

# AUXILIARIES IN ACTION

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

January/February 2020

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**2019-2020**

**AHAA President**



*Jan Gardner*

Dear Friends,

Well, the Holidays have come and gone, and I sincerely hope you all had a wonderful time with your families and friends.

The New Year is here, and it's going to be great as you plant the seeds of kindness in your hospitals! I know you will be discovering many new ways you as volunteers can be even more effective and facilitative in working around our hospitals.

One problem I see, with all of us, is the need for more Volunteers. Having traveled to the different Districts last year and some this year, I'm seeing more and more of us that are having trouble recruiting new volunteers. I would welcome information on successful recruiting methods your Auxiliaries have used. On a more personal level, each of us probably have friends, family members, church members, neighbors, etc. that could volunteer if they were motivated. Let's talk to them and tell them how much we get out of volunteering. How it's helped us, what it feels like to give back to the community, or how it feels just to help an individual in need.

Meanwhile, Your AHAA board will be hard at work continuing to fulfill our responsibilities and planning next year's convention. Send me your ideas or suggestions. Keep working hard and have a great year!

Jan

P.S. My email address has changed. It is now:  
[gardjanar13@gmail.com](mailto:gardjanar13@gmail.com)

"Kindness is like snow, it beautifies everything it covers."  
Kahil Gibran

# *In Memoriam*



## *Metropolitan District*

*CHI St. Vincent North*

*Joan Reddick*

*Carmen Inserra*

## *North Central District*

*Baxter Regional Medical Center*

*Opal Buck*

*Paul Rehwoldt*

*Bonnie Mae Tucker*

## *Northeast District*

*South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center - Osceola*

*Marilyn Ellis*

## *Northwest District*

*Mercy Hospital Northwest AR - Rogers*

*Bill Manas*

*Bob McIntire*

*Charles Ward*

*Northwest Medical Center Springdale*

*Helen Hammond*

## *Valley*

*Baptist Health - Van Buren*

*Ray Ward*

## *LIFETIME AHAA MEMBERSHIP AWARDED*

At the January 2020 AHAA Board Meeting, Dr. Jerry Tuohy was presented with an Honorary Lifetime Membership in AHAA.



AHAA President Jan Gardner presented the Certificate saying: “Dr. Tuohy, for many years now, you have carried luggage, packed and unpacked cars, loaded and unloaded boxes of state projects, and probably carried the AHAA flag a few times. You have traveled many miles for AHAA, always helping and befriending many people over the years. Because of your many kindnesses and services, we would like to give you recognition by presenting you with an Honorary Lifetime Membership in AHAA.”

Jerry’s wife, Past AHAA President Darlene Tuohy placed the pin on him.

### **HANDBOOK CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS**

New Email for President Jan Gardner: [gardjanar13@gmail.com](mailto:gardjanar13@gmail.com)

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# January

## METROPOLITAN

### BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – NORTH LITTLE ROCK

*Becky Blackard*

November 7<sup>th</sup> was our Auxiliary Meeting. We recognized the Volunteers that work on Tuesday. We had a great group to attend even on a rainy day. Our guest speaker was a NLR police officer giving us tips on how to be safe this holiday season.

November 22<sup>nd</sup> we had a group of Volunteers assist Nina Butler as she decorated the Christmas trees and wreaths throughout the hospital. It was a lot of work, but the result has been enjoyed by patients, families and staff.



December 2<sup>nd</sup> the BHMC-NLR Auxiliary hosted the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. We sang carols, heard the Christmas story read, turned on the Christmas Lights and enjoyed delicious refreshments.

December 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> we hosted a Silent Wreath Auction as a fundraiser.

December 6<sup>th</sup> BHMC-NLR hosted a fun filled Christmas Appreciation Luncheon for our BHMC-NLR Auxiliary members. The decorations were a beautiful winter wonderland. The food was delicious. We also had time to recognize the Auxiliary members for the hours served. We had several that were given their next level of hour bar, for the hours they have accumulated over the years. It is such a privilege to work along so many that serve to make this hospital a better place.





Throughout the month of December, we have been selling “Lights of Love” as a fundraiser. One could purchase a light in honor or memory of someone special.

December 16<sup>th</sup> we hosted a Collective Goods sale. The employees throughout the hospital really enjoyed the selection and made purchases. Diane was wonderful to work with for this sale.

As we reflect on our accomplishments we are amazed. So looking forward to another year to serve!

