” When speaking about family, Dr. Fox emphasized the importance of Karen’s support. “My wife is my partner and friend. She has been with me since the early years of my medical training and has helped drive me to be the person I am today.”

**What do you do for relaxation?** Dr. Fox laughs and says, “golf, reading, music, and more golf.”

**What is your favorite meal?** Dr. Fox has fond memories of eating at his grandmother’s home in Bermuda. His all-time “Nanna” meal is mac and cheese, followed by peas and rice, green pea soup, and snapper or rock fish! Karen doesn’t agree with the soup!

**Favorite book or author?** Dr. Fox has just completed Sidney Poitier’s recent autobiography, *The Measure of a Man*. It is a very inspirational piece and his choice of reading seems very appropriate for this physician who has been motivated to do well and work hard for many years. *Let us all learn by example.*

**Information and Education:** We assess our performance in this area by asking patients to let us know about how well we explained their therapy program and expected length of stay, if questions were answered understandably by all providers and disciplines, if they were kept informed of schedule changes and if they received education and information about what to do at home after discharge.

**Continuity and Transition:** This dimension reflects the extent to which patients get the help, information and support they need to successfully transition to home or to the next level of care.

In the following months the Patient-Centered Care Team will:

- Gain insight into best practices in these key areas; and
- Recommend strategies to improve patient’s perception of care; and ultimately,
- Improve patient satisfaction scores.

The Team Members are: Andrea Feller, LSW, Nancy Lizotte, RN, Stacy Martin, PT, Jaye Sewall, Kathleen Stuchiner and Jennifer Wilson, RD.

**“Beware of your dreams, for you will surely get them.”**  
*My daily mantra...Elwood Fox, DO*

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## Americans with Disabilities Act

By Leigh Baade, Human Resources Director

With my recent designation as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Rehab Coordinator for NERHP, it seems the opportune time to briefly review our commitment to making sure our services are accessible to all our patients. As you may well know, NERHP has policies in place which ensure:

- All patients, including individuals with disabilities, have access to and can benefit from participation in the programs and services offered by us;
- All barriers to such access and participation, to the fullest extent practicable and when doing so is readily achievable, are removed;
- All patients seeking treatment are to be treated with respect and dignity;
- Patients will not be denied treatment and other services and benefits based on race, ethnicity, national origin, color, creed/religion, sex, age, mental disability, or physical disability;
- Any treatment determinations based on a person's physical status or diagnosis will be made on the basis of medical evidence and treatment capability and not on the basis of fear or prejudice;
- Services will be furnished based on the medical necessity and appropriateness of the admission or service as well as applicable requirements of federal and state law and regulations regarding the types of treatment that may appropriately be furnished at a particular facility;
- We will provide meaningful program and service access to Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons, sensory-impaired persons and individuals with cognitive disorders.

Having spent nearly a decade directly involved with the administration of disability related law, I look forward to this responsibility. Please let me know at any time if you have concerns with NERHP's accessibility of services.

## Ethics for Everyone!

By Nancy Schuster, PT, MS, Education Coordinator



We have defined the four ethical principles and described situations in the rehabilitation hospital setting which may create an ethical dilemma. Now we are going to focus on what to do if you find yourself in this predicament.

First, bring the specific situation to the attention of your direct supervisor and manager.

If the matter cannot be resolved or if you are still not satisfied, you have the option of bringing the issue to any member of the Ethics Committee for consultation. → → →

### NERHP Ethics Committee

Nancy Schuster (Chair) - Education  
Dr. Lisa Charbonneau - Medical Director  
Dr. Howard Kunin - Neuropsychologist  
Scott Peterson - Business Development  
John Bear - Case Management  
Andrea Feller - Case Management  
Deb Berg - Nursing  
Sue Morejon - Nursing  
Jessica Maestre - Business Office  
Pam Marshall - Health Information Management

As you can see, we are a group with diverse backgrounds. Committee members are selected purposefully to give us a variety of opinions and to try to make sure we are approaching the situation in a holistic, unbiased manner.

