

AUXILIARIES IN ACTION

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

May/June 2020

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2019-2020

AHAA President



Jan Gardner

Dear Friends,

I pray this letter finds all of you to be healthy and to be as happy as you can. These are stressful times for all of us. We are people who love to be busy and around other people. Isolation is not fun! But, I know you are all trying your best to keep your spirits high. Even with all the worry and anxiety, I believe all of you are finding ways to still be kind to others. Some of you may have had to keep grandchildren who were home from school while their parents worked, helping with homework or trying to keep them entertained. Which was harder, homework or entertainment? Some of you have probably called friends, elderly, or fellow volunteers to check on them and see if they were safe and had what they needed. Some of you may have grocery shopped for others who couldn't get out due to health problems. Some of you may have sewn masks for family members, friends, or for our hospitals' staff. I'm sure you have found even more ways to share your kindness with others during this Pandemic.

"When we purposely engage in activities that generate a positive emotion, like thinking of a loved one or a happy memory, we relax, our heart opens and we see the world in a more positive way." (Tara Cousineau, Ph.D., author of The Kindness Cure.) I pray that you all stay safe and find time to be kind to yourselves. Being kind to ourselves is like a block against negativity which needs to be avoided at especially stressful times like we are experiencing. Be kind to yourselves.

For all the ways in which you are still planting the seeds of kindness, keep track of your hours. You are still volunteering your time for others. Continue to be safe! When you go out, wear your masks and gloves, wash your hands often, and keep your distance from others. Do what you can to stay safe. We will get through this!

Love,
Jan

The following proposed amendment will be presented at the annual AHAA convention in October.

On page 31, Section 2: add Immediate AHAA Past President before AHA President
The section will read: Only elected officers, as listed in Section 1 above, as well as **the Immediate Past AHAA President**, AHA President and the Arkansas Society of Directors of Volunteer Services (ASDVS) President shall have a vote on motions made at AHAA board meetings.

At the May 28 Teleconference Meeting the following changes were made to the Policies and Procedures.

Insert new section on page 39 after Volunteer Hours and before Annual Dues:

Telephonic and Emergency Meetings

Telephonic Meetings: Meetings of the Board may be conducted by means of telephone conference or using other communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear and speak to each other.

Emergency Provisions for Telephonic Meetings: In the event of an emergency, as determined by a vote of the Board, that prevents holding a regularly scheduled Board meeting or annual meeting of the Delegates in any year, the transaction of other essential business will be conducted by mail or electronic transmission in accordance with applicable law.

Guidelines for Telephonic Meetings:

Ample time be given in advance of a teleconference meeting is to be held.

Member should seek recognition from the chair before beginning to speak and identify themselves before speaking.

Motions to be voted on by a roll call vote. The President or Secretary will call each voting member by name and ascertain their vote. The roll call vote will determine the outcome of the vote and will not be recorded in the minutes, only whether the motion passed or not.

The minutes should be approved as the Board minutes are usually approved.

Action Without a Meeting: Binding action may be taken without a meeting upon the written consent of all Board Members then holding office. The written consents will be included in the minutes filed with the records and have the same effect as a unanimous vote. The written consent may be delivered to the President by electronic communication, and the signature of the Board member may be affixed to the consent by any reasonable means, including without limitation facsimile signature or electronic image.

On page 40 under Expense Allowance 2 a.:

Reimburse covered automobile travel at thirty-five cents (\$.35) per mile for the driver of the car with no attachment to AHA or any other entity reimbursements **if the reimbursement is fifty (50) miles or more one way. Special circumstances will be reviewed by the Executive Committee.**



Metropolitan District

CHI St. Vincent Infirmary

Madelyn Ray

CHI St. Vincent North

Joan Reddick

Carmen Inserra

Elener Britton

Jean Hayes

North Central District

Baxter Regional Medical Center - Mountain Home

Sandra Baker.

