

AUXILIARIES IN ACTION



VOLUNTEERS HAVE A HEART OF GOLD.

Jan and I have just finished attending the spring district meetings and as usual I am amazed at all that you do in your hospitals and communities. The meetings were well attended, had excellent food (Did I gain weight? Of course), enjoyable entertainment, great sharing of ideas and gave us the opportunity to visit with you and get to know you and your auxiliary better. Thank you to those who hosted a meeting. We appreciate all your hard work in making your meeting a success.

I was impressed with the number of auxiliaries who had started new projects that were presented at the Best Practices Workshop at the 2018 convention. Dorothy and Lynn really did a great job with that presentation and I look forward to hearing from them at our 2019 Convention.

Speaking of convention, Mary (Pud) Thomas and Diana Ruesewald and their committee are working hard on our 2019 convention which will be on October 2-4, at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock. Put those dates on your calendar now because you are not going to want to miss this one! There will be some new vendors, interesting educational sessions and our Thursday night party promises to be lots of fun. Start digging up those fifties and sixties fashions and join us "AT THE HOP". There will be more on convention in the next newsletter.

Thanks for all that you do and for supporting my belief every day that "Volunteers Have A Heart Of Gold."

Suzanne Hackney
AHAA President 2018 - 2019

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Northwest

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NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER BENTONVILLE

Sallie M. Stucky

SILOAM SPRINGS REGIONAL HOSPITAL

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Southeast

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Shirley Wilson

Southwest

MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTH ARKANSAS

Beatrice James

Floy Garrett

CHICOT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Linda Sanders

Patricia Ann Lavender



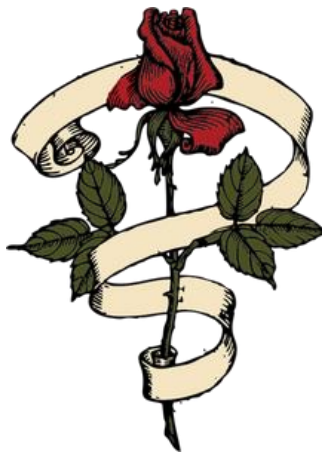
Long-time AHAA board member Pat Lavender passed away Monday, May 6, 2019. Pat served on the local, district and state boards for many years.

She was Secretary of the UAMS Auxiliary, District Treasurer of the Metropolitan District and held several elective and committee appointments on the AHAA board.

In 1998, Pat was elected state Newsletter Editor. Following two years in that position, she was Treasurer, then Secretary to the organization.

A scholarship committee was formed in 2005 by state President Nancy McFarland and Pat volunteered to be part of that group. Two scholarships were established that year; one to the College of Nursing and one to the College of Health Related Professions. As of 2016, AHAA now has two fully funded endowments in those colleges because of Pat and the committee. In addition to the listed activities, Pat served as Bylaws Chair, Convention Chair and Handbook Chair.

Her contributions to the AHAA are many and she will be sorely missed by those who knew her.



2018 Auxilian of the Year for Hospitals under 100 beds

Quiet in words....mighty in works. She works two days a week in the Gift Shop, works on the hypertension team, bakes for and supports fundraisers, served as secretary, and chairs the sewing committee. Recognizing the need for a more organized approach to the sewing projects being done, she volunteered to chair the Committee of six. She immediately worked

with the hospital to organize their needs for walker bags, comfort pillows and lap blankets. In addition, she contacted Arkansas Children's Hospital asking if they had any needs for their shaken baby program. In response to their needs, under her guidance the Committee has provided baby caps, blankets and quilts. They have also committed to make isolet covers in the preemie intensive care unit. If anyone compliments her she replies with a sweet smile, "it's not me...it's all of us working together."

This year's Auxilian of the Year for 100 beds or less is Vivian Gorton, Johnson Regional Medical Center Auxiliary.



METROPOLITAN

CHI St. Vincent Little Rock /Sherwood
Betty Pullam

The first FLASH SALE sponsored by the Best Cellar resale shop was held on March 1. Proceeds went to the hospital's Employee Assistance fund and unsold clothing was donated to area outreach agencies.



The annual membership luncheon was held on March 8 with Jo Ann Maack, curator of the Old State House, as guest speaker.

Pictured left: Ellen Mack, curator of the Old State House and Hazel Wilson Auxiliary Vice President.



Doctor's Day was celebrated with baskets of homemade cookies placed in the doctors' lounges at both hospitals.



Celebrating Doctors' Day



Dr. Newbern

Linen and Jewelry sales were successfully held.
The spring AHAA district meeting and luncheon was held at the Infirmary on April 16.





CHI St. Vincent Little Rock /Sherwood President Betty Pullam and AHAA President Elect Jan Gardner



Sister Mary Francis gives blessing.



