

Auxiliaries in Action

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

March/April 2023



**2022 - 2023 AHAA President
Judy Shaffer**

Dear Friends,

At last January and February are behind us. The weather was brutal for everyone, from freezing cold to snow, winds and flooding. March will bring us spring and hopefully the end of the flu season.

The 2023 AHAA Convention is back in Little Rock this year at the Embassy Suites on November 1, 2 and 3. The Convention Committee is busy working on the Convention's events. Please mark your calendars. Updates will be forthcoming.

April brings the Spring District Meetings. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meetings. Neta Sue and I will begin the meetings on April 12 with the Southeast District at Drew Memorial and end with North Central on April 27 at White River Health.

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. If you are interested in any position on the local, district or state level, ask one of your officers about the position and what is entailed with the position you are interested in. We are also in need of more volunteers. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

I enjoy reading your newsletters. At last we are beginning to get back, slowly but surely, to some normalcy in volunteering. Thank you for all you do for your hospitals along with your communities.

Love you all,
Judy

Theme: Finding Joy and Friendship
Through Volunteering
AHAA

Colors: Yellow, blue and white



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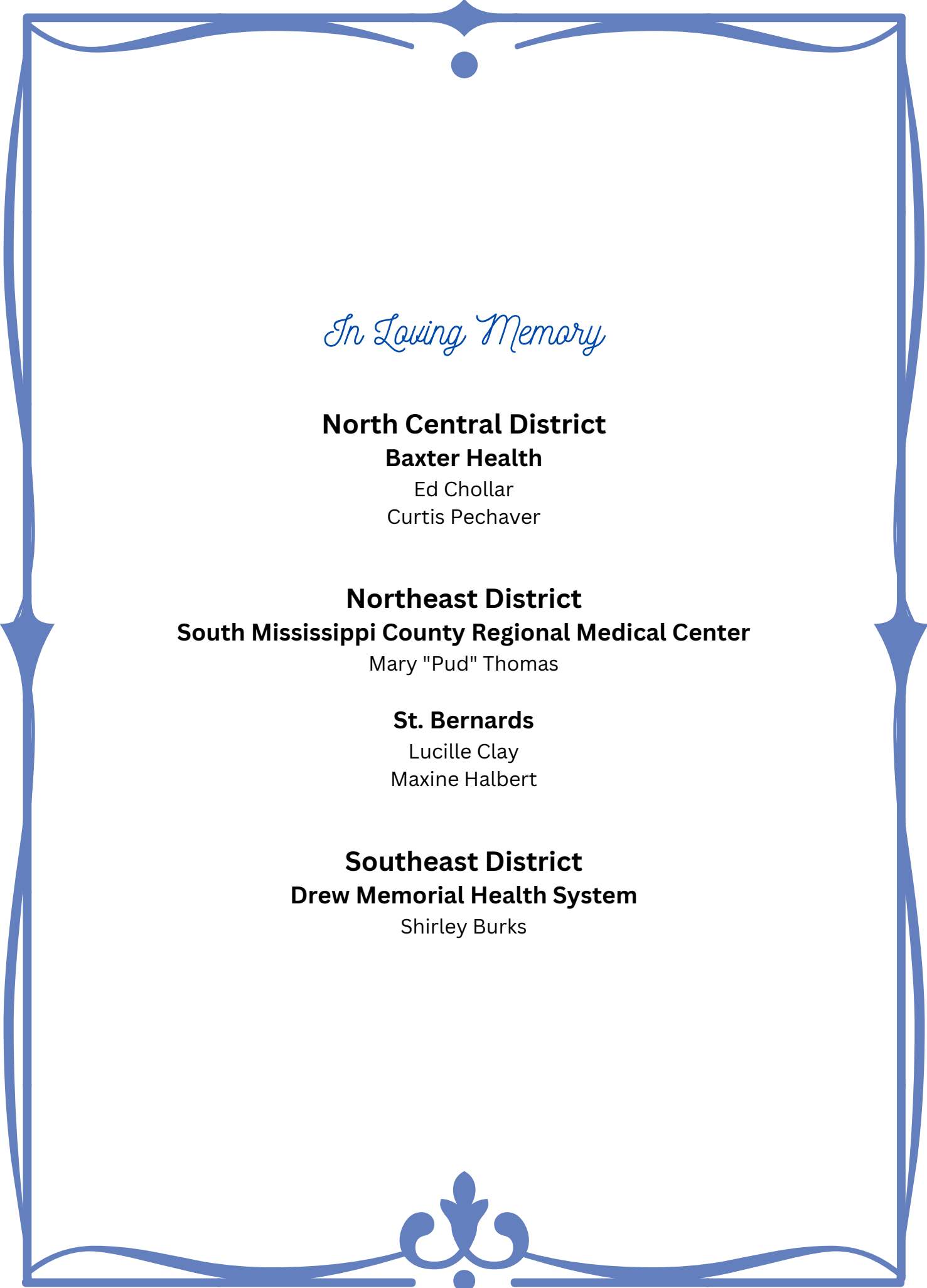
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In Loving Memory