Hank Bremer

Jay Brison

Calvin Estes

Carol Mallard

Phillip Miller

Yolanda Paris

Northeast District

NEA Baptist Hospital - Jonesboro

David Stanley Anderson

South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center - Osceola

Marilyn Ellis

St Bernard's Medical Center - Jonesboro

Sandra Ackeret

(Continued on next page)

Northwest District

Eureka Springs Hospital

Wilma Hagquist

Grace Wilson

Mary Jane Wellman

Mercy Hospital Berryville

Rosemary G. Morris

Northwest Medical Center - Bentonville

Don Whittlesey

Southwest District

Ouachita County Medical Center - Warren

Evelyn Fuller

Valley

Mena Regional Health System

William Wayne "Zack" Zachary



METROPOLITAN

ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

ARKANSAS STATE HOSPITAL

BAPTIST HEALTH – LITTLE ROCK

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER - NORTH LITTLE ROCK

Ann Scott

We have been home bound for over a month now. Our DVS has been faithful to send us periodic updates on the hospital staff as they work to save our patients and welcome new babies.

We are looking forward to reopening our gift shop and man our stations as volunteers. Stay Safe and wear your masks.

CHI ST. VINCENT INFIRMARY / SHERWOOD

CHI ST. VINCENT MORRILTON

Tammy Smith

The auxiliary held a yard sale March 13 and 14 for outside building improvement projects.

SALINE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

UAMS MEDICAL CENTER

W. P. ROCKEFELLER CANCER INSTITUTE



NORTH CENTRAL

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – HEBER SPRINGS

BAXTER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN HOME

Rich Jannick

One of the Baxter Regional Auxiliary members, Paul Mruk, received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce.

The H.O.P.E. Committee met March 5th to plan the March general meeting and the annual Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet in April. At the February general meeting the final slate of officers for the 2020-2021 year was introduced.

Due to the Covid-19 virus the March general meeting was cancelled and the Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet was postponed. The Auxiliary Board election was held by email vote to the auxiliary members. The new Auxiliary Board was scheduled to be installed at the April Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet by the Baxter Regional CEO, Ron Peterson. The new board will assume their duties May 1st, with the formal installation later this year.

As of this writing, Baxter County has had 5 positive tests for the virus. Baxter Regional Medical Center has been very prepared for admissions of patients with the virus. Baxter Regional is following the state guidelines so the majority of the volunteers are staying at home, the Bargain Boxes are closed, and the Pint-A-Dilly gift shop is closed; all the staff as well as the volunteers at our Cline Emergency Entrance are wearing masks. The rest of the volunteers are waiting for Ron Peterson to give the OK for us to return.

With the onset of restrictions brought on by the pandemic all assignments and activities of our Auxiliary membership were suspended with the exception of providing receptionists and escorts at our hospital entrance.

A limited number of volunteers recently were enlisted to assist at a testing site for the general public

Our Volunteer Office has remained open and provides invaluable access to status updates and answering questions or concerns from our membership.

The informal generation of an extensive network of text messaging, emails and telephone calls has been maintained throughout the Auxiliary ranks concerning health status and personal updates.

Notable is the occasion of a group of volunteers from our Thrift Stores delivered dinner to the homes of each of each of their fellow team members.

Announcement was made on Friday, May 1 congratulating the roster of newly elected officers of the Auxiliary and expressing deepest appreciation of their selfless efforts and valued services provided by the previous officers.

OZARK HEALTH INC. – CLINTON

Bobbye Bennett

The Ozark Health Auxiliary Executive Board met Monday, May 4, 2020. The new board elected at the March meeting were present, as well as Mr. David Deaton, Hospital Administrator. Mr. Deaton at that time gave a brief explanation of the activity of the Hospital/Nursing Center over the past few months. He explained that they were never short of equipment and had a Great Safety Report. Mr. Deaton then installed the newly elected officers for the 2020-2021 year. The officers are President Betty Spencer, Vice President Helen Dobbins, Secretary Debbie Collings, Treasurer Bobbye Bennett. The "Virus" interrupted the installation that was scheduled in April.

The status of the Auxiliary at the meeting was to open the gift shop on Tuesday's and Thursdays beginning May 5th. Will check to see if and when the Auxiliary can start to help in the Chemo area, probably not in May. None of the normal activities schedule through the month of May will take place.

