President’s Message

Crystal Mountain at peak color was the perfect location for the Fall Conference. Our membership loved the new venue and we are happy to announce that we will have our event there again next year. Thank you for filling out the evaluations, it made the decision to return next year the right one.

The MAHA Board agenda for January will address plans for the Annual Meeting and Educational Institute at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, goals, objectives and how we can improve the Fall Conference. The Nomination Committee will meet to nominate new members for the MAHA board for 2015-2016.

Our membership has at this time received their registrations for Healthcare Advocacy Day on March 17, 2015. HCAD is a very important part of volunteerism. The program offered informs volunteers about legislation important to your individual hospitals and gives you the opportunity to speak directly to your legislators. Be a part of Healthcare Advocacy Day; enjoy a nice lunch and conversations that count with elected officials. Remember it is on St. Patrick’s Day, so wear your green.

The Hours and Dollars Report is due in January. Our Membership Director, Carol D’Alberto, is ready to tabulate the information which will be published in the April Highlights and in the Annual Report. If you haven’t turned it in, please do so.

Spring is around the corner and so are the District Spring Meetings. We are excited about visiting each district and hearing your news. Each group of volunteers/auxilians accomplish different forms of fundraising, offer service to their hospitals and are willing to share their experiences with each other. Attendance at these functions is valuable to your organization.

This edition of Highlights contains lots of pictures of our membership enjoying Fall Conference, our new Volunteers of the Year and those wonderful baskets donated as door prizes. Picture yourself there next year.

Jeanette Havel, MAHA President
### MAHA LOOKING AHEAD 2015-2016

The following dates are for your calendar — Information current as of January 1, 2015

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>June 24-26, 2015**</td>
<td><strong>MHA ANNUAL MEETING</strong></td>
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**Attended by MAHA President and MAHA President Elect (and/or VP Ed)
Prepared by: Nancy Viele, President Elect 2014-2015, nviele522@gmail.com

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!
66th MAHA Fall Conference – “Volunteers ... At the Heart of Change”

On October 13 to 15, 2014 MAHA held its 66th Annual Fall Conference at Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa in Thompsonville, Michigan amid beautiful autumn leaves. It was attended by multiple hospitals from all six Districts. The theme of the conference – **Volunteers at the Heart of Change** – was highlighted by the speaker program.

On Monday night, we opened with Kathleen Osta, nationally recognized speaker and change consultant, talking about surviving change both in the broader sense and on a personal level at her workshop. On Tuesday, Laura Appel from MHA talked about the upcoming elections that may bring change at the Federal, State, and local levels of government. She also talked about the Affordable Care Act, the catalyst to a great deal of change for our industry and our Michigan hospitals.

Sue Omhahl talked about dealing with a difficult life changing event – death. Our Workshops included: Kathleen Osta continuing her theme of dealing with change; Karen VanCura, DVS of Genesys, talking about Volunteer retention which is getting harder in today’s environment for many of us; Miriam Works, a nationally recognized speaker, talked about gift shop best practices; and Sonia Nesbitt talked about changes in hips and knees procedures. The Networking session gave our members an opportunity to talk about several topics that were submitted by our members during visits to the Fall District Meetings. Among them were fundraising ideas and recruiting. You can find a summary of the ideas on the web site.

During our banquet we honored a H.A.V.E. award winner from Sparrow Hospital in the Southwest District. Patricia Hollenbeck from Sparrow described the fundraising project called Dapper Dads that was the basis for the reward. We also announced the District Volunteers of the year including: Debbie Bussone, UPD, from Bell Hospital; Irene Fall, NCD, from Charlevoix Area Hospital; Judy Kinkle, ECD, from St Mary’s in Saginaw; Nerva Tripp, SWD, from Bronson Battle Creek; and Elaine Pastor, SED, from St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea.

We closed on a lighter note on Wednesday morning with Evelyn Smallbladder, also known as Denise Gutenschwager. Denise’s humor was outrageously funny, and a wonderful way to close the conference followed by the basket give-away.

We received basket donations from and want to say a BIG thank you to: Caro Community Hospital, ECD; Grace Guild, Sinai Grace Hospital, SED; Aspirus Grand View and Aspirus Northstar, UPD (2 baskets); Holland Hospital, WCD; Hurley Medical Center, ECD; Marlette Regional, ECD; Alpena Regional, NCD; St. Joe Mercy, Chelsea, SED; West Branch Regional Medical Center, NCD; Lakeland Healthcare, SWD; Ostego Memorial, NCD; Providence Hospital, Southfield, SED; the SED District (2); NorthStar Health System, UPD; War Memorial Hospital, UPD; Community Health, SWD; St. Joseph Mercy, Port Huron, SED; McLaren, Port Huron, SED; Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, SED; Oakland Hospital, Marshall, SED; University of Michigan, SED; Mid Michigan Medical Center, Midland, ECD; Genesys Regional Medical Center, ECD; Memorial Healthcare Owosso, ECD; Bell, Ishpeming, UPD; Covenant Healthcare, ECD; Sparrow, St. John’s, Hillsdale, SWD; Henry Ford Wyandotte, SED; Munson Medical Center, NCD; Promedica Bixby & Herrick, Adrian & Tecumseh, SWD; Carson Health Auxiliary, Carson City, WCD; McLaren, Flint, ECD; St. John Macomb, SED; Allegiance Health, Jackson, SWD; Bronson Hospital, Battle Creek, SWD; Pennock Hospital, Hastings, SWD; and Bronson Lakeview, Paw Paw, SWD.

