



March 13, 2015

Dear Presidents and President Elects,

It may be that spring is just around the corner! The sunshine of the last three days and the shrinking snow banks will bring it a few days earlier than next Saturday. Whatever, we have made it through another winter and are re-energized for spring.

This week your ECD Board met with St Mary's of Michigan to finalize the ECD Spring Conference. They have come up with a great idea for a theme and a medical topic that will be meaningful to us all. Janet Barker, ECD Councilor has been working very hard to get a slate of officers for the coming year. They will be installed at the Spring Conference. Your invitation will be arriving early April so be thinking about attending. The cost remains \$30.00 and it will be at the Horizon Center Saginaw on May 20.

During the ECD Board meeting we finalized the plans for the Leadership Workshop, April 15 (what a great way to escape tax day). You should have the invitation in a day or two. Those who are currently in leadership roles and those you are "cultivating" for those roles will benefit from attending. The ECD is hosting the event and the cost to attend is \$10.00. We will be meeting at Covenant HealthCare – Mackinaw Campus. See you there.

When we get evaluations back from our various meetings "networking" is always a topic. I have a suggestion on how we can get a start on that request but it takes help from everyone attending any meeting. *When you arrive leave your comfort level at the door and don't sit with those you came with but select a table with people you don't know. At the end of the day you will have made new friends, learned about the volunteer services they have available, how they run the gift shop, the fund raisers they have in the community and much, much more.* I hope that you will give this a try and yes, what a great way to include networking into the day.

Tuesday is Advocacy Day and I hope that you have made your reservation to attend. We seem to have a thing going with meetings and special days. It will be St Patrick's Day so wear green. Our Governor, Rick Snyder is to be a speaker and this will be an opportunity to hear of his plans for our hospitals and community.

I recently saw the "Dollars and Hours" report for the ECD area and I want to thank each of you for all that you do for your hospital and community. I know that the hospital and community are saying thank you also.

Did all of you check out the “Spotlight” section on the MAHA home web page? ECD had the honor of being the first district to supply information on one of our volunteer organizations. Through a random drawing, MidMichigan Medical Center-Clare was chosen. If you have not gone to the site, please do so and read about one of your fellow organizations. Next month it will be another district, and after the sixth month, we start over. It could be your volunteers who are honored.

I hope to see several you on Tuesday in Lansing. Safe travels.

Sincerely,

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ECD Leadership Workshop, Saginaw	April 15, 2015
ECD Spring Conference, Horizon Center Saginaw	May 20, 2015
MAHA Annual Meeting and Installation Grand Hotel, Mackinaw Island	June 9-11, 2015
ECD Fall Conference, Horizon Center Saginaw	September 23, 2015
MAHA Conference, Crystal Mountain Thompsonville	October 12-14, 2015