At this meeting, we are planning on meeting with the Auxiliary on June 1st. Sometime in June we plan on having the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner where the officers will be "officially" installed and the hourly and yearly pins will be given.

The annual Foundation Golf Tournament normally held in June has been rescheduled to October 31st.

At this time we are still planning on holding the Collective Goods Sale on June 10th and 11th.

Thanks for all the helping hands and praying hearts!

The world is hugged by the Faithful Arms of Volunteers!

The gift of time is priceless!

STONE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN VIEW

Frances Bullard

Hello to all amazing and awesome volunteers. We have encountered a new challenge, but we will all be victorious. I'm sure that all volunteers and families are staying in and are hopefully well. We have not heard when we will be going back to the hospital, and we are sure that our hospital leaders will feel completely confident that everyone will be safe in every way before we do. We ladies definitely miss our friends; therefore, we call to check on volunteers because we love each other as family.

Our Collective Goods and Scrubs Sale fundraisers were cancelled. Our spring conference was postponed and may be held in the fall. Stay tuned for further details. We are supplying masks to the hospital while we are staying home. Our Secret Pal project was ready to begin in March, but it has been put on hold until further notice. Our members are so very anxious to begin this fun and rewarding activity. If all goes as planned, we will be providing love and appreciation tokens for National Nurses Week and Hospital Week in May. We do not know about our regular May meeting and the Presidents' meeting, but they will probably be cancelled.

We still provide breakfast and supper food items to our Veterans' organizations, but we haven't been able to do so during this time. We are eager to hear that they are ready for more deliveries. We love and appreciate our VETERANS and all their families.



Hopefully, our Community Fair will be held in August where we will provide socks and underwear for Kindergarten – Eighth Grade students. This is a great service to our students and their parents. Last week was National Volunteers Week so I hope everyone enjoyed every second of it. Every day is a true blessing! STAY SAFE!



UNITY HEALTH – HARRIS MEDICAL CENTER

UNITY HEALTH – WHITE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

WHITE RIVER MEDICAL CENTER



NORTHEAST

ARKANSAS METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER

FOREST CITY MEDICAL CENTER

HELENA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

NEA BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Patsy Whitney

Sandy Hughes and Ginny Presgrove present donations to the Northeast Arkansas Humane Society.



Kathy Miller and Ginny Presgrove set up a booth at the Women's Health Talk.



We have no idea what future things are upcoming.



In Memoriam
David Stanley Anderson

David volunteered with Mended Hearts, the United Way, Safe Harbor, and as an NEA Baptist "Pink Lady" volunteer

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – OSCEOLA

Sonja Bennett

In honor of Lab week on April 21, the ladies of the SAC Hospital Auxiliary made goodies for all the employees. It was a way of thanking them for all they do and especially during these trying days.

This is Susie Radson, SR Chief Technologist. They told us there was enough food desserts for the entire week. The second picture is of 4 other technologists.



ST. BERNARDS MEDICAL CENTER - JONESBORO

Dean Rossa

All St Bernards Auxiliary activities were canceled during April and continue to be on hold due to the distancing measures for Covid-19.

It has been a challenging year.

For some time, our Director of Volunteer Services, Dana Housley, opened the Gift Shop Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to serve the hospital before St Bernards started furloughing staff.

The ladies shown with Dana are gift shop buyers when they are not on social distancing leave : Rosalie Barber, Dana Housley, Ann Ford, and Suzanne Hackney.



In Memory of Sandra Ackeret 7/13/39 – 3/6/2020



St Bernards Auxilians said goodbye to Sandra Ackeret on March 10. She had been in Auxiliary since 1978.

Hours worked: 7,206

In recent years, she worked at the first floor crossover information desk on hard-to-staff Friday afternoons.



NORTHWEST

EUREKA SPRINGS HOSPITAL

Mary Lou Martin

We were able to supply the Eureka Springs Hospital with three ventilators in preparation for COVID-19 cases if necessary. Yes, we shut down our Purple House Thrift Shop March 13th. We will be looking forward to having other areas in the hospital for volunteers to volunteer as well as the Purple House. With new management, it looks promising. Stay safe, Stay well.