North Central District

Baxter Health

Ed Chollar
Curtis Pechaver

Northeast District

South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center

Mary "Pud" Thomas

St. Bernards

Lucille Clay
Maxine Halbert

Southeast District

Drew Memorial Health System

Shirley Burks

Metropolitan District

Baptist Health Medical Center - NLR

Submitted by Becky Blackard

We have been busy the past few months. We really enjoyed attending the AHAA State meeting this past November. It was great to all be together again. The meeting was informative, the food and fellowship was fabulous. I am going to include a couple of our group pictures.

We held our first Auxiliary meeting of the new year in January. We had a good turn out. We had Dee Edwards from RSVP come and do a presentation about the Volunteer program she coordinates. It was very informative. I will include a couple of pictures from that meeting also.

We have also scheduled a couple of fundraisers for this year: Uniform Sale and Linen Sale.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for March 2nd.

Blessings to All!

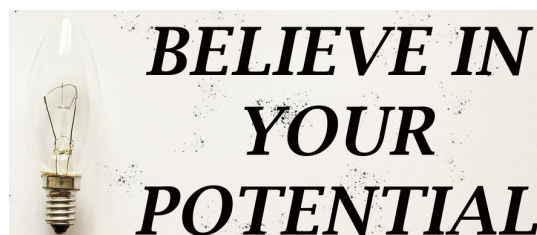
Becky



Auxiliary members with AHAA President
Carol Evans and husband, Larry



Auxiliary members at State Meeting,
November 2022





Auxiliary members with Cody and Callie at State Meeting



BHMC-NLR Auxiliary January Board Meeting



Picture on to the left:
Dee Edwards at the January Meeting

Picture below:
Group picture at the January Meeting



North Central District

Baxter Health

Submitted by Joan Young

Sorry about all the whacky weather y'all have been having while I have enjoyed some beautiful weather and only a few cold days here in sunny Florida.

We finished the year with \$550,089 in donations to our hospital, 464 auxiliary members, 242 monthly average for active auxiliary volunteers, and 64,563 auxiliary volunteer hours. We are collecting Other Volunteer Hours for volunteers who are not auxiliary members at our facility which includes our Hospice volunteer hours from 2022 of 6,281. Our Mountain Home Bargain Box and the Flippin Bargain Box exceeded their gross sales goals. The Vendor Sales and the Pink-a-dilly Gift Shop did not exceed their goals, however, they had a successful year.

One more volunteer, Tammy Bellettiere, was added to our Heroes with Halos recipients.

Barney Larry the Executive Director of our Foundation and Vice-President of Business Development retired at the end of the year. We honored and said our farewells at our General Meeting, gifting Barney with a Volunteer Shirt in glass with a hammer to break the glass in case of emergency.

We held our first Auxiliary General Meeting for 2023 in February, and Sarah Edwards, the new Executive Director of our Foundation was our guest speaker.

We had a very successful leadership training and dinner for our incoming officers and H.O.P.E. committee members. We review our bylaws, services descriptions, and policies and procedures at this event, as well as mentor new on coming board members.

The new year is off and running. Debbie Swan, Pink-A-Dilly shop manager and Becky Rose attended market in Dallas the first week of January. Shelves were quickly restocked by Debbie and volunteers as soon as the new merchandised arrived. The Pink-A-Dilly offered a new Valentine's Day promo for hospital staff to pre-purchase 3 different choices of flower arrangements.

We have voted to donate \$10,000 over 5 years towards an Engineering Scholarship. That will allow 2 people to go back to school for plumbing and electrical certificates an often-overlooked vital role in keeping our hospitals running.

Judy Shaffer and I attended our district's President meeting via Google, something like Zoom. They couldn't hear me which was probably just as well.

