President’s Message

Hark, we have all emerged from a Michigan winter and are now being rewarded with the return of warmer weather and the emergence of our perennials. (MAHA presidents always take a gamble on writing these words because we have to get our crystal balls out and predict what April will be while we are writing these missives the first part of February.)

It is gratifying to review the steps that the MAHA Board has taken on behalf of the membership to move our organization forward. We welcomed two new organizations to MAHA—Borgess, Kalamazoo and Henry Ford-Detroit. We established three ad hoc committees to revamp the Highlights and the Annual Report and to set up a Facebook presence for MAHA. The Board has also taken to heart our theme for the year of “Communicate, Educate and Motivate”. The Board members were given the task of personally contacting 500 individuals from the general membership to talk with you and find out how we can make your volunteer experience more rewarding. We are closing in on that number. We have also talked with many of the Directors of Volunteers to seek their advice on workshop topics which they feel would benefit you in your jobs at your hospitals which you will see offered in upcoming conferences.

In speaking with organizations that are not a member of MAHA we have received comments about our Highlights and MAHA website. They have looked at both with fresh eyes. Observations have been shared that both of these vehicles seem to trend toward organizations with only traditional auxiliaries. Over the last five years, more and more of our organizations are transforming to volunteer groups without boards. The MAHA Board is committed to revamping both the Highlights and MAHA Website to reflect both the traditional auxiliary organization and the organizations who have volunteer groups. We will be calling on you in the near future to ask for your suggestions how we can change, add or delete for these two communication tools to be of benefit to all of our members.

In closing, thank you for your many words of encouragement and advice over the past year. Representing MAHA as your president has been an experience that I will treasure. This organization is not made up of single, solitary members; it is made up of a unified body of volunteers who, with a singleness of purpose, leave their hospitals better for them being a part of the institution.
### MAHA Looking Ahead, 2016-2021

The following dates are for your calendar — Information current as of April 1, 2016

**2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 6, 2016</td>
<td>MHA Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Okemos, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6-7, 2016</td>
<td>MAHA Committee Meetings</td>
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<td>Quality Inn Suites, Lansing</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8, 2016</td>
<td>MAHA Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Okemos, Michigan</td>
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<td>April 19, 2016</td>
<td>Healthcare Advocacy Day</td>
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<td>Lansing, Michigan</td>
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<td>April 24-26, 2016</td>
<td>SHVL Conference</td>
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<td>Jacksonville, Florida</td>
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<td>May 5, 2016</td>
<td>WCD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td>Carson City</td>
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<td>May 9, 2016</td>
<td>NCD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td>West Branch, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10-11, 2016</td>
<td>UPD Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Escanaba, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16, 2016</td>
<td>Executive Committee Conference Call</td>
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<td>May 17, 2016</td>
<td>SED Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Farmington Hills, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25, 2016</td>
<td>ECD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Horizon Center, Saginaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 26, 2016</td>
<td>SVD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td>Marshall, Michigan</td>
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<td>June 7-9, 2016</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12-14, 2016</td>
<td>MAHA Committee and Board Retreat Meeting</td>
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<td>DeWitt, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14-15, 2016</td>
<td>UPD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan</td>
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<td>September 20, 2016</td>
<td>SED Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Sterling Heights, Michigan</td>
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<td>September 22, 2016</td>
<td>SWD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>September 27, 2016</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Charlevoix Area Hospital</td>
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<td>September 28, 2016</td>
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<td>Horizon Center, Saginaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10-12th, 2016</td>
<td>MAHA Fall Conference</td>
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<td>Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth</td>
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**2017**

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<tr>
<td>May, 2017</td>
<td>NCD Installation Meeting</td>
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<td>Munson—Traverse City, Michigan</td>
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<td>May 10-11, 2017</td>
<td>UPD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td>May 24, 2017</td>
<td>ECD Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<td>Horizon Center – Saginaw, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 13-15, 2017</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11-13, 2017</td>
<td>MAHA Committee and Board Retreat Meeting</td>
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<td>DeWitt, Michigan</td>
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<td>September 6-7, 2017</td>
<td>UPD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>September, 2017**</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Mercy–Cadillac, Michigan</td>
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<td>September 27, 2017**</td>
<td>ECD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Horizon Center – Saginaw, Michigan</td>
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**2018**

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<td>West Shore-Manistee, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15, 2018</td>
<td>SED Spring Meeting/Installation</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 12-14, 2018</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<td>September, 2018**</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Mercy-Grayling, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11-13, 2019</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>September, 2019**</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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**2019**

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<td>NCD Installation Meeting</td>
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<td>Otsego-Gaylord, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11-13, 2019</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>September, 2019**</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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**2020 - 2021**

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<tr>
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<td>NCD Installation Meeting</td>
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<td>Cheboygan, Michigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9-11, 2020</td>
<td>MAHA Annual Meeting &amp; Educational Institute</td>
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<td>Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>September, 2021**</td>
<td>NCD Fall Meeting</td>
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<td>Frankfort, Michigan</td>
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* Attended by MAHA President
** Attended by MAHA President and MAHA President Elect (and/or VP Ed)
*** Attended by MAHA President, MAHA President Elect and MAHA Vice President of Education
Prepared by: Mary Lu Cramer, President Elect (248) 714-5774 or mcramer2@comcast.net

Please notify the MAHA President & President Elect as soon as you know of a new meeting date or meeting change so we can keep the calendar accurate and up to date. Thank You!
The MAHA 2016 Nominating Committee met to propose a slate of officers for the 2016-2017 for election at the Annual Meeting to be held June 7, 2016.

THE PROPOSED MAHA OFFICERS FOR 2016-2017:
- **Vice President Education:** Anne Lorentzen (East Central District)
- **Secretary:** Dean Billings (Southeast District)
- **Treasurer:** Deborah Northrop (Upper Peninsula District)
- **Legislative Advocacy Director:** Carol Crane (East Central District)
- **Membership Director:** Margaret Ohryn (Southeast District)
- **Conference Coordinator:** Bobbi Bruckman (East Central District)
- **Communications Director:** Sandra Rearden (East Central District)

AUTOMATICALLY SUCCEEDING TO OFFICE:
- **President:** Mary Lu Cramer (Southeast District)
- **President Elect:** Carol D’Alberto (Upper Peninsula District)
- **Counselor:** Nancy Viele (East Central District)

The appointed position of Vendor Coordinator shall be filled by Janet Barker (East Central District)

As directed by MAHA Bylaws each nominee received a letter requesting written Confirmation of Acceptance of the nomination. Signed letters have been returned and are on file with the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations.

Article X, Section 7 of the MAHA Bylaws provides that “additional nominations may be made by a petition of five (5) member auxiliaries/volunteer organizations of MAHA with a written consent of the nominee, submitted to the Secretary at least fourteen (1) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

THE MAHA 2016 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:
- **Chairman:** Jeanette Havel, MAHA Counselor (East Central District)
- **Member:** Nancy Viele, MAHA President (East Central District)
- **Member:** Mary Lu Cramer, MAHA President Elect (Southeast District)
- **Member:** Lois Castle, Volunteer Member (North Central District)
- **Member:** Cathy Crimmins, MAHA Past President (Upper Peninsula District)
Our theme for our 67th Annual Meeting and Educational Institute says it all. Basically, if we can dream it, we can make it happen. Our speakers and workshop presenters will help us realize our potential and our tremendous worth as volunteers to our healthcare organizations.

