

AUXILIARIES IN ACTION

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

November/December 2019

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2019-2020

AHAA President



Jan Gardner

Dear Friends,

Our 2019 Convention was a great success! We had interesting speakers, and once again, we were able to get new ideals which our Auxiliaries can use for Fundraisers, Community events, and hospital projects. The Silent Auction brought in \$2,823.00, and the 50/50 ticket sale netted AHAA \$671.00.

At the Hop was a roaring, good time, with much laughter at our costumes and skits. Thanks to Pud and Diana for working so hard on the convention and getting it all together for us.

Kathy and I have just finished our Fall District Meetings. Once again, I am amazed at the many different projects of which our Auxiliaries are involved. We have some innovative people around our state. Needless to say, we were treated kindly and generously. Each meeting was unique. They were decorated beautifully, and the food was great. I did gain a little weight, but we will not talk about it. The District Reports showed how much Kindness Volunteers generate in our hospitals.

It was fun seeing friends I have met before and making new friends. I look forward to seeing you in the Spring, if not before. Keep planting the seeds of kindness!

Happy Holidays,
Jan

61ST AHAA BUSINESS MEETING
AND CONVENTION

The 61st annual Business Meeting and Convention was called to order at 1:15 pm on October 2, 2019 by AHAA President Suzanne Hackney.

Shirl Kersey from Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, Paragould, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Seating instructions for voting delegates were given and introduction of the convention chair and convention co-chair along with the current board was made.

Registration Chair Melissa Williamson stated there were 318 registrants representing 48 auxiliaries. Linda Butler gave the Parliamentary Report. There were 54 auxiliaries in good standing; the number of delegates attending was 48 and a quorum was present.

Roll call was taken by Judy Shaffer, Secretary. A motion to accept the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting was made by Jamie Melson, North Metro Medical Center. Tommy Fowler, Auxiliary to the Arkansas State Hospital, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Suzanne has appointed three members to approve the 2019 annual meeting minutes. They are Lovonda Carter, South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center; Barbara Brown from Drew Memorial Center and Lynn Smith, CHI St. Vincent – Hot Springs. The minutes will be printed in the November/December AHAA newsletter.

Ara Yanker, Treasurer, gave the annual financial report and it will be filed for audit. Ara then presented the proposed 2019-2020 AHAA Budget. Jamie Melson, North Metro Medical Center, made a motion to accept the 2019-2020 budget as presented. Barbara Goodwin, Jefferson Regional, seconded the motion. Motion passed. The annual financial report can be found on page 18 of the 2019-2020 State handbook and the 2019-2020 budget can be found on page 5 of the State handbook.

Bylaws Chair Mary Frauenhoff presented the proposed bylaw change: The Newsletter Editor will no longer be an elected position. It will be considered an appointed position. Jamie Melson, North Metro Medical Center, made a motion to accept the bylaw change. As this came from committee there was no need for a second. Motion passed.

Darlene Tuohy, Credentials Chair, gave the slate of proposed nominees for the 2019-2020 AHAA officers:

President-Elect	Kathy Gammill, Unity Health-White County Medical Center Searcy
Vice-President	Ginny Presgrove, NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jonesboro
Secretary	Judy Shaffer, Baxter Regional Medical Center, Mountain Home
Treasurer	Ara Yanker, Baptist Health Medical Center – North Little Rock

Jamie Melson made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. Surita Hicklin, Saline Memorial, seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the delegates. The new board was introduced and the District Chairs who were elected this spring were recognized.

NEW BUSINESS:

Suzanne stated there was a situation concerning the conventions in 2022-2023 which needed the AHAA's immediate attention. Melissa Williamson explained the situation that AHA has not been able to confirm access to rooms at the Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center for a vendors' trade show for 2022 and 2023. AHA has chosen a venue in Hot Springs. The dates, however, would be different. To get the best rates, the convention would be moved to the second week in November. AHA would be in the Embassy Suites and the AHAA would be at Hotel Hot Springs. For discussion purposes, Suzanne allowed two pros and two cons. There were no cons. Jamie Melson of North Metro Medical Center made a motion to follow AHA to Hot Springs in 2022 and 2023. Leta Garrison of Unity Health – White County seconded the motion. It was approved by the delegates.

Suzanne once again thanked the Convention Chair and Co-Chair along with their committees for their work. She reminded everyone that the Memorial Service will begin at 2:00. The doors will be closed. Pages for the Memorial Service will be David Underwood, Larry Evans and Gaylor Orndorff.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Barbara Brown

Barbara Brown

Lovonda Carter

Lovonda Carter

Lynn Smith

Lynn Smith





2020 SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS

April 6, 2020	Northeast	St. Bernards Medical Center, Jonesboro
April 7, 2020	North Central	Stone County Medical Center, Mt. View
April 8, 2020	Northwest	Washington Regional Medical Center, Fayetteville
April 13, 2020	Southwest	CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs, Hot Springs
April 14, 2020	Valley	Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center, Russellville
April 15, 2020	Metropolitan	CHI St. Vincent Morrilton, Morrilton
April 16, 2020	Southeast	Chicot Memorial Medical Center, Lake Village



CORRECTIONS TO HANDBOOK

Page 6, National Healthcare Volunteer week: **April 19-25, 2020**

Page 29, correction for number of hospital beds:

Forrest City 118 beds (not 438)

Johnson Regional 80 beds (not 90)

Mercy NW Ark 220 beds (not 298)

National Park Med Center 166 beds (not 163)

PLEASE NOTIFY ME AS YOU FIND ERRORS IN HANDBOOK!