Gift baskets were donated by the hospitals listed above.
Highlights

66th MAHA Fall Conference

Patricia Hollenbeck from Sparrow Hospital winner of the 2014 H.A.V.E. Award for Fundraising spoke at the MAHA Fall Conference about the “Dapper Dad” fundraiser that earned them the award.

Each district selected a volunteer that represented service of excellence above and beyond the call of duty. Congratulations for a job well done. The recipients are: Debbie Bussone, UPD; Elaine Pastor, SED; Irene Fall, NCD; Nerva Tripp, SWD; and Judy Kinkle, ECD.

Do you see yourself? If not maybe next year!!
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.

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Healthcare Advocacy Day – Tuesday, March 17, 2015

SAVE THE DATE!

Registration brochures were mailed in December concerning Health Care Advocacy Day to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at the Lansing Radisson Hotel in Downtown Lansing from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 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 health care coverage for all and to improve the state’s health care delivery system is understood. You can do this by attending Health Care 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!
Election 2014: Republicans Make Major Gains in Michigan

With the lame Duck session just about over, we can finally move ahead. November's general election garnered major wins in Michigan and across the nation for the Republican Party. At the state level, Republicans increased their majority in both the House and Senate. Starting in 2015, the House will have a 63-47 Republican advantage, a net gain of four seats. The Senate Republicans picked up one additional seat, making their super majority stronger at 27-11.

While Republicans swept the top of the ticket with the re-election of incumbents Gov. Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, multiple statewide races had close margins of victory. Republican-nominated Michigan Supreme Court Justices Brian Zahra and David Viviano won their re-election races and will be joined by newcomer Democratic nominee Richard Bernstein.

The MHA Board of Trustees identified the re-election of Attorney General Schuette and Justices Zahra and Viviano as priorities for the 2014 election.

The gains made by Republicans at the state level echoed election results across the nation, which saw Democrats losing control of the U.S. Senate. Democratic U.S. Rep. Gary Peters won his U.S. Senate bid for Sen. Carl Levin’s seat, so Michigan’s congressional delegation breakdown did not change for the next session and remains at 9-5, with more Republican representation.

Following the election, Michigan’s legislative caucuses held leadership elections. Sen. Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) was elected Senate majority leader and Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Flint) was elected minority leader. Rep. Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was elected speaker of the House, while Rep. Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) will continue his role as minority leader. Unofficial results for the 2014 Michigan general election are available at http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/election/results/14GEN/. If you have questions regarding the 2014 general elections please contact Paige Fults at the MHA at pfults@mha.org or (517) 703-8616.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you are allowed 30 hours for attending the MAHA Fall Conference and the MAHA Annual Meeting? Just report back to your hospital after you attended the meeting(s) 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.

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EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT

I have no idea where 2014 went or how we got to 2015. I do know that we had a great ECD meeting and MAHA Conference at Crystal Mountain in the fall. The volunteers at our hospitals have been busy too and here are some of the things they have been doing:

Caro Community Hospital hosted the Fall ECD Meeting. They have had uniform sales, a book sale and finished the annual raffle after selling tickets at various festivals in Caro as well as the Tuscola County Fair. The Gift Shop had a successful sale of the outdated items they had. The Lighted Tree of Love ceremony was held in December.

Three members attended the Fall Conference at Crystal Mountain.

Covenant HealthCare Saginaw held an Educational Day in October which was well attended. Bethany Spyhalski spoke on infection prevention. Other topics included Patient Privacy, Safety, and how volunteers can support Patient Centered Care. The Volunteers approved a request for pediatric feeding supplies including bottles, nipple systems, sippy cups, utensils and therapeutic tool that will assist infants within the Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with feeding progression. Funds raised from the St. Laurent Brothers Candy & Nut sale and the Tree of Love supported the Covenant HealthCare Family Comfort Fund. This fund is designed to support families when a hospitalized loved one is at the last stages of life. Refreshments and snacks are provided to family members during the difficult time.

Genesys Regional Medical Center’s Acorn Gift and Floral Shop was stocked with the latest merchandise and delightful treasures for the holiday shoppers and included a special Toy Sale. The volunteers had their annual Christmas luncheon when they celebrated the gift of their service to the hospital and its patients. The Atrium at the hospital had its usual gorgeous and huge poinsettia tree during the holidays and a special sale of chocolate, candy and nuts in festive packages were on sale by the Volunteers.

