



AUXILIARIES IN ACTION



2018-2019 AHAA President



VOLUNTEERS HAVE A HEART OF GOLD.



Suzanne Hackney

Get Well Cards may be sent to Suzanne Hackney c/o HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital, 1201 Fleming Avenue, Jonesboro, AR 72401.

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Valley
JOHNSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Verna Hill
Faye Dunson
Mary Ann Drake
Fay Dunson
Bettie Meadors



Theda Aud

1999-2000 AHAA President Theda Aud passed away Tuesday, December 4, 2018.

Memorials may be made to: First Baptist Church
701 Pine St. Arkadelphia, AR 71923

or to: Baptist Health Foundation c/o Missy Lewis 9601
Interstate 630 Exit 7 Little Rock, AR 71923

Cards may be sent to: Aud Family 97 Pinnacle Drive
Arkadelphia, AR 71923

She will be missed by all who knew her.

*Grief never ends . . . but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay.
Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith. It is the price of love*



2019 SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS

April 8, 2019	Northeast	NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital – Jonesboro
April 9, 2019	North Central	Baxter Regional Med Center – Mountain Home
April 10, 2019	Northwest	Northwest Med Center – Springdale
April 11, 2019	Valley	Johnson Regional Med Center – Clarksville
April 16, 2019	Metropolitan	Chi St. Vincent Infirmary – Little Rock
April 17, 2019	Southwest	Med Center of South AR – El Dorado
April 18, 2019	Southeast	Ashley County Medical Center - Crossett

NEW VALLEY DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

R. Carl Greathouse
2103 West 5th Street
Russellville, AR 72801
Email: rg8house@centurylink.net
Phone: 479-857-4739

Past AHAA President Sharon Sly was recently hospitalized with a severe case of bronchitis. Get Well Cards may be sent to: Sharon Sly 847 Deer Lodge Court Siloam Springs, AR 72761



AHAA WEBSITE UPDATE

The link under “Our History” which has not allowed us to access the Arkansas Hospital Association web page is now working! You may now access the AHA webpage for voterVOICE registration, download the current AHAA magazine and check for other current information.

Your website committee is happy to assist anyone at any time with questions about our site. Dean Rossa at drossa@suddenlink.net; Neta Sue Stamps netastamps@windstream.net or Jerry Berley at berleyahaa2015@gmail.com.

Your questions, comments and suggestions are most welcome.

**If something
doesn't work,
don't keep
trying it.
Doing more
of what
doesn't work,
doesn't work.**

2018 Administrator of the Year for Hospitals 100 beds or Less

This gentleman divides his time between two hospitals. Even with the additional responsibility he has remained steadfast, unflappable and with a positive outlook.

He values the ideas and suggestions from the auxiliary and does everything within his power to make it happen. The hospital has received much recognition under his leadership including the 5-STAR Quality Rating for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Only two hospitals in Arkansas received that high ranking.

He inspires confidence and creates an atmosphere of mutual respect that inspires everyone to perform at the highest level. He places great value on the auxiliary members and calls them the face of the hospital. He is always expressing appreciation for the work of the auxiliary and allows them the opportunity to determine how they can best serve their patients and their community.

This year's award goes to Mr. Gary Sparks of CrossRidge Community Hospital in Wynne.



(Submissions for the various 2018 award winners will be presented in the newsletter as space allows.)



METROPOLITAN

CHI St. Vincent Little Rock /Sherwood *Betty Pullam*

Auxiliary Board members attended the Metropolitan District Meeting; at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock and the 6 month report of auxiliary activities was given.

Left: Suzanne Hackney, AHAA President and President Elect Jan Gardner



Employees who are veterans or who currently serve in the military were honored at the auxiliary November luncheon.



Former Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders, a veteran, was the featured speaker. The Color Guard from Central High presented the flag and the National Anthem was sung. Employees were presented with certificates honoring them for their service to the United States of America.

Special cookies were distributed in the surgical waiting rooms on the Friday before Veteran's Day.



Gratuity Baskets were given to recipients at both hospitals in November.

Shoeboxes were filled, wrapped, and delivered to be distributed at Fort Roots and the VA hospital in the first week of December.



Sales were held by Dillard's and Masquerade Jewelry in November



Clothing that was not sold at the Best Cellar Resale shop was delivered to area shelters and to the women's prison in Newport.

Choirs sang in the infirmary during the Christmas season.

