

Auxiliaries in Action

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

January/February 2023



**2022 - 2023 AHAA President
Judy Shaffer**

Dear Friends,

As we begin a New Year, I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. Time has a way of flying by. We had the first Board meeting last week and it was bittersweet that we could start 2023 with an in-person meeting.

As I stated when I was installed as AHAA President, one of my goals is to work on mentoring future Board members. It has been a challenge on the local, District and State level to recruit volunteers who are willing to serve in leadership positions. We are also in need of more volunteers.

With all of your help and input, I am confident that we will be able to implement some good mentoring programs/ideas to achieve this goal. Send me your suggestions or ideas. Looking forward to a great year!

With Joy and Friendship,

Judy

Theme: Finding Joy and Friendship
Through Volunteering
AHAA

Colors: Yellow, blue and white



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In Loving Memory

**Metropolitan District
CHI St. Vincent Morrilton**

Karen James

North Central District

Baxter Health

Tom Burkhardt
Jerome Widmer

Northeast District

St. Bernards

Suzanne Hackney (AHAA Past President 2018-2019)

Northwest District

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Loretta Pearl Harris
Bonnie Lea Standlee

Northwest Medical Center - Bentonville

Don Kerr

Northwest Medical Center - Springdale

Helen George (AHAA Past President 1985-1986)

Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center

Ann Siefert

Metropolitan District

CHI St. Vincent Morrilton

Submitted by Claudia Riedmueller

I hope everyone enjoyed a blessed and joyful holiday season.

In November our members participated in our local food pantry's Harvest of Hope food drive with generous donations of canned tuna. We had two members attend the AHAA Convention in Hot Springs, Claudia Riedmueller and Iva Lee Sledge. Our annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale was a satisfyingly successful fundraising effort. Always a lot of work but always well supported by our hospital staff and our community. Our hospital family and especially the Auxiliary are bursting with pride that our own Delores Hartman was chosen Citizen of the Year 2022 and honored at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

We enjoyed good food and fellowship at our December Luncheon and welcomed our newest member and asset, Beebe Huett. We are all excited she has joined the Auxiliary. Can't say enough good things about our Grill staff. They served a fabulous lunch buffet. And Auxiliary members were gifted with Petit Jean Meat Boxes for Christmas which everyone eagerly accepted! Thank you, CHI/Common Spirit. Cards were exchanged and photos were made and everyone had a good time.



These ladies serve in Outpatient Waiting.
Mary Simpkins, Shirley Arnold, Nancy Willenburg, Mary Valesquez, and standing is Angela Coffman



Working at the Front Desk are (seated) Mary Simpkins, Beverly Ritchie, Mazie Wright, and Iva Lee Sledge;
(standing) Mary Ann Fowler, Todd Whistler, Angela Coffman, Beebe Huett, and Emma Carothers.





Gift Shop clerks are (seated) Louise Dold, Mary Wilson, Virginia Gray, Sue Kuettle, and Carma Garrett; (standing) John Phillips, Brenda Sensabaugh, Carol Hefner, Beebe Huett, Claudia Riedmueller, Delores Hartman, and Margaret Williams.

Officers are Delores Hartman, Treasurer; Claudia Riedmueller, President; Brenda Sensabaugh, Secretary; and Mary Ann Fowler, Vice President.



We all appreciate our Grill staff



North Central District

Ozark Health, Inc.

Submitted by Betty Spencer

First of all I want to thank Charlotte Jackson and her team that put on a wonderful Convention this year. I have been there so I can appreciate all the hard work that went into this event.

Ozark Health had the most in attendance since I was President in 2008 we had 10 signed up and 8 attended. We are so proud to announce that our own Debby Collings was selected as Auxilian of the Year for under 100 beds. Debby does a wonderful job with our gift shop and also is the recording secretary for our organization. At our meeting in December I handed out a recap of Dorothy & Jerry Berley's "Reasons & Benefits of Leadership" program from convention. I want our members to really consider stepping up to take on a leadership position in our auxiliary.

I want to give a shout out to Modern Woodmen who matched up to \$2500 for our National Handbag Sale and the New To You Sale in the month of October. They have supported our auxiliary a number of times over the past 20 years and we appreciate them very much.