The MAHA Board is delighted to welcome you to the conference, and will be staffing the Hospitality Room during the entire registration from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. We have planned a First Timers’ meeting at 3:30 p.m. for those who have never attended the Annual Conference. We want the First Timers to feel as though they “know the lay of the land” when they start off with their first Annual Meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Grand Hotel Theatre. We have invited the American Legion Post K 299 back to do our flag ceremony. Those who have been in attendance have remarked that they appreciate this effort of patriotism.
MAHA 67th Annual Meeting and Educational Institute

Following the opening ceremonies, during which there will be some new elements, a short business meeting will commence during which the conference delegates will participate in the election of the 2016-2017 officers. We will receive an overview of the conference and hotel amenities following the election.

Our opening speaker will be Jeanne Sexson, a nationally renowned speaker, whose topic will be “Change Your Focus to Get New Results” which will be an upbeat and interactive presentation for all to explore a toolbox of suggestions to gain greater confidence and reduce stress. Jeanne will also be expanding her topic at a workshop on Wednesday. Following this speaker we will be treated to the culinary delights at dinner in the Main Dining Room as only the Grand Hotel can provide. The night does not end with dinner, as you are invited to the six District Receptions in the Grand, Governor and Milliken Suites.

Wednesday morning, as we awake to the pleasant sound of horses’ hooves on the pavement and after enjoying a wonderful breakfast in the main dining room, we will hear the current legislative and hospital issues from our MHA representatives who always keep us updated on the events of importance. It should be very interesting in this election year.

The three workshops provide variations on our theme. Jeanne Sexson’s “Change Your Focus — a Continuation” will expand the opening speaker’s presentation. Abby Miller will be presenting “Aspiring Volunteers” which will give participants a glimpse into a community volunteer outreach project that was once a thought but became a reality. Theresa Powerski will be presenting “Volunteer Impact on Patient Satisfaction” to help us understand how volunteers can effect change to even the financial bottom line at their hospitals. The workshops will be offered twice — once at 10:30 a.m. and again at 1 p.m.

After our lunch and last workshop we have scheduled the “Tea and Talk Networking Session” to be hosted by Carol D’Alberto and Anne Lorentzen, our present and incoming VPs of Education. Be sure to stop in, have some tea and network with your fellow volunteers from across the state. Following the Tea and Talk you will have two hours to find a quiet place to allow more time for you network one-on-one with your fellow attendees. That little nook could be in the Cupola Bar that affords fantastic views of the island.

Late Wednesday afternoon MHA will be hosting a pre-dinner reception on the front porch of the Grand (weather permitting) to put us all in the celebratory mood for our banquet and installation of MAHA Board members. Following the banquet and installation, everyone is invited to a reception in the Governor’s Suite hosted by the newly installed president, Mary Lu Cramer.

Following breakfast on Thursday, our Closing Speaker, Eleni Kelakos, whose topic is “Touch the Sky,” will provide the audience with an energizing, interactive experience that weaves together original songs, stories, humor and simple strategies to encourage us to re-connect with our passion for caring about our work as healthcare volunteers.

The Board has dusted the furniture, changed the sheets, bought extra food and has put a candle in the window — see you June 7th at the Grand Hotel.

Nancy Viele, MAHA President
MAHA 67th Annual Meeting and Educational Institute – Agenda

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
  Registration (Terrace Room)
  Hospitality Room (Terrace Room)

3:30 p.m.
  First Timers’ Meeting (Ford Room)

4 p.m.
  Rooms Available for Registrants

4 – 5 p.m.
  MAHA ANNUAL MEETING (Theatre)
    Welcome
    Nancy Viele, MAHA President
    Opening Prayer
    Mary Lu Cramer, President Elect
  Flag Ceremony
  (By Federal law people may not be admitted to the theater while the flag ceremony is in process)
  American Legion Post K 299
  Business Meeting
  Election of Officers

Conference Orientation
  Carol D’Alberto, VP Education

Hotel Orientation
  Gail Riley, Conf. Coord.

5 – 6 p.m.
  OPENING SPEAKER (Theatre)
  “Change Your Focus to Get New Results”
  Jeanne Sexson

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
  Dinner (Main Dining Room)

8:30 – 9:45 p.m.
  District Receptions
  NCD/SWD (Suite 218)
  ECD/SED (Suite 246)
  WCD/UPD (Suite 291)

9:45 p.m.
  MAHA Current Board Meeting
  (Room 218)

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you are allowed 30 hours for attending the MAHA Annual Meeting and Fall Conference? Just report back to your hospital after you attended the meetings and have your total hours served as a volunteer updated. These meetings are held for your benefit as a volunteer. The information presented is intended to help you become better at the things you do for your hospital. Claim the hours and boost your total volunteer hours.
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016**

6:30 – 7:30 a.m.
**Early Morning Walkers (Front Porch)**

7:30 – 8:45 a.m.
**Breakfast (Main Dining Room)**

8:45 – 10:15 a.m.
*Legislative & Hospital Issues Today* (Theatre)
Brian Peters, CEO, MHA
David Finkbeiner, Senior Vice President, Advocacy, MHA

10:15 – 10:30 a.m.
**Break**

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
**1st Workshop Session**

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
**GRAND LUNCHEON**
(Main Dining Room)

1 – 2 p.m.
**2nd Workshop Session**

**WORKSHOPS**

“Change Your Focus – A Continuation”
(Terrace Room)
Jeanne Sexson

“Aspiring Volunteers”
(Cottage Room)
Abby Miller, Community Relations & Marketing Manager, Aspirus Iron River

“Volunteer Impact on Patient Satisfaction”
(Grand Pavilion)
Theresa Powerski, Manager of Patient Experience & Patient Relations, Hurley

2:30 – 4 p.m.
**“Tea and Talk” Networking**
(Room 218)
Hosted by
Carol D’Alberto, current VP Ed
Anne Lorentzen, incoming VP Ed

4 – 6 p.m.
**Free Time**

5:30 p.m.
**New MAHA Board Photo**

6 – 7 p.m.
**Reception** hosted by MHA

7 p.m. (Grand Pavilion)
**BANQUET**
Installation of Officers

9:30 p.m.
(or immediately following installation)
**President’s Reception** (Room 246)

**THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2016**

6:30 – 7:30 a.m.
**Early Morning Walkers (Front Porch)**

7:30 – 9 a.m.
**Breakfast (Main Dining Room)**

9:15 – 11:15 a.m.
**CLOSING SESSION** (Grand Pavilion)
MAHA Remarks
Nancy Viele, MAHA President

**CLOSING SPEAKER**
“Touch the Sky”
Eleni Kelakos
MAHA 67th Annual Meeting and Educational Institute – Speakers

Opening Speaker
“Change Your Focus to Get New Results”
JEANNE SEXSON

Jeanne Elizabeth Sexson holds a Master’s degree – emphasis psychology and a Master’s Certification in Education. For over twenty-eight years, she has traveled in and out of the continental United States speaking at national, state and regional conventions where audiences often rate her “best speaker of the conference.” She also keynotes awards, recognition, and special event banquets and facilitates training for large corporations and individual facilities. Her background also includes facilitating leadership training for the University of Evansville, University of Southern Indiana and Indiana Technical State College where she received the Outstanding Adjunct Teaching Award.

Jeanne is published author/illustrator of several motivational books, including her double-award winning book about dealing with loss and change entitled “Down But Not Out–Living through your setbacks, major whacks, and broken-heart attacks.” Jeanne’s publication credits also include numerous magazine articles.

She was recipient of both the “EDIT IT” Book Award for Commitment To Achieving Precision In Communication and Mid-America Publisher’s Association Award for Illustrating.

Her honors and recognition’s include Outstanding Creative Woman of the Year and recipient of the National Mental Health Association’s Outstanding Service Award.

Jeanne is an accomplished sculptor and photographer.