The Sherwood Hospital held their Christmas luncheon on December 7.

Awards were given to four outstanding volunteers.



The auxiliary luncheon was held at the Little Rock Country Club on December 14.



Judy Minicozzi, Bill Rausch, Maureen Johnson, and Paula Wilson.

Pins were presented to all others who gave from 500 — 17,000 hours of service to the hospitals. The annual report was read and grants were awarded to different departments in the hospital.



Polly Davenport and other Vice Presidents received the check from the auxiliary representing the amount of money in hours given to the hospitals.

The auxiliary board will meet on January 11 and plans will be made to visit the Arkansas Neurological Institute.

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton
Tammy Smith

Thanksgiving Bake Sale

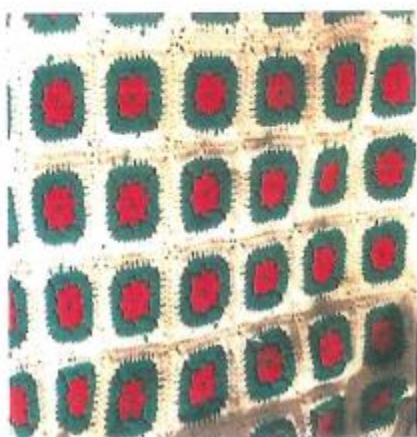


**Friday,
November 16
2018**

**Sponsored by CHI St. Vincent
Morrilton Auxiliary**

Proceeds for ongoing hospital exterior improvement proje

CHRISTMAS DRAWING **CHI ST. VINCENT MORRILTON AUXILIARY**



2nd Prize
Christmas Cheer
Hand Crocheted Afghan
Queen Size 82 X 90



1st Prize
Christmas Basket Contents
(Value over \$350)



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Baxter Regional Medical Center – Mountain Home *Volunteer Services*

On November 13th, Becky Rose, DVS, and Rich Jannick, President, appeared on XL7-TV to talk about auxiliary activities and the new recruiting program for corporate volunteers. Our hope is to engage some corporations into volunteering for our hospital and to reach out to the next generation. The auxiliary has received several applications for the program.

On November 27th, BRMC held the annual fundraiser known as Lend-a-Hand. Donations were received from many individuals and organizations in the community. The BRMC auxiliary donated \$50,000.

The H.O.P.E. committee hosted the bi-monthly Birthday Brunch. The activities continue to be very well attended since the activity is now held later in the morning and with a 'brunch' menu.

On November 14th, World Diabetes Day, the auxiliary had a volunteer recruiting booth at the daylong event sponsored by the Reppell Diabetes Center. The event was hosted by Jodi Bodenhamer, RN coordinator of the center. Guest speakers covered all aspects of preventing and controlling type 1 & 2 diabetes.

In November and December the Mtn. Home Bargain Box Thrift store hosted a couple of open houses. The open house in December included a cookie/cake walk, door prizes, refreshments, and 1/2 price sales in all departments. Also, the Flippin Bargain Box on Saturdays during these months gave extra discounts to specific groups, including Veterans and senior citizens.



Bargain Box Cashiers



Bargain Box Celebration – Jim Whalen and Bud Swim

Not only did these events increase sales, they also introduced the Bargain to people in the community Boxes who were unaware of them.. We hope for many new future shoppers.

The auxiliary Pink-A-Dilly hospital gift shop held the annual 12 Days of Christmas sale. The PAD has a special sale on featured items each day for 12 days. Over the 12 days, almost every item in the shop goes on sale.

For several weeks in December the auxiliary provided gift wrapping fundraiser which is open to the general public.



Many employees, especially the doctors with their very busy schedules, love this service. Carolyn Hannon has become well known for her fancy wrapping skills, and many look forward to the service.

At the auxiliary general meeting we collected donations for the Hensley Behavioral Health Center.





Rich and Mary Ann serving at December General Meeting



Elf and Santa with members at the December General Meeting

The meeting was attended by 100+ volunteers. The center provided a list of needed items which was mailed with the meeting reminder. The meeting included a sing along of the BRMC 12 Days of Christmas. A good time was had by all.

In January the auxiliary will have a volunteer recruiting booth at the Baxter County Library. The library hosts a volunteer recruitment fair on MLK Day of Service each year. The event is always well attended and the auxiliary considers it a successful activity.

In January we will replace the newborn blanket program with the sleep sacks. The auxiliary was introduced to the program at the spring district meeting in Batesville. We believe this is a great program and are hoping the AHAA will add it to the state supported projects.