In November we had our annual gift bag silent auction and raised over \$2000 for this fundraiser. We met a new vendor at convention "The Mobile Boutique" and scheduled her for middle of December. The sale was well received and I believe we sold over \$3000 of which the auxiliary received 25% or \$750. I would highly recommend them if you are looking for a new vendor. January is a slow month so not much going on. To Market To Market in January for Kristi King and our gift shop buyer Debby Collings. In February we are going to try something different and allow special orders for Valentines Day, will update in next news letter on our success.

I hope and pray you all had a safe and Merry Christmas. HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023 (Can you believe it?)



Northeast District

Forrest City Medical Center

Submitted by Faye Caldwell

November Past Events:

Hot Springs, AR - State Convention meeting – The following Auxiliary members attended the November 9-11, 2022 meeting: Ronnie Nix, Wilma Powell, Victoria Harris, Minda Brown, Dot Gores, and a special visit from FCMC CEO, Dr Ballard. Ronnie sent a "Thank You" note to Antique Rose in Forrest City for their silent auction FCMC Hot Springs gift basket donation. There was a lot of good information disseminated, including a virtual Mental Health discussion with ABC Channel 24 News Chief Meteorologist, Ginger Zee.



Hot Springs Convention 2022, with
FCMC CEO Dr. Ballard.

L to R in picture is:

Victoria Harris, Secretary; Dr. Ballard; Minda
Brown; Ronnie Nix, President; Wilma Powell, Vice
President and Dot Gores.

Nov 17 – FCMC Blood Drive - 11-3

Big Thank you to Wilma Powell and Ronnie Nix for hosting the Blood Drive and Judy Armstrong worked the Gift Shop.

December Past Events

Dec 13 - FCMC held their Holiday party with a nice lunch and hams given out to Staff and Auxiliary Volunteers.

Dec 14 - Holiday Party and combined Auxiliary meeting was held at the Legacy Restaurant in Forrest City from 11-2, with 13 attendees. Dr. Ballard, FCMC, CEO, spoke on COVID, RSV and the Flu, thanked all the Auxiliary for their services to FCMC and gave other updates on Hospital news. Caitlyn Sweet, FCMC, Marketing Director, also thanked the Auxiliary for our volunteer efforts. There was a gift exchange along with games, food and lots of laughter. Faye Caldwell, was the event planner.

Upcoming 2023 Events:

Feb 13 & 14 – FCMC Valentine Bake sale

Feb 14 - Auxiliary Linen Sale

Spring District Meeting: April 26, 2023 hosted by FCMC Auxiliary at East Arkansas Community College

NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital

Submitted by Kathy Miller

December 7-8, 2022, Dillard's Sale on site at the Dillard's store in Jonesboro

December TBD, auxiliary paying for the showing of a movie for all NEA Hospital staff and their families as a thank you for their hard work all year





Sunday, November 20, 2022, NEA Christmas tree lighting and festivities - Aux Pres. Ginny Presgrove & NEA Baptist hospital, CEO, Sam Lynd



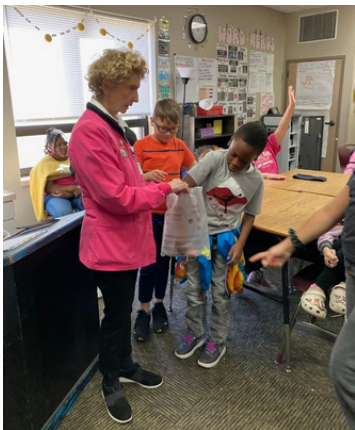
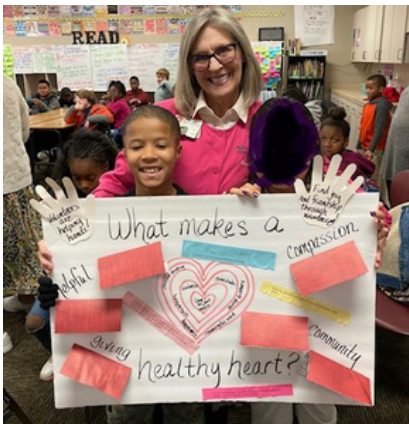
auxiliary volunteers L to R- Donna Barker, Betty Louy, Margaret Cook, Ginny Presgrove, Maurice Rider and Kathy Miller serving cookies and hot coco



