



## August 2017 SED President Update

The annual MAHA retreat at St. Francis Retreat House was held July 11-13 and had many paths to walk among the gardens but no television, music, clocks or alarm clocks to distract us. Meals were served at a specified time in another building so that even the scent of cooking did not distract us. It was a time set aside for planning, learning, sharing, growing and exchanging ideas and information. The days were dedicated to MAHA Committee meetings, and the evenings were another opportunity to meet in a more relaxed environment. We planned the upcoming year, venues and exchanged numerous suggestions for speakers and topics.

Thank you for sending all your articles and photos for the MAHA Highlights publication. SED member hospitals have so much to share; we are all proud of our programs. Please let me know if you are celebrating a special event so that I may share it with everyone. There is a new column in Highlights that will celebrate milestones of volunteers. You will read about a 100-year-old active volunteer in the upcoming issue. Please email or snail mail to me your volunteer's celebratory milestones at any time. I will forward your article to the MAHA Communications Director for consideration and publication in the next issue. SED Spotlight will begin with St. John River District Hospital in September 2017 and Henry Ford Macomb in March 2018. McLaren Port Huron was the last SED hospital featured in the Highlights' Spotlight column.

Please visit [mahaonline.org](http://mahaonline.org) as the Resource Handbook for Volunteers (RHV) is posted under "Helpful Information." This Handbook is a concise source that may be downloaded and printed so that you have it available for easy reference. This publication is an update of the Handbook for Auxiliary Presidents (HAP). RHV contains information that pertains to groups, volunteers and auxiliaries.

The next article I will be nagging you to submit is for the **SED Digest**. The deadline for your 100-word (or less) article is prior to **August 18**. This article should describe your upcoming fundraising efforts and events so that others in our District will have an opportunity to attend and support your group. Please send your article to SED Communications Chair Bev Hartman at [bhartma1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bhartma1@sbcglobal.net).

The invitation and reservation form for the September 20, 2017 SED Fall Legislative meeting at ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital will be emailed soon. Please join us and Judge Frank Arnold, Monroe County Probate Court, who will present “Scams! What to Look Out For and How to Protect Yourself.” The meeting begins with Continental breakfast; luncheon will be served and a 50/50 raffle will be held. Congressional and Michigan Legislative updates will be presented along with time for questions and discussion.

The MAHA Fall Conference is at the Bavarian Inn Lodge in Frankenmuth October 18, 19 and 20, 2017. The theme is “Prisms of Possibilities”. Room reservations need to be made prior to September 18, 2017. If you have a special need, please reserve early. Today is a good day to begin collecting non-perishable items and canned food for the Harvest Gathering. Items collected at the Conference will be donated to the Frankenmuth Food Pantry. Don’t forget to bring a basket of goodies from your hospital for the basket exchange.

Attached is a copy of the MAHA Look Ahead Calendar. Please save the dates on your calendar for SED and MAHA functions. Our Spring Workshop will be on March 21, 2018 in the Warren/Sterling Hts area. We are working on the program now so if you have a speaker or topic you want to suggest, please let me know.

Wishing you many happy, sunny, lazy summer days.

Please contact me if I can be of help in any way:

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**VOLUNTEERS ARE INVALUABLE PARTNERS**

Carol Ann Towne

SED President 2017-18