The auxiliary board and H.O.P.E. committee will meet in January for our all day strategic planning meeting. Recruiting volunteers, as with most organizations, is number one priority.

The auxiliary board and H.O.P.E. committee are already planning several exciting events in 2019. We will host the spring district meeting in April, the annual Health Fair in April, and the Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet in April. This will be a very busy month for us.

Ozark Health Inc. – Clinton

Betty Spencer

We have had two new members join our organization and are very pleased to welcome them to the group.

There is a lot of construction in our nursing home so volunteer hours have been reduced in that area but we continue to have a busy Wednesday in our Chemo Department. Our volunteers begin at 7:30 a.m. and work until 4:00 p.m. to help register and put bracelets on our clients as well as get them logged with Carti group and weighed in.

We have had a successful linen sale we raised \$653, Collective Goods sale we raised \$792, and our annual Christmas Bake Sale brought in \$442. We just completed a Uniform 2 U 2 Sale and raised \$1359. Our scheduled sales over the past three months have been very successful.

The Executive Board met and came up with our calendar of events for 2019. We begin our activities in February with another Collective Goods Sale and our Annual Valentine Bake sale with proceeds going to our "Chris Alexander Scholarship Fund."

From our Auxiliary to all our volunteers – Have and Safe and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Stone County Medical Center - Mountain View

Elsie Grozis,

With our year coming to a close we want to wish all a Healthy and Happy 2019.

During November we held a Collective Goods sale that was well received.

Stocking the Bird Cage with our Christmas items was a busy time. An open house was held on November 30 serving punch and cookies and a good sale on our new Christmas items.

On December 1 we served cookies, hot chocolate and hot cider during the tree lighting festivities on the square in Mountain View. This has been a yearly event for the auxiliary. As always our leftover cookies are given to the Sheriff and Police Departments, Nursing Home and Residential Care Facility for them to enjoy.

We had no December auxiliary meeting. We have no plans scheduled for fundraiser events in January or February at the present time.

Unity Health Harris – Newport

Margaret Goodman

Unity Health Harris Auxiliary received the "Best of the Best" Jackson County 2018 Award For the BEST GIFT SHOP!

In lieu of a volunteer gift exchange this year, our group decided each volunteer would

purchase a gift and take to the local senior center. Our auxiliary hosted a Christmas party at the center. We brought lots of great homemade treats, hot chocolate and cokes. "Dirty Santa", saran wrap ball, shoot q-tip through straw were just a few of the fun games the volunteers interacted with the members.

Unity Health – White County Medical Center, Searcy

Jamie Laughlin and Ellen Jordan

Volunteers posed with CEO, Steven Webb at the AHA Joint Session.



X

We had a blast at convention where we received our 5-Star Award.



AHAA President Darlene Tuohy presents the Award of Excellence.



Volunteers Maxine Boggs and Dana Martin provided H.E.L.P. Stickers and Look Before You Lock tags to parents at the Searcy HIPPI program.

Several of our volunteers (below) stood tall in the survivor photo taken at the recent 25th Annual Barbara Montgomery Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon hosted by Unity Health.



We are honoring our volunteers who are veterans. They will be featured in an in-hospital publication.



They served our country, now they serve our community.

The Extra Mile Award Recipient in November was Larry McCain.



At the Rehab Christmas Party, volunteers served patients and family members, led carols, visited and gave gifts to each patient. Gill Sills read the Christmas Story from the bible.



Bake and Craft Sale was a hit this year. We had a bidding war over a cake that looked like a ham and fixings.



We adopted the basket auction idea from our Baptist Heber Springs buddies...WOW!! \$\$\$

We had a great time at the Christmas potluck, as usual. We decided to take a family picture while most of us were together.



NORTHEAST DISTRICT

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center – Paragould

Phyllis Holmblad

AMMC Auxiliary participated in the Chamber of Commerce Shop Paragould Campaign.

We partnered with Paragould Police with the Car Seat Program and presented the Look Before You Lock and HELP information and stickers.

We also have booklets for Alzheimer's Caregivers and are going to put them in the hospital waiting rooms and doctor's offices around our town. We are placing a sticker on them telling people to take them if they want.

We attended the District Meeting in Helena. It was a wonderful meeting in a very beautiful place, very gracious hostesses and a most delicious lunch.