The Ethics Committee will gather information about the specifics of the situation, use the four basic ethical principles (none with priority) and make recommendations. Information may be contained within the hospital records, obtained through interviews and/or research using a variety of resources such as outside research and consultation so that we can make knowledgeable and thoughtful recommendations. We do not deal with legal matters, but refer those to a legal advisor. To maintain confidentiality, yet communicate to the appropriate people involved, the recommendations are put in writing and discussed at a special meeting. Acceptance and use of our advice is optional.

If any NERHP employee has general questions or concerns about an ethical dilemma, you are welcome to come to an Ethics Committee meeting and be added to the agenda for discussion. We meet every first Tuesday of all even months from 2:00—3:00 p.m. Of course, please feel free to contact any committee member directly if you prefer.

## Education Earmark

By Nancy Schuster, PT, MS, Education Coordinator

On November 30, 2007, we graduated our **first Rehab Technician II class!** The purpose of the Rehab Tech II is to focus on the professional growth of the CNA in the areas of Community Service, Mentoring and Teaching.

Throughout the five week course, the students attended classes in clinical teaching, orientation of new employees, transcription of medical orders and effective team membership. In addition to achieving an 85% on the comprehensive final exam, each member of the class demonstrated their own teaching and learning styles by giving a 15 minute presentation on a clinical topic to NERHP staff. Congratulations to the class who approached this "experiment" with enthusiasm and energy!



Congratulations to (F/L-R) Tracy Brown, Dawn Beeler and Kuniko Talmage; (B/L-R) Instructor Nancy Schuster, Richard Webster, Rhoda Bilodeau and Carolyn Lyden.

## From the Doc's Corner

By Coleen McGeachey

You will be interested to hear that the NERHP Medical Staff recently held an election. Back by popular demand, Dr. Syed Kazmi has been elected and has agreed to hold the office of *President of the Medical Staff*. This will be Dr. Kazmi's third consecutive year in this position. Dr. Robert Haile is the *Immediate Past President*. The *President* serves as the spokesperson for the Medical Staff and presides at all general and special meetings. Congratulations to Dr. Kazmi for his continued leadership!

And, please congratulate our Medical Director on another appointment. Dr. Lisa Charbonneau was recently named Medical Director of Inpatient Psychiatry Services at Maine Medical Center.

In December, Dr. Tom Morrione gave a great presentation titled Anticoagulation in the Elderly. It was also the last day of his three month rotation at NERHP. Beginning February 1st we will have Dr. Tehseen Naqvi with us for her rotation. Please join the Medical Staff in welcoming her.

Dr. Haile and Dr. Kazmi recently hosted another successful Medical Student Presentation in early January. This educational opportunity, initiated by our joint venture partner Maine Medical Center, has been very well received by the third year medical students. The students come from the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Dr. Anthony Kozma, a Family Practice physician who specializes in pain management and addiction medicine, is our newest member of the medical staff. For identification purposes, his photo and privileges are included in the credentialing book located on both units.

## In-Pharmation

By Vicki Legere, RPH

As Dennis Nasto, RN, CIC, discussed in the September/October issue of the **Rehab Roundup**, flu season and flu shots go hand-in-hand. Here is further information about the flu vaccine from Vicki Legere, RPH, to help you decide the best way to protect yourself from the dreaded flu.

Flu season is upon us and there are a lot of myths that prevent many people from getting a flu vaccine. This year up to 20% of Americans will get the flu, 200,000 will be hospitalized and 36,000 will die from flu. Only 69% of seniors, 40% of health-care workers and 21% of kids under two get the flu vaccine. Here are a few *excuses*:

**Flu vaccine can cause the flu.** The injectable vaccine is inactivated and **cannot** cause the flu. People who get the flu within a couple of weeks after vaccination picked it up before immunity had a chance to develop. Flumist® contains live attenuated virus. Potentially there is a risk of passing the flu only to the severely immunocompromised.

**I can't get the vaccine, I'm sick.** Vaccination is okay during minor illness. Postpone it for moderate to severe illnesses.