## CHI ST. VINCENT MORRILTON *Tammy Smith*

St. Vincent Morrilton Auxiliary held their Thanksgiving Bake Sale on Friday, November 22, 2019. They had the drawing for the Pumpkin Cake. The winner of the Pumpkin Cake is Francne Church pictured with Ms. Church is Carma Garrett, SVM Auxiliary.



Thank you to all that supported the SVM Auxiliary in purchasing tickets for the drawing and also for purchasing items at the bake sale, these monies will go toward the ongoing hospital project for improvements of the front of the local hospital.

Congratulations to Alma Fuller winner of the Christmas Basket drawing December 20, 2019. The winner is pictured with CHI/SVM Auxiliary members - from right to left - Iva Lee Sledge, Delores Hartman and Angie Coffman.



We would like to thank everyone for their support!



## NORTH CENTRAL

### BAXTER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN HOME

*Rich Jannick*

The auxiliary had 13 members attend the AHAA state convention. At the convention we received the 5 star award. Jean Adams was recognized as the 2019-2020 North Central District Chair. Judy Shaffer was elected AHAA secretary and will also serve as North Central District secretary.

The ways and means committee held the semi-annual uniform sale in the Lagerborg Dining room. They also had the one day T-shirt sale.

The auxiliary provided a recruiting booth at the annual Hill Billy Chili cook-off event at the White River-Bull Shoals State Park. This event has turned out to be one of the better recruiting events during the year.

The auxiliary supported the annual trunk-or-treat event. This event is open to all Baxter Regional employees and their families.

Auxiliary volunteers provided support for the annual World Diabetes Day event. The all day event was attended by more than 100 people in the Lagerborg dining room. The first session in the event was a cooking demonstration on healthy cooking for diabetics. The auxiliary had a recruitment booth at the event.

The auxiliary participated in the 'Giving Tuesday' event by matching all donations. The event raised more than \$34,000, so with our matching donation the total donations were more than \$68,000.

The auxiliary donated \$50,000 to the annual Lend-a-Hand campaign. The purpose of this annual foundation fundraiser is to help fund the four Community Education Houses. The four houses are the Pietz Cancer Support House, the Reppell Diabetes Learning Center, the Mruk Family Education Center on Aging, and the Schliemann Center for Women's Health Education. Each house has daily activities available to the local community. These houses provide health education to the community. Most of the services are free.

Baxter Regional Medical Center just broke ground for the new Outpatient Surgery Center. A new parking area was built on vacant land behind the hospital. The auxiliary purchased a small bus and a new shuttle to transport employees from the parking lot to the hospital entrances.

We had our bi-monthly Birthday Brunch to celebrate the November/December auxiliaries birthdays. (Pictured below)



At our November General Meeting we collected food for our local Food Basket. Mr. Ron Peterson CEO and President of the hospital presented the attendees with information on present and future hospital plans.





At the December General Meeting we collected presents for our patients in the Hensley Behavior Center. This Center is dedicated to the geriatric population.

We had five people attend the November North Central District Presidents Meeting at the White River Medical Center in Batesville, Arkansas.



## STONE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN VIEW

*Frances Bullard*

WOW! The Ozark Health Auxiliary in Clinton did an amazing job of hosting the North Central District Meeting in October, and our seven members recognized the sincere love and dedication exhibited while planting seeds of kindness in each endeavor.

In October we were given an area in the Medical Records Building behind the hospital for the storage of our gift shop merchandise; therefore, all merchandise was moved from the Pain Clinic, which greatly simplifies our transfers. Our Christmas merchandise was transferred to our shop on November 23. After items were carefully displayed, the gift shop was transformed into a beautiful Christmas atmosphere for all to enjoy. Volunteers for both moves included Arliss Blackledge, Frances Bullard, Elsie Grozis, Teresa Linden, Linda Ristenbatt, Carolyn Shipman, and Martha Simmons.



Our ladies happily baked cookies for our Cookies & Hot Chocolate event on the square during the Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting on December 7. Pictured below: Left to Right: Arliss, Kathy, Frances, Leneil. Not Pictured – Cathy and Jesse



Each lady provided two dozen cookies, and Auxiliary members, Arliss Blackledge, Frances Bullard, Cathy Dobbins, Kathy Lupkes, Jesse Means—Auxiliary friend, and Leneil Taylor organized and served the cookies, hot chocolate, and coffee. Extra cookies were distributed to the employees of county and city police departments, SCMC night shift, Residential Care Facility, and Nursing Home. This is an annual event, and everyone is so appreciative of the goodies; therefore, we are definitely PLANTING SEEDS OF KINDNESS!