MERCY HOSPITAL BERRYVILLE

Jean Vance

While Covid-19 has sidelined us, we continue to work from home and our April and May Board Meetings were done via Zoom and telephone.

We have awarded 2 scholarships for the coming year to Bailey Doss and Jacey Howerton from Berryville. Both plan to attend UCA in the fall with one pursuing psychology and the other in Nursing.

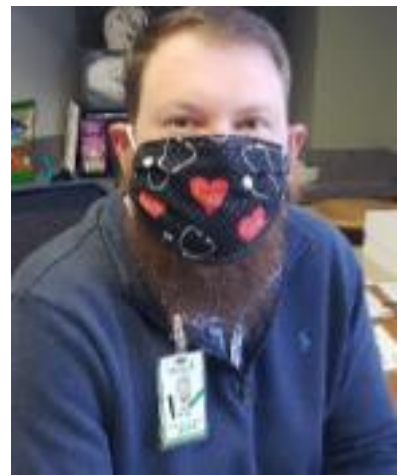
Bailey Doss



Jacey Howerton



Approximately 100 masks were made for our hospital by our auxiliaries. Below are some of the staff with the masks.

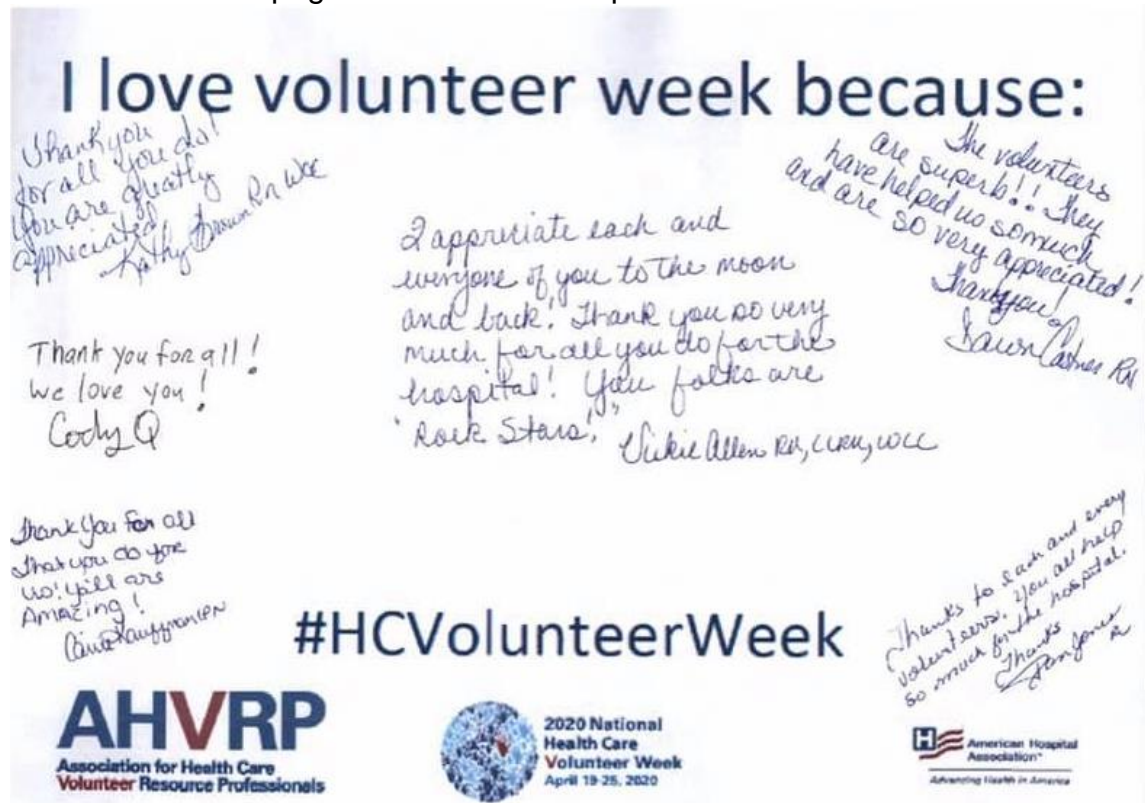


Masks were also donated to Arkansas Hospice, some of our first responders, Grandma's House, Senior Center, Huntsville Nursing Home, Circuit Clerk office, DHS and Health Department as well as Tyson.