We are participating with AMMC in a food drive and for the paper goods drive for Mission Outreach. We have purchased three stretchers for ambulatory care in the hospital; assisted with the Men's Health Fair and Women's Health Fair and we have a sock drive in process for children in Foster Care Program. We also donated to the Green County Foster Care Program for Christmas.

The first 2019 baby born was given a gift.

We plan to host a jewelry sale and a linen sale in January and February.

North East Arkansas Baptist Memorial Hospital – Jonesboro

Patsy Whitney,

The Christmas Tree lighting was November 18th on the NEA Medical Campus, The Welcome was given by Brad Parsons; special music by Jonesboro Foundation of Arts Musical Theater Performance Class. The Nativity Story and Prayer were given by Murray Benton. Our "In Memory" and "In Honor" lists were read by the staff of NEA Baptist Center for Good Grief. Lighting of the tree was done by Brad Parsons and Amye Peacock. The Night Before Christmas was read by Beth Damphousse.

Pictures with Santa were followed by snacks and hot cocoa. A wonderful time was had by all that attended.



On December 20 Santa and Mrs. Clause did a walk through at the hospital visiting over 125 rooms. They left candy and cards with each patient they visited and Santa prayed with each patient he visited. This took about 4 1/2 hours. Karen Pearce helped them.

Have you heard about Duck Classic? It is the largest fundraising event in northeast Arkansas, fully supporting the six programs of the NEA Baptist Charitable Foundation.

The banquet and dinner featured live and silent auctions with many great raffles—including the Grand Classic Raffle! Doors opened at 5:00 pm with dinner at 5:30 pm. This event raised over \$606,000 for the NEA Baptist Charitable Foundation. It was held December 6th and 7th.

Our next scheduled scrub sale will be March 5-6.

St. Bernards - Jonesboro

Dean Rossa

St Bernards Auxiliary held their Awards Lunch at St Bernards Auditorium in mid-November. Pictured are volunteers who were recognized for working over 500 hours in 2017-2018.



From left: Lynn Hubbard, Diana Zachary, Ann Ford, Suzanne Hackney, Janet Hardin, Paula Dickson, and Brenda Ward. Not Pictured: Rosalie Barber, Bruce Blackwell Craig Taggart.

On December 10, at a called board meeting, the board voted to donate **\$20,000 to the Cancer Center** to help purchase **Cooling Caps for breast cancer patients**. Dr. Khalil has been wanting these caps because they help reduce and even prevent hair loss from chemo. In addition to our gift, the Women's Council and a private donor are completing the \$50,000 needed to get the program started. Insurance does not cover this expense.



NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Emma Jean Vance

Mercy Berryville wishes you a very Happy New Year!

November we were blessed to attend our Fall District Meeting hosted by Northwest Medical Center of Bentonville.



Back Row: Juanita Baker, Jean Vance, Laten Strough, Larinda Armer, Anita Spearman, Pat Armer and Jewell Vance. Seated: Martha Bell and Leoria Brewer Not pictured: Shelba Miller and Neta Sue Stamps

At our November Board meeting, our President Joy McKinney, resigned due to health issues and our President Elect Emma "Jean" Vance became our President. Please remember Joy in prayer.



We had a fundraiser at Gifts Galore at the Carroll County Fairgrounds in November.

Pictured: Special Projects Chair Leoria Brewer and volunteer Anita Rissler.

Our annual Thanksgiving Bake and Nut Sale was November 20th.

December brought about 2 parades to participate in with a float from the auxiliary. The first Christmas parade was at Green Forest.



President Jean Vance and Jewel Vance with Lorinda Armer

The next day was at Alpena. Stuffed animals from our Thrift Store and candy were given at each parade.



Blood Drive Chair Twig McKinney and Joy McKinney

Our annual Sheets and Sweets Sale was held in December.

Checking out the goods is Treasurer Shelba Miller



We had a Collective Goods Sale on December for those last minute gifts with free gift wrapping was offered..



On December 20th we hosted a Blood Drive where all participants received a tee shirt. We had 32 come to donate and there were 25 units collected.

The board was honored with an appreciation lunch prior to their December meeting.

Plans for the coming year include sponsoring two tables at the Mercy Berryville Black and White Ball February 9th.

Mercy Hospital Northwest AR – Rogers
Shirley Long

Christmas trees at the hospital gift shop.



Mercy Rogers Gathering to Celebrate Christmas
Sister Anita greets members.