Our December meeting was cancelled due to the holidays and family commitments. Our food deliveries still continue for our Veteran organizations. They will always be SPECIAL in our hearts! Flags for veterans are given daily to those who are patients in our hospital.

Goals for 2020:

- ❖ Choose a new hospital project in January.
- ❖ Commit to local committees, organize, and name chairs.
- ❖ Begin collecting socks & underwear for our ongoing August community project.
- ❖ Begin the Alzheimer's state project for hospital and community this year.

- ❖ Begin a short newsletter for members.
- ❖ Planned fundraising projects are:
- ❖ No Bake Sale—February
- ❖ Dynamic Cookware Sale--February 12

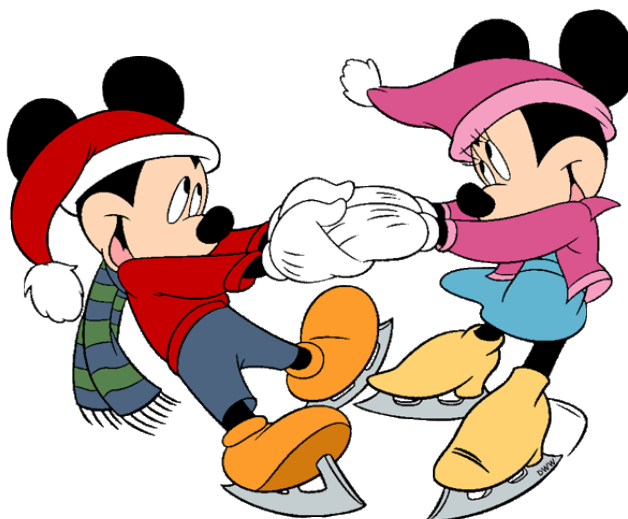


Best Wishes for a very happy New Year from  
STONE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN VIEW.

## UNITY HEALTH – HARRIS MEDICAL CENTER – NEWPORT

*Margaret Goodman*

Bake Sale/Silent Auction Fundraiser! Fourteen volunteers made all desserts for the fundraiser which raised \$581.96!!! Awesome job ladies. A Big Thank You to the Unity Health Harris employees for supporting this event.





# NORTHEAST

## ARKANSAS METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER – PARAGOULD

*Shirl Kersey*

Here are a few highlights from our auxiliary. We gained 4 new members.

AMMC has a new urgent care clinic, women's clinic and family practice clinic on the hospital grounds. Open house and ribbon cutting was September 19<sup>th</sup>. We worked the men and women's Health fair in September.

In October we attended the AHAA convention and District in Osceola.



We provided cake and cookies for employees October 16<sup>th</sup>. That was the day AMMC celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in providing health care to our community. We also did a sock box for DHS and a food drive for mission outreach.

In July of 2020 we will celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an Auxiliary. Our hospital auxiliary was formed July 7<sup>th</sup> 1950. The AHAA was formed in 1955. Judge Charles Light from Paragould drew up the bylaws for the State Auxiliary. We are working on a cookbook to commemorate it. It has been a busy year, with so much more to do.

## SOUTH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – OSCEOLA

*Sonja Burnett*

The Pink Ladies at the South Miss. Co. Auxiliary collects aluminum pop tops. We give them to the Carroll Smith Elementary School to be sent with their collection to LeBonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis TN.

Below is Sonja Burnett with Menta Lynch, Librarian.





**Volunteers of the Year** - The Times 2019 Volunteer (Osceola Times News) of the Year Award goes to not one person, but a group of “pink ladies.” The Hospital Auxiliary at the South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center, led by Lovonda Carter, gives countless hours of their time to helping others. The “pink ladies” operate the hospital gift shop and assist with the comfort of the patients. Money they raise goes to provide scholarships to local nursing students and to make special purchases for the hospital. Their hard work and dedication have earned them this award. Pictured below are only a few of the many “angels in pink.”



## ST. BERNARDS MEDICAL CENTER - JONESBORO

*Dean Rossa*

St Bernards Auxiliary's volunteers attended a tour of the tower on December 9. Auxiliary donated the tree decorations.