The H.O.P.E. committee handed out candy bars a favorite with volunteers. This was a s'mores flavored candy bar and we put a sticker on it that read "We need S'more Volunteers like U!" as part of a recruitment campaign.



We received our Staxi wheelchairs and they are big hit with volunteers and patients.

At the end of February, several auxiliaries will be attending the Last Ask Ball fundraiser to honor Barney Larry with an endowment in his name for the Foundation. We have made an initial donation of \$25,000. The Foundation's goal is \$1,000,000.

Also have hosted a Linen Sale, and Lifestyle Sale.

It will be false spring before you know it.

Ozark Health, Inc.

Submitted by Bobbye Bennett

A very unusual start for the year 2023! Our monthly meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, and because the first Monday this January was a Holiday, No Meeting! Then, February meeting scheduled for February 6th, canceled because of "ice". We are now looking forward to having a meeting March 6th ! But in the meantime, we carry on as "normal"!

The Foundation Gala was held on Saturday, December 3rd . This was the 20th anniversary for the Gala.

Four members made the trip to market in Dallas the first week of January. This year the Auxiliary Gift Shop will continue with the 10% off on purchases of \$10.00 and up. Of course, this year the first Wednesday of February we had "ice".

We had Valentine Baskets made by special order for Valentines this year! This was such a success that we intend to continue taking orders for special baskets throughout the year for special events.

At the March 6th meeting we will elect new officers for the year. Installation will be at the April meeting.

March 15th will be the first Uniform Sale for the year. Hopefully at the March meeting we will be able to report on more events for this year.

We have a new volunteer in the Gift Shop and another volunteer returning after being off for a while.

Looking forward to a good year for the Auxiliary and the Gift Shop.

{The broadest and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: "Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good.} Volunteers are love in motion!



Northeast District

Forrest City Medical Center

Submitted by Faye Caldwell-Steadman

Past Events:

January:

Jan 1, 2023 - New Year's baby girl born at FCMC and the Auxiliary donated an adorable pink welcome basket for the new born (picture attached).

Jan 7 – Sent condolences and attended the funeral for Associate member, Rose Ballard's husband.

Jan 9 – Spring District Planning Committee (Ronnie Nix, Auxiliary President, Wilma Powel, VP, Judy Armstrong, Treasurer and Faye Caldwell, Auxiliary member) met to start putting the meeting agenda together, the following guests have been confirmed: Forrest City Mayor, Larry S. Bryant; FCMC CEO, Dr. Ballard. Carla Nimocks - entertainment. More information will be forthcoming.

Jan 13 – FCMC/ Auxiliary members assisted in registering donors for the American Red Cross Blood Drive.

Jan 19 – Ronnie Nix, Wilma Powell and Judy Armstrong, met with the Times Herald/Advertiser local newspaper and had a teleconference with Forrest City radio announcer Richard Benson of KXJK, 106.5 to place Ads for recruiting new Auxiliary members, a Valentine Bake Sale and the Luxury Linen fundraiser/sale (the ads were in the Jan 25, 2023 editions).

Jan 25 – The ARcare Representative from the Augusta office provided a delicious Subway lunch for all the FCMC Auxiliary members and gave us information on their many Volunteer Services in Arkansas. Big Thank You to Faith!

February:

Feb 13 & 14 – FCMC Auxiliary hosted a Valentine Bake sale that was fun and successful which brought in \$635. Some of those proceeds will go to our ongoing Nursing scholarship fund. A big thank you to all the Auxiliary members for making delicious baked goodies and for assisting with the set-up, sales and clean up.

Feb 14 – The FCMC Auxiliary hosted a sale/fundraiser with Luxury Linen - the Auxiliary will receive 20% of all sale proceeds. We have not been given the 20% proceeds of all sales to date per Ronnie Nix, some of the proceeds will benefit the Volunteers Scholarship fund. More information will be in our next newsletter.

Upcoming Events:

March:

Mar 21 - FCMC – Blood Drive (Auxiliary members assists with ongoing Blood Drives at FCMC every 2 mos).

Mar 22 – Dr Appreciation Week – more information will be forthcoming.

April:

April 26, 2023 - Spring District Meeting: hosted by FCMC Auxiliary at East Arkansas Community College (aka: EACC). On-going organizing in progress. Invitations with map/general directions and NE District Auxiliary attendance Fee to be mailed out separately by mid-March.



