

AUXILIARIES IN ACTION

A Publication of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association

March/April 2020

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2019-2020

AHAA President



Jan Gardner

Dear Friends,

Are you as soggy as I am? It seems we've had rain after rain here in North Little Rock. My feet feel as wet as my shoes, and cold. Lots of puddles in our parking lot. I hope March is dryer!

I'm enjoying reading your newsletters. Everyone has been very busy with fundraisers, events, and meetings. You have had some interesting speakers at your meetings. The AHAA Board is working on the Convention and we are trying to obtain some interesting speakers and programs for you.

Between the weather and so many people being ill with flu or other illnesses at the hospital, our staff and volunteers have been affected by absences. I hope you are all well. You, as volunteers, are the cheerful forces at our hospitals for our patients, visitors, and our staff whose spirits have been lagging during this period of bad weather and illness. Your smiles, words of comfort, and calming presence, plant the seeds of kindness that help people feel better.

So, keep healthy, stay strong, and laugh a lot! Laughter is good for all of us.

Love, Jan

"The happiest people are those who do the most for others." Booker T. Washington

COVID 19 PRECAUTION – MARCH AHAA BOARD MEETING CANCELLED



In Memoriam

Metropolitan District

CHI St. Vincent North

Northeast District

South Mississippi County Regional Medical Center - Osceola

Northwest District

North Arkansas Regional Medical Center

Ken Brossman

Southeast District

Drew Memorial Hospital

Ruth Ferguson

Jefferson Regional Medical Center

Roxine Carter

Southwest District

National Park Medical Center

Joyce Reeves

Valley

Baptist Health - Van Buren

Betty J. Hoyle



METROPOLITAN

CHI ST. VINCENT INFIRMARY / SHERWOOD

Barbara Bender

We were pleased to award the following grants to benefit our hospital: Our Auxiliary purchased two head lamps for Doctors to use in surgery. Additionally, four new wheelchairs were acquired for St. Vincent North. Our largest purchase, in partnership with our hospital, was a new wheelchair accessible van to be used for transportation for psychiatric and geriatric patients. This was a much-needed addition for this ministry.

Donations totaling \$45,000.00 were distributed for nursing scholarships, New Outlook, SVN Rehab Auxiliary and the CHI St. Vincent Foundation. We are grateful and indebted to the many volunteers and everyone who supported our retail sales events. Through the work of our tireless volunteers, we were able to make the grants and donations to these deserving endeavors.

This year the Auxiliary took orders and sold King Cakes to our staff and volunteers. We are thanking to Community Bakery for partnering with us on this event.

Beginning in January 2020 our Auxiliary will report to the CHI St. Vincent Foundation. This is an exciting alignment for our Auxiliary. By partnering with the Foundation, we open a wealth of resources and synergies for our organization. Not only does this serve as an excellent opportunity for the Auxiliary, but also the right alliance for our hospital.

CHI ST. VINCENT MORRILTON

Tammy Smith

St. Vincent Morrilton Auxiliary held the drawing for the Valentine Basket on Monday, February 10, 2020. The winner of the Valentine Basket is Wayne Zachary of Morrilton. Thank you to all that supported the SVM Auxiliary in purchasing tickets for the drawing, these monies will benefit the ongoing construction project at the front of the local hospital.

Pictured below from left to right: Mazie Wright, SVM Auxiliary; Wayne Zachary - winner; Delores Hartman, SVM Auxiliary



NORTH CENTRAL

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. Congratulations Paul! In January the Auxiliary sponsored a sale with Dynamic Cookware. In February, the ways and means committee held the Geneva Linen Sale in the Lagerborg Dining room. January 31st, we had our bi-monthly Birthday Brunch to celebrate the January / February auxiliaries birthdays.

We had 3 people attend the January North Central District Presidents Meeting at the Ozark Health Medical Center in Clinton. January 24th.

At our February General Meeting we had Megan Wunderlin, RN come speak to the membership about the Magnet Certification journey we are on at Baxter Regional. The final slate of officers was introduced.