Skip Rutherford, Dean of the Clinton School of Public Service was guest speaker



All volunteers were honored with lunch and a gift during volunteer week.

Gratitude baskets were distributed to six departments.
New Officers will be installed at the May luncheon and scholarships will be awarded to student volunteers.

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton
Tammy Smith

YARD SALE

March 15th - Friday - 7am to 3pm

March 16th - Saturday - 7am to 2pm

4 Hospital Drive
Hickey Building

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton

Sponsored by Hospital Auxiliary
(Proceeds benefit ongoing hospital exterior improvement project)



April 1st – Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Baxter Regional Medical Center – Mountain Home

Becky Rose

March 22nd the H.O.P.E. Committee hosted the birthday brunch. The brunch is at 10:00 am and each month gets more attendance. The volunteers prefer the brunch rather than the 8:00 breakfast.

March 27th the auxiliary general meeting was held in the Lagerborg dining room. A final vote was held to elect the auxiliary board for 2019-2020 BRMC year.

March 27, Doctors Day, the auxiliary provided the doctors with several baskets of fruit and a tray of cookies. The fruit and cookies were placed in the doctors lounge to be enjoyed by all.

April 9th BRMC hosted the AHAS Spring District Meeting in the Lagerborg dining room. The event was attended by about 80 volunteers from all the hospitals in the district. Jan Gardner the AHAA President-Elect attended the meeting. Unfortunately Suzanne Hackney was unable to attend due to health issues. Our thoughts and prayers went out to her for a speedy and full recovery.



April 16th the annual auxiliary appreciation banquet was held. The event was attended by more than 300. The auxiliary board for 2019-2020 was installed by Mr. Ron Peterson, BRMC President / CEO. The event was attended by Jerry Don Cunningham, BRMC Chairman of the Board and Jay Westcoat, chairman of the BRMC Foundation Board. Jay Westcoat presented the auxiliary with a \$200,000 check from the auxiliary \$1,000,000 endowment. A great meal, catered by El Chicos, was enjoyed by all.

The auxiliary participated in the annual BRMC Health Fair 4/24-4/25 at the Baxter County Fair Grounds. A booth for volunteer recruiting was staffed by BRMC auxiliary volunteers.

Preparations are being made to attend the annual Kiwanis Kids Safety Fair. The auxiliary will have several booths to provide state project materials. The BRMC EMTs usually provide kids helmets and auxiliary volunteers are there to immediately attach the H.E.L.P. stickers, as well as the Look Before You Lock AHAA State project.

The auxiliary will provide a donation to support the Mruk Family Education Centers annual 'Hanging Out in the Hanger' fundraising event. The event will be held at the Baxter County airport 5/11 from 5-8pm.

Stone County Medical Center - Mountain View

Frances Bullard

The North Central District Spring meeting was held at Baxter Regional Hospital in Mountain Home, and it was very good. We were updated on the various Auxiliaries' activities, and several mentioned growing our Auxiliaries. We also enjoyed the hospital administrator's speech. The lunch was very delicious, and we appreciate Baxter Regional for their hospitality.

Socks and underwear for Pre-K through Middle School students are still being donated at each monthly meeting or added to the "Donation Station" in our gift shop. The distribution date has been changed to August 2. We will continue to collect Best Choice labels also.

Our Auxiliary likes to support local schools and organizations; therefore, we donated a gift basket for Ozarka College's Luncheon and Style Show in March and a gift basket for the FFA Banquet at Mountain View High School in April.



Our quarterly fundraiser, Collective Goods, was here April 18 and 19, and it went well; therefore, they plan to return in October. Our May fundraiser is a Mother's Day Basket Raffle. Various items were donated by our members and gift shop, and tickets are being sold for the drawing on May 9. We plan to have a Father's Day Raffle in June. All raffle money will fund SCMC hospital employee scholarships.

National Nurses Week will be celebrated May 6-12 with individual items of appreciation distributed to all nurses. National Hospital Week is May 12-18, and we volunteers will provide desserts for the hospital cookout for all employees.

WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Unity Health Harris Medical Center – Newport

Margaret Goodman

Due to cafeteria being closed for two consecutive days in April, putting in a new oven, Unity Health Harris Medical Center volunteers took orders for local truck vendor, placed the orders, picked up and delivered to employees who were unable to leave for lunch. The employees were so grateful and so appreciative of our volunteers. Just another way our volunteers put smiles on the faces of our employees.



NORTHEAST DISTRICT

NEA Baptist Hospital – Jonesboro

Patsy Whitney

The Semi Annual District Meeting was well attended. All the hospitals in our district were here except Osceola. They had a tragic death in their group that morning.