New Year baby 2023 gift basket.



Ronnie, Wilma, Tilda, and Judy



Judy and Tilda

NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital

Submitted by Kathy Miller

NEA Hospital welcomed Olivia Escobar, its first baby of the new year on 1-1-2023 at 8:32am. Proud parents are Elizabeth and Steven Escobar. The auxiliary presented the Escobars with a gift basket.



Picture on left: Olivia Escobar, and proud parents Elizabeth and Steven Escobar.

Picture on right: Gift basket given to the Escobars.

We were given a presentation at our 2/13/23 aux. Meeting, Education Program on Alzheimer's Awareness by Lynette Findley of the Alzheimer's Association in Little Rock. She was assisted by Noelle Richardson who displayed the slides.



Noelle Richardson, Lynette Findley and Aux. Pres. Ginny Presgrove.

NEA donation to the Red Dress gala 2023 auction sponsored by CHEF (Community Health Education Foundation). The donation of several items from the gift shop totaling \$85.



Auxiliary member, Maurice Rider, holding the donation.

NEA hospital Sweatshirts and T-shirts are our hottest item. We always sell out an order of 400+ with-in 2 days. Volunteers from the auxiliary opened the gift shop on Sunday, 2/19/23 so the weekend hospital staff and clinic staff could purchase NEA Baptist sweat shirts and long sleeve tee shirts and other gift shop items.



L to R is Donna Barker, Glenda Roach, Kay Roedel and back row, Ginny Presgrove and Faye Haney.

Upcoming Events:

The auxiliary will host a Luxury Linen sale on March 14 and Scrub Sale on May 10.



Northwest District

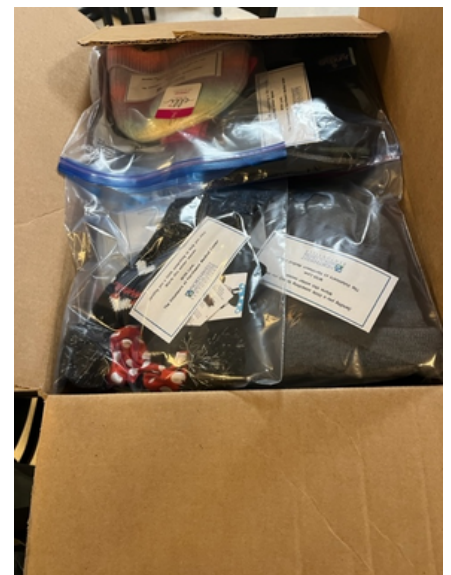
Northwest Medical Center Bentonville

Submitted by Beth Bolena

The Northwest Medical Center Bentonville Auxiliary just finished up a fantastic project. We partnered with our entire hospital staff, the Bentonville Police Department, Bentonville School District and area homeless shelters.

I am so proud of how our Auxiliary came together to organize and implement this heartwarming community outreach program.

Jane McDonald and Linda Gilge were our committee chairs and they did a wonderful job. We are hoping to make this an annual project.



We collected:
43 Children's Hats
72 Pairs of Children's Gloves
237 Pairs of Children's Socks
25 Adult Hats
23 Pairs of Adult Gloves
182 Pairs of Adult Socks

Because of YOU, students in the Bentonville School District were positively impacted by these kind donations. In addition, we were also able to warm the hearts of those at the Bentonville Salvation Army, Women's Shelter and several homeless shelters in our community.



Southeast District

No hospitals reporting



Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center

Submitted by Dorothy Berley

In January, the auxiliary was able to make a \$10,000 donation to our hospital. This donation was applied to our \$300,000 commitment to purchase new hospital beds and a fetal heart monitoring system. After this donation, the balance left on this commitment is \$28,000.

Valentine's Day sales in our gift shop were good this year. We made the decision to not sell live roses, but two of our very talented ladies made up cute gift boxes for both children and adults. These sold as fast as they could make them.

We had a very successful scrub sale with The Uniform Shoppe out of Harrison/Mountain Home. Our employees were very pleased with the selection and quality of their merchandise. Their customer service was great too!

As part of our ongoing community service project, we had a very successful drive to collect socks, underwear, and sweat pants for our local elementary schools.

We have been given permission to have our annual bake sale on Good Friday this year. This will be our first one since Covid. This fund raiser is always popular with our hospital employees, so we are excited to be able to have it again!



Valley District

No hospitals reporting