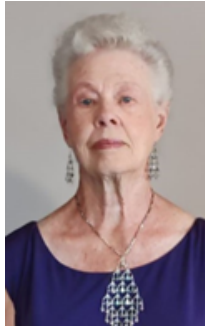


Auxiliaries in Action

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

January/February 2024



2023 - 2024 AHAA President Neta Sue Stamps

Dear Auxilians,

The first AHAA board meeting of 2024 is now over - and it was a busy one. A number of members were unable to attend due to various health issues.

A report was received on the 2023 Convention with many criticisms received. Please remember our conventions are held in conjunction with and in the same location as AHA holds their convention. I realize that many are unhappy that our convention this year will fall on Halloween, but now you know why. Help us make it an enjoyable one.

A convention committee reported on possible changes as to what we can do for future conventions.

As we go forward in this very cold new year, may you find the Unicorn virtues of positivity and joy.

My thanks to each and every volunteer who works so hard for their hospital.

Neta Sue Stamps
AHAA President

Theme: Volunteers Believe

Colors: Purple and silver



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In Loving Memory

North Central District

Baxter Health

Geneva Edwards
Betty Enerson
Rosemary Finch
Rhonda Martin
Mary McCray
Kathy Ward

Unity Health

James “Jim” Lankford

White River Health

Ralph Branstetter
Ronnie Reeves
Henrietta Turner

Northeast District

St. Bernards Medical Center

Ina Martin

Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center

Jackie Hern



Baptist Health Medical Center - North Little Rock

Submitted by Becky Blackard

BHMC-NLR Auxiliary has had a busy couple of months.

We enjoyed attending the AHAA convention in Little Rock the first week of November. It was great to see everyone. The next week in November we had our Auxiliary meeting. We had our new Vice President Jessica Rivera and our Chief Nursing Officer, Kimberly Walker attend and introduce themselves to our Auxiliary. We also gave a recap of the convention to the other Auxiliary members that could not make the meeting. First of December rolled around and we were busy fluffing the Christmas Trees and wreaths that are displayed here in the hospital. A few of us attended the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. We had fun wearing Christmas hats/headpieces during the holidays. Even Sunny, our Therapy dog and Becky, his handler wore some as they greeted patients and staff. Sunny is very popular around here. December 9th the BHMC-NLR Auxiliary gathered at Olive Garden for an appreciation meal and fun. We love our volunteers and so appreciate the hours of service that they donate each and every day. We pray all have a very Merry Christmas and a very Blessed New Year.



2023 AHAA State Convention
Embassy Suites
Little Rock





Auxiliary Meeting, November 2023



Getting in the Christmas spirit





Sunny, our Therapy dog,
with Becky, his handler



Appreciation meal at Olive Garden

North Central District

Baxter Health

Submitted by Joan Young

Happy New Year!

Another year has come to an end and I hope all had a joyous and blessed Christmas. Baxter Health Auxiliary ended on a very high note with over \$600,000 in donations to our hospital foundation; all due to our excellent, committed volunteers.

November was a busy month starting with state convention with 10 attending. We earned our 5-star award. We were also awarded the fundraising award for our 12 Days of Christmas Sale for hospitals over 100 Beds. Judy Shaffer was awarded (a well-deserved) Auxilian of the Year. She also finished up her term as President of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association. Jennifer Baker will serve another term as secretary on the state board for 2023-2024. Thank you Carolyn Rice for serving as historian for the state!

We did not sit on our laurels, barely home, the next day after convention we were setting up for our first Employee and Staff Arts and Crafts Fair. It was very successful with vendors wanting to do it again and others who did not participate this time wanting to make sure they did next time. So yes, this is going to become an annual event for us.

We matched the Foundation's Giving Tuesday with \$50,000 and donated \$25,000 to Lend a Hand which benefits our 3 Community Educational Houses.

December was another busy month starting the 1st day off with our Auxiliary Leadership Workshop. We set goals, addressed any problems, reviewed by-laws and policy and procedures. This is also the first opportunity for new board members to meet and work with the current board. A week later we all enjoyed dinner at Big Creek.