**There isn't enough vaccine to go around.** This is the most plentiful year ever with 132 million available doses.

**It's too late in the flu season to get the vaccine.** Flu season often peaks in February. So even January is not too late.

**Flu vaccine is only for the elderly and frail.** The more people that get vaccinated, the less it will spread. Healthcare workers, children under 5 and adults over 50, women who are pregnant, and people with chronic conditions such as diabetes and asthma should be encouraged to get vaccinated.

**I have to get a shot!** Flumist® nasal vaccine is an option for healthy people ages 2 to 50 who hate shots. People with asthma or kids with wheezing should avoid Flumist® and use the injection.

**So, what are YOU waiting for?**

## Nutrition News

By Jennifer Wilson, MS, RD, LD  
Senior Clinician Dietitian  
Maine Medical Center Brighton Campus

### Half the Fat: Your Cooking Method Makes All the Difference!



Yes, cutting back the fat and making better food choices can help you lose weight and be healthy, but it's how your food is prepared that can sabotage even the best intentions! For example, an average sized baked potato is normally fat free and has 145 calories. French fry that potato and you pack on 750 calories with 360 calories coming from fat!

#### WHICH COOKING METHODS ARE BEST?

Look toward these cooking methods to lower the fat and calories in your diet.

##### Dry Heat

**Baking, roasting:** Use the oven's heat to caramelize natural sugars and concentrate flavors while the fat is able to drip into the pan below.

**Broiling, grilling:** Using a direct heat source on a rack or in a basket allows a great grilled flavor with less fat.

**Sautéing:** Food can be quickly cooked using a non-stick pan with little or no fat.

##### Moist Heat:

**Braising:** Food is browned first then slow cooked in a small amount of liquid such as broth or stock.

**Poaching:** Food is cooked completely covered with broth or stock with little or no fat.

**Steaming:** Heat from steam makes for perfectly cooked veggies with no fat and the water can be seasoned to help add flavor.

#### COMING UP IN THE CAFÉ FOR JANUARY:

Baked Haddock

Baked Chicken Parmesan

Chicken Roma

Steamed Veggies

Baked Potatoes

Roasted Turkey Breast

Potato Crusted Baked Fish

BBQ Chicken

Pepper Jack Garden Burger

Stir Fry Chicken Teriyaki

#### SAVE THE DATES

• New England Rehabilitation Hospital Quality Fair—February 14th and 15th  
Brighton Board Room & 3rd Floor Conference Room ~ Presentations will be available to all shifts.

• National Safety Week—March 2nd thru 8th  
More information to follow.



## Safe Winter Walking

By Leigh Baade, Human Resources Director

**Remember how difficult it was to walk through and after our latest storms?** No matter how well the snow and ice is removed from streets and sidewalks, employees will encounter some slippery surfaces when walking outdoors in the winter. Each year numerous employees are injured from slips and falls. It is important to be continually aware of the dangers of winter walking. Here are some helpful hints that may prevent unwanted injuries:

- Plan ahead; give yourself sufficient time and plan your route.
- Wear the proper foot gear—shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice; rubber and neoprene composite. Avoid plastic and leather soles.
- Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles; use the vehicle for support. Step, don't jump from vehicles.
- Test potentially slick areas by tapping your foot on them.
- Walk in designated walkways as much as possible. Walk slowly, shuffle or take small steps for stability. Bend slightly, walk flat-footed with your center of gravity directly over the feet as much as possible. A sidewalk completely covered with ice may require travel along its' edge for traction. If handrails are available, use them from start to finish.
- Keep both hands free for balance, rather than in your pockets. Avoid carrying loads or carry loads that you can see over.
- Look ahead when you walk and keep your eyes on where you are going.

When these tips don't work and you know you are going to slip, try to reduce your potential injury when falling.

- Roll with the fall. Try to twist and fall backwards, rather than falling forward.
- Bend your back and head forward so you won't hit your head on the pavement as your feet shoot out from under you.
- Toss the load you are carrying. Protect yourself instead of the objects being carried.