Neta Stamps, Newsletter/Handbook Editor



AHAA 2019 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

1-100 Beds	Kevin Spears, Stone County Medical Center – Mountain View
Over 100 Beds	Scott Street, Medical Center of South Arkansas – El Dorado

AUXILIAN OF THE YEAR

1-100 Beds	Loyd Holley, Ozark Health in Clinton
Over 100 Beds	Sue McLain, Saline Memorial Hospital - Benton

COMMUNITY SERVICE

1-100 Beds	Baptist Health Medical Center Auxiliary - Hot Spring County
Over 100 Beds	Mercy Hospital Northwest Auxiliary, Rogers

FUNDRAISING

1-100 Beds	Magnolia Regional Medical Center.
Over 100 Beds	Forrest City Medical Center Auxiliary

IN-HOSPITAL SERVICES

1-100 Beds	Howard Memorial Hospital Auxiliary - Nashville
Over 100 Beds	CHI St Vincent Little Rock/Sherwood



North Central

Baxter Regional Medical Center

Jim Limerick

Dorothy Kempf

George Bethke

Pat Voldness

Rudy Castillo

Northeast

Forest City Medical Center

Vivian Irene Leiting

Helen Prier

South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center

Morris Sue Wood

Dorothy Crockett

Northwest

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Keith Ham

Dolly Bunch

Southeast

Bradley County Medical Center

Dorothy P. Wisener

Our State Conventions take a lot of planning, preparation and putting together. Below are some pictures of putting together the Convention Packets.

Supervsor Squeek



Marilyn Powers, Ara Yanker and Bonnie Bennage assembling info for packets



President-elect Jan hard at work



And with the end result from left to right are Ara Yanker, Missy Williamson, Carolyn Wenger, Bonnie Bennage (front), Jan Gardner and Marilyn Powers





METROPOLITAN

CHI St. Vincent Infirmary Little Rock

Barbara Bender

The CHI St. Vincent Auxiliary is so proud of Jan Gardner being installed as President of AHAA. We are certain the kindness, leadership and organization she has provided our hospital will certainly serve AHAA well. Congratulations Jan!

We are very thankful to Betty Pullam, Auxiliary Past President, for her leadership in achieving the Five Star Excellence Award. Her dedication to the process and our hospital is unmatched.

Thank you, AHAA Leadership for awarding St. Vincent the Service Excellence Award. We are proud of all the volunteers and Administrative Staff who made the Compassion Closet a blessing to our hospital and to those we serve.

We continue to provide in-house sales for our employees. We have hosted the following sales for our staff: Jewelry, Razorback, Linen, and Dillard's.

The Auxiliary hosted a volunteer appreciation luncheon for our volunteers. We were able to introduce new volunteers along with reconnecting with current volunteers.

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton

Tammy Smith

September: Nothing to report

October: October 24th – Beans & Cornbread Luncheon & Mini Bake Sale & Quilt Drawing

UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute

Janie Lowe

The UAMS Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Auxiliary Board met in August for the annual board retreat. Sandy Henry, WPRCI Auxiliary president welcomed Dr. Laura Hutchins, Interim Director of the Cancer Institute. Dr. Hutchins talked about the importance

of the Cancer Institute becoming a National Cancer Institute (NCI) member and what it would take to get there. Susan Henry, administrator, Cancer Service Line also talked about expansion of clinic spaces and new clinical programs.

Children who have had radiation in the last year at UAMS received gift cards to Sonic from the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Auxiliary. Each year the auxiliary does something special for these children who come from all over the state.

The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Auxiliary Partners Card fund-raiser is Friday, October 25 through Sunday, November 3. Over 225 merchants and restaurants in Central Arkansas, Northwest Arkansas and Conway give card-holders a generous 20% discount on regularly priced merchandise for those 10 days. Over \$100,000 is raised each year from the sale of Partners Cards, which sell for \$50 each. The proceeds are given back through grants for cancer patient services and to support other UAMS programs. This year the efforts are to honor the memory of Robin Dean who died in June. Robin was a volunteer prior to being on the staff of the volunteer department for 13 years. She then continued to volunteer after she retired. Robin was consistently the top seller of Partners Cards each year. This is the 16th year of Partners Card.



NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Baxter Regional Medical Center – Mountain Home

Becky Rose

September 10 & 11 the Ways and Means Committee held a linen sale. Geneva Distributing provides the linens. This is one of the auxiliary most successful fundraisers. September 21st.



The auxiliary board and H.O.P.E. Committee participated in the annual Bridge Bash food packing event. Various groups from BRMC participated in the event where over 100,000 soup packets were completed. The food packets are presented to the North Central Food Bank for distribution.

The auxiliary recently purchased a new van for the maintenance department. The old van will be upgraded so it can be used for the Bargain Boxes to pick up large donations, including furniture.

A small bus was also purchased for transporting hospital employees from the new parking lot to the hospital entrances. The new parking lot was built to provide the space for the new

Outpatient Surgery Center, which will take space from the employee parking lot. Since the new parking lot is not complete yet, the bus was used to transport volunteers to the state convention.

September 27th the bi-monthly Birthday Brunch was held. Every other month the auxiliary H.O.P.E. committee hosts a brunch for auxiliary members celebrating a birthday during the two month period. Auxiliary members are encouraged to bring a friend so they can learn about the benefits of being an auxiliary member and how they can volunteer. The Ways and Means committee held the uniform sale October 14-15. A local uniform store provided the merchandise. This is usually the most successful sale of the year. The uniform sales are held twice a year in the Lagerborg Dining Room and, as with all the sales, are open to the public.

October 19th the auxiliary had a recruiting booth at the annual Lakeview Hill Billy Chili Cook-off event. In past years this event has been one of the most successful recruiting events of the year.



The auxiliary made a donation of \$50,000 to the BRMC Foundation in support of the annual Lend-A-Hand fundraiser. This program provides support for the four community houses. The auxiliary also announced a matching donation grant up to \$30,000 for the annual Giving Tuesday event to be held December 3rd.

The auxiliary will be hosting a newcomer's tour on Friday, October 25th. Our volunteers give a tour of the hospital and the services available at our medical center. We invite newcomers to attend by letter, through the newspaper and radio. We end the tour in the Volunteer Services Offices, handing out a bag of information and giveaways and information on how to volunteer with us.

A general meeting of the auxiliary is planned for 11/13. At the meeting we will collect non-perishable food for the local Food Basket. Ron Peterson, BRMC CEO, is the keynote speaker. He will provide the auxiliary with an update on activities at the hospital.

Ozark Health Inc. – Clinton
Betty Spencer

Four auxiliary members attended the State Convention; we brought home a **FIVE STAR AWARD**.