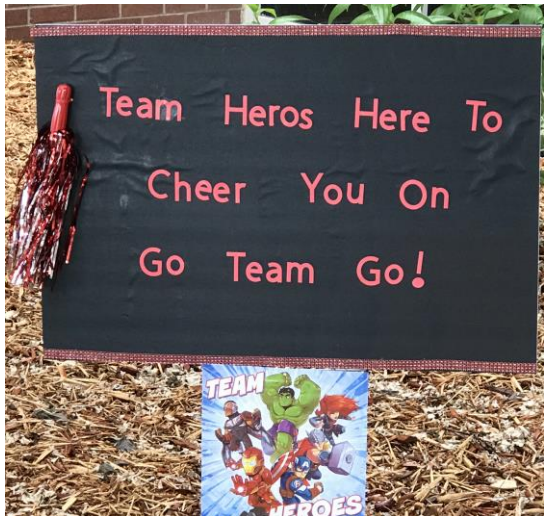
On Administrative Assistant's Day, Deana Davidson, our liaison, was honored with a \$50 gift card. Pictured left to right: Debbie Bryant, Gift Shop Co-chair, Deana Davidson and Scholarship Chair Carolyn Bosshardt.



During Volunteer's week, the auxiliaries were honored with notes of appreciation that were placed on our Facebook page and a luncheon is planned in the future for our volunteers.



For Hospital Week, signs were made and placed at Mercy Hospital Berryville



Physicians Clinic Berryville

and

Mercy Clinic Green Forest



MERCY HOSPITAL NORTHWEST AR – ROGERS

Shirley Long



Mercy Rogers, like all of us, had plans that didn't happen as we all got rerouted due to Coronavirus. Pictured here you can see two beautifully made Easter Wreaths that were to be sold at our yearly Easter Fund Raiser. Even though there was no fund raiser held, the wreaths were sold.



Our knit and stitch group got busy making mask, surgical caps and gowns. They were put to good use by all the hospitals healthcare workers



Rona Sufflebean, President Elect with gowns made for hospital workers.





To thank our health care family we made many bags of “muddy bubbly” snacks. We were sure to include a thank you note and told them :

“Our Hero’s don’t wear capes”.

More “Muddy Buddy” snack bags.

We sure miss our hospital. We are praying for an end of the virus and hope to be back at our post soon.



NORTH ARKANSAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – HARRISON

Robby Scucchi

The Auxiliary at North Arkansas Regional Medical Center has been working to sew some 520 masks and surgical caps for the staff of the organization to help preserve PPE during the COVID-19 epidemic. Some 10 auxiliary members assisted with this project. Other volunteers provided snacks for the staff to show their support of the staff and all that they have been doing to keep our community safe. As of March 31st, the NARMC Auxiliary has logged 35,766.5 hours of service to the hospital and the community.

NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER – BENTONVILLE

Nan Wood and Beth Bolena

Northwest Medical Center-Bentonville Auxiliary hasas been closed to volunteers since Friday March 13th. Some of our volunteers have been making masks for our hospital. Nothing much else to report.

I hope everyone and their families are doing alright.

Stay safe.

Operation Kindness:

Due to the limited companions and no visitor policy enforced by the CDC at the hospitals, the halls at Northwest Medical Center Bentonville are very quiet. Not to mention the heart-warming buzz that our volunteers typically add. Both clinical and non-clinical, staff have worked very hard to continue to provide excellent patient care with very different guidelines. One of the many kind gestures that the volunteers at Northwest Medical Center Bentonville did was put Operation Kindness into gear. Each volunteer emailed an uplifting quote, statement or simply a few sentences to show kindness, gratitude and support for our wonderful staff. These kind remarks along with some fun graphics were printed and displayed in the hall that every employee would be sure to see. one small way our volunteers make a big difference.

Stay Safe & Stay Well... Brighter days ahead!

NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER- SPRINGDALE

Lesa Tucker

Northwest Medical Center Springdale volunteers have been making cloth masks for the hospital staff who do not wear hospital issued PPE. We have donated approximately 500 masks to our hospital as of April 27th.

Since patients in the hospital are not allowed visitors at this time, the volunteers are sending Get Well cards and Thinking of You cards to help brighten the day of our patients.

Even though we cannot be present in the hospital, we are finding ways to serve from home.

SILOAM SPRINGS REGIONAL HOSPITAL

WASHINGTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Jimmie Beauchamp

Let me start by saying I hope you are all doing well, staying safe and trying to remain sane during this very stressful and dangerous time for our Country.

Like many of your hospitals we suspended all volunteer service effective March 14. That is over 6 weeks without the service of our wonderful volunteers. I touch base with them often and they are going crazy looking at the four walls of their homes. They are truly missed!

We did get in our 1st fundraiser for 2020 on March 10 & 11. We had a Linen's & More sale that profited the Auxiliary \$3,400.

Since then we have had to cancel our Scrub sale scheduled for Mid-April and the Dillard's Sale that would normally be held the first week of May.

Even with my assistant's hours cut in half we have managed to keep the gift shop open from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. With virtually no visitors and fewer employees working – we aren't making a lot of money but our employees appreciate us being there for them. Many times

they come in to have a cheerful place to take a break from their regular surroundings. I believe being there for our employees is important and essential!

We were sorry we were unable to host the Spring Northwest District meeting on April 8 but we are hoping to see you all on October 21. Fingers crossed!
Fall in the Ozarks is a beautiful time of year for a road trip.



SOUTHEAST

AHLEY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – CROSSETT

CHICOT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

DELTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Shirley Sandlin

There was a "brainstorming" phone call among the executive board of the Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary to talk about ways to "boost" the morale of the hospital employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was decided to provide different "mouthwatering" treats weekly during the month of April to the 168 heroes employed by the hospital. The first week we provided candy or chips. Auxilian Poole attached encouraging note to each candy bar and package of chips!



During week two, homemade cookies were served. Week three we provided Subway sandwiches and chips. During the final week, pizza was provided for all employees. The employees were very appreciative of our endeavors.

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DEWIT HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME

DREW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Barbara Brown

The Auxiliary is still writing and sending personal Thank You cards to all patients that have been discharged and making them aware that they might be conducted to complete a phone survey to explain their experience at the hospital. We also include a card with the person they can contact by phone if they have any questions. We average sending about 40 each week.

We contacted a lady who was making masks that our staff had seen, and they wanted to get one for all the employees. We provided and paid for over 200 masks and we drove about 20 miles twice to meet her, to pick them up and take them to the hospital. We also are helping to make some other masks.

We provided desserts and snacks several times for the hospital staff. We donated money to purchase some of these and we made many of them.

We have conducted two online sales from our gift shop on our face book page. The marketing person for the hospital is a member of our Auxiliary and she would hold up an item, tell how much it was, and give it a number. People could see it and type in if they wanted it. She made sure she got everyone's name and they could pick the item up the next day at the main entrance. She scanned the whole gift shop and asked If anyone wanted to see any item. We made over \$1,000 the first time and \$900 the second time. We had people from our town and surrounding towns that watched and purchased items.

I picked up our scholarship forms from the University here in Monticello. I made copies and sent them to the committee to review them. Each committee member called me and gave me the ones that they choose after reviewing them. We will be giving \$1,000 to each of the four students.

JEFFERSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Nedra White

JRMC Auxiliary is still on enforced leave due to the Corona Virus Pandemic.

MCGEHEE HOSPITAL



SOUTHWEST

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – ARKADELPHIA

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – HOT SPRINGS COUNTY

CHI ST. VINCENT HOT SPRINGS

DALLAS COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – FORDYCE

HOWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – NASHVILLE

Betty Carroll

We are trying to keep in touch through group emails.

We have served the hospital workers with treats. Also, several members are making cloth masks for hospital works and the clinic.

We are so very proud that one of our own, Becky Finigan, has accepted the office of District Chair for the Southwest Region.