## NORTHWEST

### MERCY HOSPITAL BERRYVILLE

*Jean Vance*

Mercy Berryville was busy in November with several fund raisers which included our annual Nut sale and Thanksgiving Bake Sale,



We started December off by walking in the Green Forest Christmas Parade handing out Candy.

Right: Parliamentarian Mary Jo Vallie and Thrift Store Manager Juanita Baker with "The Grinch".



The December 16 re-opening of our thrift store at our new location has our community excited about this as well as our volunteers.. Business is good!. We ended the month of December with a Blood drive called the Miracle of Giving and all participants were give a nice t-shirt.

We also participated in the annual community Disaster Drill which was based on a tornado hitting the area. Local law enforcement, paramedic, CERT, medical personnel as well as auxiliary members participated. Below are two auxiliary members simulating injuries.

Secretary Leoria Brewer with arm injury.



Thrift Store Manager Juanita Baker





January we are striving to improve our thrift store organization and look forward to the Mercy Gala February 8th which is a fundraiser for our Foundation.

Happy New Year to all!

## MERCY HOSPITAL NORTHWEST AR – ROGERS

*Shirley Long*

DVS Holli Oliver and Gift Shop Manager Patti at the Grand Opening of the new gift shop.



Sister Anita gave the address at the celebration for the opening of the New Tower.



We were honored to have Governor Asa Hutchinson speak at the celebration.



Congressman Steve Womack from Rogers visited with Pet Therapy Volunteer.



Christy & Cathy got the ball rolling as we gathered to fill 100 Blessing Bags that volunteers will give out to homeless they meet.



Denise sorts supplies for blessing bags.



Our pet therapy program has grown to include 14 dogs.



Jim & Rona volunteers working together to fill blessing bags to be given out to Auxiliary members Christmas Event.



Shirley gathered water to include in blessing bags





Blessing Bags ready to be distributed



Denise, Kathy and Carolyn greet and check volunteers in at the annual Christmas Event.



DVS Holli Olliver and CEO Eric Pinalto attend the Christmas Event.



Volunteers hosted Memorial Service at Mercy for family and friends who lost loved ones in the last 6 months. Pictured here with Chaplin Art are Jackie, Shirley and Lois.



## NORTH ARKANSAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – HARRISON

*Robby Scucchi*

Recently, the Auxiliary at North Arkansas Regional Medical Center (NARMC) made a check presentation to Hospice of the Hills "Twenty IS Plenty" Campaign, the largest fund raising campaign designed to signify that with broad community support, a relatively small contribution by enough people can help provide this area with a first class facility and a much needed service. Pictured below are members of the NARMC Auxiliary along with the Hospice of the Hills Board of Directors and staff.





NARMC recognized Julie Lockett as their Auxilian of the Year at the Annual Auxiliary Christmas Party. Julie began volunteering with NARMC in 2008 helping to knit booties and has served in several capacities including gift Shop Chair, Time Keeper, and Basket Chair.

Left, NARMC President Sam Kekaha and Auxilian of the year July Lockett





# SOUTHEAST

## CHICOT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

*Dean Smith*

In November, we did employee appreciation for our Imaging, Surgical, and Home Health Departments.

Pictured: Imaging Department



Below left: Surgical



Right: Home Health



We also held our Sheet Sale (October 14 – November 8) and our Collective Goods Sale was held on November 14th and 15th.

(Below) We decorated for Christmas on December 2nd.









We stuffed stockings for our hospital patients and our rehab patients at the nursing home and then delivered them.



(Left below) Jill Wrezenski is delivering stocking to a rehab patient. The second picture is Judy Sadler and Jill Wrezenski delivering stocking to a hospital patient.



Our upcoming event is our big Valentine's Candy Sale in February. This is one of our biggest fundraising events.



## SOUTHWEST

### NATIONAL PARK MEDICAL CENTER

*Dorothy Stringer*

Dona McKewen, one of the volunteers at National Park Medical Center, has been a volunteer for 36 years. She celebrated her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday November 19<sup>th</sup>. She also just got her license renewed for 8 more years!





## OUACHITA COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

*Daphne Bennett*

During our November Board meeting, a need, with a request for help, was presented. It was called to our attention that no new-born can leave our hospital if an infant car seat is not available for its use. It was the desire of our group to take up the responsibility of having at least two car seats available at all times. This is just another way of reaching out to the community.

The auxiliary assisted our hospital during the grand opening of its new Cath lab on November 18. This will be a real asset to our city, county, and surrounding area. Good news for us, we added two new members in November.