Santa with one of our therapy dogs and a volunteer elf.

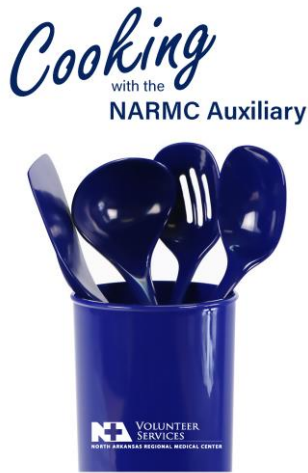


Members sign to receive a “branch” from the Mercy Thermal Cup Christmas Tree.



North Arkansas Regional Medical Center – Harrison

Robby Scucchi



The NARMC Auxiliary Fundraising Committee added an additional fundraiser for the holidays. “Cooking with the NAMRC Auxiliary” cookbooks. Over 100 recipes submitted by NARMC Auxiliary Members are available in the Nightingale’s Gift Shop for \$10 each. The cookbooks make a great stocking stuffer, Christmas, hostess gift and have done well for the Auxiliary. All proceeds benefit the NARMC Auxiliary.

The NARMC Auxiliary Thrift Store renovations are complete. Engineering has made wonderful progress on the interior of the thrift store. The 6000 sq. foot store began its renovations in the Summer of 2018 and as of December 17th, the thrift store is completely remodeled and has remained open during the entire renovation.



The Engineering Department of NARMC has been working very hard to get the store ready for the open house/re–grand opening set for January 23rd.

Northwest Medical Center – Bentonville

Jan Dolan

What a productive and wonderful past few months we have had! In October the auxiliary coordinated a scrub sale fundraiser. Employees of Northwest Medical Center along with surrounding clinics stopped in and browsed great merchandise while the Auxiliary received a percentage of the proceeds. Thank you to the many volunteers who worked the sale and helped coordinate.

Every six months one of eight hospitals within our district had the opportunity to host the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association district meeting. We had coffee and pastries, a

wonderful catered lunch, an elegant place setting on a beautifully decorated table and an entertaining barbershop quartet. Our new CEO Steve Badger even did our opening welcome and Turner Willis our Administrative Specialist was also in attendance. It was a productive and informative meeting with just under 90 in attendance. Events like this only happen with the dedication, commitment and willingness of fantastic volunteers. A special thank you goes out to our entire Board of Directors who have budgeted and financially planned this meeting years in advance. Much gratitude to all the volunteers who helped set up the evening before. A huge shout out to all the volunteers who attended which means you were put to work.

Our December activities included the Auxiliary Board Christmas Luncheon at Fred's Hickory Inn in Bentonville and the Volunteer Christmas Party held at the Arvest Conference Center in downtown Bentonville.

Five of our volunteers (Joan Schroeder, Norma Russell, Georgia Heginbotham, Rose Engelken & Jan Dolan) popped over 250 bags of popcorn which were delivered to the entire staff! Several of our volunteers helped with the staff Christmas luncheon by distributing gifts and helping to serve lunch.

Above and Beyond

By Beth Bolena, Volunteer Coordinator

Just when we thought it was impossible to do more.... these wonderful people did:

Jan Dolan & Julie Amos- Simply amazing! Our AHAA district meeting was fantastic. These two ladies put in an incredible amount of time and dedication and it showed.

Thank goodness for fast thinking to a big problem! Ron Herold was an absolute lifesaver to a "tablecloth dilemma". Ron - you have no idea how much you and your wonderful church was appreciated!!

Sheila Biggerstaff and Rose Engelken - You both are the best elves ever! Thank you for all your help in sewing the Christmas Stockings for our new December babies born at Northwest Medical Bentonville.

Welcome!

So excited to introduce 6 new members to our team!

Nancy Weiser - Gift Shop Wednesday pm

Virginia McCabe - Front Desk Monday am

Thelma Gibson - Front Desk Monday pm

Gus Bradley - Front Desk Monday pm

Gerry Archibald - Courtesy Cart Thursday pm

Cheryl Cardin - Front desk Friday am



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Chicot Memorial Medical Center – Lake Village

Dean Ann Smith

On September 10, 2018, the Housekeeping staff were given treats in honor of our Employee Appreciation Program and on September 17, 2018, we honored the Rehabilitation staff.