One of our auxiliary members Mr. Loyd Holley also won the **Auxilian of the Year** award for under 100 beds. We are so very proud of Loyd.



Above: Ozark Health Inc. CEO David Deaton presents Mr. Loyd Holly with the Auxilian of the Year award for hospitals under 100 beds.

We are also very proud of Kristy King our Volunteer Coordinator. Kristy will serve as the Arkansas Society of Directors of Volunteer Services **President** for the year. Kristy has been very supportive of our auxiliary since she took us under her wing.

We recently had our first Jewelry Elite sale; these folks also attended our convention as well. We had hoped to get the word out in the community but did not have as many buyers as we had hoped for. It is very important to get the word out in the community when planning for a vendor sale. We have a Scrub event as well as ABZ Jewelry sale and our annual Christmas Bake Sale coming up in the future.

Our Volunteer Coordinator Kristy King has recommended that we take orders in our gift shop for Rada Products as well as That's My Pan Products. We are planning on taking orders and having product delivered before Christmas.

At this time we are currently planning on hosting the District Meeting on the 30th of October. The center pieces for the tables were put together by residents of our Nursing Center. We have a Volunteer who has stepped up to furnish our entertainment for the luncheon. We are all looking forward to a wonderful meeting.

Stone County Medical Center - Mountain View

Frances Bullard

The SCMC volunteers have been busy with various activities. We successfully completed our Socks & Underwear Collection in August for school students through the eighth grade. We were very happy to purchase a new floor sweeper for the hospital, which was very much appreciated. Our “Get ‘Er Done” basket drawing in September was won by Mr. Ronald Younse, and he was very excited to receive this array of great gift certificates and useful items. Our fundraiser, Collective Goods, was with us October 10 and 11 with many wonderful product choices. We always appreciate their support and the support of our community.

The AHAA State Convention revealed amazing accomplishments and awards. Our hospital administrator, Mr. Kevin Spears, won the Administrator of the Year Award for hospitals with fewer than 100 beds. Pictured below with Mr. Spears are Ms. Toi McMullin, Dir. of Vol. Services & Programs of WRHS, and Ms. Teresa Linden, our President. He is an outstanding administrator and a true blessing in every way.



The North Central District Fall meeting was held in Clinton on October 30, 2019. Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation are extended to each amazing Ozark Health member. Your sincere dedication and love were very apparent by your fabulous job of hosting this special meeting. Each participant definitely planted seeds of kindness. The decorations, food, and welcome atmosphere were outstanding. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS ALL! We were represented by our President—Ms. Teresa Linden, First Vice-President—Ms. Rachelle Stewart, and members—Ms. Jean Speake, Ms. Cathy Dobbins, and Ms. Elsie Grozis. THANK YOU LADIES! (Pictured below)



Our annual Christmas Open House will be held at the hospital in December, and Hot Chocolate and Cookies on the Square will be held down town during the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting ceremonies.

A special thank-you is extended to all past and current state officers for your love and dedication to us all!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY NEW YEAR, & GOD BLESS ALL!

Unity Health – Harris Medical Center, Newport
Margaret Goodman

The Unity Health – Harris Medical Center Auxiliary members have been busy. October 24 we hosted a *Warm Your Heart* soup and sandwich fundraiser which was a great success! They sold out and raised \$481.50! The Auxiliary also recently hosted their Christmas Open House at the Tickled Pink Gift Shop.



NORTHEAST DISTRICT

Northeast Arkansas Baptist Memorial Center - Jonesboro

Patsy Whitney

We had ten people from NEA Baptist Memorial Medical Center attend the AHAA meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas in October. Joe Theisman was one of the best speakers I have heard since becoming a volunteer and attending the state convention.

We had a scrub sale in October. We made \$4,253 at this scrub sale.

On November 6-7 we will be having a jewelry sale. Engraving can be done on site. We usually make a good amount of money on this sale.

Upcoming: November 24 will be our Tree Lighting event here at NEA Baptist. We usually have a large turn out for this event.

We will have our Dillards sale here on December 11.

Santa will be here on December 19 to visit with all our patients and hand out goodie bags.

South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center - Osceola

Sonja Burnett

The Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association had the 61st Annual Convention in Little Rock Oct. 2-4. The Auxiliary was awarded the 5-Star award, which is the highest honor given.



Pictured is Lovonda Carter and Suzanne Hackney, State AHAA President.

The featured speaker at the AHA opening session was Joe Theismann, former quarterback for the Washington Redskins. He has an unusual method of relating a football play with a "Play in Life". Extremely entertaining and enjoyable.

Pictured is (right) Pud Thomas, AHAA State Board member and Lovonda Carter, Osceola Auxiliary President at the AHA Opening Session.



Arkansas' own Betsy Broyles Arnold, Co-Founder & President of the Frank & Barbara Broyles Legacy Foundation was a featured speaker at the AHAA Convention. She is the co-author of "Coach Broyles Playbook for Alzheimer's Caregivers" and is considered by many to be an expert on Alzheimer's caregiving. She has appeared on national television shows such as "Dr. Phil" and "The Doctors Show". She is a representative on the Governor's Alzheimer's Committee for Arkansas.

The Osceola Hospital Auxiliary has 15 members and is always hoping that more people would be interested in volunteering. Duties are separated with the Gift shop, open 9-4 weekdays, and assisting on the floor where needed. Four times a year there are fund raisers (SCRUB sales and Collective Goods) and twice yearly they have bake sales. All of the proceeds earned go into Mississippi County Scholarships for students in medical related degree plans. In July, we awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships.

SMC Regional Medical Center Auxiliary - Osceola hosted the Northeast District Fall Meeting on Thursday, October 24th at the First Baptist Church. There were 74 members present from the six district auxiliaries.

Mayor Sally Wilson welcomed the group before AHAA President Jan Gardner and AHAA President-Elect Kathy Gammill presented their respective state reports. District Secretary Lisa Morris and the District Treasurer reported on the NEA District Auxiliary. Chris Raymer, SMCH Systems CEO was the guest speaker.