We presented our CEO with a check for \$15,000 during our December quarterly meeting. This reduces our \$300,000 commitment for thirty-eight state of the art beds and a central monitoring system to \$94,300! We also brought toys to the December meeting and presented these to our local police department for their "Toys for Tots" program.



## VALLEY

### BAPTIST HEALTH – VAN BUREN

*Pam Henderson*

We had four auxiliaries who attended the AHAA Convention October 2-4<sup>th</sup>. It was a great convention this year again. There were several good speakers and good meetings. We look forward to this every year.

Six of our auxiliaries attended the Fall District Meeting in Mena, Arkansas. Several others from Valley District were also in attendance. It was a great meeting and everyone had a good time.





Our Auxiliary has a Christmas Wreath silent auction during the latter part of November. We purchase the wreaths and give one to each department in the hospital. Each department decorates the wreath and returns it to us. We keep them up for three days while the employees and other persons silently bid on them. We had great participation from the departments. It's always amazing to see the comradery among employees when trying to outbid one another.



We had our annual Christmas party on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We had a luncheon, played several games, and played Dirty Santa. We also brought nonperishable food items for a local food bank. Almost everyone was there and we had a great time.



We had our Cookie Jar/Cookies silent auction the second week of December. And as before, we had great participation from the departments within the hospital. Auxilians had been purchasing Christmas cookie jars all year and we had gathered 15 cookie jars to use for this event. As with the wreath silent auction, we had great participation with the employees of the hospital.





During the time we had the cookie jar/cookies silent auction going on, we also served trays of cookies to employees and others along with hot apple cider.

Later in December we participated in a coat drive sponsored by Baptist Health. We had a humongous box in our lobby that was filled to the brim with coats.



One of our goals for 2019-2020 was to increase our membership by 5%. We had 16 active members when we started this year and we have added 4 new members; so we have surpassed our goal.

## MENA REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

### *Sharon Jewell*

Christmas open house at Mena Gift Shop was held Friday and Saturday, November 8 & 9.

Light refreshments were served and specials offered throughout both days.  
(Pictures – next page)



Barbara Wilds



Linda Johnson & Sue Wigger



Below: Judi Stern, Lisa Wood, Angie Aynes:



The annual Mena Regional Auxiliary Christmas Breakfast Fundraiser was held December 7th from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in the hospital cafeteria.

All proceeds benefit the Auxiliary Scholarship Program and hospital department needs throughout the year. \$10,000 in scholarship money was awarded in 2019.

Right: Auxiliary Members: Marilyn Davenport, Ewanta Turner, Kathy Boone, Claudia Brown, Sue Powell, Martha Edwards, Paula Galvan, Carol Ford, Linda Johnson, Sharon Jewell, Peggy Murphy, Kathy Rook, Sara Mitchell





Claudia Brown & Kathy Rook



Ray Cathey, Al & Fran Hadaway



Mena Regional Health System won 'Best in Show' and 'People's Choice Award' at this year's Christmas Parade of Light held December 7.



Congratulations to Centralized Scheduling for winning "Judges Choice" during the MRHS Christmas Wreath Contest! The department was assisted by Auxiliary Member Claudia Brown, pictured left below center. As the winning team, they received a traveling trophy and donuts! Winning wreath is pictured below, right.



Uniform sale fundraiser was held December 17 & 18.

Upcoming events:

After Christmas sale in the gift shop

Starting January the auxiliary will be taking scholarship applications for spring semester.

"A new year is unfolding—like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within."  
- UNKNOWN

## ST MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER - RUSSELVILLE

*Janet Thurber*

In November, Saint Mary's Volunteers attended yearly Competency and HIPPA Training. We also held a scrub sale and raised \$1,204 for scholarships. Volunteers also attended the Fall District Meeting in Mena.

On December 9, Volunteers enjoyed the annual Christmas Tea hosted by Saint Mary's. Volunteers were treated to a delicious lunch and were entertained with Christmas songs by Arkansas Tech music students.

President Carl Greathouse enjoys lunch at the annual Christmas Tea.



Arkansas Tech University music students sang Christmas songs at the Christmas Tea.



COO Scott Bailey presented awards to the following volunteers: Jane Hradek and Tom Scott – Let Me Take You There Award, Amparo Bartlett - G. E. M Award for going the extra mile in service to others, Katherine Kinsey – Lifetime Achievement Award, and Janet Thurber – Volunteer Excellence Award for outstanding volunteer service.