At home, keep the walkways clear of debris, water, ice and slippery materials. Finally, when entering buildings, remove snow and water from footwear to prevent creating wet slippery conditions indoors.

### Ann Kemp, OT, Achieves Certification in Hand Therapy



**Ann Kemp, MS OTR/L, CHT**



On November 3, 2007 - after intense study and completing detailed written documentation of 4000 hours of direct patient care in hand therapy and five years of practice as an occupational therapist - Ann took the Hand Therapy Certification exam administered by the Hand Therapy Certification Commission (HTCC). The comprehensive exam tests advanced clinical skills and theory in upper quarter rehabilitation.

To prepare for the exam, Ann attended workshops, observed surgeries, completed an on-line course and logged hundreds of hours of self study. Proud of her family's support, Ann said, "My husband and children helped me study every day, whether we were in the car or at the dentist office. They would quiz me with flash cards or ask me questions right out of the study book. They really asked tough questions!"

Ann received her Masters Degree in occupational therapy from Tufts University. She has 14 years of experience in occupational therapy and has been at NERHP for over two years. Ann has a special interest and experience in the management of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

Today, Ann can add the designation of Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) to her credentials. The Certified Hand Therapist credential offers assurance to the public that the therapist has achieved the highest level of competency in the profession. According to the HTCC, "the credential is recognized by many professional organizations as a benchmark for excellence in advanced specialty credentialing in health care."

Congratulations Ann!

### Dennis Nasto, RN, Infection Control Coordinator Receives Certification in Field

To obtain certification by the Certification Board for Infection Control and Epidemiology (CBIC) means that Dennis has earned the designation of an Infection Control Professional (ICP). The internationally recognized initials CIC® are now a proud part of his credentials.

Why is certification important? The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) states, "Certification represents an ICP's and an institution's commitment to continual improvement of infection prevention and control functions and their contribution to health care and patient safety."

Dennis needed to meet strict educational and practice requirements in order for him to qualify for a comprehensive exam developed by the CBIC. He sat for the exam on November 30, 2007 in Portland. Anxious waiting finally ended with the great news of receiving his certification!

"I spent many hours studying and am extremely happy the testing is behind me," states Dennis. "The certification exam covered aspects of infection control ranging from such topics as ethylene oxide gas sterilization procedures, acceptable air exchange rates for ventilation systems, the latest CDC guidelines on treatment of drug-resistant and communicable diseases to international disease reporting standards. But, what I love about this field is that although the testing is over, the learning isn't. There's always something new."

Dennis received his BA from Pennsylvania State University and his RN from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to coming to NERHP in September 2006, he worked at Riverview Psychiatric Center and Maine Medical Center.

Elizabeth Glidden, CRRN, Chief Nursing Officer states, "We are lucky to have Dennis at New England Rehab and at HealthSouth as there are only ten other ICP's who are certified within the company!" Congratulations, Dennis!



**Dennis Nasto, RN, CIC**





- Deb McNally who was re-elected Vice President of the Maine Association of Hospital Administrative Professionals. Deb was also appointed to the Membership Committee. She has been a member of the organization for 3 1/2 years.
- Gloria Meyer RN, CRRN who has accepted the position of Shift Coordinator for the Rehab 2 evening shift.
- NERHP for being one of 21 HealthSouth hospitals ranked in the top 10% of all 827 inpatient rehab facilities in the database of the Uniform Data System for medical rehabilitation. (See the December 2007 issue of "The Messenger" for complete information - located on the HealthSouth intranet.)
- HIMS employees Roland McFarland and Jacklyn Ashla, aka Santa and Elphie, who volunteered their time on Christmas day visiting with patients and giving out presents and good cheer.
- Lashell Moon for compiling the 2008 meeting room reservation and scheduling book. This is quite a mind boggling project! Your efforts are much appreciated, Lashell, and thank you.