Brad Parsons gave the welcome to all the hospitals. Mark Young, President of Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce was the guest speaker.

After Claudia Brown gave the invocation, we had a catered lunch by Chicken Shack of Walnut Ridge.

Lillianna Parsons, Brad's daughter, furnished the entertainment during dinner by playing the harp.



Saturday, April 27 was the Susan B Komen Race for the Cure. It was a great day for the race. Packets were picked up at NEA Baptist. We had a lot of participants from our auxiliary.



Upcoming Events:
Mother's Day Race at NEA Baptist Hospital on May 11.
Scrub Sales on June 19-20 and October 23-24

St. Bernards - Jonesboro

Dean Rossa

Twenty-six members from St Bernards attended the NEA Spring District meeting. Pictured are Ginny Presgrove-NEA Baptist Auxiliary member, Jan Gardner- AHHA President-Elect, and Suzanne Hackney, AHHA President, at the April 8 Northeast Arkansas Spring District Meeting at NEA Baptist in Jonesboro.



Michael Givens (left), administrator for St Bernards Medical Center, and Betty Moad (center), St Bernards Auxiliary President, present a \$200,000 check for the St. Bernards Surgical and ICU Tower Community Room to Chris Barber, St Bernards Healthcare CEO on April 24.



NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Emma Jean Vance

Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary had 14 in attendance at the Northwest District Meeting .in Springdale April 10th.



Mercy Hospital Berryville celebrated National Volunteer Week during the week of April 7th – 13th. Our Volunteers were treated to a hospital provided Pot Luck Luncheon served by Mercy Co-workers.



Hospital Administrator /DON VonDa Moore presented a Letter of Appreciation from the Hospital Board of Directors to MHBA. MHBA president Emma Jean Vance received the letter at the auxiliary board meeting April 8th.



Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary announced the winners of the 2019 scholarships offered to the graduation seniors of Carroll County. Kassidy Bell from Green Forest High School will be attending the University of Central Arkansas. She plans to major in Physical Therapy. Alex Maldonado-Lopez from Berryville High School will be attending the University of Arkansas Honors College, majoring in Nursing. He plans to become a Nurse Practitioner.

In observance of Administrative Assistants' Day, MHBA presented Mercy Hospital Berryville Executive Assistant Deana Davidson with a gift certificate.



Front left to right: Volunteer Larinda Armer, MHBA President Jean Vance, MHB Executive Assistant Deana Davidson and MHBA Treasurer Shelba Miller
Back: Scholarship Chair Carolyn Bosshardt and Volunteer Jewel Vance

In addition to her duties as Executive Assistant, Deana is a MHBA member, serving as the DVS and is also the Chair of the MHBA in house gift shop.

MHBA was represented at the Northwest Arkansas Senior Games XXXV May 3rd by Chaplain Anita Spearman and Legislative Chair Neta Sue Stamps. Two gold medals each and a total of five silver helped the Carroll County Senior Activity Center in the games.



Mercy Hospital Northwest AR – Rogers *Shirley Long*

Mercy Rogers held a Valentines Sweets and Teddy Bear Sale in celebration for Valentine's Day.



Denise McGlone, Auxiliary Treasure at the sales table.

Teddy Bear sale table.



Rona Stufflebeam, Auxiliary President Elect at the sales made table.



The funds raised from the sale will benefit our Blessings Packs project. Blessing Packs will contain things a homeless person can use and will be given out to Auxiliary members to keep available in their vehicles.

Auxiliary Volunteers and visitors made Valentine cards to be placed on every patient meal tray.

Kathy Hardy, Auxiliary Vice President, at the card table.



Mercy Hospital visitor helping to make valentines for patient trays.



Northwest District Meeting, April 10th at the Jones Center hosted by Northwest Medical Center – Springdale



North Arkansas Regional Medical Center – Harrison
Robby Scucchi

The April Meeting of the Auxiliary was the Installation of Officers and introduction of the Committee Chairs for the upcoming year. District Chair and NARMC Volunteer, Carol Evans installed the officers using bubbles.

Pictured below in reverse order: President Samuel “Sam” Kekaha, Jr., President Elect Jerry Jones, Secretary Helen Kirkham and Treasurer Peggy Jackson



Committee Chairs were announced to include: Mary Pledger- Parliamentarian, David Underwood- Legislative, Franie Bishop- Nominating Committee & Rehab Entrance, Rosemary Bonnett- Service Hours, Dickie Parker- Membership, Frances Doshier- Scholarships, Sharon Emerson- Sunshine, Ross Parker- Historian, Anne Schiber and Betty Campbell- Projects, Sue Lucas- GI Lab, Jetty Wilson- ER Information Desk, Babara Rutter- Tower Information Desk, Julie Lockett- Gift Shop, Ruth Peters- Surgical Waiting Area, Dorothy Alexa- Booties/turbans, April Bunch- Publicity, Patty Brown- Fundraising, and Bob Johnson- Thrift Store.