Fall Mall was on September 27, 2018. This is our annual fundraiser for the hospital in the fall where we sell our baked goods such as cakes, pies, etc. and our cooked foods such as lasagna and various casseroles. We also sell plants, home-canned foods, have a white elephant sale, etc. We also have a raffle for a razorback afghan made by one of our auxiliary ladies. This year one of our own auxiliaries won the afghan.

In October, three of our auxiliaries went to the 60th annual state convention held in Little Rock. Our chapter again received a 5-star rating for the year.

Pictured is our president, Barbara Harris, receiving the certificate from AHAA President Darlene Tuohy.



On October 18th, we brought back the Breast Cancer Awareness Rally in the parking lot of the hospital.



A local radio station from across the river broadcast the rally that afternoon. A silent auction

had been held on beautiful baskets representing the various departments of the hospital and the auxiliary, and free health screenings were also offered. Free hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn dogs were available to the attendees. Breast cancer t-shirts were also sold.

On Oct. 25th, thirteen members attended the Fall Southeast District Meeting in McGehee.

November 15th we held a jewelry sale and on the same day in the afternoon, an open house was held for the new Outpatient Therapy Clinic in the old Southeast Rehab building.

We had the annual Christmas Tea Dec. 6th,



The Christmas Parade was, Dec. 15th. Our float theme was Auxiliary Elves in Action.



The stuffing of stockings was on Dec. 21st. These were delivered to the hospital and rehab patients.

Delta Memorial

Shirley Sandlin

The Southeast District Meeting was hosted on Thursday, October 25, 2018, in McGehee, Arkansas. Eleven Delta Memorial Auxilians attended the meeting.

Roseann Bradley, Irene Thomas, Patty Posey, Clarice Poole, Alice Branson, Shirley Sandlin, Maedene Weser, Audrey Edwards, Juanita Moreland, Evelyn Murphy and not pictured Debra Hawkins



Liz McKinstry, new district chair, opened the business meeting. Suzanne Hackney, AHAA President, shared with us how the number of award nominations that were submitted this year were up. Suzanne's theme this year is Volunteers Have a Heart of Gold.

Jan Gardner, President Elect, spoke to us about the state projects.

A dozen auxilians gathered in the foyer of Delta Memorial Hospital Friday, December 14th and sang Christmas carols.

Pictured are (back row) Jessie West, Jeri Brewer, Brenda Noman, Evelyn Murphy. (Front) Rose Ann Bradley, Pat May, Christina Rainey, Olene Ferguson, Hattie Watts, Alice Branson, Lorra Kelley and Debra Hawkins. Guitarist; Sybil Tanner



The group sang Joy to the World, Deck the Halls, Noel, Drummer Boy, Silent Night and Away in a Manger. This group was directed by Debra Hawkins.

The dietary department of the hospital served hot chocolate and a variety of cookies.

Drew Memorial - Monticello

Barbara Brown

The Drew Memorial Hospital Gift Shop hosted a Christmas open house on November 7. We had patients, visitors from the town and the staff at the hospital. We served cookies and punch, and we also wrapped presents for the customers if needed. We raised over \$4000 and we are reordering more items to make sure we have choices for the Christmas shoppers.



SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Baptist Health Medical Center – Hot Spring County – Malvern

Mary Rurey

BHMC-HSC Volunteer of the Month for October was Jan Specht, auxiliary president. Jan volunteers in many areas of the hospital.

Jerry Strother was the December Volunteer of the Month. He loves his job of meeting and greeting visitors and patients as they enter and leave the facility.

Our shop manager Vicki Shuff has retired as of the end of 2018. She also served as Volunteer Coordinator.

CHI St. Vincent-Hot Springs

Lynn Smith

November and December were busy, busy for our auxiliary as the year came to an end. Thanksgiving week we had a MOST successful bake sale. There was a great variety of pies, cakes, cobblers, cookies, candy, cupcakes, trail mix, hot chocolate mix and more that brought sales to more than \$1,100. The day before the sale our auxiliary board gathered in our president's large kitchen and enjoyed cooking together for the sale. It was fun!



Lynn Smith made turkey cupcakes



Peg Kuhnly & Joetta Morgan made cookies

Our Gift Shop was beautifully decorated for the holidays and running over with special gifts for Christmas. We had record sales and many happy shoppers. Gift Shop hours were extended from 4pm to 8pm each Wednesday to accommodate the night staff.