NEA Christmas tree



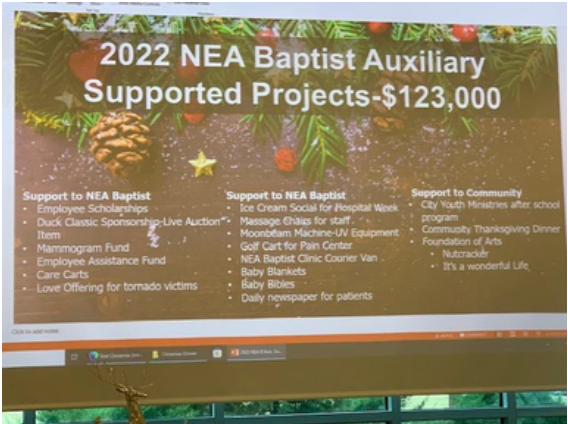
December 13-14, 2022, Duck Classic auction donation from NEA Baptist Hospital auxiliary 4th picture-zero turn mower



On November 17, 2022 our president Ginny Presgrove and aux member Faye Haney presented a program to the 4th grade class at Jonesboro Math & Science School on what makes a heart healthy.



NEA Hospital hosted a luncheon for the auxiliary on December 12th



2022 NEA Baptist Auxiliary supported projects amounted to \$123,000



Auxiliary member Faye Haney performing in Its A Wonderful Life as Mrs Bailey at the Foundation of Arts in Jonesboro.



St. Bernards Medical Center

Submitted by Dean Rossa

St Bernards Auxiliary baked 3300+ cookies in December in appreciation for the hospital staff. Hospital Administrators and an Auxiliary representative visited every department with Santa to deliver cookies to those working. They left a tray of mixed cookies for each break room.



Shown left: Cookie delivery from St Bernards Auxiliary to St Bernards staff on December 21, 2022. Auxiliary President, Mary Nell Masterson is in the red jacket and Santa hat at center.



Auxiliary members shown in the red jackets are Donna Stringer, Ann Ford, Thelma Kern, and Rebecca Starks.

St Bernards Auxiliary held its annual Light Up A Life tree lighting November 29, 2022 at the Tower. The program had received over \$11,000 by late November and will receive more donations into January 2023. The donations help cancer patients who have traveled to the hospital for treatment and need a place to stay.

Awards Meeting 2022

The Foundation honored Auxiliary November 16 with an Awards Luncheon in the Tower. After reports from active committees, some volunteers who have worked MANY hours were honored.



Those seated at right have accumulated over 5000 hours each: Ann Ford, Ruby Chittenden, Diana Ruesewald, Mary Nell Masterson, and Lynda Hundley.

Those standing have worked over 200 hours each this year: Shelia Schisler, Linda Dunham, Lisa Morris, Rebecca Starks, Betty Moad, and Jane Orndorff. (Also Ann Ford and Mary Nell Masterson worked 200+hours in this year.)



Suzanne Hackney
March 12, 1942 - December 28, 2022

Suzanne served as AHAA State President 2018 – 2019.

She was president of St Bernards Auxiliary in Jonesboro 2011- 2012.

Thank you Suzanne for your commitment to Auxiliary and your continuing professionalism and grace.



Northwest District

No hospitals reporting



Southeast District

Chicot Memorial Medical Center

Submitted by Dean Ann Smith

On September 22, 2022, we held our annual fall mall. September 29th, another blood drive was held. Eighteen donations were made. September 30th, six of us traveled to Dumas for the final fall district meeting in the Southeast District. October 6th, the Collective Goods sale was held. Our big fundraiser for the fall was the Breast Cancer Silent Auction. Close to \$3,000.00 was made. On November 9,10th and 11th, five of us traveled to Hot Springs, Arkansas for the state convention. The five in attendance were Delorse Dixon, Jean Wiley, Judy Sadler, Eileen Ward, and Jill Wryzenski.

On November 28th, we decorated the hospital for Christmas and on December 1st, we held our annual Christmas Tea for the hospital staff.