Osceola Police Chief Ollie Collins was present and had words of thanks to Melissa Calvert's group of high school students, who were the servers for lunch. Bro. Jason Glenn gave the invocation which was followed by a delicious lunch provided by the Osceola Museum Café,

In conclusion, Dr. Joe Cornellson, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church entertained by playing the guitar and singing some country music that inspired everyone to sing along.

Throughout the day, door prizes were presented. At the close of the meeting, numbers were drawn for the table arrangements. Our next district meeting will be April 6, 2020 at St. Bernard's Medical Center in Jonesboro.

The SMC Regional Medical Hospital Auxiliary will be hosting the Fall Northeast District Meeting on October 24.

St. Bernards – Jonesboro

Dean Rossa

Thirty members of St Bernards Auxiliary attended the Annual Convention of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association October 2-4 in Little Rock.

St Bernards Auxiliary's synchronized swimmer's team performed at AHAA's Thursday evening's talent show. Star swimmers shown at right are Mary Nell Masterson, Myra Deacon, Lynn Hubbard, John Masterson, Jane Orndorff, and Betty Mode.



Eleven St Bernards Auxiliary volunteers attended NE ARK District's Fall Meeting Oct 24, 2019 in Osceola.

Pictured below is the head table: Diana Ruesewald (St Bernards) - District Treasurer; Lisa Morris (St Bernards)-District Secretary; Jan Gardner-State AHHA President; Kathy Gammill-AHAA President Elect; Mary Nell Masterson (St Bernards)-NEA District Chair and Lovonda Carter-SMCRMC Auxiliary President.



NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Emma Jean Vance,

Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary was privileged to attend the State Meeting of the AHAA in October. Those attending were Emma Jean Vance-President, Leoria Brewer-Secretary, Anita Spearman -State Projects chair, Neta Sue Stamps-Publicity Chair and Legislative Chair, Shelba Miller-Treasurer, and Deana Davidson, our Liaison, Gift shop chair and Junior Auxiliary Chair.

Ready For The Hop – Neta Stamps, Jean Vance, Anita Spearman and Shelba Miller



We received a 5-star award and our Neta Sue Stamps won one of the 5 door prizes awarded after the AHA Key note speaker Joe Theismann.

We continue to work on the reopening of our thrift store which involves remodeling at a new location.

Mary Jo Painting the
Storage Trailer



Shelba and Char Painting in the corner



We had 8 volunteers attend the Northwest District Meeting hosted by Siloam Springs. Those attending were Neta Sue Stamps, Leoria Brewer, Juanita Baker, Laurinda Armer, Pat Armer, Martha Bell, Joy McKinney, and Emma Jean Vance. (Pictured below.)



In the coming weeks we will have our annual nut sale, our sweets and sheets sale, as well as our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale.

We wish you all the happiest of Holidays and hope you will make an effort to take some time for your family and friends.

Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas - Rogers

Shirley Long

Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas Auxiliary was invited to the Foundation Donor Event in recognition for contributions for the new tower.

Shirley Long and Kathy Hardy represented the Auxiliary at the Donor event



Members attended the State Convention in Little Rock:
 Below left: Christy, Auxiliary Secretary and Holli Oliver DVS and right: Denise McGlone, Treasure and Rona Sufflebean



We were honored to receive the Community Service Award for Hospitals over 100 Beds for our Blessing Bags Project.



Auxiliary members gathered for a tour of the new hospital addition.

Even the Therapy Dogs join in!



A celebration was held after the tour for Community Service Award and our 5 Star Award received at State convention.



Seven auxiliary members attended Fall District meeting hosted by Siloam Springs Auxiliary.



Members awarded Door Prizes were: (left) Ronna Shufflebean and (right) Darlene and Jerry Touhy



North Arkansas Regional Medical Center – Harrison *Robby Scucchi*

North Arkansas Regional Medical Center (NARMC) Auxiliary is proud to partner with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to sign up children at birth. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library sends children, birth to 5-year-olds of age, a brand new age appropriate book every month at no cost to the families. An average of 472 babies is born at NARMC yearly from the 25 counties in AK and MO. Since starting the Imagination Library at NARMC on October 4, 2019, 42 babies have been signed up.

Pictured below (L to R): NARMC Women's Services Manager, Dawn Brown, BSN, RN; Gina Rudder, NARMC Auxiliary, Ken Savells, Boone County Imagination Library, Mary Pledger,

NARMC Auxiliary and Vicky Cannady, NARMC Auxiliary display the bears that accompany the sign up information.



A number of members attended the AHAA State Convention October 2 – 4 in Little Rock.



Northwest Medical Center – Bentonville

Jan Dolan

Volunteers from NMCB who attended the October 29 Northwest District Spring Meeting sponsored by Siloam Springs Regional Hospital Auxiliary were (back row) Jan Dolan, Timm Treazie, Beth Bolena, Nan Wood & Julie Amos; (front row) Johnnie Shafer, Nancy Ortman, Joan Schroeder, Georgia Heginbotham, Rose Engleken, Norma Russell and Mary Conrad.



Nathan Adams' Eagle Scout Service project was building a storage shed for our Auxiliary Courtesy Cart supplies. We are delighted with the results. Our heartfelt thanks to Nathan Adams, his Dad Geoff & his brother Ryan for their hard work on this project!



Above and Beyond
By Beth Bolena, Volunteer Coordinator

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

What a great representation at the Northwest Medical Center Baby Fair! Rose Engleken and Georgia Heginbotham did us proud!

Also, thank you to Elaine Roth, Joyce Whittlesey, Millie and Don Kerr for jumping in and helping fill goodie bags for the Baby Fair. It was a team effort and it was greatly appreciated by the hospital and maternity floor

Special Shout out to ALL our Courtesy Cart Drivers! Jim Beck, Louise Working, Ron Herold, Bill Thompson, Jack Stevens, Timm Treazise and Ed Christner. "Weather or not here they come"! Rain and temperature doesn't stop them. This team is incredible. Timm received his first "gratuity", (although he of course turned it down) and Louise came up with an awesome idea to offer guests small bottled waters. Thank you to all of you!

Thank you to Fred Olson and Tom Hartman for being "Super Subs". Their extra shifts sure did help out the front desk and Surgery Waiting during our time in need.

