

THE CHRONICLE

Spring/May 2015

Carol Crane, President-Elect/Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There have been ongoing changes and challenges in the healthcare field this year, as in the past several years. I'm happy to say that your East Central District Board and the MAHA Board have gone to great lengths to keep abreast of the latest information and act on it accordingly. We will continue to work together to provide our members with legislative news, updates on hospital projects, Volunteer/Auxiliary Group achievements and future plans. The more knowledge you have available to you, the easier it will be to adapt and flourish!

Memorial Healthcare, Owosso, has worked diligently with the East Central District to present your spring conference, "Tea in the Garden". How appropriate, as we are all glad to welcome warmer temperatures and spring flowers!

This past year has gone by rather quickly for me. It has been a whirlwind of new and exciting experiences and I have really enjoyed every one of them. It is now time to pass the torch and welcome your ECD Board for 2016-2017. I will remain in the position of Counselor for the next year. In addition, I've accepted the position of Legislative Director on the MAHA Board and look forward to serving you in that capacity as well.

For those of you I have met during my time as ECD President, my heartfelt thanks for your hospitality and friendship! I've had the privilege of attending several of your luncheons and conducting your Installation Ceremonies, something I've very much enjoyed. Your responses to my phone calls and emails have been



EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT



MAHA

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAHA Annual Conference
Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island
June 9 – 11, 2015

ECD Fall Meeting
Horizons Center, Saginaw
September 23, 2015

MAHA Fall Conference
Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville
October 12 – 14, 2015

greatly appreciated. I regret that it was not possible for me to attend each and every luncheon and celebration throughout the year. As we look ahead to the coming months, we are seeking one of our ECD Hospitals to co-host the fall 2016 ECD conference. It is a very rewarding experience, offering comradery and fun. Please contact me if you would like more information as to what is involved and I'll be happy to answer any questions you have!

My warmest congratulations to the incoming East Central District Board. I'm certain they will do an outstanding job in their respective positions. They each bring enthusiasm and expertise to the table. Please extend your support to them as you have so kindly done for me!

In the coming year, I am moving to the MAHA elected position of Secretary. Installation will be during the MAHA Annual Meeting on Mackinac Island. My journey continues and I am looking forward to seeing all of you along the way.

Anne Lorentzen, ECD President
amlorentzen5803@charter.net
989-792-6002



OFFICERS ECD Board 2014/2015

<i>President:</i>	<i>Anne Lorentzen, Covenant HealthCare, Saginaw</i>
<i>President-Elect:</i>	<i>Carol Crane, Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Sandy Reardon, MidMichigan Medical Center, Midland</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Ron Thiel, Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc</i>
<i>VP Membership:</i>	<i>Sheryllynn Russo, Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc</i>
<i>VP Historian/PR:</i>	<i>Pam Starkweather, Memorial Healthcare, Owosso</i>
<i>Counselor:</i>	<i>Janet Barker, Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc</i>

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<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Sandy Reardon, MidMichigan Medical Center, Midland</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Jeanette Smith, Memorial Healthcare, Owosso</i>
<i>VP Membership:</i>	<i>Beth Greene, Caro Community Hospital, Caro</i>
<i>VP Historian/PR:</i>	<i>Pam Starkweather, Memorial Healthcare, Owosso</i>
<i>Counselor:</i>	<i>Anne Lorentzen, Covenant HealthCare, Saginaw</i>


“Volunteering” is the policy or practice of giving one's time or talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community!

NEWS from Our Membership



CARO CUMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Caro Community Hospital Auxiliary has been very busy in 2015. We have sponsored a uniform sale as well as a book sale. We are planning our Annual Spring Dessert/Tea which will be held in April. Special activities are being planned for Hospital Week. We will begin selling tickets in April for our annual raffle which is a major fundraising event for our Auxiliary. Prizes include a 50" flat screen television and a Kindle Fire HD!



COVENANT HEALTHCARE – SAGINAW

Covenant Healthcare hosted an Emergency Preparedness Fair at Bliss Park in October. Emergency Responders and safety staff were on hand to give residents tips on what is needed to be prepared for unforeseen situations.