In January, we will honor our nurse anesthetists for employee appreciation. Our next big fundraiser will be our annual Valentine's Day sale in February.



Collective Goods Fundraiser, October 6, 2022



Breast Cancer Rally, October 27, 2022



Fall Mall



Southeast District Meeting, Dumas



Blood Mobile Van



Jane Stephens, Blood Drive

Hello
WINTER



Setting up Lovelight Tree
November 28, 2022



Lovelight Tree



Christmas Tea
December 1, 2022



State Convention, November 2022



Judy Sadler
Recognition of Certificate of Excellence

Drew Memorial Health System

Submitted by LeAnne Burch

The Drew Memorial Auxiliary ladies hosted an open house to kick-start the Christmas 2022 season and offered free gift wrapping for purchases.



Seated l-r are: Barbara Brown, Auxiliary President, a happy shopper, Edith Thurman and Regina Dunn.



Drew Memorial Auxiliary provided the parents of the first baby born in the Olivia Faith Beebe Nursery in 2023 with a basket of gifts, including a blanket, socks, outfits, toys, books, and more.

Celebrating with baby boy Reece Owen Mata and his mother, Erica, are (l-r) Chelsea Gullede, Dr. Chapman, mother and baby, DMH Auxiliary Pres. Barbara Brown, and Melissa Chapman.



Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center

Submitted by Dorothy Berley

Our auxiliary was able to hold our “Gift of Light in Lights” fundraiser this December for the first time since Covid forced us to cancel this event in 2020. It was so nice to see our tree in the lobby of the hospital again. The tree was dedicated to all our auxiliaries who passed away during the years of 2020, 2021, and 2022.

We have a scrub sale scheduled in February with one of the vendors who was at our recent convention. Our employees are excited that we found a vendor and are looking forward to the sale.

Our next activity to support our community will be collecting socks and underwear for the elementary schools in our area.

We continue to collect pull tabs from soda cans for the Ronald McDonald House in Little Rock. We have five gallons ready to be delivered at this time.



Valley District

Mena Regional Health System

Submitted by Sharon Jewell

MRHS representatives/Auxiliary members Sara Mitchell and Jessica Smith had the honor of serving local Veterans at a luncheon on Veterans Day! Thanks to the Mena/Polk County Chamber of Commerce, sponsors, and volunteers for a great event!



Serving Veterans

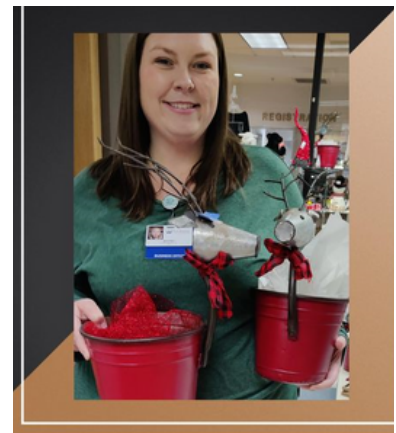


Christmas Open House

Christmas open house at Mena Gift Shop was held Friday and Saturday, November 16 & 17. Refreshments were served, and specials were offered throughout both days. One of our door prize winners, Brooke.



Christmas Open House



Christmas Open House Winner, Brooke



The Mena Regional Auxiliary hosted another successful Christmas Breakfast Fundraiser. Proceeds from the breakfast will be used toward scholarships for local students in healthcare fields. Special thanks to the celebrity servers, the dietary department for preparing a delicious meal, and of course to all of the generous guests!



Christmas Breakfast Auxiliary Members

MRHS is thrilled to be named, "First Place, Best in Show" for our Gilligan's Island float at this year's "Christmas in Paradise" parade. Special thanks to our perfectly cast group: The Professor-Robert Rupp; Skipper-Russell Lockhart; Mary Ann- Maranda Dees; Lovey/Millionaire's Wife- Lisa Wood; Mr. Howell/Millionaire-Dr. Aldrich; Ginger-Candace White; Gilligan-Blake Pitchford. Huge thanks to the MRHS maintenance team! They are the true rockstars of the float build!



Christmas Float



Christmas Float

*"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but
people will never forget how you made them feel"*
~ Maya Angelou