Plans for the winter include a shoe sale, candy sale, Silvique sterling silver jewelry sale, book sale, additional jewelry sales, handbag and accessory sales. These fundraisers play an important part in their efforts to support their hospital

Hills & Dale General Hospital Auxiliary had five members attend the ECD Meeting in the fall. The Northwood Meadows Assisted Living community honored the Auxiliary for a donation of $5,000.00 that helped purchase a new updated Computer Security System. Our members volunteered to help with the Annual Women’s Wellness Event and this is always a well-attended event. In the fall they had a book sale and jewelry sale. The Hospital Foundation was presented with a $500.00 donation following the drawing for the Annual Auxiliary Raffle along with a bake sale and cookie walk. Their volunteers are Busy Bees.

McLaren Flint had their installation in the fall with Anne Lorentzen officiating. They have had several successful vendor sales including: shoes, linens, books, cosmetics, purses and chocolate. Brenda Ferguson, DOV, has oriented 85 new members in this past year to bring up the total volunteers to 352. They had eight Auxiliaries attend the ECD Fall Meeting and four Board of Directors attend the MAHA Fall conference where they were very impressed with the Conference speakers and breakout sessions. They enjoyed Crystal Mountain in spite of the weather.

MidMichigan Medical Center-Gladwin has had successful fundraisers including a book sale and scrubs for the employees. The Love Light Tree Campaign and Gift Closet Holiday Sale earned money will help provide the hospital with some items from their wish list; a special piece of equipment for the physical therapy department and a magazine rack for the patients in the infusion clinic. They continue to support the hospital with all the ongoing efforts of their volunteer time in reception desk greeters, ambassadors, help at health fairs and much, much more.

The Scheurer Hospital Auxiliary have had a very successful year. They have had several new volunteers join them and added several new activities. Their fund raisers included the Annual Style Show and Luncheon, a Golf Outing, jewelry sale, a Pasta Dinner benefit at a local restaurant, and a cheeseball sale at the Caseville Holly Berry Fair. A Health-exercise event was held at Laker High School to benefit the health clinic at the High School. The volunteers work to provide items for the hospital and are rewarded not only by “thank you” but have a beautiful annual luncheon. They feel very lucky to have such a great hospital in their community.

St. Joseph Health Systems-Tawas City is a group of volunteers set up differently than a tradition board. They are overseen by a Mission Team that keeps the volunteers on track and on Mission. The Mission Team is considering adding new groups including landscaping and a “SMILE” cart that would go from room to room carrying items that would be useful during stays in the hospital. Most recently the volunteers concluded their annual raffle and were able to make their pledge of $76,000 to the Emergency Department renovations a year early. Dawn Knapp is the new Coordinator of Volunteer Services and attended the MAHA Fall Conference which gave her the opportunity to...
make contacts and hear the happenings of other area hospitals.

St. Mary’s of Michigan – Saginaw had a busy and productive fall in fundraising including a Fall Mums Sale, a friendly MSU/UofM competitive cookie sale, a jewelry sale and their Annual Giving Campaign. All proceeds were given to the new Interventional Radiology Special Procedure Suite. The year ended with donating and packing “Thanksgiving Plus” dinner baskets for five families, staffing and donating to the hospital’s Annual Christmas Shoppe, planning a large motivational and educational program for hospital associates to be held in the spring.

2015 will mark the 55th anniversary of our Volunteer Alliance and the 140th anniversary of St. Mary’s of Michigan – Saginaw. They look forward to participating in a year of celebration.

Anne Lorentzen, ECD President

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Alpena Regional Medical Center had their yearly Angel Pin Sale and had a very successful Christmas Sale in their Gift Shop. During the season the Auxiliary sold Koezel Nuts and held a raffle with the recipient receiving a basket full of wonderful nut and candy products. The organization also hosted the annual Christmas Tree Ball. The Auxiliary has committed $80,500 to help with the renovation of the Medical Center’s auditorium. In addition, the Auxiliary’s new three-year pledge of $350,000 will be directed toward the Waiting Room and the Team Center located in the nurse’s station as part of the Medical Center’s complete renovation of the Emergency Department.

Mercy Hospital, Cadillac raised $25,000 for Breast Cancer Awareness through their successful “Our Power of the Purse” fundraiser. The organization had a wreath and poinsettia fundraiser in October. The all-day volunteer workshop went very well. There were numerous speakers. Wheelchair training, operating fire extinguishers and putting out real fire were just some of the topics.

The hospital’s CEO, John McCloud, retired at the end of September.

Charlevoix Area Hospital has been going through many changes as construction takes place throughout the institution. The volunteers have been busy making sure that visitors and patients get to the right place in the hospital during this time. Their volunteer group presented the first $10,000 to the board in September. The annual tea was a great success with many visitors. The gift shop is going great and was well stocked and prepared for the holidays.
A Reminder
Please help keep our mailing list current by sending address changes or corrections to you District Vice President of Membership. This will ensure that the publications will be delivered promptly.

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North Ottawa Community Hospital, Grand Haven

Highlights

McLaren Cheboygan Campus
Guild held luncheons in October and November which included speakers for the attendees. The Guild held a card party in September and raised $960 from this event. December fundraisers included the “Tree of Lights” and “Greens and Bake Sale”. Proceeds from these events were used for gas cards and patient assistance requests. The large fundraiser for the upcoming year will be the “Power of the Purse”.