The three generations that helped decorate the Gift Shop for Christmas. Left to right: *Volunteers* Lexy Koloc-granddaughter and a future volunteer we hope, Carman Koloc-daughter and Kelly King-mother



The first Friday in December a large number of volunteers attended our annual Christmas Party.



CHI president, Tony Houston, addressed the volunteers to express appreciation for volunteer hours and gladly accepted another \$20,000 check towards our \$500,000 pledge to the Mother/Baby Unit make over. Dietary staff of CHI provided a beautiful and delicious spread for all to enjoy.



Auxiliary president Thelma Anaya presents \$20,000 check to CHI President Tony Houston.

National Park Medical Center *Dorothy Stringer*

Since our new In-Hospital Program, “Baby Blessings” started, we have given bags to 116 babies and their parents. This has been a fantastic program for the auxiliary, hospital and the community. The “Baby Blessings” bag contains a knitted hat, a bib, socks, pacifier, a set of mittens, and a sucker saying “It’s a Boy/Girl. We also include an envelope with a shot reminder and a birth certificate (DHS provided this) a “Look Before You Lock” brochure, plaque, and static cling. We paper clip this together with a questionnaire (4 questions) asking for feedback. We took the parents suggestions and ended up with what we have today. (One parent asked for diapers for a year/ didn’t happen).

When we take the bags to the parents, we discuss baby names, siblings, “Look Before You Lock”, and ask if they need anything or have any questions. We also leave a name and phone number to call if they need anything at a later date.

This resulted with the police department sending hardship cases to us (mainly car seat violations). We have provided 7 car seats to parents. We have also started working with different organizations to help parents. In one instance the parents were living in a tent. We also had a daycare call on behalf of the parents.

This has turned into a large community effort, with the different organizations working together to help with our resources. We don’t ask for names. The way we know who we have helped outside the hospital is when they send Thank You notes. Sometimes they aren’t signed, but the appreciation is genuine.

Ouachita County Medical Center – Camden

Daphne Bennett

Our annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on December 6th in connection with our fundraiser “Gift of Life in Lights”. All proceeds from this event are used for scholarships. We enjoyed good attendance from the community and were entertained by the kindergarten classes from Camden Fairview Elementary School. Refreshments were served and Santa even made an appearance!

A check for \$8,500 was presented to our President/CEO during our December quarterly meeting. This was applied toward our \$300,000 commitment for the heart monitoring system and state-of-the-art-beds.

We participated with our local police department in collecting “Toys for Tots” during the holiday season.

On December 12th we were guests at a Christmas Luncheon hosted by the hospital, and each one received a gift card for five free meals in the cafeteria during the week of December 17-21.

Our gift shop is under new management. Linda Passafiume resigned this position as of December 31st, and Jerry and Dorothy Berley agreed to take on this responsibility.

An honorary member, Mary Bennett, died on December 24th.

Uniforms 2U2 will be here for a scrub sale February 28 - March 1.



VALLEY DISTRICT

Baptist Health – Fort Smith

Alice Swain

Well the big news starting with November, 2018, was Sparks was bought by Baptist Health of Little Rock, Ark. We were busy getting acquainted with our new "parents" and learning a little

more about them. Everyone seems very excited about the change and hopeful we will continue to be one of the very best Health Care Givers in Arkansas.

Open House on the 1st of Nov. was very exciting and had a large turnout with Hospital staff, volunteers, and Community. We are all looking forward to bigger and better things ahead.

The only activity we had in December was our yearly Christmas Gift Wrap, done through the week just prior to Christmas. All gifts bought in our Gift Shop costing above \$10.00, we wrap free and all others we charge depending on the size of the box. We felt this year was fairly successful, but as someone said, if we do it to make money, we probably should quit. However, we do it mostly as a service to our employees although anyone is welcome to use our service.

I would be remiss to not mention we did sponsor a Dillard's sale in early December and that was quite successful, as everyone was thinking of Christmas.

In January we will resume our regular meeting as we are off for December.

In February, we have a Uniform Sale scheduled, and then our annual Valentine's Anything Chocolate Sale on Valentine's Day. This is something everyone looks forward to, Auxiliary members bake up anything they wish, even if it's not chocolate. We will probably wind up with a few silent auction items as well, maybe a dozen roses which is a popular item, fitting for the day.

A very Happy New Year to everyone.

Baptist Health Van Buren

Pam Henderson

We completed our Christmas Wreath Silent Auction in November. We distributed thirteen wreaths to the various departments within the hospital. All thirteen wreaths were returned decorated.