April 7-13, was celebrated as National Healthcare Volunteer Week in the U.S.



To honor our volunteers and all that they do, we celebrated a little early with a banquet and entertainment provided by singer/songwriter Isaac Kenneth. NARMC staff members from various departments volunteered their time to serve the meal.



A wonderful evening was enjoyed by all. Robby Scucchi, CDVS, Manager of Volunteer Services gave a Year In Review that included a total of hours for the year as well as a list of things that the volunteers have done. NARMC President and CEO, Vince Leist thanked the volunteers for all that they do for our hospital and our community. Our NARMC volunteers play a key role in the success of the organization. These dedicated people give countless hours of their time, energy and compassion. The NARMC Auxiliary volunteers provide more than 40,000 hours of volunteer time each year! They serve at our welcome desks, in various hospital departments, knit newborn caps and booties; represent the organization at community events, run the gift and thrift stores that raise thousands of dollars for community health, and much more. We simply couldn't do it all without them.

Northwest Medical Center Bentonville

Jan Dolan

Volunteers from NMCB (pictured below) who attended the April 10 Northwest District Spring Meeting hosted by NMC Springdale Auxiliary were Johnnie Shaffer, Julie Amos, Peggy King, Norma Russell, Tom Hartman, Rose Engelken, Teresa Baber, Jan Dolan, Beth Bolena and Mary Conrad.



The Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is Tuesday, May 21st at Fred's Hickory Inn in Bentonville.

We have 12 new junior volunteers scheduled to start on June 10th. These wonderful "Volunteens" are high school students between the ages of 14 and 18 with future interests in the medical field. Please make them feel welcome at Northwest Medical Center Bentonville.

*We will have six new volunteers joining our team within the next month. They are Tim Treazise & Jim Beck, Courtesy Cart; Lorna Ives, Surgery Waiting & ICU Waiting; Lonnie Smith, Gift Shop; Joan Hopkins, Front Desk; Carol Martin, 3rd Floor. We extend a warm welcome to our new volunteers and ask our current volunteers to lend a helping hand! We all know that not a day goes by at the hospital where we haven't learned something new. Whether it be helping them out navigating through the lunch room, helping them sign in, giving a little hospital history or even giving them tips on where to get the free coffee... any and all help is appreciated.

Pat & Lyle Meier have chosen to continue to lend their hearts and time by coming up with ideas and creating these adorable tray treats. These fun little items are put on our patients' meal trays throughout the day when Dietary delivers their meals. Just a little kind gesture that goes a long way! Take a look at these adorable "Tray Treats"!



Washington Regional Medical Center Auxiliary *Jimmie Beauchamp*

The Auxiliary made profits in the following fundraising areas during the months of March & April: Gift shop \$13,543, Flowers & Balloons \$2,024.

The Auxiliary made a \$25,000 payment to the Foundation. This was toward their pledge of \$250,000 for the Women's & Children's expansion.

The Auxiliary hosted a uniform sale in March with a profit of \$4,506. We also had a Masquerade \$5 sale with a profit of \$1,540

The Auxiliary ran the “canteen” for a Community Blood Center drive on March 11.



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Chicot Memorial Medical Center – Lake Village
Dean Smith

In February we held our annual Valentine’s Day Candy Sale. We sold approximately 165 boxes of candy.

Each box holds 20 pieces of homemade candy made by the auxiliary ladies. Each box is sold for \$6 each, making a total of \$990 profited from the candy.



Also, in addition, 67 Easter baskets were made by the ladies containing canned sodas, chips, candy, things from gift shop as requested, and tied up with ribbons and balloons. These were sold on average at \$18 a basket, making a total of \$1,206.00. So, for our February Valentine's Sale, we made a total of approximately \$2,200.00.

On March 4th we held our first Collective Goods Sale (new vendor) and this sale did very well.



We also honored in the month of March our dentist, doctors, registration, scheduling/business and the medical records departments by giving each department goody bags filled with our homemade treats. We have four groups of auxiliary ladies, with at least 4 in each group who comprise our Employee Appreciation Committees. We started doing this in January. Each group is assigned a certain department or departments for that month. So far, it is working out very well.



Medical Records



ER Doctor with Jean Wiley and Eileen Ward

Barbara Harris and Joyce Creel honoring our new dentist.



Dolorse Dixon and Jean Wiley honoring doctors.



Our Employee Appreciation Committees honored the CEO, Lab, Administration, Accounting, Human Resources, and the IT department on April 17th.

April has also been a very busy month for the auxiliary.