Owego Memorial Hospital-
Grayling – Fundraisers have included a Uniform Sale, which is one of their biggest fundraisers. The Auxiliary also had a Carmel Apple Sale just before Halloween. “Books Are Fun” fundraiser was held in November. The Auxiliary’s favorite event of the season was “Holiday Tables”. Fifteen tables were beautifully decorated for Christmas with Christmas entertainment included. It was a great way to start the holidays. The hospital gift shop continued to do very well throughout the holidays. We had our NCD Fall Conference in September at Alpena, and it was a wonderful day. All enjoyed the speaker on shipwrecks on Lake Huron and the tasty lunch. Three members of our Auxiliary Board attended the MAHA Fall Conference at Crystal Mountain. They enjoyed the vendors and found the workshops informative and the speakers enjoyable.

West Shore Medical Center-
Manistee – The Auxilians have been busy during the holiday season. The Auxiliary continued to help in any way that it could. The Sleigh Bell Craft Show conducted in December was very successful. The Auxiliary rented space to vendors to sell their crafts. There always seems to be a waiting list for the 150 allotted spaces. Members also sold Christmas cookies and had a raffle at the show. This craft show was held in conjunctions with the Manistee’s Sleigh Bell Weekend event that always draws people from across Michigan.

West Branch Regional Medical Center-West Branch – The Tolfree volunteers were very busy in 2014. Through October, 2014 they contributed 12,969 service hours to the hospital. The volunteers opened an outlet store for the hospital gift shop to benefit Hospice of Helping Hands. Ninety six (96) volunteers attended a luncheon in their honor on October 6, 2014. During the event Carolyn Minto, President, presented the Tolfree Foundation with a check for $17,000 designated for new x-ray machines and the endowment of the first Hill-Rom stretcher. Edward Napierala, CEO of West Branch Regional Medical Center, gave a speech of appreciation for the volunteers’ achievements.

Vivian Mettler, NCD President

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Crittenton Hospital & Medical Center
President Karen Sweeney
Crittenton Hospital Auxiliary is in the process of transitioning from an auxiliary to a volunteer service organization in 2015. We will have a dinner for the Auxiliary Board in December to recognize the service of the board members and committee chairs.

The Auxiliary will be donating two Christmas trees and ornaments to the hospital to replace the “well worn” trees in the main Lobby and Surgical Waiting.

DMC Huron Valley – Sinai Hospital
Volunteer Contact – Barbara Brennan
On December 22, a small group of DMC Huron Valley Sinai Hospital volunteers will uphold a multi-year tradition. Dating back to the days of the DMC Huron Valley Sinai existence, beautiful poinsettia plants have been given to patients who will be in the hospital during the Holidays. The plants are purchased from a local nursery. The red color brings cheer to patients and employees alike. The opportunity to dispense the flowers is a coveted job among the volunteers. During the auxiliary days the poinsettias were
Highlights

purchased with raised funds or sometimes donated by a doctor’s wife or a local nursery. Today The Hospital has stepped forward to cover this expense. Hospital Administration and Volunteers love its continuation.

Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
Volunteer Contact – Bev Hartman

The Gift Shop continues to enhance its profits through its fund raisers. They also had a special sale so the midnight staff could have an opportunity to purchase items. At Halloween they had a Mystery Sale whereby shoppers selected their items for purchase and then at checkout they pulled a poker chip that had a 20, 30 or 40% discount for that sale. The volunteer department sponsored a “trunk or treat” event for the staff at Halloween and the volunteers were treated to a brunch and movie during the holiday season.

Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital
President Sandra Chavez

In October, the Auxiliary was presented with the Rosie Meyer Community Volunteer Award. This prestigious award recognizes a resident/group of the Downriver community who has served Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital as a volunteer and has been selfless in donating their time, treasure and talent. Nearly 200 Auxiliary members donated more than 31,000 hours during 2013 at Wyandotte Hospital. In addition, the volunteers host roughly 20 fundraisers a year to support patient services allowing them to purchase essential health equipment over the years.

Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital is in the middle of renovations of many areas of the hospital. The updating of the front lobby, doctor’s lounge and patio area have been completed. The next areas scheduled for updating are the Surgical Lounge and the Emergency Department. This is an ongoing project that will provide a facelift to several additional areas over the next year.

The HFWH Auxiliary provided $1,000 scholarships to two or our youth volunteers who will be going into health related programs.

Recently, we hosted a Birthday Celebration in honor of all the volunteers who are 80 years of age or older and are still actively volunteering. We presented each honoree with a special pin indicating their membership in the “80 and Up Club”!