We were also able to purchase a new-to-us van at \$40,000 for donation pickups for the Bargain Box in the month of December.

The Pink-a-Dilly Gift Shop continued the 12 Days of Christmas Sale and Carolyn Hannon led the way in our Christmas Gift Wrap fundraiser.

At our December General Meeting, we honored Debbie Swan, gift shop manager, and Karla Tyler, Mountain Home Bargain Box Manager, with a \$5,000 donation in each of their names to The Foundation, honoring their exceptional work and consistently record-breaking sales. Carolyn Hannon was honored with a \$25,000 donation to the Foundation in her name for her continued exceptional service to the auxiliary. It was during Carolyn's term as our Auxiliary President that the \$1 Million Dollar endowment was established in 2005. This year marked the \$1 millionth dollar being donated back to the hospital from this endowment. We were entertained by Jeanie Alley on the piano with Christmas Songs and a sing along.

No New Year's Resolutions here, just want everyone to have wonderful 2024!



Ozark Health Inc.

Submitted by Betty Spencer

November we had our Silent Auction Basket Fundraiser always a fun time and we managed to exceed last year's amount. December our fundraiser was Split The Pot again a very good event.

Happy New Year we hope and pray that all the members of our auxiliary families are safe and happy in the New Year. We start off with a trip to Market in January. February we will have a Thomas Distribution – Linen Sale this is a first for us and we hope it will be successful.

It is during the winter months that our activities slow down. A time to relax and revisit our calendar for the New Year.



White River Health

Submitted by Annie Solis

December: The WRH Auxiliary submitted Memorials recognizing the volunteers who passed in 2023 to the WRH Foundation Annual Life Lights Campaign. They were listed in an advertisement and on a video that was posted to the WRH Foundation Facebook Page.

December: Several WRMC Volunteers were recognized for their hours of service.

Judy Lawrence received a 6000 hour bar

Jim Kitsmiller received a 1000 hour bar

Warren Foxworthy received a 100 hour bar

Pam Brooks received a 50 hour patch

January 19: The Auxiliary Presidents Meeting will be hosted at WRMC Conference Room B from 10am until after lunch. The meeting consists of Auxiliary Presidents from healthcare organizations in our region.

February: Heart Health Month. National Wear Red Day is Friday, February 2. We plan to take a group photo with the Volunteers who are wearing red that day.





Forrest City Medical Center

Submitted by Faye Caldwell-Steadman

Past Events

November 1-3, 2023 – The State Convention was held at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock. FCMC Auxiliary Members that attended were: Wilma Powell, Dot Gores and Victoria Harris. A good time was had by all and FCMC Auxiliary was awarded a “5 Star Award for Excellence” for meeting all the 2023 required criteria. Big “Thank You” to all the FCMC Auxiliary for doing their part to make this special award happen!

November 23 & 24 - Gift Shop was closed for Thanksgiving.

November 29 - Auxiliary meeting held to present the FCMC Auxiliary members with Certificates and Pins for their total Auxiliary Volunteer Hours for 2023. Eileen Snider gave a very informative explanation on how the hours, pins and certificates were initiated years ago. The ceremony was combined with the FCMC annual Chili potluck (Wilma Powell has won the Chili cookoff award/trophy over the past few years given by FCMC CEO, Dr. Ballard). All the Auxiliary members brought their assigned potluck dishes. Special thank you to Judy Armstrong, Auxiliary Treasurer, for keeping all the Auxiliary members hours while Eileen was out on medical leave. Thank you to all that helped make it an eventful, fun and delicious day!

December Events:

Thank you to Auxiliary members Ronnie Nix, Faye Caldwell and Eileen Snider that decorated the FCMC Foyer Christmas tree.

Dec 7 – FCMC decorated the cafeteria with lovely Christmas decorations for the distribution of giving the Medical Staff and the Auxiliary Members a Holiday Ham, (for any hams not picked up, they were donated to local community organizations). Thank you FCMC for the very nice Holiday Ham!

December 14 - Auxiliary Holiday Party was held at the Crazy Donkey Restaurant in Colt with a member gift exchange, great food, great service with lots of laughing and fun!