On April 13th, the auxiliary helped with the annual Health Expo held at the Armory Center in Lake Village, where free health screenings were held by the various depts. and information was made available.

Free healthy lunches were handed out to the participants. This was the third year it has been held.



In May we will have our awards banquet at the general meeting on Wed., May 15th. The Emergency Medical Department and nurses will be honored also in May. Our sheet sale will also start May 20th and will last thru June 20th. These are sold out of our gift shop.

Our auxiliary received the 2019 Care Award from Susan G. Komen of Arkansas after holding a breast cancer awareness rally last October of 2018. We plan to hold another rally this October.



Delta Memorial

Shirley Sandlin

Thirteen auxiliarians braved the weather and road construction to attend the Southeast Spring District Meeting at Ashley County Medical Center in Crossett on Thursday, April 18th.

Upon arrival, the local auxiliarians were greeted by President, Marsha Scott of Ashley County Medical Auxiliary. After registering, the auxiliarians enjoyed the delicious brunch of fresh fruits, muffins, donuts and pigs-in-a-blanket. Orange juice, coffee and water were available.

During the business session, Freddie Lipton was elected District Treasurer and Charlotte Johnson was elected District Secretary.

Two Delta Memorial auxiliarians won door prizes: Clarice Poole and Pat Livingston.

Pictured is (front L to R) seated Olene Ferguson and Juanita Moreland, standing Pat Livingston, Carrie Alexander, Clarice Poole, Christina Rainey, Jeri Brewer and Karen Donaldson. (Back row) Shirley Portis, Lillie Ross, Shirley Sandlin, Patty Posey and Roseann Bradley.



April is national volunteer month. National Volunteer Week (April 7-13) was established in 1974 and has grown each year. For the year 2018-2019, the southeast district of hospital auxiliaries volunteered 47, 166 hours. Delta Memorial Auxiliary donated 4,916 hours.

Local hospital auxiliarians volunteer during blood drives, in the gift shop and assembling diaper bags for newborns. Also each February, several auxiliarians give the Oasis Assisted Living a Valentine party. The residents are provided snacks, play games and sing. This year David Walt and Jimmy Lock helped with the musical entertainment.

A couple of our auxiliarians work on our scrapbook and others write articles, make cookies and punch for various events.

Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary members were treated to a sensational “Spring Fling” April 24th at the First Methodist Church in Dumas. The hospital staff sponsored the 7th annual appreciation luncheon for the 30 “Ladies in Pink” who comprise the Auxiliary. Those attending below are:

Seated-Karen Donaldson, Patty Posey , Juanita Moreland, Lorra Kelly, Olene Ferguson, Hattie Watts, Isabel Griswold , standing Shirley Sandlin, Debra Hawkins, Sandy Patterson,

Lillie Ross, Clarice Poole, Christina Rainey, Joyce Smith, Sybil Tanner, Audrey Edwards , Roseann Bradley , back row -Jeri Brewer , Maedene Weser, Alice Branson, Jessie West, Evelyn Murphy, Carrie Alexander, Pat Livingston , Irene Thomas, Shirley Portis, Brenda Norman and Earnestine Jenkins



We have also just held a blood drive and a uniform sale.

Drew Memorial - Monticello

Barbara Brown

The Drew Memorial Auxiliary Had a booth at the hospital health fair. We handed out the HELP stickers to the children from the schools that attended, and the Broyles Books to the public attendees. We also used this opportunity to recruit new members for the Auxiliary.



The Drew Memorial Hospital Auxiliary presents a check to sponsor a young mother through her pregnancy.



We have joined with the hospital staff in a food drive at the hospital for the Hope Place.



The Drew Memorial Hospital honored the Auxiliary with a luncheon on April 11 at the hospital. Employees from the hospital served and welcomed us to the luncheon. We received certificates in appreciation of the things that we do for the hospital. The board of directors for the hospital came and complimented us on all the hours and financial help that we have given to the hospital.





SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

CHI St Vincent-Hot Springs

Lynn Smith

At the April 12th Volunteer Celebration and Awards Luncheon, President Thelma Anaya presented Dr. Douglas Ross (president of CHI) a check for \$50,000 towards our \$500,000 pledge for the Mother Baby Unit renovation.



To date our 325 volunteers have donated 36,353 hours to CHI. Many volunteers were awarded service pins for 5 years to 30 years. The dietary staff again provided a wonderful spread for all to enjoy which included shrimp, chicken salad sandwiches, sweetish meatballs and an assortment of mini cheese cakes. Ferns on the tables had small gold hearts to go along with our state president's theme "Volunteers Have A Heart of Gold". Drawings were held for the ferns at end of meeting.