We are planning a big pot luck as soon as the quarantine is lifted. We are looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

MAGNOLIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTH ARKANSAS –EL DORADO

NATIONAL PARK MEDICAL CENTER – HOT SPRINGS

Dorothy Stringer

The NPMC Auxiliary is doing what we can while practicing “safe distancing”. We have held two “online” fundraisers. We had one in March and one in April. The NPMC Auxiliary voted to donate the profits to our employees laid off due to COVID 19. We purchased \$25.00 Kroger gift cards and \$25.00 Shell gift cards. In this manner, we can help the most people. Everyone will have a need for gas and food.

We are also sewing mask for our employees who do not work with the patients and are passing them out to the public.

Last and certainly not least, I call our volunteer every few days to check on them. Some of them have family that lives out of town, have no family, or simply need someone to visit with. **If they do not answer;** I had one volunteer, our 97-year-old, who did not call me back after 11 phone calls over a three days period. If this should happen, you can call the police department, the sheriff department, or the fire department to do a well check on them. They do not mind doing this, especially during this COVID 19 outbreak

OUACHITA COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

Daphne Bennett

What an unusual time we are living in! Each reader of this newsletter has been affected, and it is our wish that each one has been exempt from this dreaded virus.

We have been blessed that our auxiliaries have been well, but NOT working--with the exception of our Careline volunteers. These ladies call those on a list of local people who wish to be checked on each day, so their work has not ceased. It's possible some of our own group would have enjoyed a call from them since being 'quarantined,' more or less!!!

Our gift shop, which is our primary fundraiser, has been closed since March 20, and we were open only four hours daily the first four days of that week.

Our auxiliary did suffer a sad loss in February--Evelyn Fuller who was well known over the State because of her work with gift shops died Saturday, February 29, at her home with close family and a few friends by her side. She began her work with the auxiliary on December 5,

1994, soon after her retirement from the Camden School system. She was diagnosed with cancer sometime in 2005, and fought a courageous battle until the very end. She touched the lives of so many in the Camden area, but particularly is this true with her co-workers in the auxiliary. She had so much ability--the gift shop would not be what it is today had it not been for her expertise and guidance, along with Jenny Grabert and Irene Bass. We believe her work with the gift shop was a special love of her life. She worked tirelessly to make each hour count. Dorothy Berley gives full recognition to her for her mentorship as a gift shop worker and manager--she says she owes so very, very much to Evelyn's influence and guidance. Dorothy said, "She was one of those people whom everybody loved." Today when we visit the Dallas gift market, some of the sales people still ask about Evelyn, even after so many years. Ariane Pennington, from whom we order cologne, would still call Evelyn at home just to see how she was doing or call her on her birthday. Above all else, Evelyn was a good friend! All of us will miss her greatly." Memorial services were March 4 with twenty-four of her auxiliary friends present.



VALLEY

BAPTIST HEALTH – FORT SMITH

Alice Swaim

Baptist-Health - Fort Smith Auxiliary has been kept out of the Hospital since the 2nd week of March. Even at this time neither we or anyone else is allowed to go in the Hospital unless you have an emergency. I think some elective tests or procedures are beginning. Our gift shop is closed so no-one to communicate with. Hope to see everyone at the Fall meeting.

BAPTIST HEALTH – VAN BUREN

Pam Henderson

Our auxiliary has not done much in March as we have been closed due to the Covid-19 virus. However, several of our auxiliaries have been making cloth masks and providing them to our emergency room. Emergency personnel give these masks to those patients and family entering the emergency room seeking care.

April has been a quiet month for our auxiliary also. Auxilians continue to make cloth masks and give them to the emergency room personnel for distribution to patients and families entering the emergency room. We normally review scholarship applications this time of year; but, this activity has been curtailed due to the Covid-19 virus. Our plan is to continue reviewing applications, select our scholarship applicants, and have our interviews later in the summer.

As of today we are all still at home and anxious to get back to work but not sure when that will be occurring. I hope we have better news to report in July.