December 25 through January 2, 2024 – Gift Shop closed for the Holidays

January 2024 – Happy New Year All!

Jan 2 - Gift Shop will reopen.

Jan: Wilma Powell and our DVS, Shelli Cissell, will look into a possible volunteer opportunity for the Auxiliary to visit a local Assisted Living Center. More TBC.

Blood Drive Schedule for 2024:

Jan 11; Mar 21; May 23; Jul 18; Sept 12 (FCMC Auxiliary members to help register donors TBC).

February 2024:

Possible Fundraising Events:

Bake Sales, Jewelry, Uniforms, Books and Toys. More exploring opportunities TBC.



Left: November Award Ceremony
Bottom row L to R: Victoria Harris,
Ronnie Nix, Dorothy Faulkner
Top Row L to R: Jean Moore, Judy
Jackson, Elsie King, Eileen Snider,
Wilma Powell, Faye Caldwell



Right: Christmas Luncheon
L to R: Dorothy Faulkner, Faye Caldwell,
Jean Moore, Wilma Powell



Left: Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon
L to R: Jean Moore, Wilma Powell,
Victoria Harris, Eileen Snider, Shirley Clay
Swearengin, Judy Armstrong, Elsie King,
Ronnie Nix

NEA Baptist

Submitted by Kathy Miller



NEA Baptist lightning of the Christmas tree event, Sunday, November 19, 2023.
Left: Sam Lynd, Coach Hodgson, Betty Louy, and Polly Clark



Right: Betty, Faye, and Polly



Duck Classic Event, December 8, 2023
The auxiliary donated an Apple package and also worked the event.
Geraldine; President Betty Louy;
Sam Lynd, CEO NEA; Ginny Presgrove;
Roy Ruynan



Auxiliary member Evelyn Glisson made Christmas stockings for NEA Hospital labor and delivery for newborns, December 2023.

Left: Evelyn Glisson and Sara Lampert



Right: Evelyn holding a stocking she made



Auxiliary members worked an employee tax free sale at Dillard's on December 12 - 14, 2023.



The auxiliary donated \$50,000 to assist in operating costs of the NEA Mobile Health Unit. Ribbon cutting ceremony was held on December 15, 2023.



The auxiliary made monetary donations to United Way, The Salvation Army, and the Foundation of Arts in the month of December.

Left: Roy Runyan presented Casey Kidd of United Way. Cassey is the UW Finance Director.

Right: Sandy presenting auxiliary donation check of \$500 to Salvation Army Captain Charles Smith.



St. Bernards Medical Center

Submitted by Dean Rossa

Ten St Bernards Auxiliary members attended AHAA Convention Nov. 1-3 in Little Rock. They were Rebeca Starks, Betty Moad, Sue Westenrieder, Cristy Tyler, Jackie Leech, Pat Farmer, Janet Hardin, Linda Dunham, Sondra Bostic, and Diana Zachary.



In Memory

Ina Martin: April 3, 1918 - November 1, 2023

Ina was a volunteer for St. Bernards Auxiliary for many years. She served as Corresponding Secretary for 2008-2013 and worked in the Gift Shop as long as her health permitted. She had been a bookkeeper for the Log Cabin Democrat Newspaper before moving to Jonesboro.



Our annual Awards Luncheon was held November 16 in the St Bernards Auditorium. Pat Farmer, our new Volunteer Director, greeted volunteers at the event. (Pat Farmer pictured). Rebecca Starks presided. A big Thank You to the hospital for all the gifts and thanks to volunteers from the hospital at the Awards meeting.

St Bernards Auxiliary hosted the 35th annual Light Up a Life event at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 28, in the St Bernards Tower Lobby. The event featured a tree lighting, refreshments, and a visit from Santa. The public purchased ornaments for the tree to honor others. Proceeds went to the Cancer Support fund.



Pictured in the tree lighting picture are left to right: Jackie Leech, Jane Orndorff, Betty Moad, Rebecca Starks, Pat Farmer, Lydia Parkey.



Mercy Hospital Berryville

Submitted by Emma Jean Vance

Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary wishes you a very Happy New Year.