Closing Speaker
“Touch the Sky”
ELLENIE KELAKOS

Eleni is a presence and presentation expert, and the Chief Transformational Officer of The Eleni Group, now in its second decade. She uses performance techniques learned over twenty years as a professional actress and award-winning, nationally touring singer/songwriter to help executives be relaxed, real and relatable when they give presentations. When she is not coaching individuals or facilitating trainings at companies like General Motors, Plante-Moran, and Kubota Tractors, Eleni practices what she preaches, empowering people to perform at their peak with her signature keynote presentations at conferences nationwide.

A double major in Theatre and Semiotics from Brown University, Eleni is a past president of the National Speakers Association of Michigan. She has sung the national anthem at Shea Stadium for three (winning) Mets games, and has produced four acclaimed CDs of her original songs. Her songs have been featured in the film Dispossessed, and danced to by America’s Got Talent semi-finalist Beth Ann Robinson. Her book, Touch the Sky: Find Your Voice, Speak Your Truth, Make Your Mark, was a gold medal winner of the 2014 Global e-Book Awards. She lives happily with her husband and two constantly shedding cats in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Workshop Presenters
“Aspiring Volunteer”
ABBY MILLER, Community Relations & Marketing Manager at Aspirus Iron River Hospital

Abby Miller is the Community Relations & Marketing Manager for Aspirus Iron River Hospital in Iron River, Michigan. She is also the Volunteer Services Coordinator. She graduated in 2012 from the University of Northwestern-Saint Paul with a Media Communication degree.

A native of Sao Palo, Brazil, Abby enjoys British television dramas, C.S. Lewis, copious amounts of extremely strong coffee and singing at the top of her lungs.

“Volunteer Impact on Patient Satisfaction”
THERESA POWERSKI, Manager of Patient Experience and Patient Relations, Hurley Medical Center
**Legislative Team**

**BRIAN PETERS, CEO, Michigan Health & Hospital Association.**

Brian Peters holds the position of CEO at the Michigan Health & Hospital Association. In his prior role as executive vice president, he oversaw strategic planning and operations for one of the nation’s largest state hospital associations and was responsible for the alignment of business strategies among the association’s various corporate entities. Peters also oversees the MHA Health Foundation, which includes the MHA Keystone Center, a federally certified patient safety organization, whose initiatives to date have saved more than 1,700 patient lives and $246 million in healthcare costs. In his 25 years with the MHA, Peters has served as the association’s executive vice president and senior vice president of advocacy. In these roles, he was responsible for the state and federal government relations on behalf of nearly 150 Michigan nonprofit community hospitals and served as treasurer of HEALTHPAC, the association’s political action committee that ranks among the largest independent PACs in Michigan.

He has also served as the association’s staff secretary of the Legislative Policy Panel, the Business Advisory Council, the Council of Physicians, the Council on Small or Rural Hospitals, and the Council on Osteopathic Health Care. In addition, he has delivered more than 500 presentations on the future of healthcare to hospital management, governance and medical staffs and is a contributing author of “Technology and the Future of Health Care: Preparing for the next thirty Years,” released in January 2000 by the AHA Press. He is a frequent spokesperson on behalf of Michigan hospitals with print and electronic media and has testified on hospital priorities before Congress and the State Legislature.

Peters is a member of the American Hospital association (AHA) Regional Policy Board (region 5), the AHA Political Action Committee (AHAPAC) Board of Directors and the State Hospital Association Executive Forum (SHAEP). He also serves on the Blue Cross & Blue shield of Michigan Board of Directors. He has served on the Citizens Research Council of Michigan Board, as chairman of the tomorrow’s Child Board, Chairman of the YMCA of Michigan Board, Chairman of the Michigan Youth in Government Board, and as vice-chairman of the Michigan Health Insurance Access Advisory Council. He has served as a member of the Gift of Life of Michigan Advisory Board, Coverys Insurance Services Michigan Advisory Board, Michigan State University Michigan Political Leadership Program Board, and Alliance for Advancing Nonprofit Healthcare Board. He has also been treasurer of the Michigan Rural Health Association, coordinator of the Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives, coordinator of the Michigan Osteopathic Hospital association, and a trustee of Charlevoix Area Hospital.

Peters holds a master’s degree in Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan and a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Michigan State University; completed an executive fellowship with the National Center for Healthcare Leadership; completed the Health Executive’s Development Program at Cornell University; and studied the British healthcare system with the King’s Fund College in London. He is a United States Coast Guard-licensed captain and was formerly the president of Charlevoix Marine Services, inc., a sport fishing charter service operating out of Charlevoix.

**DAVID FINKBEINER, Senior Vice President of Advocacy, Michigan Health & Hospital Association**

David Finkbeiner is the senior vice president of Advocacy for the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) where he has day-to-day contact with legislators, state and federal officials, and leaders of other associations with interest in health policy issues. Prior to coming to the MHA in 2000, Finkbeiner held a variety of positions with several Michigan hospitals. Finkbeiner has served on numerous advisory boards for health insurers, advocacy groups, educational institutions, community agencies and state departments.

With a bachelor’s degree in social science from Michigan State University, East Lansing, and a master’s degree in social work from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Finkbeiner is also a Diplomate with the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work and a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.
Healthcare is one of the most regulated industries in the world. State and federal laws determine when and where hospitals are built, what services are offered, who may perform certain medical procedures, what services can be performed, the cost of services and even how much information can be shared and with whom. In fact, our elected leaders make decisions every day that affect Michigan hospitals and patients.

Thus, it is important that the hospital community have a voice in public policy discussions and work together to ensure that these policies are in the best interest of Michigan hospitals. The Michigan Health & Hospital Association Health Political Action Committee (Health PAC) is the political voice for Michigan hospitals, health systems and their employees.

Please plan to contribute to the Health PAC campaign and assist MHA in keeping our issues and concerns on the political radar screen in Lansing and Washington. It is an extremely important tool that has contributed to the success of the MHA’s statewide advocacy efforts throughout the years. Help us continue this strong tradition.

Since Michigan has term limits, it costs a significant amount of money to be elected. When we elect a legislator who supports our cause, the PAC dollars you give can help decide the issues he will support and get passed. Your contributions buy yard signs, host meetings to meet constituents, and support discussion forums.

An interesting fact is that if you put aside just ten cents a day starting in January, you will be able to contribute $10 to Health PAC at your district meeting this spring! Think what an impact MAHA would have on your healthcare legislation with support of this magnitude. Please set a goal for yourself and make a pledge to support Health PAC when the cards are distributed at your district meetings.

Hope to see everyone at Healthcare Advocacy Day in Lansing on April 19, 2016.

Stacy Dowdy, Manager Health Pac and Grassroots Advocacy

Healthcare Advocacy Day

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 | Lansing Radisson Hotel | Downtown Lansing

SAVE THE DATE! Registration brochures were mailed in January concerning Healthcare Advocacy Day to be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at the Lansing Radisson Hotel in Downtown Lansing from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is very important that we start planning now to send representatives to this event.

We need to make sure that our need for healthcare coverage for all and to improve the state’s healthcare delivery system is understood. You can do this by attending Healthcare Advocacy Day and speak personally with your legislator during lunch.

Please send back your registration form immediately and recruit other auxiliary members and/or volunteers from your hospital and/or facility to attend this very worthwhile informative event. We look forward to your attendance!
MAHA 67th Fall Conference – They Said What??

We have included in this issue a sampling of the comments listed on the conference evaluation sheets from the 2015 MAHA Fall Conference. If you were unable to attend please join us in the spring, and perhaps your overview will be listed in a future Highlights.

“Very professional, well presented, interesting topics. Especially relevant topics in today’s healthcare environment.”

“Very good energetic presenter – comprehensive. Great topic – very relevant to today’s volunteer.”

“I thought all the speakers were very good and very informative. The breakout sessions were also very good, and I left with more information than I came with.”