Below left: CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Jane Hradek with the Let Me Take You There Award. Not pictured is Tom Scott who also received the Let Me Take You There



Award. Right: CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Amparo Bartlett with the GEM – Going The Extra Mile Award.

CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Jane Hradek with the Let Me Take You There Award. Not pictured is Tom Scott who also received the Let Me Take You There Award.

CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Amparo Bartlett with the GEM – Going The Extra Mile Award.



CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Katherine Kinsey with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

CNO Carol Gore & COO Scott Bailey present Janet Thurber with the Volunteer Excellence Award.



Volunteers also honored Volunteer Director Brenda Harrison. Brenda is retiring at the end of the year after 20 years of service. Brenda will be back to coordinate special events for the



hospital so we aren't saying goodbye yet. We also welcomed Belinda Farmer, director of St. Mary's Cancer Treatment Center, as our new Volunteer Director.

President Carl Greathouse presents Volunteer Director Brenda Harrison with a gift in appreciation of her 20 years of service to volunteers and St. Mary's.



Belinda Farmer, Director of St. Mary's Cancer Treatment Center, addresses the volunteers at the Christmas Tea. Belinda will be the new Volunteer Director.



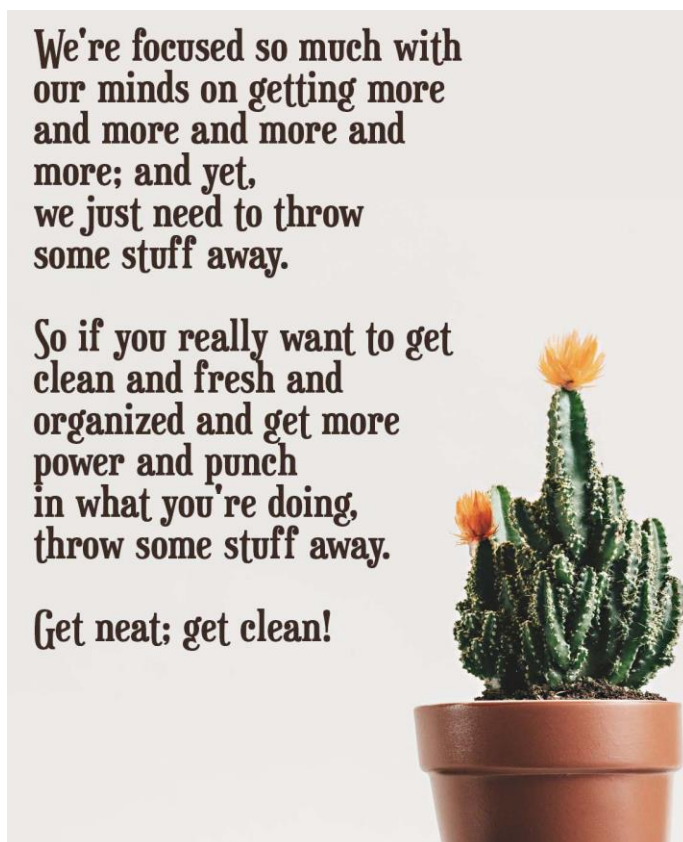
We held a Russ Buss Donation drive in December and collected bottled water and blankets. We will continue the drive in January by collecting donations of bottled water and toiletries. Russ Buss is a local organization that works with the homeless in Russellville.

Right: Volunteers Janet Thurber, Evelyn Denton, Carol Shoptaw and Carl Greathouse show off donations for Russ Buss.



December is also when Volunteers provide Christmas hats and stockings to each baby born at St. Mary's in December. This year 87 babies received handmade stockings and hats. The New Year's baby received a special white stocking. Volunteers also provided the New Year's baby with a gift bag that contained a handmade, knitted baby blanket; knitted hats; a crocheted duck; and baby books.

February is National Heart Month and for the third year Volunteers are providing small red knitted and crocheted hats to St. Mary's new babies and their families. The hats are part of the American Heart Association's Little Hats, Big Hearts Program. Also scheduled in February are two scholarship fundraisers: a T-shirt sale and Balloons and Kisses sale.



Information for the March/April Newsletter should be received by February 29<sup>th</sup>. **PLEASE USE YOUR DISTRICT AS SUBJECT OF EMAIL.** Use the FULL name (no initial abbreviation, please) of your auxiliary at the beginning of the information sent.

*Neta Sue Stamps, Editor*