In November we were very excited to represent at the State Convention and support our newly installed State President Neta Sue Stamps. At our November Board Meeting, Neta Sue presented our Administrator Darrin Caldwell with his own unicorn headband. We hosted a Blood Drive and Nut Sale in November. In December we had a potluck Christmas Luncheon and our monthly board meeting. We collected Non-skid Christmas socks as a community project for the Blossoms Care Center for each of their residents. We attended a meet and greet for our new general surgeon Dr. Ennes and wished Dr Bill Flake a happy retirement.

We had a Lavender & Nut sale. Our gift shop had a raffle for a quilt made by our Gift store Chair Nancy Olrech. We are in the process of buying a new refrigerator for our gift shop. In February we look forward to attending our Mercy Gala held by our Mercy Foundation Board. The funds raised at the Gala will go towards a permanent facility to house an MRI machine.



Carolyn Bosshardt and
Emma Jean Vance with Angie Hill
from Blossoms Care Center.



Vickie Allen and Nancy Olrech.



Administrator Darrin Caldwell



Neta Sue Stamps, AHAA President





Southeast District

Chicot Memorial Medical Center

Submitted by Dean Ann Smith

We took in a little over \$10,600.00 for our Breast Cancer Silent Auction held on Oct. 19, 2023.



November 13 – 17th , we held a silent auction for the Christmas wreaths designed by the hospital depts.

Pictured on the left is the wreath from Chronic Care Management Dept.

On Dec. 7th, we held our annual Christmas Tea for the hospital employees and staff.

Pictured on the right is the Christmas Tea.





We stuffed Christmas stockings on Dec. 22nd for the patients in the hospital and the rehab patients..

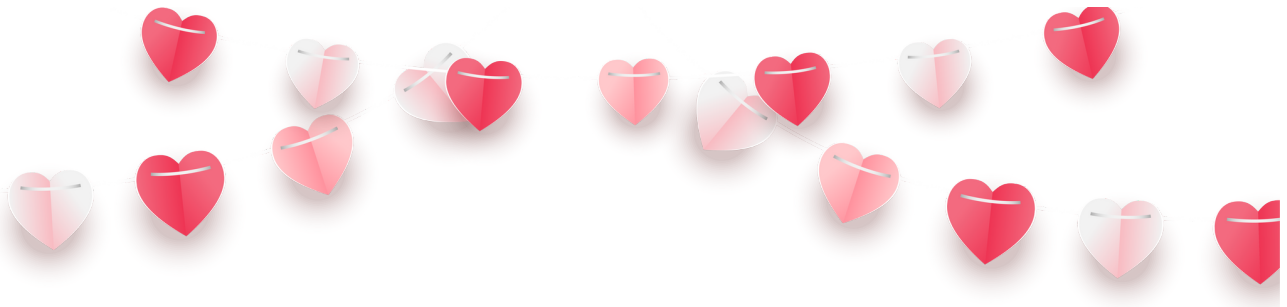
Pictured on the left is the S.E. Rehab with their patients' stockings.

Three of our auxilian ladies judged the clinic doors for the Christmas Door Decorations Contest on Dec. 20th. First place winner was Chronic Care Management.

Pictured on the right is the first place winner, Chronic Care Management.



Our next upcoming project will be our Valentine's Candy Sale in February.



Delta Memorial Hospital

Submitted by Brenda Norman

The completion of a successful year

The last two months of 2023 were a very busy and productive. Thanks to everyone for your support in helping to make our year a success.

The DMH Auxiliary attended the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association (AHAA) 65th State Convention November 1-3, 2023, at the Embassy Suite Hotel in Little Rock. DMH Auxiliary received a 5-star Award of Excellence. Christina Rainey (right) received the "Auxilian of the Year" award from the state for hospital under 100 beds.

Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary recognized at state convention



The Thanksgiving Bake Sale held November 22, spearheaded by Juanita Moreland was a big success. The auxiliary raised \$1,050 for the bake sale. Great Job, ladies.

The Joy of Christmas

Decorating the Christmas tree in the hospital lobby was the first task the Auxilians performed in spreading the Christmas cheer to patients, families and the employees at Delta Memorial Hospital.