We will be collecting food for the Mtn. Home Food Basket at our March General meeting. We decided to do the collection in March since the food bank has a decent supply of food for the holidays but has their greatest need early in the year.

The Auxiliary Board and H.O.P.E. Committee met for the annual Leadership Training and Strategic Planning meeting.

The auxiliary supported the Baxter Regional Hospital Foundation's annual *Masquer80s Ball*. Auxiliary members served dinner and desserts. This fundraiser was attended by about 300. The event is held to support the four Education Community Houses at Baxter Regional.

A meeting was held to start planning a new volunteer Veterans Ambassador program. The local veterans organizations were invited and all were in attendance. The program is in the development stage.

The H.O.P.E. Committee met to plan the February and March general Meetings and the annual Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet in April at the March meeting the 2020-2021 Auxiliary Board of Directors will be elected. The Auxiliary Board is installed at the April Auxiliary Appreciation Banquet by the Baxter Regional CEO Ron Peterson.

OZARK HEALTH INC. – CLINTON

Betty Spencer

We have had two new members join our organization and are very pleased to welcome them to the group. At the same time we have had two members resign so we are holding our own with volunteers.

The Executive Board met and came up with our calendar of events for 2020. We began our activities in February with another Collective Goods Sale and our Annual Valentine Bake sale this year has been changed to a "New to You Sale", this is purses, perfumes, jewelry that are not used by folks and sold for \$1, not to exceed \$10.00. Our total sales figure was \$519.85 not bad for our first attempt. The Bake Sales are not doing well at all - people do not carry money so we have decided to discontinue Bake Sales.

In February we had a speaker from our Physical Therapy Department talk about Heart Health. The foundation and a couple of businesses sponsored a "Heart Health Luncheon" with a guest speaker Cardiologist Dr. Ben Starnes.

In March we have a speaker scheduled to talk about Alzheimer's to the group. Our auxiliary sponsors snacks for the local library during this month in honor of National Nutrition month it is one of our community outreaches.

In April we have our installation of New Officers for the year usually a luncheon but this year the hospital has decided to honor us at a Dinner with the awards given out for Years of Service and Hour Pins.

From our Auxiliary to all our volunteers – Have safe travel for Spring District Meetings, and Happy Easter

STONE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER – MOUNTAIN VIEW

Frances Bullard

Our ladies are very excited about our new year and the opportunity to host the North Central District Spring Meeting on April 7 at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View. Details are being finalized for an informative and fun meeting. District meetings are always very informative, and all officers and volunteers from all auxiliaries are so dedicated to planting the seeds of kindness.

After Christmas and New Year, our gift shop inventory was completed, and we began a new year of replenishing our merchandise, as well as serving others. Plans for our new hospital project are under way, and we have begun collecting socks and underwear again for our Community Fair in August. Our committees are being finalized, and we hope to resume work on the Alzheimer's State Project. Our first local newsletter was completed and distributed, and our members were very appreciative of it. Therefore, we will all be able to stay informed of activities and upcoming events.

Our February No-Bake Sale was completed, but the total donated amount is unknown at this time. It will be reported in our next issue. Our Dynamic Cookware fundraiser was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts, but we hope to reschedule. Collective Goods will be at the hospital on March 31 and April 1. Our Scrubs sale will be held there also on May 6 & 7; this fundraiser is always appreciated by all.

Ms. Teresa Linden, our president, attended the January Presidents' meeting in Clinton and plans to attend the Mountain Home meeting in March. These meetings are always informative for all groups in our district, and she does a great job in sharing the topics of discussion.