Seven of our board members traveled to El Dorado April 17th for the Spring District Meeting.



AHAA President Elect Jan Gardner, and AHAA President Suzanne Hackney
SW District Speakers pictured below.



Peggy Plummer, MCSA
Auxiliary President



Scott Street, MCSA CEO



Alex Bennett, MCSA Auxiliary
Laison

It was a wonderful event with beautiful arrangements on each table that were given away as additional door prizes at the end of the meeting. During a break before lunch we were invited to visit their new Gift Shop.



Virginia Meadow-Lynn Smith –Jean Coleman
(Jean is 99 years young and volunteers 5 days a week.)



Susan and Jo did some shopping.

Upcoming events:

May 3- Relay for Life

May 10- Mother's Day Annual Bake Sale

June 2- American Cancer Society Survivor Luncheon

Medical Center of South Arkansas – El Dorado

Peggy Plummer

MCSA Auxiliary hosted the Spring Southwest District Meeting on April 17th. Eight hospitals were represented and over eighty Auxilians attended. MCSA CEO, Scott Street addressed the Southwest District Auxiliary members at their Spring District Meeting.



MCSA Auxiliary had a grand opening for their new gift shop on April 23rd. Many people attended including the city's mayor, state officials, the El Dorado Chamber of Commerce CEO, local media and of course the whole hospital team.

Service Hours Reported: 1,702

The Auxiliary's new uniforms went in effect on April 23rd. The uniform consists of a royal blue embroidered jacket, black pants, black shirt, and closed toe shoes. Members have reported a high satisfaction with the change.



MCSA Auxiliary members gather around the new gift shops counter in their new blue uniforms.

The MCSA Auxiliary activated a Facebook account on April 22. The account titled “Mcsa Aux” (go friend us) already has 189 friends and receiving many hits on their posts.

The MCSA Auxiliary has accepted 3 new volunteers

The Auxiliary General Membership nominated and voted on their new Executive Board and the Installation will take place at our July annual meeting. The Executive Board went through extensive restructuring and we look forward to seeing the results next year.

The MCSA Auxiliary made two \$50 memorial donations to the scholarship in honor of two past members who passed away, Beatrice James and Floy Garrett.

The MCSA Auxiliary purchased two Staxi wheelchairs for patients and visitors. These state of the art wheelchairs make it much easier and safer for visitors to navigate the hospital and for Auxiliary members to be able to push visitors to their desired location.



Auxiliary member, Betty Miller and MCSA VP of Operations, Danna Taylor test out the new Staxi wheelchairs.

National Park Medical Center

Dorothy Stringer

Thursday evening, the 28th of March, the volunteers were invited to the Convention center for the NPMC employee celebration of the stars.



April 28th we had a Spring Fling at National Park Medical Center. It was a Health Fair geared toward children. It involved several different organizations including The Hot Springs Pediatric Clinic, Ouachita Campus Police Dept., Morning Star Fire Dept., Lifenet Ambulance Service, Hot Springs Pediatric Dental Center, a bounce house, a clown, an air slide, face painting, a basketball shoot, the NPMC Air Flight helicopter crew, and of course, the NPMC AUXILIARY. The NPMC Auxiliary also passed out flyers and talked to parents and the kids about HELP, our helmet safety project, and LOOK BEFORE YOU LOCK, our safety program with infants and toddlers. We used this opportunity to recruit volunteers and talked to parents and grandparents about volunteering with the NPMC Auxiliary. The following pictures are from this event.



Ouachita County Medical Center – Camden

Daphne Bennett

Our auxiliary was well represented at the Spring District Meeting hosted by the Medical Center of South Arkansas Auxiliary--twenty-two attended! We were pleased that so many from our auxiliary were interested.

Once again our hospital hosted a beautiful reception in our honor April 1. Donna Lowery was named, by her peers, as Auxilian of the Year. Our Dietary Department always does an outstanding job with table decorations, and the refreshments they prepare are beyond description. Administration presented us with a gift certificate to be used in our cafeteria for one meal per day from April 15-19. We felt humbled and appreciative. Our annual Good Friday bake sale netted \$611.



VALLEY DISTRICT

Baptist Health – Fort Smith

Alice Swain

March started with the District President's meeting, hosted by our District Chairman, Pam Henderson @ Baptist-Health VanBuren. Pam is also President of the Auxiliary there. I felt like it was a good meeting with Pam catching us up on the latest happening @ our State Legislature with all the bills pertaining to Health Care going on. She also shared with us on what is happening with the State Auxiliary, some focus on our Convention and what is expected from all Auxiliaries this year. We were also happy to hear the Valley District Chair will be Carol Shoptaw this next year, she is from Russellville.