Our guest speaker at our November meeting was Kathleen Purcell from the Arkansas Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP). She spoke on empowering seniors to prevent healthcare fraud. She was a very dynamic speaker and gave us several handouts. The auxiliaries had many questions for her.

Six of our auxiliaries (below) attended the Fall District Meeting in Danville on November 9th. The meeting was very enjoyable and informative.



We completed our Cookie Jar Silent Auction in December. We had sixteen cookie jars filled with cookies to auction off. Our dietary department baked several dozen cookies.



We had so many extra cookies after filling the cookie jars but were able to sell them by the next day.

Baptist Health – Van Buren Auxiliaries had a Christmas party on December 6th. Several members were present. We exchanged gifts, played several games and had fun!



Mena Regional Health System
Sharon Jewell

Linda Johnson, Martha Edwards and Sharon Jewell attended the Valley Fall District Meeting, November 9, 2018, at Danville.



Mena Regional Gift Shop Annual Christmas Open House was held Friday and Saturday, November 16-17. Light refreshments were served and specials offered throughout both days.



Uniform sale fundraiser was held November 28 & 29

2018 Mena annual Christmas Parade of Lights was Saturday December 1st. Mena Regional Health System's float 'Polar Express' received Best in Show 3rd Place.



The annual Mena Regional Auxiliary Christmas Breakfast Fundraiser, was held December 6th from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in the hospital cafeteria. All proceeds benefit the Auxiliary Scholarship Program and hospital department needs throughout the year. \$7,000 in scholarship money was awarded in 2018.



Auxiliary Members helping with the Christmas breakfast: Kathy Rook, Sue Wigger, Peggy Murphy, Marilyn Davenport, Kathy Boone, Ewanta Turner, Melba Head, Sharon Jewell, Linda Johnson, Sue Powell & Sara Mitchell.



Tracy Hensley, Carol & Danny Miller

The Auxiliary voted to help sponsor some of the children on the hospital Angel Tree. Auxiliary member Kathy Boone volunteered to do the shopping. She bought gifts for three children from the Angel Tree.

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After Christmas sale in the gift shop: January 23, 2019 Kathy Boone and Sue Powell will serve popcorn to the hospital employees.

January 15 – February 12: the auxiliary will be taking scholarship applications for spring semester.

“As the year comes to an end, don’t look back at yesterday’s disappointment.
Look ahead to God’s promises yet to unfold.” – Buky Ojelabi
Wishing Everyone a Happy Healthy New Year!!

St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center – Russellville

Janet Thurber

November was a busy month for Saint Marys’ Volunteers. We attended Competency Training, the Fall District Meeting, and held two scholarship fundraisers - a Masquerade Jewelry Sale and Juanita’s Peanut Brittle sale. Between the two sales, we raised over \$1,500 for scholarships.

Irma & Dale are ready to sell peanut brittle.



Volunteers donated water and blankets to Russ Buss at our November Meeting.
Pictured: Volunteer Dianne Henry.

Volunteers attended the Fall District Meeting in Danville. Pictured: Dale, Carl, Katherine and Patsy. Not pictured: Janet Barbara and Carol.



In December volunteers attended a Christmas Lunch hosted by Saint Mary's, continued selling candy and finished making the stockings and hats for the December babies.

Saint Mary's hosted a Christmas Lunch for the Volunteers and presented us with new uniform vests



Katherine with her new vest.



Volunteers enjoyed the Christmas decorations and a delicious lunch

CEO Jim Davidson presented special awards to three volunteers.



Patty Arnold received the Gem Award for going the extra mile in service to others.



Kathy Palmer received the Let Me Take You There Award for greeting, escorting and serving others.



Sharyn French received the Volunteer in Excellence Award for enduring dedication to outstanding volunteer service.



Volunteers Barbara, Kathy, Janet, Wanda and Katherine show off some of the Christmas stockings and hats made by volunteers. Volunteers made over 100 stockings and hats for the babies born at Saint Mary's in December.

In January volunteers will begin working on a new slate of officers. In February we will hold our annual Valentine's Balloons and Kisses sale for scholarships.



Articles for March/April newsletter should be submitted by February 28. Please report what you did in January and February and what you have planned for March and April. Pictures are most welcome! If possible please send jpeg format and actual size – not reduced size and give information on the occasion and the names of those in the picture. Please use Word or Office format whenever possible.

Neta Stamps, Editor