In November, our very own Carol Cottrell, Director of Covenant Healthcare Foundation, was awarded the Robert H. Albert Lifetime Community Service Award by the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations, Carol!

We held our Tree of Love ceremony in December. We raised \$7,300, in part thanks to St. Laurent's Candy sale, which contributed \$1,086, and gift wrapping donations of \$168, which came from our Concierge Department. Our pledge to the Family Comfort Fund was met.

Upcoming events include the Covenant Kids Telethon, the Volunteer Dinner and Installation of Officers, and the Spring Fling, the sale of plants and hanging baskets for outdoors.

Sue Myers



GENESYS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – GRAND BLANC

We've embarked on a busy fundraising schedule once again. January brought our popular shoe sale, followed by the Goodies Chocolatiers sale in February, offering delicious Valentine gift options. A book sale was presented in March. Back by popular demand will be the Baubles and Bags sale and also a Jewelry Plus sale, both of which will be held in April. May brings our very popular All That Art and Sports sale, offering many unique items.

Our Volunteers are eager to welcome two new faces to our midst, both of whom come to us highly recommended. A new assistant, Connie Davila, will soon grace the Volunteer Office, supporting Karen VanCura, our Director of Volunteer Services. Connie assisted us last year when temporary help was needed and will now join us as a regular employee. Connie served as Executive Secretary to the Chancellor at the University of Michigan – Flint for many years. She is very friendly, always smiling, and very efficient too!

The Evergreen, Genesys' onsite Greenhouse, also has a new manager who arrived in February. Mike Himmelspach is responsible for managing all operations of the EverGreen greenhouse and retail sales.

In addition, a portion of his time will be spent facilitating the Women in Agriculture Farm Center, a new undertaking shared by Genesys, Genesys Volunteers and the community, which will 'open' on our campus in the spring. We're very excited about this new venture and expect it to be a great success!

June will bring our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, always an enjoyable time, followed by our Installation of Officers. We continue to look forward to serving the patients and staff at Genesys Regional Medical Center!

Carol Crane,
Volunteer President



HARBOR BEACH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL



HEALTHSOURCE - SAGINAW



HILLS AND DALES GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary had a busy Christmas season. Our hospital employees are very supportive of the gift shop throughout the holidays which in turn, helps us to give back to them. We have purchased a Stretcher for the OR Department, a reclining chair for the Blood Draw Lab and a couch and two chairs for the Swing Bed Program family room, at a total cost of about \$10,000.00. In the spring when the ground thaws, they will be installing the new Heat and Air conditioning unit in the front lobby at a cost of about \$9,000.00. We have been Busy Bee's again.

We are so happy to welcome four new members who are ready to work in the Gift shop, the Mail Room and with all the special events we have in the planning stages. March 26 and 27th will be a Used Book Sale. A Blood Drive is scheduled for April 7th and we supply the cookies needed for that. The Health Fair is April 10th. Our volunteers are always ready to help out with registration and directing guests to the right department for blood draws and tests.

We are now working under the Umbrella of Hills and Dales Foundation to purchase new equipment, make building improvements and support educational programs exclusively at Hills & Dales General Hospital.

With spring in the air, our tasks will be a breeze. In the near future we will sponsor a Books are Fun sale, a Uniform Sale and we are planning the \$5.00 Masquerade Jewelry sale.

Patricia Greenwood



HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER - FLINT

Officially, spring has sprung, at least according to the equinox. Think they forgot to let Michigan weather know it is supposed to be getting warmer! Oh, well! That is one of the joys of living in the "mitten."

Hurley's Auxiliary just celebrated its 59th anniversary. Seventy-three attended our birthday luncheon, honoring our past presidents, showcasing our new royal blue smocks and celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Besides enjoying a lovely meal, we held our first ever purse bingo. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, especially the winners of some lovely purses for the ladies and masculine gifts for the men. Might be a possible future fund raiser.