The tree lighting, cookie baking for the reception following the tree lighting, extended hours at the gift shop, sale of Christmas tree light cards for the scholarships, a Christmas Door Decorating Contest and presents of Christmas cookies for the hospital employees.

Winner of Christmas Door Decorating Contest
First Place winner was the Med.- Surge door.
Theme: Nurses Call the shots. The Auxiliary provided the cash prizes for the three places and the judges.



Welcome 2024!!

The auxiliary will again this year rang in the New Year, January 1, with Community Prayer at the Dumas Community Center. Local pastors are invited to participate in the prayer as well as others from the community. The auxiliarians will serve as ushers or help in other ways. We look forward to having a blessed prayer service and a successful 2024.

The DMH Auxiliary meetings are held at the Dumas Community Center the third Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. The dates for the meetings in the first quarter are January 18, February 15, and March 21.

Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center

Submitted by Linda L. Passafiume

Good times were had at the State Convention in November. Six (6) members attended – Tina Raine, Donna Lowery, Jackie Hern, Jerry and Dorothy Berley and myself – Linda Passafiume. We enjoyed the fellowship with members across the State, the guest speakers were excellent and we had a blast at “Cruise” night on Thursday. Congratulations are in order to Neta Sue Stamps installed as the 2024 AHAA President.

On Monday November 27th Dorothy Berley, Greta Davis and Lil Smith decorated the OCMC lobby Christmas tree with the “Gift of Life in Lights” red donation tickets. Tickets were both in Honor of and Memory of friends and relatives both in and out of the Community. Proceeds from the raffle benefit the Auxiliary Nursing Scholarship Fund.

Our quarterly Christmas meeting was held on Thursday, December 7th. Twenty (20) members and 4 guests attended. A short video on Shooter safety was presented by Jocelyn Watkins RN “Run, Hide, Fight”. Diane Isaacs, RN thanked the members for the donation to construct a permanent outside shower for Decon patients and CEO Peggy Abbott updated the members on hospital activities and sang our favorite Christmas song “Christmas Bell”.

Our year end Community Project for the Women’s Crisis Center was a huge success. We collected personal hygiene items for the center which were delivered on December 22nd by Jerry and Dorothy Berley, in time for Christmas. We look forward to our employee scrub sale February 27 and 28, 2024 and of course Valentine day in our gift shop.

Get well wishes are in order for Jerry Berley who attended Convention. President Jerry Berley was diagnosis with the big “C” and is currently receiving treatment. Please include Jerry in your thoughts and prayers.

In memory of our dear auxiliary secretary, historian, scrape book chair and assistant gift shop manager Jackie Hern. Jackie attended her first convention and at the end of November suffered a stroke and passed away on December 20, 2023. Jackie was born in Camden in 1970. She leaves behind her daughter Misty Hern and numerous nieces and nephews and special friends Gordon and Mary Wylie.

OCMC Auxiliary encourages you to hold your family and friends close and wishes each of you a prosperous and healthy 2024 New Year.



Pictured to the left: Ouachita County Medical Center Auxiliary members attend Cruise Night at AHAA State Convention – left to right – Jackie Hern, Donna Lowery, Linda Passafiume, Tina Raine, Dorothy and Jerry Berley.

Pictured on the right: Ouachita County Medical Center employee Joycelyn Watkins RN presenting “Run, Hide, Fight” video at December quarterly meeting.



Pictured on the left: Decorating the tree – Dorothy Berley, Lil Smith and on the ladder Greta Davis.



Pictured on the left: Dorothy Berley delivering items to the Women's Crisis Center staff (Jerry Berley taking the picture).

Pictured on the right: Ouachita County Medical Center Auxiliary member Jackie Hern passed away on December 20, 2023.



Valley District

No hospitals reporting.





AHAA 66th Convention and Annual Meeting
October 30 - November 1, 2024
Embassy Suites by Hilton
11301 Financial Centre Parkway
Little Rock, AR 72211

Please submit articles for the newsletter to charlotte.jackson33@gmail.com
The deadline for the March/April 2024 issue is February 29, 2024.

AHAA now has a private Facebook group, Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association. The purpose of this group is to share pictures and news from your auxiliaries.

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