MENA REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Sharon Jewell

The Mena Regional Auxiliary recently awarded scholarships to three students who are currently enrolled in a medical-related field and maintained a 3.0 or above grade point average. Wesley Wells (pictured third from left), is currently a Nuclear Medicine Tech at Mena Regional Health System. Wes is applying for the 2021 Physicians Assistant program at UAMS.

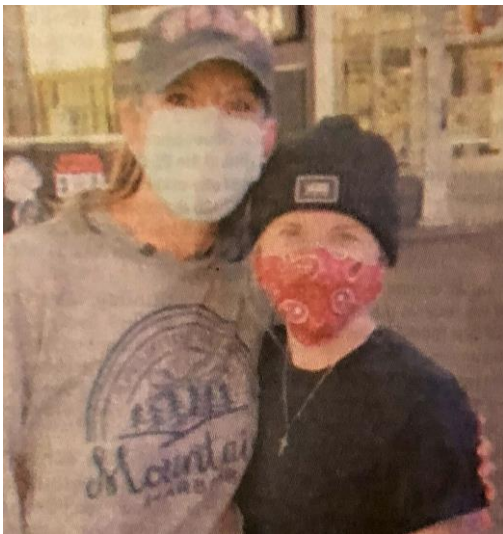
Ashley Bedwell (pictured front center) is a CNA currently enrolled in the LPN program at the University of Arkansas Rich Mountain. We wish these students great success in their future endeavors! Members of the Mena Regional Auxiliary, Inc. pictured presenting the scholarships from left: Ewanta Turner, Sara Mitchell, Melba Head, Linda Johnson and Marilyn Davenport.



Kensie Sawyer, recipient of the Mena Regional Auxiliary, Inc. spring scholarship. Kensie is currently a junior attending the University of Arkansas Fort Smith in pursuit of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.



Mena Regional Auxiliary, Inc. hosted an Online Scrubs and Accessory Fundraiser in April.



Tammy Harrison & Tori Tackett are two RN's from Mena Regional Health System working on the frontlines of the COVID-19 battle in New York.

In Memory of Mena Volunteer William Wayne "Zack" Zachary



Humor of the day.

It was a quiet Monday morning in September 2053
when John awoke with a need to go to the bathroom.

To John, this wasn't just an ordinary day.

This was the day he would open the last package
of toilet paper his parents had bought in 2020.

CHAMBERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – DANVILLE

JOHNSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER - CLARKSVILLE

SAINT MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – RUSSELLVILLE



Dear Volunteers,

The past months have truly been stressful. The following is a poem I received by email which I think you may enjoy.

Neta

T'was Night Before Quarantine

T'was the night before quarantine and all through the town,
not a restaurant was open, not a school-bus was found.

Hand sanitizers were placed by all doorposts with care,
in hopes that Corona would never come there.

The children were swinging from the crystal chandeliers,
and the stir-crazy babies were almost in tears.

With everyone in health masks and live updates on their screens,
we hunkered down and waited for COVID-19.

For into our lives with a sneeze and some shock
came a global pandemic and a crash of our stock.

Away to the grocery we all flew like a flash, and
bought all the toilet paper for our personal stash.

As the moon slowly rose on our fates and our fears,
what to my wandering mind should appear?

In the absence of busyness a new life taking form:
in the stillness of solitude, in the silence of the storm.

In the magic of together and home-bound company,
rediscovering connection in our family.

So with the pup in her kennel and the children in their
beds, new visions of adventures now danced in my head!

The checklists could wait and the bank accounts would be fine,
for we had been given the most sacred gift of time.

So I gathered the markers and crayons and paints,
I collected the nerf guns and assembled board games.

With a wink and a smile I moved on to schoolwork:
math facts and science and vocabulary words.

I laughed as I thought it, in spite of myself,
“what if quarantine can heal our emotional health?”

If the birds are still singing and if the flowers still bloom,
surely the sunshine can overcome our gloom.

If we set aside fear and choose kindness instead,
maybe we'll all begin to realize we have nothing to dread.

I tucked back into bed and smiled up at the moon, for
a peace had replaced the impending doom.

So take heart and take hope through this curious plight,
and “happy quarantine to all” until we’re allowed to reunite.

