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UPD WINTER DISTRICT NEWS LETTER

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Don't know where the time goes and I have meant to be in touch more often but....well, you know. So instead of a fall letter I am sending you winter wishes.

I know that many of you are finishing up your Hours and Dollars forms and be sure to get them to Cathy Crimmins. I know she sent them to everyone so if you do not have them then let me know.

Your Highlights information needs to come to me by February 1. It is so important to toot our own horns and get our names out there so please let's shoot for 100% input. Photos are great too, with names.

Make sure you keep informing your membership of the District meeting in May 8-9 at Manistique and the state meeting June 4-6 at Crystal Mountain and the fall conference at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth (in costume!!). It has been great that the UP has had such a large number of attendees at the state meetings, lets make sure we also support our District. Remember to gather your gently used jewelry.

Along that line, please help with the filling of positions on the District board. We all believe in our own separate hospitals but we can offer so much more if we continue to work together. Think of those within your groups that stand out and give us their names, include yours! I have found the MAHA organization, both district and state, well worth the personal time, energy and dedication. I highly recommend it.

In this era of change it is very important that those of us in the rural areas keep informed on the ever changing political tides and plan ahead on how to best deal with them in a positive manner. Many have

just managed to get in the black but it may become more difficult in the future. Lets remember to share our fund raising ideas and work with vendors UP wide. Together we can get the best ideas to help our hospitals. I know that some of you have told me that your membership doesn't always see the benefits of being in the MAHA. The sharing of ideas and support from the state organization will become even more important as time goes on. There is a reason that our hospitals are members in MHA and that holds for our organizations as well.

Will just get this off for now and write again after New Year's.

Chris