“Wonderful topics and suggestions; great conference.”

“Excellent speakers and overall conference for a ‘First Timer’ I was impressed.”

“Very informative, and I walked away with some great ideas.”

“Fabulous speakers; excellent choices; good topics – very uplifting.”
EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT

Hurley Medical Center – Flint
Hurley Auxiliary member Marilyn Lewinski was honored in December. This noteworthy because Marilyn is chairman of our Lobby Shop, she has been with the Auxiliary since 1999 serving over 15,000 plus hours. She, and manager Michelle Reed leads the dynamic lobby shop team that is the core of our fund raising to donate thousands of dollars to our Hurley Projects. Her talents are visible in the decorating of our Lobby Shop. We are blessed to have her as a Hurley Auxiliary member.

Hurley Benefit Ball took place on March 5, 2016. Regenia Jeffries Auxiliary Board Member and her husband represented our Auxiliary. On March 15, 2016 Hurley Auxiliary will present a $100,000 check to Hurley Foundation for the 11th floor Pediatric Private Room Project. Also on this date, Hurley Auxiliary will celebrate 60 years of service to the hospital. We will celebrate with a luncheon, inviting past presidents, award service pins, 60th anniversary pins and a game of Purse Bingo. We are very proud of all you who have served in our Auxiliary through the years. A new fundraiser, Spring Bake Sale, will take place on March 17, 2016, joining with the Auxiliary member Marilyn Lewinski was honored in December. This noteworthy because Marilyn is chairman of the hospital.

As per our usual activities, SMOMVA has been very busy since the last publication. We donated food and money for the Thanksgiving Baskets. We supported monetary gifts and supplied volunteer wrappers for the Christmas Shop. We contributed generously to the Cornette Ball endeavor to support the purchase of 3D cardiac ultrasound equipment for the hospital.

The Gift Shop and Timeless Treasures Thrift Shop are both doing extremely well. There is new (gift) and used (thrift) seasonal merchandise in both establishments to enjoy and purchase.

We continue with recurrent fundraisers like the $5 jewelry sale, and have brought in some new ones like Cabin Fever baskets. This was a FUNDraiser that netted a lot of participation and smiles. Various departments in the hospital built theme-filled baskets and donated them for raffle. Associates were able to purchase raffle tickets to play for their favorites, as were volunteers and guests. All of the proceeds went to the Volunteer Alliance Scholarships.

The loyal popcorn poppers have worn out their much used and appreciated popcorn machine. We were able to purchase a new one so there won’t be any disappointed people in our lobby.

Two of our yearly events will be coming up soon. The Annual Volunteer Meeting and installation of officers will be held in April. We will say goodbye to some term limited, wonderful volunteers, and welcome some new and enthusiastic volunteers to fill those positions. We are thankful for all. On April 19, a group of board members will trek down to Lansing for the Healthcare Advocacy Day. This is always an enlightening and worthwhile venture.

As always, good things are happening with our SMOMVA.

Janie Gugino, President

MidMichigan Medical Center-Gladwin
Volunteers will celebrate their 50th anniversary this spring. In addition to the usual activities and fundraisers there will be a special luncheon to celebrate this occasion. A special banner has been created and displayed. The history books from the early years will also be displayed. My, how times have changed. But the goal of the group remains giving time, energy, and funds to support the work of the hospital, the staff, and most importantly, the patients. There have been many giving people throughout the years.

Mary Griffore, President

The Hills and Dales General Hospital Auxiliary
just purchased a Doran’s Digital Chair Scale for those who have difficulty with the standing scale. It makes us all feel proud that our donation of time, talents and happy bakers can benefit our patients.

Patricia Greenwood, President

Carol Crane, ECD President
North Central District

McLaren Cheboygan Campus – Cheboygan
Our Guild held a Tree of Lights campaign November 2015 thru January 2016 raising $4,200. December 5th we held a Christmas shopping spree. Our proceeds from this event totaled $2,480. The proceeds will be used in the area of greatest need (patient assistance, laboratory and surgical instruments etc.) for McLaren Northern Michigan Cheboygan Campus. We are looking forward for future events that are planned for January, April and May.

We are planning a Taste of Up North for June including a Chair-ity Auction Fundraiser.

*Kathie Nihls, MCCG President*

Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital
Formerly Charlevoix Area Hospital we became Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital on December 1, 2015. We are looking forward to a great future together.

The Guild has been working hard with the Gift Shop, book sale, linen sale, Geranium sale and designer clothing sale. We made another $10,000 payment on our $50,000 pledge to the Chemo Infusion Center.

Construction has started on the new Surgical Suite and Laboratory expansion.

*Vivian Mettler, Guild President*

Munson Medical Center – Traverse City
Munson Medical Center Volunteers will mark their 70th year of service to the hospital this year.

In addition to their hours of service they have made generous financial gifts, as individuals and as a group. To date the Volunteers have donated more than $2 million to the hospital.

Most recently $65,000 in Gift Shop proceeds to help purchase advanced computer software the new Cowell Family Cancer Center. The entire cancer care team will be moving there in the coming weeks.

Munson Medical Center purchased the former Mercy hospitals in Grayling and Cadillac in 2014. Operations began there in February. In December Charlevoix Area Hospital became fully integrated with the Munson Healthcare System. That along with Paul Oliver Memorial Health Hospital in Frankfort and Munson Medical Center Traverse City bought Munson’s total to five Hospitals. Munson is now exploring affiliation with West Shore Medical Center in Manistee.

Otsego Memorial Hospital – Gaylord
After a very busy fall season of Fund Raisers, we were able to complete our pledge of $40,000 to our hospital. Above and beyond that commitment, we made a donation to Mac Reynolds Hall, our full time patient care facility. With the help and commitment of our many volunteers we continue to meet our goals.

Otsego Memorial is opening a new clinic Facility in Indian River. Our Auxiliary is proud to be part of providing service to our community and surrounding areas.

*Jerry Moran, OMHA President*

West Shore Medical Center – Manistee
The West Shore Medical Center Auxiliary had a very successful 2015, hosting several fundraisers and events to benefit the hospital, including book, scrubs, and jewelry sales, a community garage sale, and a bingo night. We closed the year with our largest fundraiser, the annual Sleighbell Craft Show, Bake Sale, Bazaar & Raffle. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers and the support of the community, we were able to make a nice donation to the hospital on our current pledge to purchase life-saving devices for West Shore’s ambulance fleet. Our 100+ members also continue to provide valuable support throughout the medical center, as lobby concierges, waiting room attendants, transporters, and clerical volunteers, as well as managing and staffing the gift shop. Plans are underway for 2016, and we are excited to be launching some new events.

*Cathy Walter, WSMC Auxiliary President*

Southeast District

Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
The Gift Shop has been busy working overtime taking inventory. Now we can begin opening boxes and putting out new merchandise purchased at the Atlanta Gift Show. Employees are anxiously awaiting to see what new items will be available. Special mark-down sales have helped to clear out “older” merchandise and “one-of-a-kind” items to make room on our shelves. Lobby Sales continue to be an important part of our fund raising events.

*Beverly Hartman, Volunteer Liaison*

Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital
Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital will reach its 90th year of service on February 23, 2016 and the Henry Ford Health Brownstown Health Care facility will reach 10 years on March 4, 2016. There will be cake, ice cream, and other celebratory activities at both facilities.

February is Heart Health month and Henry Ford Wyandotte is offering heart screenings for $99 which also includes meeting with a cardiologist to discuss the results.

*Cynthia Jones, Auxiliary President*

McLaren Port-Huron Hospital
A big “Thank You” to all the McLaren Port Huron Auxiliary volunteers for their hard work and dedication paying off the $100,000 four year commitment for the DeVinci Robot and the CT Scanner. Plus, we were able to make a $20,000 donation toward the $50,000 pledge for the Karmanos Cancer Center, scheduled to open in June.