McLaren Port Huron
President – M. L. Kraft

The Auxiliary resumed their monthly board meetings in September and voted to change the name officially from Port Huron Hospital Auxiliary to McLaren Port Huron Auxiliary. The entire board will be presented with this information and vote at the January 2015 installation. Numerous successful fundraisers were conducted in the last quarter, including the Art Sale, Logos Sale and Books R Fun Sale. Planning for the Spring Little Black Dress Fundraiser began, in conjunction with St. Joseph Mercy and the Kearns Family and Friends. All proceeds from this event go to the two local hospitals for care for women with breast cancer. Recently, a report was completed on the history of the Auxiliaries donations to the hospital and it totaled over 2 million dollars of items purchased for the hospital by the Auxiliary since its inception in 1906.

Mercy Memorial Hospital System – Monroe
President Beth Grna

Our gift shop had a week of specials we called “What a Girl Wants”. Ladies wear, jewelry, purses or scarves were discounted each day. A free necklace and earring set was earned for each purchase of $50.00. Scarf tying demonstrations were held each day from 12-1:00pm. Our lobby sales are always well attended. We have the $6 Sale, Books Are Fun, and $5 Sale. We are also planning a craft show this fall. Our members will assist the hospital with their fundraiser “Festival of the Trees for the Holidays.” Members also assisted with the free prostate cancer screening. And will help at two community health checks.

Providence Hospital & Medical Center – Southfield
President – Carolyn Drake

Southfield Providence Hospital (OLPL) is looking forward to November 21, 2014 to celebrate their Fall Open House, “Thanks for Giving.” On this day we will recognize and celebrate all VOLUNTEERS. The volunteers will mix and mingle, while being served by hospital staff. There will be fun, food and gifts for all. This is our way to say, “THANK YOU” for all that you do and to wish you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING. We will also be presenting a check to the St. John
Highlights

Foundation for the support they provide to the community. Volunteers are servants that serve with a servants heart.

Providence Park Hospital & Medical Center – Novi
President – Pat Poirier

Providence Park League is a dedicated group of volunteers who began offering grant opportunities within the hospital which began in mid 2012. The objective is that it would benefit patient care and patient satisfaction. We have just completed our latest offering which was to provide framing for art for the hospital to the amount of $4000. We contacted the Hospital Art Committee who contacted Michigan artists for donations, it was a lengthy process but well worth the effort.

MAHA Highlights

Deadlines for future issues:

February 1, 2015 – April 2015 Issue

July 1, 2015 – September 2015 Issue

I wish to thank everyone who sent articles for the January issue in a timely manner. I look forward to receiving more articles for the April and September, 2015 issues. Please send your articles to the address listed below.

Remember:

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION IS PREFERABLE AND IS ENCOURAGED.

If you do not have a computer your DVS or someone at the hospital may let you use theirs. Remember to send your hospital articles to your District Presidents so they may make a synopsis of the district to present to Highlights.

Patricia (Patt) Luomala
8778 Govers Lake Road
Bear Lake, MI 49614
pluomala@centurytel.net

St. John Macomb – Oakland Hospital – Macomb Center
President – Sallie Hock

The Emergency Room Expansion to which our Auxiliary donated $100,000 is a huge success according to Nurses and Physician Assistants using the new Fast Track Area. We are having difficulty with our fundraisers since St. John no longer allows payroll deduction to the employees; however, we are currently determined to rectify this and get more creative in our offerings. We have a lot of events in December and one of them will be an Angel with Nativity sale. These are beautiful Angel ornaments and hopefully it will be a very successful venture.

St. John River District Hospital – East China
Director – Carol Ann Towne

We are planning several new fundraising events for the upcoming year. Our linen sale and arts and crafts show were very successful. We have also scheduled another right-brain painting project.

The backbone of our success is due to the talents of our gift shoppe manager, Lori Wheeler. We are so grateful that Lori is part of our Auxiliary. We have made the first payment for a new digital sign for the Hospital. We will hold our Lights of Love Ceremony to remember our Auxilians who are no longer with us. WE are looking forward to fiscal year 2015 being as blessed as last year.

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital – Pontiac
President – Michele Dunaj

The Mercy Volunteers has been busy during the summer months with our annual retraining. Classes informed the volunteers of how to protect ourselves during the flu season, new tower updates and badging and to prepare for the mandatory flu vaccine and upcoming events. Mercy Volunteers had an amazing turn out for our October Silver Sale. December 10, 2014 we will celebrate a Volunteer Christmas Luncheon at the Iroquois Club.

Marilyn Beverley, SED President

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Sparrow Health, Lansing

Busy time for us, as we are moving cafeteria and gift shop to a more centrally located and larger space. Looking forward to the 2015 opening.

Our major fund raiser this year will be for Sparrow’s new cancer center, which will offer consolidation of services for our patients and their families.

Dottie Spousta, Sparrow Board of Woman Managers

Eaton Rapids Medical Center, Eaton Rapids

Gift shop is full of Halloween and Thanksgiving merchandise, Christmas items will be arriving soon. We have finalized our pledge for pediatric colon scope and have committed to purchase a bladder scanner.
Our Gala on October 17, at the English Inn, was a great success. Will be holding our 3rd Purse Bingo May 7, 2015, this year’s did very well.