Emergency Department had a “little” project they asked us to do.... 9 boxes later Hannah Curry and Tammy Easter checked it off the to do list. (They stayed until 5:00 one evening.)



SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Chicot Memorial Medical Center - Lake Village

Dean Ann Smith

In September, we honored our Housekeeping, Outpatient Therapy, and the Emergency Room nurses.

A welcome tea was held September 12, to welcome our Mr. Luther Lewis, our new CEO.



Our Fall Mall was held September 26th and we raised a little over \$2,000 for the hospital.



In October, we honored our Food Services, Physician's Assistant, Pharmacy, and Case Management. On October 17th, we held the breast cancer rally and it was a great success.

Various departments of the hospital and local businesses contributed to making baskets representing their business or service for the silent auction bidding.



Also, on a very rainy day, October 21st, eleven members of the auxiliary attended the Fall District Meeting in Warren.

Coming up in November will be the continuation of our sheet sale, Collective Goods Sale - November 14th and 15th. Then in December we will have the Christmas Tea for the employees December 5th and the Razorback Sale Dec. 10, 11, and 12th.

Delta Memorial Hospital –Dumas *Shirley Sandlin*

On Wednesday, October 3, Christina Rainey and Shirley Sandlin attended the 60th Convention and Annual Meeting of AHAA at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock.

After spending considerable time with various vendors, Rainey and Sandlin attended the general business meeting, memorial service and legislative advocacy meeting in the Ambassador III-IV.

Below Left to right, Clarice Pool, secretary, Christina Rainey, legislative chair and gift shop manager and President, Shirley Sandlin



The next day, Jeri Brewer, Rainey and Sandlin attended the Awards Luncheon. Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary received a 5 Star Award. By meeting a certain criteria, 5 stars is the highest award an auxiliary can receive in a year. The state is divided into 7 districts with Dumas being in the Southeast District.

Our auxiliary was second in the district in making donations with Drew Memorial in Monticello being first. Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary donated 4,916 volunteer hours for this past year.

Delicious food, positive conversations, good deeds and community service were the focus of the members of DMH auxiliary members present at the October 17, 2019 meeting.

President Shirley Sandlin called the meeting to order by thanking attendees for their presence and acknowledging members who helped with the rummage sale which procured funds for Susan Coleman Cancer Research .Members were handed 25 Tree Lighting cards to sell to help obtain money for scholarships to be given to a student pursuing a degree in nursing.

New business included activities designed to aid the auxiliary in its quest to benefit the community. On Friday, November 22 from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p .m. the auxiliary will be hosting Collective Goods”.

On Tuesday, November 26, at 10:00 a.m. the group will host a bake sale in the board room of the hospital.

Twelve in the group were set to attend the Southeast District Meeting, Monday, October 21 in Warren, Arkansas.

DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home

Mary N. Jacobs West

DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home Annual Auxiliary Christmas Cottage will be held Saturday, November 9, 2019 at the Arkansas County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building 9 AM – 2 PM
Admission is \$3.

During this holiday season DHNH Auxiliary is very thankful for all the auxiliaries throughout our state working in support of our hospitals and nursing homes. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all.

McGehee Hospital

Azzie McGehee

Four members of the McGehee Hospital Auxiliary attended the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association (AHAA) 61st Convention and Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock, AR on Wednesday, October 2-4, 2019. The four members attending were Azzie McGehee, Barbara Richardson, Bobbie Richardson and Cynthia Smith.

Ruthie Richardson, Erline Smith, Linda Clary and Mary Lou Akin, former members of the McGehee Hospital Auxiliary, were honored during a memorial service held during the meeting.

The McGehee Hospital Auxiliary received a 3-star award for its annual activities during an awards luncheon held on the third day of the meeting. The McGehee Hospital Auxiliary has 22 members.



SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

CHI St. Vincent-Hot Springs

Lynn Smith

Congratulations to AHAA President, Jan Gardner, on a beautiful installation of officers at our October Convention. We look forward to a great year under her leadership. Seven of our

board members attended and enjoyed the convention especially “At the Hop” talent and dance. FUN!

Southwest Fall District meeting was hosted by the Fordyce auxiliary. The tables were beautiful and the food was delicious. There were 73 in attendance including guests. Seven of our board members registered to attend. It was a great meeting—many thanks to Dallas County Medical Center. Below: Tena, Lynn, Peg, Linda and Susan at SW District Fall Meeting



October was very busy with Collective Goods and Banana Box fundraisers. This was our first time to have Banana Box and it was well received and shopped. They have very reasonable prices and many items for men. We look forward to having them back next year. Our second Dillard’s sale this year is November 7, 8 followed by our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale on November 25. The awesome CHI staff continues to support and buy, buy, buy at all our fundraisers. All proceeds are going towards our pledge for the Anthony Mom and Baby Unit that will be dedicated on December 2. Exciting plans are being made including an invitation for Governor Asa Hutchison to attend.

DVS, Susan Rima, has been busy hosting three different groups this month. Two groups of high school students, 60 nursing students, and about 75 first graders visited CHI main campus in October. The high school students (varsity football players and cheer leaders) made tie blankets for the Anthony Child Advocacy Center. The large group of nursing students made both tie blankets and fidget blankets to be used in ICU. The first graders toured several areas of the hospital and especially enjoyed the Rehab Unit. Inclement weather did not permit them to see the helicopter.

Over the past year (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) our volunteers have served in many ways on various campuses of CHI St. Vincent in Hot Springs. We have two that dress as clowns and come once a month to cheer up patients. Courtesy cart drivers give lifts to and from the parking lots. Each month about 500 cards are sent out to patients that were released from the hospital. During the last 12 months 2,222 patient or visitor transports by our courier service saved nursing services 555 hours. There were 1,164 deliveries of flowers, cards and/or newspapers to patients. Surgical Family and Out Patient Area served 26,257 patients. Meals on Wheels about 400-500 meals per day, serving meals at both Sr. Centers and home

delivered meals. Donations of car seats as needed to newborns to get them safely home. Sweats are provided for patients that need a change of clothes. Muffins and coffee are offered in all the waiting areas. Sales from our Mercy Closet Thrift Store, Darthy's Place Gift Shop, Uniform Shop and many fundraisers go towards finishing off our \$500,000 pledge to recently completed Anthony Mother Baby Unit. Volunteers also teach computer, phone and iPad classes at the Hot Springs Tech Learning Center. We also have volunteers that never step foot on campus that sew baby caps, heart pillows, fidget quilts, and stuffed animals. Senior Center volunteers prepare and deliver meals and teach classes. The information desks in the main lobby and heart center are also volunteers. More than 300 volunteers serving in various ways to support our hospital, patients and community. It's a very rewarding to many and especially our volunteers!