The Auxiliary was able to give a check to the Hurley Medical Center for \$100,000 for pediatric renovations. Funds for this donation were earned through our Lobby Shop sales, and vendor sales. Our Auxilians will also participate in the Children's Miracle Network Telethon in June and offer their support with their annual check.

In April we will be holding a shoe sale and in July we are trying our first employee vendor sale. Our linen sale in January was a huge success, partially due to the cold weather in Michigan-blankets come in handy!

Installation of new officers will take place at our May luncheon. It has been a year of learning and meeting new people for me. Thanks to all who have given their expertise.

Tani Konzer,
Auxiliary President



HURON MEDICAL CENTER – BAD AXE



MARLETTE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

The Marlette Regional Hospital Ladies Auxiliary has kept very busy this past year. We continue to have great participation with our Greeter Program which the hospital appreciates. Our Gift shop has done well this year and has donated back to the auxiliary \$3000 which we used for patient care. We have done a number of things for our extended care unit this past year. We purchased 10 oak dresses and 9 dressers the previous year and a refrigerator for our Assisted Living facility.

In November we took on a large task by combining our vendor fair with a craft show. This was extremely successful for us. We also sold homemade cheese balls at this event which were very

well received by our community. Combined with proceeds from our \$5 jewelry sales in the spring and fall we were able to purchase 21 tables with a cart for the hospital. We also contributed funds to our Caring Hearts Clinic, HOSA and the Tree of Shining Love.

Our big venture this spring is partnering with McKenzie Hospital in Sandusky to sponsor “The Evelyn Smallbladder Show”. We have been working together to get sponsors for gift baskets and large items for a raffle. We will split the expenses and the profits. It has been great fun working with each other on this project.

Rosann Clark,
Auxiliary President



MCKENZIE HEALTH SYSTEM – SANDUSKY



MCLAREN - FLINT

It’s hard to believe that winter is almost behind us and the blooming daffodils and crocuses tell us spring is just around the corner. In fiscal year 2013 - 2014 we had 1,988 volunteers that worked 41,275.5 hours in the 29 service areas we support. The most fantastic start to our year was the long awaited renovation of the “Special Things Gift Shop”. The gift shop re-opened on March 16, 2015. It is some bigger, much brighter and more beautiful than ever!!! New gift shop manager, Phyllis Hill, would be delighted if when you’re in the area you would stop by to visit. Vice President, Judy Dawson, has worked diligently to bring back tried and true vendor sales and she has scheduled several new and exciting ones we look forward to later in the year. Brenda Ferguson, Director of Volunteers, continues to do an outstanding job orienting, matching and placing volunteers in available services and adding new services as needed. Brenda, Judy Dawson, and I met with Sarah Knochel to look over the VSys One, a volunteer management software system that Covenant Hospital uses for volunteer check-in. We really appreciated the time Sarah and her staff spent with us. We are still researching the best fit for our organization.

Ginny Livingston,
President



MCLAREN BAY REGION – BAY CITY



MCLAREN LAPEER REGIONAL



MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE - OWOSSO

We will be having our Spring Fashion Show at our April 14th meeting. Models will be wearing fashions from The Four Seasons Gift Shop. Anyone attending the meeting will be able to purchase fashions with a 20% discount that day.

Our eighth annual “Steps for Courage” 5K Run and Competitive Walk will be held April 25th. All proceeds will go to the Cancer Center to continue fighting cancer in our community.

Our commitment to Memorial Healthcare this year will be to help complete the renovations to the Family Birth Center and renovations to the Behavior Health Center.

Meredith Keating,
President



MIDMICHIGAN MEDICAL CENTER - CLARE



MIDMICHIGAN MEDICAL CENTER - GLADWIN

2014 ended with the Love Light Tree event. The volunteers help provide the support for this holiday event. No sooner had 2015 made an entrance than the volunteers were busy preparing for the 2nd annual Bra La La! This fundraiser was even more successful than last year with proceeds of \$25,000 to be earmarked for the women's health and mammography scholarship fund for women in Gladwin County who might otherwise not be able to afford the screening and assistance necessary for optimum health. The community was extremely supportive. As the spring season arrives, so do the kindergarten and first grade students for Tot Tours. The volunteers provide a nonthreatening visit for the youth to see what happens in the hospital and to learn there are friends there who want to help them if they are ill or injured. Volunteers especially enjoy providing this service. Looking forward to summer brings planning for the 47th annual Doe Day woman's golf outing. This will be held at Sugar Springs Golf Course on August 5 and more information will be announced later.