The McLaren Port Huron Auxiliary Annual Meeting was held on January 18th. Ruth Miller, Past President, installed new Executive Officers and Directors. A monetary gift of $31,000 was presented to Jennifer Montgomery, McLaren Port Huron President and CEO. A Remembrance check of $200 was also presented to Ms. Montgomery in memory of deceased Auxiliary members.

*Lavenia Billings, McLaren Port Huron Auxiliary President*
MAHA Around the State (continued)

ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital
We are excited about three $1,000 scholarships we are offering this year for the first time. In the past we gave one $3,000 to a nursing student at the community college. Now we will require the applicants to have volunteered at our hospital for at least 50 hours in the last year. Also, they need to be accepted to a college and plan to go into some sort of medical field. We will present these scholarships at our volunteer recognition banquet April 14.
Beth Grna, Auxiliary President

Providence Park Hospital And Medical Center
Providence Park League Dinner/Fashion show in October was very successful. We made $7,000 and were sold out with 225 attendees. Our 2016 Dinner/Fashion show is already in the works which will be at a larger venue. We hope it will be a sold out event as well.

For 2016, we have 12 vendor sales scheduled. A Valentine Candy-gram event is happening at this writing with hospital departments responding very well to this project.
Pat Poirier, President, Providence Park League

Providence Hospital And Medical Center
Our Lady of Providence League continues to do good work at Providence Hospital Southfield. Notably, Books Are Fun is a vendor we bring to the hospital for a win-win sale that brings unique products and convenience to our staff and associates, and is a good fund raiser for OLPL. We also enjoyed our second annual Volunteer Fellowship Gathering Service Project. We assembled tray favors for our patients and enjoyed a guest speaker Elena Weissman, Manager, Healing Arts Center.
Connie Orr, League President

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital-Pontiac
~Delight the world with Compassion, Kindness and Grace~

Last year St. Joe’s offered an “Active Shooter Training” to Volunteers and Staff which has extended the training during 2016. The “Active Shooter Training” was designed to educate and empower you with various methods and tools to react to an active shooter or a violent intruder. Volunteers and Staff felt the training was an incredible class to take.

Updates for Get-Well Network education is offered to patients. More than 300 educational videos have been added to Power-Chart for staff to begin prescribing to patients. Health topics such as cardiology, diabetes, medications, stroke, neurology, cancer, medication and fall prevention to name a few. The education is beneficial to patient as well as their family. Volunteers assist patients to navigate the Get-Well Network System.

Volunteer Services will celebrate National Volunteer Week April 10th - 16th by having a goodies table and thank you cards brought in everyday to our office by staff. Volunteers are so appreciated by everyone here at St. Joe’s. I would like to extend my thanks to each volunteer throughout the world for giving from your hearts.

Michele Dunaj, Volunteers President

St. John River District Hospital
St. John River District Hospital Auxiliary had a very successful year in the Gift Shoppe. On December 9 the Auxiliary held their Lights of Love program, followed by a delicious luncheon provided by the Hospital. During 2016 the Auxiliary will concentrate our efforts on recruiting new volunteers and exploring new fundraising opportunities.

Carol Ann Towne, Auxiliary President
Pat Esselman, SED President

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Three Rivers Health, Three Rivers
Laurel Cordes, Auxiliary Newsletter

Greetings from Three Rivers Health Auxiliary! Happy 2016! Our auxiliary had a successful finish to 2015 with our annual Bazaar, an event that includes Christmas floral decorations, Christmas envelopes, Grab Bags, Snack Bar specials and Gift Shop specials. We also have available Vintage table, Arts and Crafts, Bake Sale, a Raffle with multiple prizes, and a Silent Auction which includes baskets laden with gift cards and donations from our local merchants. Many volunteers are needed to accomplish a Bazaar like ours, and we appreciate everyone who helped.

Community Health of Coldwater
Barb Moran, Auxiliary Newsletter

We are gearing up for our 2016 fundraising season, Sweet Sale February 12th, Linen Sale March 17th & 18th, and Babbles and Bags May 4th. Gift shop is stocked with Valentine’s and St. Patrick’s merchandise.

Our Christmas Luncheon was enjoyed by all, so many donated gifts, everyone attending got a gift.

The hospital has purchased an ABUS machine, and the County Board of Commissioners final vote passed for the sale to ProMedica. Management should take over later in February.

Volunteers are looking forward to Spring.
Lakeland Community Hospital, Watervliet
Diane Camfferman, Auxiliary President
Our auxiliary has really been busy recently with many activities. Our recent book sale in November was or most successful ever and our Tree of Love was beautiful this year with many ornaments and angels. We had a very enjoyable lighting ceremony with the Watervliet High School choir singing for us. The choir also visited areas of the hospital entertaining the patients. In December, we held our bake/craft sale, a favorite with the hospital employees! Our Christmas luncheon was enjoyable with many in attendance and great food provided by our dietary department. We had many items donated to the Safe Shelter for Domestic Violence which they greatly appreciated.

This spring we will be offering two $2,000 scholarships to graduating seniors that plan to enter a health career related field in college.

We are in the process of recruiting for Board positions to be filled in the spring.

Eaton Rapids Medical Center, Eaton Rapids
Patti Oliver, Auxiliary President
The last of our Christmas merchandise is off the shelves in the Owl’s Perch Gift Shop. We had a very successful season but are now restocking with unique items for Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day and every day. We are eagerly anticipating our 4th annual Purse Bingo which will be held May 5th. For more information contact Patti Oliver at patioliver@msn.com. Our Auxiliary has pledged $40,000 toward the purchase of a new baby monitor that will be used for more patient privacy and more skin to skin therapy. Our Auxiliary monitors babies in distress and increased space that allows improved technology that automatically warms, weighs and monitors babies. We have a great group of volunteers who work very hard to make sure our fundraisers and gift shop are a success!

Allegiance Health, Jackson
Cheryl Simonetti, Volunteer President
On Thursday, December 10, dozens of caregivers, administrators, donors, volunteers and community leaders gathered to celebrate the opening of the new Special Care nursery at Allegiance Health. Everyone got a firsthand glance at the improved technology that automatically warms, weighs and monitors babies in distress and increased space that allows for more patient privacy and more skin on skin therapy. Our donors have supported the community by helping to provide excellent care and a healing environment to our tiniest and most vulnerable patients close to home. The Volunteers of Allegiance Health donated $85,000 from our Pink Ball proceeds to this effort.

The Volunteers of Allegiance Health recently awarded five mini-grants to a variety of departments throughout the Health System for projects that enhance the experience of Patients, Staff and Community at Allegiance Health. Awards went to the following programs:

1. The Organizational Excellence Department for the “Catch a Wave” program which will create a moving, beach-themed cart that will be an educational prop for addressing 2016 National Patient Safety Goals.

2. The Allegiance Health Food Drive Campaign which provided food baskets to people in need in our Jackson Community as well as assisted some of our own fellow employees who needed additional help at Christmas.

3. The Allegiance Health Pulmonary Rehab Program received money to assist outpatients to attend a maintenance program at the Wellness Center which is not covered by insurance.

4. The SICU was granted funding to purchase 2 iPads the “My Talk Tools Mobile” software to allow awake ventilator-dependent patients to more effectively communicate with staff and families.

5. The Allegiance Health Hospice Quilters (also part of Allegiance Health) were awarded funds to purchase materials for quilts that every Hospice Home patient is given during their stay which then becomes a keepsake for the family after the patient is gone. Over 11,000 patients have received quilts since the Home opened.