In April we voted on our slate of officers presented to us by the Nominating Chairwoman. We will install in May at the regular meeting. Our regular program this month was The River Valley Master Gardener's, who care for our Healing Garden at our Hospital. They do a wonderful job in the upkeep, planting flowers @ the change of seasons, and keep the bushes trimmed.

We will install our officers at our regular meeting in May. Alice Swaim, President: Karen Dodd, Vice President: Ophelia McKnight, Sec.: Linda Butler, Treasurer: and Judy Thompson, Corresponding Sec. We have a great team, and I'm very happy to have them serving with me. We have just received our new smocks, royal blue with white monogramming: Baptist-Health Fort Smith Auxiliary. We have been asked by the Nursing Department if we could assist with the purchase of wheelchairs, they are extremely low with their supply. This will probably be our next challenge to help with 10 or 15 wheelchairs.

In June we are routinely dismissed for the summer months of June, July, and August. Many of us do continue working in the Gift Shop as desired. We will have at least one special sale during these summer months.

Hope we all have a great summer, get rejuvenated and ready for the fall.

Baptist Health Van Buren

Pam Henderson

Our guest speaker for March was Jo Ellen Banhart, Director of Almost Home Animal Shelter in Van Buren. Almost Home is a non-profit organization which depends on donations. Recently, they obtained a van through donations and every two weeks they transport dogs to various locations in the country for adoption. Jo Ellen was very informative and became very emotional when talking about their dogs.



One of our auxiliaries donated many, many cookbooks to us. We kept them out on tables for 8-10 days and covered them up at night. We were able to sell all these cookbooks with the exception of five.

During Volunteer Week Baptist Health – Van Buren provided a luncheon for the auxiliary members. The event was well attended and was very nice. We appreciate their thoughtfulness!!



Six of our members (below) attended the Spring 2019 District Meeting in Clarksville on April 11th. This was a very good meeting and was well attended.



On April 25th we had a reception for our 2019 scholarship recipients (below). The event was well attended. The students brought their families. Jacob Abrey, Baptist Health – Van Buren’s Administrative Specialist spoke with the students and congratulated them. Sue Walker, Scholarship Committee Chairman gave glowing remarks on each of the scholarship recipients.



Johnson Regional Medical Center – Clarksville

Mary Roper

Johnson Regional Medical Center has an awesome sewing committee. They have made many ice bag covers for surgery, walker bags for rehab, comfort pillows lap robes fidget quilts were made for senior care. Arkansas Children's Hospital has received blankets, baby quilts, Knitted Hats, lap robes Preemie sleepers, Giraffe incubator covers. Russellville, AR Hospice received quilted bed runners. New Start for Children received ditty bags, cuddle blankets, pillow and pillow cases.

This program was started from hearing of needs and answering them. Most of these things are very comforting to the people who receive them.

This is an ongoing program, with love in each stitch.

At Johnson Regional Medical center we look at the list of new patients. Each new parent gets a rose attached to a card with an encouraging verse. I have seen people cry as they say thank you. Some are so lonesome and any touch or attention is received like a dry sponge getting a drop of water.

We have been doing this for several years.

Small children get a toy, age appropriate get coloring books and crayons and teens get a puzzle, hidden word books.

We say with a smile "This is from the Auxiliary. We hope it brings a smile to your day."

Mena Regional Health System

Sharon Jewell

The Mena Regional Auxiliary recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to five students who are pursuing a career in the field of medicine. Recipients included: McKenzi Spurgin, Rebekah Williams, Kayla Blanton, Jared Standridge and Chase Fielder. Annual scholarships are awarded in the spring and fall.



L to R (above): Linda Johnson, Marilyn Davenport, Auxiliary Members; Kayla Blanton and Jared Standridge, Scholarship Recipients; Ewanta Turner and Sara Mitchell, Auxiliary Members.



Marilyn Davenport, Auxiliary Member; Rebekah Williams, Scholarship Recipient, and Ewanta Turner, Auxiliary Member.



Ewanta Turner, Auxiliary Member; McKenzi Spurgin, Scholarship Recipient; and Marilyn Davenport, Auxiliary Member.

The Auxiliary Christmas Breakfast, held yearly on the first Thursday in December, is the signature fundraiser for the group. This community-wide event has successfully provided the Auxiliary with funds to continue awarding scholarships, while assisting with needs of hospital departments.