The volunteers continue to serve the hospital in various areas: gift shop, reception desks, ambassador and other programs. Fundraising projects are offered most every month with funds

providing equipment for patient care and staff support. The group has welcomed several new members who are already actively involved.

Mary Griffore,
President



MIDMICHIGAN MEDICAL CENTER – GRATIOT / ALMA

The auxiliary at MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot in Alma has again been very busy planning and conducting our fund raisers. The Lights of Love, which we hold every December, was a big success. We had the Candy and Nut sale, Baubles and Bags sale and we're looking forward to the Uniform Sale, the New Book and Gift Fair, and the Installation of Officers luncheon. Let's not forget the Appreciation Tea the hospital has for all the volunteers every year in April. Hope to see some of you at the ECD and MAHA functions. Happy summer to all!

Lillian Connors
Auxiliary President



MIDMICHIGAN MEDICAL CENTER - MIDLAND



SCHEURER HEALTHCARE NETWORK – PIGEON

Scheurer Hospital Auxiliary has had a busy fall but quiet winter. Our fall fund raisers included: The Holly Berry Fair (we sold cheese balls), Healthercize - an exercise expo, held at the Laker High School which benefitted the school health station and was staffed by the Hospital, a Pasta Dinner at a local restaurant, and a great Christmas Party in December. We will begin our 2015 monthly meetings in April and I'm sure we will have another successful year, as we have many dedicated members - and we have fun also!!

Kathy Vondette,
President





ST. JOSEPH HEALTH SYSTEM – TAWAS CITY

St. Joseph's volunteers are contemplating adding some new services to their roster of projects. The first will be a popcorn sale, then the formation of a Green Thumb Club that will help maintain the hospital campus plant beds, as well as a traveling SMILE Cart (Smiles Make Illness a Little Easier) for patient rooms and waiting rooms. We have added the sewing of heart shaped pillows to our home projects list. These pillows are sent home with women who have recently undergone a stereotactic breast biopsy procedure.

The St. Joseph volunteers have fulfilled their pledge of \$76,000, promised for Emergency Department renovations, early! We have also fulfilled our pledge of \$22,732.25 for the purchase of Accucheck Glucose Monitoring machines.

Dawn Knapp



ST. MARY'S OF MICHIGAN – SAGINAW

CELEBRATION TIME! 2015 marks the 55th anniversary of our Volunteer Alliance (previously called Auxiliary) and our Gift Shop, as well as the 140th anniversary of the hospital. We look forward to participating in a year of celebration! Come join us!

Our annual fundraisers are being planned to include a quilt auction, the \$5 jewelry sale, a book sale and a No-Bake Bake sale for Holy Week. We are working on scheduling a "gift for our Associates" to acknowledge and thank them for their dedicated work during our anniversary year as well.

On January 30, 2015, we celebrated with Shirley Gnatkowski her retirement as the Gift Shop Coordinator. What a blessing she has been to the Alliance and the hospital!

We are hosting the ECD Spring Meeting at Horizons in Saginaw this year and we hope to see you all there. This will be a joyous year at St. Mary's of Michigan-Saginaw.

Betty Nagel,
Volunteer Alliance President



MAHA BOARD 2014/2015

<i>President:</i>	<i>Jeanette Havel</i>	<i>ECD</i>
<i>President Elect:</i>	<i>Nancy Viele</i>	<i>ECD</i>
<i>Vice President Education:</i>	<i>Mary Lu Cramer</i>	<i>SED</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Bobbi Bruckman</i>	<i>ECD</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Ed Huga</i>	<i>ECD</i>
<i>Counselor:</i>	<i>Alma Bershas</i>	<i>SED</i>

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