Magnolia Regional Medical Center

Jennifer Daniel

The MRMC Auxiliary recently completed a \$23,000 landscaping renovation for our campus and physician clinics. This was much needed and appreciated by all hospital employees. Having a well-groomed hospital grounds on the outside makes for a great first impression. The MRMC Auxiliary was happy to be able to provide this update to our hospital.

Auxilians below enjoying the landscaping:

Wilma Lewis and Doris Cook



Marty Bryan and Linda Shepherd



Medical Center of South Arkansas – El Dorado

Liz McKay

The MCSA Auxiliary participated in the Girlfriends Giggle, the annual MCSA Healthy Woman Board, event was a huge success. The event is the ultimate Girls Night Out for women including spa services, shopping, silent auction, a band and dinner. The MCSA Auxiliary was the beneficiary and underwriters of the event receiving around \$32,000.

Head-to-Toe Wellness Health Fair was supported by volunteers who served as registrars for health screenings and manned a volunteer recruitment booth. Eighteen people signed up as interested in learning more about the auxiliary. Follow up calls were made and there were three people definitely interested in joining.



Six MCSA Auxiliary members participated in the AHAA state meeting. The Auxiliary was awarded the five-star award for their achievements.

Scott Street, CEO of Medical Center, was honored with the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association Administrator of the Year Award. Pictured below: MCSA Auxiliary members and Scott Street Receiving his Administrator of the Year Award



The hospital hosted a reception honoring the Auxiliary, Scott Street, and Mr. Wayne Gibson for their awards at the AHAA Annual Meetings. Below: MCSA Auxiliary members with Scott Street and Wayne Gibson at the AHA Reception hosted by MCSA.



The MCSA Auxiliary donated for diapers to the Hannah Pregnancy Center and gave a cash donation of \$250. Their supplies were ruined from a water leak in their office due to rain.

Alex Bennett, our liaison, keeps a Facebook Page up-to-date on our activities with pictures.

Below: MCSA Auxiliary Attended the AHAA Southwest District Fall Meeting



For November the MCSA Auxiliary is planning a Thanksgiving Bake Sale fundraiser.

The MCSA Auxiliary will be donating \$6,000 towards a transportation golf cart to transport cancer patients from the parking lot to the facility and will be transporting other patients and visitors using the services of the hospital to their desired location and parking.

The MCSA Auxiliary continues their ongoing monthly sponsorship to Hope Landing. Hope Landing is a non-profit whose mission is to bring hope and purpose to the lives of children with disabilities by helping them achieve their God-given potential through occupational, physical, speech-language, equine and aquatic therapies. Over the years, MCSA Auxiliary had donated over \$76,000 dollars to Hope Landing. In a time where many community sponsorships have been cut or dissolved, MCSA Auxiliary's continues support of Hope Landing has been unwavering.

The Auxiliary's Helen Wright Scholarship continues to be active. The Auxiliary contributes \$1,000 a month to the scholarship fund. The scholarship fund is currently paying for three future nurses' education.

National Park Medical Center - Hot Springs

Dorothy Stringer

We are getting ready for Christmas in the shop. We have all of our fundraisers scheduled for the rest of the year. In November we are having a shoe sale (thank you Lynn Smith for the information) and Dillard's will be here in December.

We are having a big birthday celebration November 22 for the longest serving volunteer, who also happens to be our oldest volunteer. Dona McKewen will celebrate her 97th birthday on Thanksgiving Day. We are having punch and cake to help her celebrate the Tuesday before. We are trying to get as many birthday cards for her as possible to let her know how much we appreciate her service all these years. She still drives herself to the hospital, as she had for the last 36 years! If you are close, come and celebrate with us. If you aren't close, send a birthday card.

Ouachita County Medical Center – Camden

Daphne Bennett

It was our privilege to present our CEO with a check for \$15,000 during our September quarterly meeting. This reduces our \$300,000 for thirty-eight state of the art beds and a central monitoring system to only \$109,300!

Eight of our members attended the State convention in October, and each one made good remarks. We will have comments from them concerning the meeting in our December newsletter. Each was particularly impressed by the speaker at the Thursday morning combined session with the Arkansas Hospital Association--Joe Theismann, a retired professional football player. They thought his address was uplifting and motivating.

Nineteen from OCMC attended the Fall District meeting with the Dallas County Medical Center auxiliary on October 22. It was well organized and meaningful. They carried out

President Jan Gardner's theme, "Volunteers Plant the Seeds of Kindness" with beautiful fall foliage and packets of seeds. We enjoyed having Jan and Kathy visit with us.

We will continue our Community Outreach project in December by cooperating with our local police department in their annual "Toys for Tots" drive.

Recently, we were humbled to receive an anonymous gift of \$3,500. It is good to know that others recognize the good a hospital auxiliary can do.



VALLEY DISTRICT

Baptist Health Medical Center - Fort Smith

Alice Swain, President

Returning from our Summer break in September, we were given the results of a "membership drive" held at the end of August. There were about 20 ladies attending and as of this meeting date, we have had 5 ladies wishing to join our Auxiliary. We are HAPPY!! HAPPY!! HAPPY!!!!!! Many thanks to our Membership Committee for sponsoring this activity. We hosted a uniform sale the last part of September and our profit was \$4,000.00.

Our Thrift Shop also promoted a sale to help clear out summer clothing. We did all you could stuff in a Walmart bag for \$5.00 and this was quite successful. We really appreciate our resale shop; it is a very important service to our community.