TO:  
→

*We are saddened by the loss of Priscilla Champagne, who passed away January 12, 2008. You may have seen Priscilla assisting Darlene Greenfield in the Human Resources department, or in the business office lending a hand to whatever tasks needed to be done. Priscilla was a huge help during National Rehab Week, hanging the art work, assisting with flyers and was a smiling and pleasant "greeter" at the patient awards ceremony. We extend condolences to Priscilla's children, Scott, Denise and Suzanne. Priscilla had worked at NERHP for the past seven years.*

## December Employee of the Month

Tracy Brown, Rehab Technician II, R1

### NOMINATION COMMENTS

"Tracy is a great asset not only to R1 nursing staff, but the entire rehab team. She always has a positive attitude and has a wonderful rapport with the patients."

"Tracy often offers to stay after hours to ensure newly admitted patients have the proper paperwork completed. She initiates helping out on the floor which makes everyone's day run more smoothly and efficiently."

"Tracy is a pro at multitasking. She easily switches gears between running the desk and assisting with patient care. She organizes patient appointments, admissions, helps transcribe physician orders, monitors therapeutic dining and provides quality patient care!"

"Tracy is a great representative of NERHP!"

Tracy is pictured at right with a very proud Elizabeth Glidden, CRRN, Chief Nursing Officer.



## "Maggie" Recognition Award

Angel Roberts, Rehab Technician I



The year 2007 ended with a happy surprise for Angel Roberts when she was presented with the **Maggie Recognition Award**. Pictured at left is Neil Schuster, Rehabilitation Manager, who presented Angel with the award, along with Amy Morse, CEO. Neil states, "Patients enjoy Angel's energy. She will encourage patients to participate if they are down. When returning a patient to their room, she will make sure the patient is situated properly and they have their call bell and personal items at hand 100% of the time."

The **Maggie Recognition Award** was established through an anonymous donation in memory of a parent to provide recognition to non-licensed and non-exempt employees of NERHP. Award winners are nominated and chosen quarterly by the Leadership Committee.

"Angel willingly took on the task of learning about the Autoambulator™," states Neil. "She is very knowledgeable about the therapeutic device and staff seek her out for guidance."

Congratulations Angel!

## It Takes a Team to Fulfill a Dream!

**NEW ENGLAND REHAB HOSPITAL**  
335 Brighton Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04102  
Phone: 207-775-4000 Fax: 207-662-8080

**SUBMIT ARTICLES TO**  
Jaye Sewall, Marketing Representative  
Phone: 207-662-8082 Fax: 207-662-8080  
Email: [Jaye.Sewall@Healthsouth.com](mailto:Jaye.Sewall@Healthsouth.com)

**DIRECT COMMENTS  
OR FEEDBACK TO**  
Scott Peterson  
Director of Marketing Operations  
Phone: 207-662-8397  
Email: [Scottj.Peterson@Healthsouth.com](mailto:Scottj.Peterson@Healthsouth.com)



The dream for Derek Denike came true when he graduated from NERHP's outpatient therapy program after 14 months of participating in the neuro-rehab program. And Derek will be the first to tell you that it took his team of therapists and friends to help get him there! In fact, Derek gave quite a speech at his graduation ceremony thanking each and every person in the room. He also gave us all a bit of the wisdom he learned from his experience. "Don't take anything for granted, because it will come back to bite you... RIGHT IN THE BUTT!"

**Picture:** Proudly displaying his certificate of achievement, Derek poses with all his therapists and friends who made up the team to fulfill his dream of recovery. When asked what was next in his life, he said, "I'm going to get a job and a paycheck!" Derek's dad, David, (front row, right) gave him a big smile!



*The Holidays  
Remembered*

*NERHP Holiday Party 2007  
~ A special time to enjoy being with friends ~*



### *Santa and Elphie Come to Town!*

On Christmas Day patients and staff were treated to the antics of the two infamous characters who somehow always remember to keep NERHP on their list of places to spread good cheer!

♪ *There was a  
Dancer  
and a Prancer  
and a Donna  
and a Vixen...* ♪

Portland Girl Scout Troup 1921 arrived in full voice ready to sing carols to patients and staff. The girls did a great job and put smiles on many, many faces. Their energy and excitement was felt by all of us. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season!