Sparrow Clinton Hospital, St. Johns
Shelley Redman, Auxiliary President
Sparrow Clinton Hospital Auxiliary had a very busy fall, raising approximately $9,000 with four fundraisers. A check for $15,000 was presented to the hospital board in January, bringing payments on or 5-year, $100,000 to $66,000 in just three years. The Auxiliary approved a request to provide wigs for cancer patients. We will give out gift certificates to patients so they can select their own wigs. We are planning a linen sale in February and are researching other fund raisers for the spring, one of which will be our annual spring flower sale.

The Gift Therapy Shop has had several sales, which have brought a good increase in the number of customers into the shop. Currently the shop is sponsoring a “Love My Pet” contest to complement our Valentine’s Day sale. Hospital employees submit photos of their pets; judges will select four best photos; the winners will be determined by monetary votes made by Gift Therapy Shop customers. The winner will receive a gift certificate and proceeds will go to the area animal shelter.

We have a great group of volunteers who work very hard to make sure our fundraisers and gift shop are a success!

Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall
Coleen Westerhof, Auxiliary Co-President
We were very pleased to have had Marlene Sebastian, SWD President, at our January meeting where she spoke for a few minutes about intention of each of the six District Presidents to visit the hospitals and auxiliaries in their areas, meeting as many auxiliary members as they can. Marlene has taken this challenge seriously and has committed to visiting all 14 counties. We at Oaklawn appreciate her effort.

Our calendar of events for 2016 is FULL! Each month brings new and exciting events that are led by faithful volunteers! We start off February with BC Sweets and the Gift Shop’s Roses and Balloons sale. We then head into the year with the Bakeless Bake Sale, Bunco, Scholarship Awards, Student Art Show, “Outside the Box” shoe sale, Gift Shop inventory sale and Purse Bingo, “Books Are Fun” sale, Dream Dollars, Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale and “Tree of Memories” ornament sale. This list doesn’t include the Stuffed Toy guild meetings, Tray Favor meetings, Popcorn sales or blood drives! We are busy and there is much work to be done, but our auxiliary members are compassionate, selfless, caring and
MAHA Around the State (continued)

Promedica Bixby, Adrian  
Jim Nickless, Auxiliary President
Lot of changes and challenges are at Bixby these days. We have an update for everyone! We are on a path to create a new single Auxiliary from the two auxiliaries, Bixby and Herrick. We are now planning to have the new auxiliary start up in two years, rather than this year. That means rather than extending the terms of our existing officers we will have a normal two year period and can elect new officers for the positions. That will give the new officers a chance to be involved in the planning process.

Due to the delay in starting construction on the new hospital, we are making some interim changes at Bixby. Several offices have been relocated and modified. The most noticeable change is that our two registration areas have been merged into one unit and the volunteer escort office is new near the main entrance. There are many other not so apparent changes that are being made to make the mission of delivering health care an efficient and effective process. Several functions of both hospitals have been combined or relocated to prepare for merging both hospitals. Our volunteers play an important part in making things run smoothly while all the changes take place. I thank them one and all.

All of the numbers are not in yet but it looks like we had another great year in 2015. Our fundraising efforts had great results thanks to our fundraising committee headed by Dilla Miller. Our gift shop, in spite of being forced to reduce the hours open, had another good year. For that we thank Carey Wood and her Volunteer work force. Everyone is looking forward to another exiting year at Bixby.

Sturgis Hospital, Sturgis
Sue Furr, Auxiliary President
Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity to remember two of our beloved volunteers who went to be with their Lord; Shirley Dittman – Popcorn Guild and Willodean Beckwith – Gift Shop Guild and past president of our auxiliary. They gave their time selflessly to the Sturgis Hospital community, contributing many, many volunteer hours. Their infectious smiles and positive attitudes will be missed by all. Our deepest sympathies go out to their families.

The Sturgis Hospital Auxiliary members have had a very successful year; having one hundred volunteers contributing 4,278 volunteer hours, donating $17,574 to the hospital toward various pieces of equipment and awarding $2,100 in scholarships.

Our Tree of Love campaign was a success raising $3,123 after expenses to be put towards the purchase of a pediatric glidescope. The glidescope will be used in the operating room, emergency department and the nursery for pre term neonates and toddlers.

We are once again holding our Valentine’s Bakeless Bake Sale. The Sale will run from Friday, February 12th through Monday, February 22nd. Instead of bringing in baked goods for sale guild members are asked to donate the cost of the ingredients needed to make the baked goods, or more.

Promedica Bixby, Adrian
Annette Zalner, Volunteer President
We are now into 2016 with lots going on. Or wonderful volunteers continue to represent Bronson Battle Creek Hospital by giving compassionate experiences that exceed patient and family expectations.

One of our goals for this year is to attract and retain more volunteers that will contribute toward our hospital goals. We are planning an event for May 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn at Battle Creek. While having a luncheon and a fun time we plan to educate potential volunteers on the success of being a volunteer here at Bronson Battle Creek. Of course, we continue with many fundraisers. Within the next couple of months, we have a sheet sale, jewelry sale, book sale and quilt raffle scheduled. Our Gift Shop and Popcorn sales continue to thrive.

It takes many volunteers many hours to allow these sales to be successful. Thank you for your time and efforts.

In closing, I am so proud of this volunteer organization. We are a large family. If someone has a need or issue, we all pull together to give support.

Promedica Herrick Medical Center, Tecumseh
Shelly Phillips, Publicist
We are gearing up for a busy 2016! We have eight fundraisers scheduled so far this year, starting with our Candy & Nut Sale in March, followed by a Uniform Sale in April. Our scholarship committee will soon begin the process of choosing several Tecumseh High School students to receive scholarships towards their college education and we continue to provide cute stuffed puppies for children who are having surgery which the kids (and parents) love!

Hillsdale Hospital, Hillsdale
Sally Eckhardt, Auxiliary President
Our fall meeting was held at the Dow Conference Center on the Campus of Hillsdale College. Following dinner, Jeremiah Hodshire, Director of Organizational and Business Development and Doris Whorley, RN Risk Manager, were our guest speakers. It was an enjoyable evening for all members.

We had several successful fundraisers over the last three months. The Uniform Sale and Books Are Fun are very popular with staff and community. Then the very colorful Vera Bradley Sale, that was on many Christmass lists. Our Gift Shop Christmas Open House was a huge success. We will have the yummy Suzie’s Goodies in February, just in time for Valentine’s Day.

We have outgrown our name! As of January 1, Hillsdale Community Health Center is now Hillsdale Hospital but one thing that will never change is our mission to provide quality, compassionate health to our community.

dedicated individuals who always get the job done and have fun doing it. They are up for the challenge.

Bronson Battle Creek, Battle Creek
Annette Zalner, Volunteer President
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Sturgis Hospital will be holding “Healthy Minds & Healthy Bodies” for the community on March 19th. This year we will combine the annual hospital fair with Sturgis Youth & Family’s Parenting Fair.

On January 1st, Sturgis Hospital’s campus became “smoke-free.” Prior to this the hospital was smoke free but the campus was not. As a result the gift shop is now offering Nicorette gum and lozenges for sale.

Sturgis Hospital in partnership with Sturgis Public Schools and the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency has established the Student Help & Healing Center-Gesundheit! This is a clinic linked to Sturgis Middle School and Sturgis High School and located in the Sturgis Medical II plaza. With permission from parents, students can walk or drive to the clinic, making it easier for parents who cannot get out of work to take them to an appointment with their family physician. The clinic is open to students between the ages of 10 and 21. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Barb Moran, SWD Counselor

**UPPER PENINSULA DISTRICT**

**Aspirus Grand View** is at the very beginning of a new building project. Always an exciting time and even more so for the Auxiliary as we are looking at gaining a new gift shop. At more than 2 times the size of our current shop plus the ability to serve Starbucks products, we are very optimistic about the future. Our Christmas bazaar, nut sale, and Tree of Love and Celebration Tree Ceremonies ended 2015 on a high note. We will be altering some of our basic fund raisers to keep in stride with construction but looking forward to a completed facility in time for the holidays next year.