Patti Oliver, Auxiliary President

Community Health of Coldwater, Coldwater

Our volunteers have been very busy, raising funds for scholarships and annual gift to hospital. Gift shop is FULL of merchandise for the holidays. Our purse Bingo was a huge success and very profitable, and fun for all. Looking forward to our Books for Fun sale and our Celebration of Lights event. Our Director of Volunteer Services Julie Stratos retired in September, she is sadly missed, her replacement will have some big shoes to fill, but the volunteers are looking forward to helping her replacement any way we can.

Christine Lewis, Auxiliary President

Pennock Health Services, Hastings

Recently we had an education session and lunch, we were joined by CEO Sheryl Lewis Blake she provided us with updates on building a new health care center. Fundraiser, Books are Fun money goes to district and convention meetings and Pennock Foundation. Penn-Nook gift shop holiday sale will be November 5, 6 and 7. A bake sale for Thanksgiving sponsored by Pediatric Guild #5.

Judy Kidder, President Auxiliary Board

Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall

We just held a fundraising Bunco Party, very successful. Looking forward to our annual Bazaar, many items donated and made by our volunteers. Hospital held an in service luncheon to provide updated policies and procedures, and flu shots, attendance very good.

Kathy VanDerMeulen & Cheryl McAuliffe Auxiliary Co-Presidents

Hillsdale Community Health Center, Hillsdale

Held a raffle, for a basket of 35 items, worth $135 for our Gift Shop 35th year anniversary. Jewelry, purses and plush are our big sellers. Flower-Power bulb sale is a big money maker. We are able to keep our volunteer hours on computer since July.

Judy Mielke, Auxiliary President

Allegiance Health, Jackson

40 teens participated in a 7-week Summer Youth Program, where they volunteer in various areas, which gives them exposure to possible healthcare vocations, and helped them to gain their community service hours for graduation. They worked in the Gift Shop, Diabetes Center, Substance Abuse, Surgery waiting room, Coffee shop, Neo Natal and Comfort Cart. Twelve are staying on to volunteer throughout the year.

We recently completed our flu shots, TB tests and CBLs for volunteers.

Cheryl Simonetti, Auxiliary President

Sparrow Clinton, St Johns

Our golf outing in June is a great fundraiser for us. Our new ER department has opened and is beautiful, we are on target with our fundraising goals. Annual Casino fundraiser was enjoyed by all. We are having a Chicago shopping trip in December this year, we always try to add new fundraising efforts.

We thank the community for their support.

Ione Berg, Auxiliary President

Herrick Medical Center, Tecumseh

Fundraiser we have had this fall, $5 Jewelry sale in September, Linen Sale and Book Fair in October, Germack Candy and Nut Sale in November, and Bake Sale in December. Gift Shop is preparing for our annual Christmas Sale. We are having an Harvest Gathering the first two weeks in November, to help our local Tecumseh Service Club to help families in need. Our Euchre Club is another good fundraiser for us, from September to April, and gives us something to do in the winter.

Brenda Jacobs, Auxiliary President

Three Rivers Health, Three Rivers

Our hospital lobby has been turned into a winter wonderland for the Holiday Bazaar, there will be breakfast, lunch, and dinner specials in the snack bar. We have floral arrangements, baked goods, Vintage specials, and a 50% off section. Grab bags are a big ticket item for us.

Laurel Cordes, Newsletter and Legislative
Lakeland Community Health, Watervliet
Our Auxiliary has donated funds for the pavilion that was built on the hospital campus. It will provide a pleasant outside place for staff, volunteers and patients to enjoy. We have several fundraisers planned, Swiss steak dinner, second craft show, linen sale, and book sale, as well as our Tree of Love. In spring of 2015 we will offering a scholarship to a local student. Many of our volunteers are knitting and crocheting lap robes, and others are sewing tote bags for use on patient’s walkers.
Diane Camfferman, Auxiliary President

Bronson Battle Creek, Battle Creek
We had over 80 golfers for our annual golf outing in September. Our Purse Bingo is another great fundraiser for us in October, this year was our biggest yet. Our Recognition Luncheon was attended by many, awards were given, and everyone received a rose. Looking forward to our Linen Sale, book sale, $5 Jewelry Sale and our annual Tree of Love campaign and lighting ceremony.
Joy Webster, Auxiliary President

Promedica Bixby, Adrian
With the changing season comes an end to our Thursday Farmers Market, fresh fruits, veggies and of course baked goods will be missed. We also have had a big success with our other fundraisers, Jewelry Sale, Mother’s Day Plant Sale, Shoe Sale, Book Sale and Uniform Sale. On September 13 we held our Graze to Raise 5k walk a fun event where families, individuals and cancer survivors can enjoy good food, take a walk all the while raising funds for the Hickman Cancer Center. Our gift store now has its own Facebook page. We have teamed up with Lenawee County ISD to launch Project SEARCH. It is a 1-year internship program for students with disabilities to help to explore a variety of career paths. Our Baby Closet is a program to collect, store and distribute clothing, diapers, etc, for the newborns. We are also developing a recognition plan for a Volunteer of the Year to coincide with MAHA’s.
Jim Nickless, Auxiliary President