Our Auxiliary also was told our Hospital was in need of tables and chairs for the Shuffield Room where a lot of educational meetings are held. We voted to order 12, 8ft long tables and 96 chairs which really do dress up the room.

OCTOBER: We were asked by one of our local Elementary schools if we could assist in the purchase of supplies to help improve students reading ability. We had assisted with similar requests before, we voted to donate \$300.00 toward this program. Helping the schools are important to us as well.

We have 6 ladies who will be attending the Valley District Meeting in Mena next week. Thanks ladies for volunteering to go.

NOVEMBER: We will be having a Christmas theme for our Nov. meeting since we don't formally meet in December.

DECEMBER: We will be hosting a Christmas Gift wrap for about a week just prior to Christmas. This is a fun activity where we don't make much money but provide a good service for all who wish to have their gifts wrapped. We will also host a Dillard's sale during this month. We also have a Christmas tree in front of the main entrance which our Auxiliary

purchased for the Hospital several years ago and we pay to have the lights placed on it each year.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN, HAPPY THANKSGIVING, AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Mena Regional Health System

Sharon Jewell

In September our auxiliary had a booth at the Mena Regional Treasure Your Health and Wellness Fair. The event was such a great success, thanks to our fantastic vendors and volunteers!

Sue Wigger, Kathy Rook, Betty Collinsworth, Paula Galvan, Treva Sawatski & Sharon Jewell



Treva Sawatski, Melba Head, Kathy Boone & Mary Ann Zachary



Representatives from the Mena Regional Auxiliary recently attended the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association Conference in Little Rock, AR. Marilyn Davenport, Linda Johnson and Paula Galvan attended the annual event, which coincides with the Arkansas Hospital Association Conference. Members of the Mena Regional Leadership Team attended the AHA Conference.

Pictured from left: Chandler Cox, HR Director; Michael Wood, Director of Rehab; Jay Quebedeaux, CEO; Rick Billingsley, CNO; Linda Johnson, Auxiliary President; Paula Galvan, Auxiliary Member; Marilyn Davenport, Auxiliary Member; and Karey Don Kesterson, CFO.





Paula Galvan, Marilyn Davenport & Linda Johnson attended the Dinner and silent auction on Thursday night; the theme was 'At the Hop.'

Mena Regional Auxiliary awarded \$1,000 scholarships this fall to five students to assist in their pursuit of a degree in the medical field.



Cathy Lewis & Wesley Wells

Pictured below from left to right- Ewanta Turner, Marilyn Davenport, Chelsey Arender, scholarship recipient; Jared Standridge, scholarship recipient; Adrienne Pannell, scholarship recipient; Sara Mitchell and Linda Johnson



In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, several departments at Mena Regional Health System participated in Crazy Pink Day! Some of auxiliary members volunteered to help judge the event. Our gift shop was stocked with items to help promote breast cancer awareness. Below is the Business Office Staff.



Nutritional Department joined in



Monday October 28, Mena Regional Auxiliary hosted the Valley District Fall Meeting at Christ Community Fellowship Church. AHAA President Jan Gardner and President Elect Kathy Gammill were our guests.

AHAA President Jan Gardner



AHAA President Elect Kathy Gammill



Greetings of welcome were extended to everyone by Linda Johnson, Auxiliary President and Rick Billingsley, MRHS CNO. Linda Johnson & Ewanta Turner pictured below.



The theme was planting seeds of kindness. Madean Pearce presented a program titled 'Spiritual Lessons from the Garden.' A delicious meal was catered by Cathy Holmes and Jackie Bedford-Gallego from Mena Regional Nutritional Services. Auxiliary member Kathy Boone did a wonderful job decorating the tables in fall colors. We enjoyed getting to visit with those of you who attended the meeting. It is always interesting to learn what the other auxiliaries are doing.





St Mary's Regional Medical Center – Russellville

Janet Thurber

Saint Mary's Volunteers held our annual Volunteer Roundup and Potluck in September. Several new volunteers were signed up and several more guests took home applications. Volunteers were treated to a room decorated in a western theme and enjoyed a delicious lunch of salads and barbeque.

Carol Shoptaw welcomes
volunteers



Pres. Carl Greathouse & VP Jane Hradek (center)
welcome new volunteers



Carrie Pelfrey and Scott Arnold
entertained us with songs from
the musical Oklahoma.



Volunteers were busy bees in October. President Carl Greathouse, Vice President Jane Hradek and Beth Hetzer attended the AHAA State Convention where our Auxiliary received a 5-Star Award. Several volunteers also attended the Valley District Fall Meeting in Mena.



At our October Auxiliary Meeting, guest speaker Nita Herrick Colpitts explained esophageal cancer and its many complications to us.

Left: Jane Hradek and Carol Greathouse with Nita Herrick Colpitts (center). Nita spoke about esophageal cancer at the October Auxiliary meeting.

We also participated in the Millard Henry Clinic 2019 Kids' Health and Safety Fair. Volunteers popped popcorn and served it to lots of happy kids and their families. We also assisted with Saint Mary's annual Mammograms and Martinis event. Volunteers packaged cookies and attached Saint Mary's labels onto 1,000 water bottles that were handed out at the event. The Auxiliary also awarded four \$500 scholarships in October.

President Carl Greathouse presents Melinda Marshall, RN (ICU) with a \$500 scholarship. Other recipients not pictured are Faith Paine, Pharmacy; Melissa Fowler, Lab Services; and Brea Strohaker, Emergency Dept.



Volunteer Training Day is coming up in November. Volunteers will attend mandatory competency training, get a flu shot, and enjoy a lunch of Italian food. It's also time for volunteers to turn in all the Christmas stockings and hats that we've been working on for the babies born at Saint Mary's in December. On November 4 & 5, we're holding a scrub sale to raise money for scholarships. In December volunteers are looking forward to attending the annual Christmas Tea and Lunch hosted by Saint Mary's.





The Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association is pleased to announce that the Hands for Mercy Auxiliary with Mercy Hospital in Fort Smith has joined in the association.