*Chris Ainslie, Vice President, Ironwood, MI*

The Portage Health Auxiliary (UP Health System-Portage) is very close to becoming an independent 501c3. We have had a number of successful fund raisers including Books Are Fun, $5.99 Sale, Anything Christmas Sale (gently used Fall & Christmas decorations & dishes), linen sale, and an upcoming Devon Fudge Sale just in time for Valentine’s Day. Our annual Light of Love program to memorialize and honor family & friends was held in December and funds our medical field scholarships (11-$1,000 scholarships awarded last year). A lovely ceremony of lighting the tree, reading honored names and listening to a local high school wind ensemble concluded with a homemade Christmas cookie social. We have organized a grant committee and application forms are currently available to non-profits in our 4-county area for projects that fulfill our mission to improve the health and well-being of the elderly and youth. We anticipate that we will award a number of grants in March and repeat the process in the fall. Our intent is to have 2 grant periods per year. We are currently accepting applications for this year’s medical scholarships. Our gift shop, the Guilded Rose, is doing amazingly well due to the buying and merchandising talents of our volunteer manager and her faithful staff. We look forward to all the unique items she recently purchased on her annual buying trip to Atlanta.

*Barb Worrall, Auxiliary President, UP Health System-Portage*

Munising Memorial Hospital Auxiliary did our annual Pecan Sale and did well. We plan this to coordinate with holiday baking time. They are beautiful pecans and while delicious, they make a lovely presentation. We also provided a snack/lunch for employees’ appreciation day at our hospital. Something else we do is providing gifts for underprivileged children as well as food for our food bank. Gifts for children who are in the emergency room to comfort them when they are so stressed. Our speakers have been very interesting this year and we are learning so much. The Bakeless Bake Sale was established one year when the President was down south.
during the time of our regular sale and couldn’t coordinate it. It continues to be very successful. Also very easy.

Ray Berg, Legislative, Munising Memorial Hospital

The Auxiliary & volunteer group have been busy at OSF, Escanaba, over the holidays and into the new year. In November they held a Koozie Nut Sale and started their annual Lights of Love campaign. Over 1,200 lights were sold raising over $5,000. In December a Christmas luncheon was held at the Terrace to celebrate all the hard work and dedication that our volunteers contribute. Over 110 volunteers were in attendance and enjoyed a delicious meal, prize drawings and of course the company of each other. Also in December a Bake sale was held at the hospital. With the help of all of the wonderful and talented bakers they sold out in an hour and were able to raise $560!

Looking ahead in February, there will be an annual orientation held to refresh our volunteers on hospital policies and discuss any updates. There will also be an events committee meeting to decide which fundraisers and events the Auxiliary will do in 2016 and a committee meeting to start plans for the Spring District meeting in May. We hope to see you all there!

Kacie Hanchek, Community Relations & Development Manager, OSF HealthCare System

Aspirus Iron River Volunteers have been keeping busy since the recent change over to Aspirus. The volunteers have contributed $7,000 to a new community outreach program called ‘Spirit of Women.’ They’re looking forward to assisting with this program and helping reach out to the community. They also had a fun Christmas season caroling throughout the hospital and handing out goodies to Aspirus employees. Recently, they’ve begun a bit of an overhaul in the hospital gift shop. New vendors, unique items and fun decorating styles have begun to appear in the shop. Volunteers are excited about this new change. They’ve also continued to support the coordination of bringing book and jewelry sales to the hospital.

Abby Miller, community Relations and Marketing Manager, Aspirus Iron River

At Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital, our Love Lite Tree project continues to grow with the tree lighting, reading of names, Christmas caroling and refreshments.

Early in 2016, the scholarship and hospital gift committees will meet and fund raising dates will be set.

New greeters continue to be trained and are much appreciated by staff and visitors

Phyllis Burge, Schoolcraft Memorial Auxiliary, Manistique

The War Memorial Hospital Auxiliary had a successful linen sale in September and was busy selling Koozie Nuts in November and December. The War Memorial Hospital has recently opened a new Cancer Care Center. Beginning January 4th oncologist Dr. Belisario Arango, MD, who specializes in oncology and hematology, will start seeing patients in the Cancer Center. Dr. Arango and his staff will provide comprehensive care, including chemotherapy, lab work, infusion therapies, and other procedures, as well as office visits. Nutrition therapy will also be available to help manage the side effects of treatment. Our capacity to take care of patients, administer targeted treatments such as immune therapy, monoclonal antibodies and chemotherapy is much enhanced.

Cindy Hopper, President WMH Auxiliary

Miss Judy giving comfort and care to a recent patient as she volunteers in the newly established Candy Stripe program at War Memorial Hospital.

Photo contributed by Teresa Dwyer-Armstrong, Director, Community Relations/ Development Fund, War Memorial Hospital

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Northrop, UPD President

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT

Spectrum Health Butterworth

Our Butterworth Auxiliary and Guild History Project is well underway. Spectrum Health’s newly created Archival Department is located at Blodgett Hospital as part of the Spectrum Health Library, headed by Librarian Diane Hummel. Lori Vargo is our Spectrum Health Archivist.

Lori earned her Masters degree in Library Science from Wayne State University and is passionate about her work and the importance of our institution’s history. We are extremely fortunate to have Diane Hummel’s support and blessing, and to have Lori as our advocate and mentor as we proceed with this project.

The first Butterworth Guild, the Golden Rule Society, was formed in 1906, 110 years ago this year. Since then, many other Butterworth guilds have formed with nine active volunteer guilds remaining today. All nine of them will gather their historical records, scrapbooks, photographs and other historically significant materials for permanent keeping in the Archival Department.
During our years as volunteers through guild membership, all of us have witnessed many changes at Butterworth and in the health care industry. What this project is about is preserving the history of our Butterworth Guilds from their very beginnings so generations to come can understand the importance of volunteers in the hospital setting.

**South Haven Health System**

Our auxiliary has been very busy, especially in the month of December. We hosted a Books Are Fun fair the first of the month that netted almost $950. The auxiliary also had a bake sale brought in close to $500 in one morning and had a Christmas raffle in the gift shop that raised just under $100.

Six new volunteers have come on board since the middle of November. The auxiliary will be hosting the first of five 2016 Michigan Blood drives on February 9. They will also host their annual Books Are Fun spring book fair on March 1 and 2.

Planning has begun for the 38th annual Auxiliary Awards luncheon that will be held on Wednesday, April 20.

**Mercy Health – Muskegon**

Profits from board sponsored fundraisers and those of the gift shops for fiscal year 2015 totaled $67,925. From Departments’ Wish Lists, the board selected items which ranged from wheelchairs for the Johnson Family Cancer Center, recumbent bikes for the HEART Center, barbaric exam table for the Whitehall Rehab Clinic to sleep sacks for the Birth Center just to name a few. We were able to apply $20,000 of those funds toward an ongoing pledge toward the Comprehensive Breast Center. All eleven department’s ‘wishes’ were fulfilled.

Children’s Activity Bags, consisting of two coloring books and crayons, are in place in the Surgical Care Waiting rooms at both campuses to help the kids pass time while there.