Bronson Lakeview, Paw Paw
In February we held our Bake Sale, in April our used media/book sale. Our 33 Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon was held in April also, fashion were provided by CJ Banks. Congratulations to Shirley Hale, President, who received the Presidents Team Award from Bronson for 2014. With monies from our fundraisers we were able to provide, two treatment recliners, one stool for MRI unit, two raised garden bed planters, one treatment chair for Mattawan lab, $2,000 for the Bronson Lakeview Outpatient Center, and $2,000 for Bronson Commons for patient care areas. We were also able to provide two scholarships to students from Van Buren intermediate school district.
Shirley Johnson, Auxiliary President Elect and Nancy Lueder

McLaren Greater Lansing, Lansing
Our accomplishments were recognized at the Annual Awards Celebration held in October. Our Volunteer program is committed to enhancing McLaren Greater Lansing, to meet this commitment, 679 volunteer members contributed 86,542 hours for years 2013-14. Our fund raising profits exceeded over $13,700. Several members received pins for their years of service. Siray Taylor received our Katy Brown Smile Award. The volunteer of the year program was reinstated this fiscal year.
Peg Brown, Auxiliary President

Barb Moran, SWD President

UPPER PENINSULA DISTRICT
Ironwood has many different fundraisers such as bazaars, book fairs, jewelry sales, bake sales and Tree of Life to support their projects. They are a busy Auxiliary and all working together for the common good.
Northstar in Iron River has seen some changes and are moving forward quickly. They have new officers as well as a new Volunteer Coordinator. Such things as their warming blankets for patients are a welcome thing. Hospital has been acquired by Aspirus System of Wausau and Volunteers will visit Wausau to collaborate with the volunteers there.
OSF of Escanaba has implemented several fund raisers locally and the Rehab Center is open and running for employees and patients as well. The Auxiliary helps with the Yellow Dot program which alerts emergency personnel to health issues. Formed a planning group for upcoming 60th anniversary of the auxiliary. Congratulations OSF auxiliary.
War Memorial Hospital Auxiliary continues to share their gifts, talents and time with local independent hospital. The auxiliary provided financial support for partnership with LSSU Nursing Scholarship. Gift Shop has a successful year. Also had a 32nd annual Flea Market providing a donation of nearly $20,000. They also spent $30,000 honoring long standing tradition of responding to Hospital Staff questions “How can we help you add quality and value to your care of patients at War Memorial Hospital?” This year the auxiliary entered a partnership with Hospital Development fund in support of Emergency Dept. letter of intent to
contribute $30,000 over the next three years.

Munising Memorial Hospital has begun new activities like a Style/Fashion Show open to the public by purchase of tickets and providing food at the show. The Employee Appreciation day goes over very well with employees. And sale of huge pecans for holiday baking is a faithful fundraiser. It is indeed a pleasure to work with hospital staff.

Ray Berg, UPD President

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT
Spectrum Health Blodgett, Grand Rapids

The volunteers at Spectrum Health Blodgett Hospital continue to serve the needs of the hospital in many ways. Our guilds are actively involved in assisting areas of the hospital where needed whether it be in the Garden Café, the Window Shop, or in other fundraising efforts such as jewelry, book sales, and the bridge marathon. We continue to expand our horizons by bringing in wonderful speakers at our guild meetings. Fundraising efforts continue to help purchase needed items around the hospital. Blodgett expanded its Renucci Hospitality area at the beginning of 2014. A couple of our guilds were able to sponsor a room to offset hospital costs.

The Spectrum Health Foundation sponsored and All Guild Appreciation Luncheon on October 27th. Approximately 220 Guild members from the Blodgett and Butterworth hospitals attended. We had two guest speakers. Dr Seth Wold, President and System Chief Medical Officer of the Spectrum Health Medical Group, shared with the group a little of his background and his vision for the future of the hospitals. Spectrum Health Medical Group is comprised of approximately 900 physicians who work within the Spectrum Health System. Our second guest speaker was Judy Schreur, who gave and entertaining talk about seeing life on the bright side. Her message was serious but her presentation made us all laugh.

Our Spectrum Blodgett volunteers do a wonderful job of serving the needs of those around us.

We thank all of you who continue to give of yourselves in our united efforts in each of our hospitals.

Spectrum Health Butterworth, Grand Rapids

Auxiliary President Randy Kimball opened the first Board meeting of the new fiscal year by thanking guilds for their dedication in the past and encouraging an open mind and positive attitude as we explore new ways to raise money for the hospital.

Barbara Gordon, president of the Junior Golden Rule Guild was congratulated for receiving the Art of Giving Award bestowed each year by the Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital Foundation.

Foundation Director of Annual Giving Brad Kaufmann thanked Blodgett and Butterworth guilds for raising $400,000 last year for programs and services at Spectrum Health and Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital.

Pediatric hematologist/oncologist Dr. James Fahner introduced Dr. Giselle Stoller who is leading a national consortium researching treatment for neuroblastoma, a tumor of the central nervous system and medulloblastoma, a form of brain cancer affecting 700 children each year in the U.S. Following her presentation Brad asked guild members to consider helping match a $1 million donation from an anonymous donor in support of this program, recently named to the top 50 cancer programs in the country by U.S. News and World Report.

