

ECD President Update October 2017

I woke up this morning to see frost on the ground for the first time this fall. We have had weather challenges all summer with little rain. September brought rain we needed. I do hope we have plenty of snow to cover those vulnerable perennials for the winter.

My vegetable garden has been put to bed. I still have other island flower beds to clean up, plant some spring bulbs, and warmer days are better for this. We have to pick and choose those times to complete tasks in the garden and in life.

Our fall MAHA conference had a theme "Prisms of Possibilities". For me, prisms represent life, and in that life, there are many challenges we face. Seldom is there a straight line to any solution. Looking for solutions is like refracted light going through a prism. There is displacement. It is bent and often we are given little challenges before we have any issue resolved or before we can reach our goal. Once that issue is resolved or that goal is met we see a special rainbow in the end. That beautiful prism leads us through the experience of finding the answer and being rewarded with the rainbow and that pot of gold which brings such euphoric peacefulness. We enjoy that feeling for a time.....and then on to the next challenge. That's Life!

The MAHA Annual Meeting and Educational Conference and the Fall MAHA Conference had an electricity that filled each facility with renewed interest and excitement. People were friendly, and eager to visit with each other, sharing ideas about their hospitals and life in general. Those who have gone previously look for those special friends perhaps only seen at these conferences, catching up on all things possible. Others meet new friends and may begin a lifelong friendship. It is important, no matter the event, to pause and reflect that which is around you.

Thanks for those articles and pictures that have come in from your hospitals for the next *Highlights* Magazine (January, 2018 issue). Although the deadline is November 1, 2017, please know we can work with you to get things in as soon as you can.

Please note: Information for the April, 2018 issue is due February 1, 2018.

Information for the September, 2018 issue is due July 1, 2018.

I know some like to add deadlines to their 2018 calendars.

Until the next time, Jeannette Smith, President ECD/MAHA

<p>Highlights Information Deadlines: Nov.1, 2017 for Jan., 2018 issue Feb.1, 2018 for Apr., 2018 issue July 1, 2018 for Sept., 2018 issue</p>	<p>May 23, 2018 ECD Spring Conf. Saginaw Sept. 26, 2018 ECD Fall Conf. Saginaw May 22, 2019 ECD Spring Conf. Saginaw</p>
<p>June 4-6, 2018 MAHA Annual Meeting & Ed. Institute - Crystal Mountain</p>	<p>June 11-13, 2019 • MAHA Annual Mtg. & Educational Institute • TBD based on future discussion</p>