**Spectrum Health Zeeland Community Hospital:**

The urgent care at Spectrum Health Zeeland Community Hospital has expanded hours to Monday to Friday from 3 to 10 p.m. and weekends and holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Urgent needs are those that cannot wait for the next appointment with your doctor, are not life threatening or do not require an emergency department visit. Located in the hospital, urgent care is steps away from X-ray, laboratory, cardiopulmonary and the emergency department.

In addition to expanding our urgent care hours, applications are now being accepted for our Service League Health Care Scholarship. Organized by the hospital’s Service League of Volunteers, annual $1,000 scholarships will be awarded to three local high school or college students pursuing a career in the medical profession. Experience-even volunteer activities-in the medical field is preferred. All submissions must be postmarked by March 31, 2016. For additional information, contact Michele Sisson at 616.772.7581 or Michele.sisson@spectrumhealth.org.

**Holland Hospital**

Holland Hospital has been named a 2015 National Best and Brightest Companies to Work For award winner. This is the fifth consecutive the hospital has received this national honor. Award winners are selected based on comments that submitted directly by the employees of the hospital.

The Volunteer Auxiliary at Holland Hospital recently wrapped up its annual Lights of Love campaign which raises money for projects that directly impact the patient experience at

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**A Reminder**

Please help keep our mailing list current by sending address changes or corrections to your District Vice President of Membership. This will ensure that the publications will be delivered promptly.

**ECD**

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928 W Lincoln | Caro, MI 48723  
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**NCD**

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**SED**

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Marquette

**WCD**

**Shirley Harris**  
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Phone: (616) 846-5589  
Email: sah43@sbcglobal.net  
North Ottawa Community Hospital, Grand Haven

---

Have you visited the mahaonline.org web site lately?  
You can access recent activities, helpful information, the updated calendar, board officers, district newsletters, spotlighted hospitals and many more articles that are interesting and informative. Make it a point to visit today.
Holland Hospital. This year’s campaign raised more than $12,500 for the purchased of a synchronized time keeping system on the hospital’s Boven Birth Center. Synchronized clocks provide precise time, which is critically important to staff and patients. This project will enhance accuracy of staff documentation of patient care in electronic medical records.

Holland Hospital is the first hospital in the west Michigan area to begin offering the UroNav Fusion Biopsy, an innovative new technology for more precise and accurate detection of prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men, affecting 1 in 7, and is the second leading cause of death in men. Combining the technologies of MRI and ultrasound, UroNav helps patients on active surveillance identify whether they’d benefit from further cancer treatments. Or, it may reassure them that they can continue to be watched safely.

2015 marked the 50th anniversary of Michigan Newborn Screening (NBS) Program – a public health program required by law to screen babies for rare, but serious disorders that require early treatment. Holland Hospital’s Boven Birth Center (BBC) has been recognized as one of only ten birthing centers in the state to meet or exceed six performance criteria, including screening for critical congenital heart disease.

Sparrow Ionia Hospital
We have had an exciting year here at Sparrow Ionia. On June 4 we had the ribbon cutting for our new hospital, and on June 14 the patients were moved in. The advocates did a lot of helping with tours and showing people our beautiful new facility. We have a wonderful gift shop in the new hospital that is run by our Cart and Lobby Guild and it is doing very well. Also the hospital has a lovely garden called the Healing Garden and in it is the garden of gratitude, where you can purchase a brick with a memorial to a loved one.

Our charity ball was in April of 2015 and profits went to the Garden of gratitude. We are working on the 2016 charity ball at present and profits will go to the hospital unsure of just what area it will go.

At our spring meeting we named advocate of the year which is Cathy Emelander. Cathy is an RN who has worked for the hospital for many years, and is currently working in surgery. We will name our new 2016 advocate of the year at our spring meetings. We are currently taking nominations.

In June our Yellow Rose guild had a trash to treasure sale, which was a very large undertaking, but was a lot of fun and a good profit was made. Ex Libris Guild also had a bake sale during the trash to treasure sale. Lots of yummy goodies there.

July always brings the Ionia Free Fair. The Lafayette guild sponsors the first aid booth there. Many of our members give a lot of their time volunteering for that. The booth is open from noon to 10 p.m. Usually there two shifts of volunteers daily with two or three people on each shift. Cudos to Deb Walter president of the lafayette guild for arranging for all the help.

In August the Yellow Rose guild sponsored a “Brown Bag” bus tour to Shipshewanna. What a fun day! Good job ladies.

In September the West Central District Meeting was hosted by the Sparrow Ionia Healthcare advocates. It was held at the Ionia Intermediate School and the speaker for the day was Lt. Governor Brian Calley. We had a good turnout and tours of the new hospital were given at the close of the meeting.

At Christmas the Lafayette Guild sponsored the Angel tree and had a beautiful tree lighting the first Thursday in December. I believe between 175 and 200 Angels were sold this year.

The guilds are working to earn money to sponsor the chapel at the new hospital. They are doing very well with their pledges and everyone has worked very hard.

We have had an active year and I hope I haven’t left out anything I should have mentioned.

Spectrum Health Blodgett – Garden View Cafe
The Garden View Cafe is doing a bit better financially in the last few months. We have reduced labor costs and increased sales through the use of daily specials, gift certificates and the acceptance of the Volunteer Snack Passes issued by Volunteer Services. In the last three years, two of the six guilds that provide staff to the Garden View Cafe have dissolved or pulled out of the Garden View Cafe. The remaining guilds struggle to man their shifts, especially during the winter months when many guild members are in warmer climates.

The Campbell Guild continues to work in the Garden View Cafe. We hold all of our meetings in members’ homes or local restaurants. Unfortunately, we are not attracting new members to replace older members who either assume a purely social role in the guild, or resign their guild membership completely. This seems to be a trend among all the Spectrum Health guilds.

That’s about it for the news from the Garden View Cafe and the Campbell Guild.

Barb Tenpas, WCD President
We Want to Hear from You!

It is not often that you hear or read those words without wondering if the request is valid, but we are serious; we need your help and assistance.

During this year the MAHA Board has been looking at all our publications and their interactions with the membership. We have reached out to everyone, including CEOs and DVSs to see how we can more effectively communicate with you.

One of the surprising discoveries that has been brought to light is that our Highlights and web site are geared toward organizations with auxiliaries only. It took someone looking with “fresh eyes” to identify our need to address and attend to more issues that come up within organizations which have only volunteers, that is, without formal boards and members and auxiliary boards.

Since we are striving to appeal to both groups, volunteer and auxiliary, the MAHA Board will be establishing a Focus Group comprised of members from volunteer groups throughout the state. We will not be forgetting the Auxiliary groups, but will inculcate their ideas into the resulting discussions of the Focus Group. We hope that this focus group will be able to identify ways in which our messages are more universal for all MAHA volunteer organizations. We need volunteers to serve and would appreciate hearing from you. You can call or email either Nancy Viele or Mary Lu Cramer as listed:

Nancy Viele (810) 655-6419 or nviele522@gmail.com
Mary Lu Cramer (248) 714-5774 or mcramer2@comcast.net

---

A volunteer is like a rare gem.
When placed in the right setting and cared for, they will shine and give pleasure to all who see them.

--Unknown
# 2015 Annual Report of Hours and Dollars

## Districts

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<th>DISTRICTS</th>
<th>ECD</th>
<th>NCD</th>
<th>SED</th>
<th>SWD</th>
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## Hours and Dollars Five-Year Totals Comparison

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<td>Volunteers on MAHA State Board</td>
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Submitted by Margaret Ohryn, MAHA Membership Director

Thank you to all hospitals, Director of Volunteer Services (DVS), and District Membership Vice Presidents/Chairs/Directors: Cathy Crimmins UPD, Shirley Harris WCD, Beth Stickney-Greene ECD, Carol Towne SED, Betty Plough NCD, and Shelley Redman SWD with providing this information.
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