North Ottawa Community Health System

WE are extremely proud to be celebrating our 95th year as an Auxiliary and Hospital. NOCHS gave us a wonderful celebratory luncheon in September complete with a birthday cake and cupcakes for each attendee.

Fundraisers using local merchants have been very successful and strengthen our community ties as well. More are planned thought our fiscal year (ending in April). Vendor sales have also been food and on track. We are learning that timing these sales is critical to maximize the benefit. We are ahead of last year’s fund-raising and on track to meet our monetary fundraising goal.

Our Auxiliary paid memberships represent 24% of our volunteers. We would like to increase that, as well as increase “active” working auxilians, i.e. Board members. Two areas that may help are an image update and increased publicity of our goals, contributions and why they are important.

The gift shop continues its successful ways. We have very good community support.

Our Health System Administration and Board of Trustees continue to be very supportive, and we have a good working relationship. The Health System and Auxiliary are now co-publicizing events throughout the health system. This is helpful to widen and deepen our target market.

The Health System completed its Outpatient Surgery renovation in 2014 in part with NOHA donations.

Sparrow Ionia Hospital, Ionia

The new Sparrow Ionia Hospital building project is on schedule. The steel is up and the plans are to have the building completely enclosed by early November. Work will begin on the inside, with expectations of completion in late Spring/early Summer 2015.

A MSU/UM tailgate party fundraiser was held on October 25 near the site of the new hospital. Great food, raffles and lots of cheering for both sides!

The Sparrow Ionia Advocates have our major fundraising plans in place for our Garden of Gratitude. The bricks purchased and engraved in memory or in honor of a person, group or individual will be placed in a prominent location outside the new hospital.
We are very excited about hosting the WCD Fall meeting on September 24, 2015. We will host the meeting within a few miles of the expressway at our intermediate School District building and then those interested can drive back toward the expressway with a stop at the new hospital for a tour.

Mercy Health, Muskegon

The Volunteer Executive Council from the Hackley Campus recently disbanded. The VEC and Mercy Campus Volunteer Board joined together to become one board serving both campuses which is now Mercy Health Volunteer Board.

Fundraisers continue to be quite successful. The board sponsored a Koeze Nut Sale to benefit hospital projects. Orders were placed in time for Christmas gift giving.

Dog Therapy has been reinstated at both campuses. The program has been well received by patients with some heartwarming stories to be told.

Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital, Ludington

Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital honored its volunteers at its annual recognition dinner on October 2, 2014. 39 volunteers were awarded service pins for surpassing significant milestones of 100 to 14,000 hours of service. Topping the list of honorees with 14,000 hours each were Doris Lundberg and Judy Thiel. Thiel serves as chairperson of the hospital gift shop while Lundberg has long assisted patients in the surgery department and knits hats for newborns.

In August, the volunteers achieved another milestone in their support of continuous improvement in the region’s healthcare. The volunteers made a second $50,000 contribution toward their $125,000 pledge to support the hospital’s expansion and renovation project. Their five year pledge is expected to be completed in less than three years.

The money being used to support the new helistop to restore helicopter transport services to and from the hospital, and private consultation room for families and doctors in the emergency department.

As Ludington Hospital continues its integration with Spectrum Health, access to care continues to be a top priority. A new cardiology clinic has opened at Ludington Hospital. Heart and vascular specialists are onsite each Friday to provide comprehensive services from prevention to treatment. In the past, cardiology patients from Ludington traveled more than an hour away for services. With the new clinic in Ludington, those patients are able to receive those services close to home. In another effort increase access to primary care, Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital has acquired two family medicine offices in Ludington and Pentwater.

Ludington Hospital employees and volunteers recently completed its annual Harvest Gathering food drive through the Michigan Health & Hospital Association. Ludington Hospital collected 338 pounds of food and $2,000 in cash to support Harvest Gathering

Holland Hospital, Holland

The “Lights of Love” campaign kicked off on November 17 with decorating of the North Lobby tree. Campaign ended January 4. This year’s goal raised funds for a blanket warmer for the Hospital Operating Room and north side Surgery Center. Funds were also generated for a hospital grade recliner for patient and family use in the Emergency room.

This past fall we again partnered with Crane’s in the City (a local restaurant with fruit orchards in Fennville, MI) to sell their Apple Cider donuts in the Coffee Cove. We managed to sell some 60 dozen of the delicious treats. We were limited to 20 dozen per day for three days. The first day we sold out with pre-orders.

The hospital Gift Shop continues to be the #1 source of income for the Auxiliary. We have also found success with vendor sales such as the $6 sales and Books are Fun. The bridge marathon, held several times a year, continues to be both popular and successful.

The renovation of the fifth floor patient rooms should be completed in February. Work will then begin on renovating the fourth floor. When all renovation is completed the Hospital will retrain its current number of beds however patient rooms will now be singles instead of doubles.

Barb Tenpas, WCD President