Articles for January/February newsletter should be submitted by December 31. Please report what you did in November and December and what you have planned for January and February 2019. Pictures are most welcome! If possible please send **jpeg** format and give information on the occasion and the names of those in the picture. Please use Word or Office format whenever possible. **DON'T FORGET TO SEND NAMES OF DESCEASED AUXILIARY MEMBERS AS YOU RECEIVE NOTICE!**

Neta Stamps, Editor





A COMMUNITY *of Advocates*

When we decided this issue of *Arkansas Hospitals* would study compelling communities of health care – and the types of partnerships hospitals form with, and within, their various communities – we found that there are fascinating, intricate, and diverse connections among them.

In this edition, you'll find accounts of amazing programs here in Arkansas, as well as remarkable approaches to challenges that larger southern and midwestern cities face. We hope you'll consider all the examples – not only as interesting illustrations of community service but also as blueprints that can be borrowed and adapted to be implemented locally.

And I'd like to add one more community to the many communities explored in this issue: Our association's federal and state-level legislative work is the foundation of a powerful community of advocacy. The AHA works hand-in-glove with the American Hospital Association (AmHA) and with our fellow associations in every state, to coordinate legislative strategy and response designed to protect hospitals and patients across the country.

State hospital associations get together a couple of times each year to learn from one another and plan how

we can better work with AmHA to meet our shared goals. The camaraderie at these meetings is energizing, and each association returns to its home state with new ideas to try and proven programs to share.

As the 2020 elections draw nearer, we'll no doubt hear many ideas about how health care can be changed to meet the needs of Americans more effectively and efficiently. AmHA will consider each of these ideas and plans, and it will offer proposals to incorporate new ways to improve care.

Our advocacy and policy work is guided by AmHA, which keeps tabs on what's happening on the regulatory front in Washington, D.C. Current efforts focus on retention of health care coverage gains we've made – gains that are helpful to both patients and the hospitals caring for them. We're in constant touch with our congressional delegation, letting our elected officials know AHA's thoughts on proposed policies and regulatory changes under discussion.

But there's no substitute for face-to-face discussions with our legislators. That's why AHA leaders travel to Washington, D.C., several times a year to sit down with each senator and representative from Arkansas – and their health care liaisons – as a part of AmHA's coordinated advocacy

effort. Our goal is always to equip lawmakers with the information they need about how proposed policy changes will affect hospitals and, ultimately, their constituents.

When these members of Congress return to Arkansas, we help them get to know the hospitals in their districts. It's one of the most effective ways to make our voices heard and to effect positive change in Washington. It's the same on the advocacy and policy front, when it comes to lawmakers and leaders at the state level. The AHA and our staff members have excellent working relationships with the office of Governor Asa Hutchinson and with individual members of the legislature.

All these efforts mesh into a dynamic and responsive community of people working to achieve effective health care. The health care advocacy community in Arkansas is strong, and we appreciate your being an integral part of it.



Bo Ryall
President and CEO
Arkansas Hospital Association



The CAPITOL REPORT

By Jodiane Tritt

The 2019 state legislative session enacted 1,092 new laws, many of which are favorable for all types of hospitals and health care providers. Notable, as well, is the vast number of bills (and ideas) that did NOT become law, many of which were not advantageous to patient care.

The successes health care saw in this year's state session are due, in large part, to community advocacy efforts. Those efforts don't come to fruition overnight. Strong advocates know they must be in it for the long haul, and that advocating for health care takes time.

Advocating for our hospitals, our nation's health care system, and – most importantly – our patients, is a big community job. It helps ensure the viability of our hospitals and address every Arkansan's access to quality, affordable health care. The truth is, community members' voices carry the most weight with their legislators.

No one knows your community better than you do. Public officials and politicians hear from many lobbyists – some of whom have our interests in mind, and others who do not. When your legislators hear from you, your important, local perspective gives them vital information they need. You are uniquely positioned to genuinely articulate the changes you want that will improve your community and the health of our state.

Social pressure is one of the best tools for influencing policymakers, but it isn't enough to advocate alone. Building coalitions of others who are also well-informed about the

issues, who align with your viewpoint, and who are willing to speak up for our hospitals and our communities is a key function of successful advocacy.

Your ability to advocate doesn't stop at community borders or even at the state line. Our elected officials and their staff members in Washington, D.C. benefit from your input, as well, though they may be working 1,000 miles away from Arkansas. Because Arkansas receives more in federal funding than its citizens pay in federal taxes, laws and regulations passed at the federal level impact the ability of our state and its citizens to prosper. Our voices are just as important in Washington, D.C., as they are at our state Capitol and in our hometowns. The Arkansans we send to Washington – those who carry our messages directly – are incredibly important to the health of our state.

To that end, our Arkansas Hospital Association sends a delegation of folks to Washington, D.C. each spring, a group made up of hospital administrators, volunteers, trustees, and community leaders. Usually, that meeting is held in conjunction with the American Hospital Association's annual meeting, and the Arkansas Hospital Association holds a luncheon, to which each member of our congressional delegation (and their staff) is invited. This luncheon offers an open environment in which to visit about the current state of our hospitals, as we explain the challenges we're facing, and the ramifications proposed legislation might impose.

It is equally important for us to visit our members of Congress at their places of work. The springtime trek includes appointments with each senator and congressman, or their staff members, in their D.C. offices. When our hospital advocacy heroes stand together, en masse, in Washington, D.C., our united voice is infinitely more powerful than that of any one of us alone.

Back at home, it is critically important for us to invite Senators John Boozman and Tom Cotton and Congressmen Rick Crawford, French Hill, Bruce Westerman, and Steve Womack to see and become familiar with our health care facilities when they're in their home districts, and to regularly communicate with them about our concerns and successes.

Holding our elected officials accountable for their votes and actions is one of the bedrocks of representative government. When our politicians meet with us face-to-face, we compel accountability. Likewise, when our politicians make hard votes for us, thanking them face-to-face is of immeasurable benefit.

The 92nd General Assembly is now history, and most new laws became effective on or before July 24, 2019. New regulations are being considered each day – at all levels of government – and they need our advocacy. Our hospitals, health care system, and – most importantly – our patients, deserve our attention, our voices, and our very best! ✚