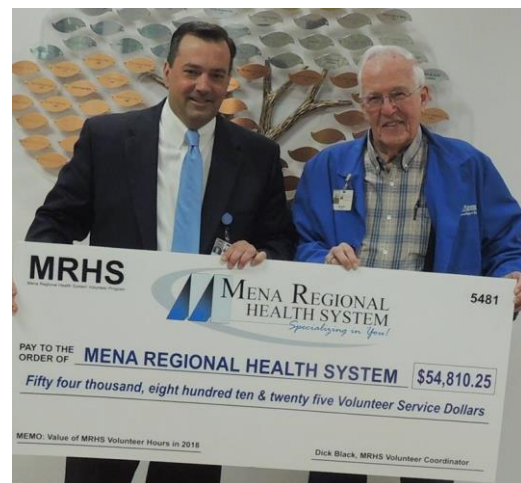
Six members of the Mena Regional Auxiliary recently attended the AHAA Valley District Meeting. The Annual Meeting was hosted by Johnson Regional Medical Center in Clarksville, AR. Pictured from left: Linda Johnson, Marilyn Davenport, Kathy Boone, Kathy Rook, Sue Wigger, and Sharon Jewell



Mena Regional Health System recently honored their volunteers during National Volunteer Appreciation Week. A luncheon was held on Wednesday, April 10th at the Lime Tree Restaurant. Silver Strings Orchestra entertained those in attendance pictured below.



Dr. Dick Black, Volunteer Coordinator, presented a check to Jay Quebedeaux, CEO representing volunteer hours based upon \$10 per hour. In 2018, MRHS volunteers generously donated 5,481 hours totaling a value of \$54,481.00.



Volunteer of the year awards were presented to four individuals in their service to different areas of the hospital.



Dr. Dick Black, Volunteer Coordinator & Melanie Walker, Front Entrance Volunteer of the Year

Linda Johnson, Auxiliary President & Kathy Boone, Auxiliary Volunteer of the Year



Mark Lyle, Chaplain of the Year & Ron Tilley, Chaplain Coordinator



Jay Quebedeaux, CEO & Claudia Brown, Surgery Center Volunteer of the Year

St. Mary's Regional Medical Center – Russellville

Janet Thurber

Spring is here and Saint Mary's Volunteers are still celebrating their successful Balloons and Kisses Sale. Over \$1,200 from the sale was raised for the scholarship fund. In March we awarded five \$500 scholarships to Saint Mary's employees. Volunteers also celebrated Doctor's Day in March by placing bags of home-made Trail Mix in the doctors' lounge. The Trail Mix has become an annual tradition and one that our doctors all look forward to.

John Shoptaw, CPA, was the program speaker for our March Meeting. John discussed the new tax laws and how they impact us and answered volunteers' questions. Dealing with taxes is a serious business, so volunteers were happy to get a tax update from John.

The April Auxiliary Meeting was a very busy one. Volunteers bravely bared their arms and got their annual TB test from Monica Baxter, Infection Control.



Monica Baxter gives Volunteer Sabrina Lewis a TB test

We also brought toiletries and bottled water for donation to the Russ Bus to help them with their work with the local homeless.

Volunteers collected toiletries and bottled water for Russ Bus.
L to R: Volunteers Patsy, Beth, Carl, Carol, Wayne and Janet.



Darcy Englin, RN, nurse director of Saint Mary's Behavioral Health Unit, was the guest speaker. Darcy shared her experience of working with her dog Martha to become Saint Mary's first pet therapy dog. Darcy explained that she saw a need to help comfort and alleviate the fear and stress patients often feel while in the hospital. Although the pet therapy program is fairly new, Darcy and Martha have helped about 30 patients at the hospital. Martha even has her own vest and Volunteer badge to wear while she's at the hospital!



In April, Saint Mary's volunteers really gave their sweet tooth a work out eating all the sweet treats provided by Saint Mary's and a local church during Volunteers' Week.

New officers were elected at the April meeting and will be installed in May. On April 11, we attended the Valley District Meeting hosted by Johnson Regional Medical Center. Our current President Carol Shoptaw was installed as the new Valley District Chair. Volunteer Janet Thurber was installed as Valley District Secretary/Treasurer.



Volunteers attended the Valley District Meeting: Pictured L to R: Paulette, Pat, Dale, Barbara, Carol, Janet, Sheila and Kathryn.



Valley District Chair Pam Henderson installs Carol Shoptaw as the new Valley District Chair.

We had a great time and enjoyed seeing our fellow district volunteers.



Scholarship Chairman Wanda Reed presents checks to two scholarship recipients.

Left: Wanda Reed & Hayley Hawthorn. Right: Wanda Reed & Kaylee Turner. Not pictured: Heidi Doucette, Andrea Level, & Faith Payne.



Coming up in May, volunteers will man a booth at the 16th Annual River Valley Business Expo; bake and deliver cookies to Saint Mary's nurses for Nurses' Day; and attend Saint Mary's Officer Installation and Service Awards Lunch.



Articles for July/August newsletter should be submitted by June 30. Please report what you did in May and June and what you have planned for July and August. 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