We are so excited about our Secret Pal Project that will allow us to plant seeds of kindness for many local groups throughout our county. Various local groups have been separated into smaller groups, and they are very touched that we thought of them. Each volunteer will choose or draw a recipient's name from a group, and she will provide tokens of appreciation of her choice for a three-month period, and these gifts will be delivered by the local chair. Nobody will know any names except the volunteer and the local chair. An introduction to the project and a survey were given to the recipients to aid the Secret Pal in gift choices. At the end of three months, the Secret Pal will deliver the last gift, and her identity will be revealed, or she may choose to remain anonymous forever. We will rotate to new groups every three months and repeat the process. Our volunteers are so very excited about spotlighting our local individuals who serve in various capacities.



“LET’S BUILD A KINDER WORLD TOGETHER BY PLANTING SEEDS OF KINDNESS!”
Our prayer is for all Auxiliaries to have a very pleasant and rewarding year as we touch lives every day! A kind smile goes a long way!



NORTHEAST

ARKANSAS METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER

Shirl Kirsey

We are in the middle of altering our Bylaws that has not been done in 10 years. We have a committee together to plan and prepare for our District Meeting in the fall. We have had standing committee meetings to help us all get on the same page. We are getting some publicity in April through the Premier magazine. AMMC marketing is doing a brochure for us and will be in print soon. The hospital has planned a reception for the auxiliary in April. We placed an Ad in the Paragould Daily Press to let our community know about our Auxiliary Scholarships.

ST. BERNARDS MEDICAL CENTER - JONESBORO

Dean Rossa

St Bernards Foundation President, Marilyn Hummelstein's resignation was effective January 6, 2020. She shepherded the Foundation from fall 2006 into 2020.

Pictured are Marilyn Hummelstein, Lyn Hubbard, and Myra Deacon at a retirement party held in her honor February third in the Tower Community Room. We will miss her.



Funds raised by St Bernards Light Up a Life campaign make life easier for out-of-town cancer patients treated by St Bernards. Auxiliary donates \$20,000 per year to make lodging at low cost available to cancer patients who need to stay overnight for multiple treatments. Patients who qualify can pay five dollars a night per person toward costs of rooms that are currently located at The Villa on Parker Road. The Auxiliary money pays the rest of the cost for patient occupation of the rooms. The Foundation recorded a total of 750 reservations for the cancer patient rooms from 9-1-2018 to 8-30-2019 for 6 rooms M-F.

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – OSCEOLA

Sonja Bennett

On Thursday, March 5, the Osceola Hospital Auxiliary was invited to the Wilson Café as a way of thanking them for being volunteers of the South Miss. Co. Regional Hospital. Chris Raymar, CEO, and Felicia Pierce had the luncheon as a way of thanking the ladies. Pictured are: (seated) Lovonda Carter, Pres., Norma Hicks, Sonja Burnett, Paulette Booker, & Pud Thomas. Back row: Cheri Blurton, Felicia Pierce, Carrie King, Treva Reese, Adele Black, Sharon Ragan, Michelle Pignataro, & Debbie Russell.



NORTHWEST

MERCY HOSPITAL BERRYVILLE

Jean Vance

On January 31 the first charging station for the convenience of our patients and families was installed in the Emergency-room waiting room. Below: Mercy Hospital Berryville Auxiliary volunteers Thelma Fisher, Betty McClellan and Carolyn Bosshardt



Additional charging stations for our Xray-lab, surgical, and outpatient waiting rooms have also been installed.

The auxiliary has also recently purchased two bariatric wheelchairs which are now in service for our patients.

Scholarship Chair Carolyn Bosshardt and Visitor Information Desk and Gift Shop auxiliary volunteer Betty McClellan display the two new wheelchairs just received.



Sixteen auxiliarians attended the Mercy Gala on February 8. The Black and White Gala was hosted by Mercy Berryville Foundation. Funds were raised for the Radiology Department.



Parliamentarian Mary Jo Vale, Thrift Shop Manager Juanita Baker and Membership Chair Pat Armer



Volunteers Larinda Armer and Pat Kasner with Chaplain Anita Spearman

February 16 was a great day for our auxiliary as we held the grand reopening of our Thrift store in Green Forest which included a ribbon cutting. We were privileged to have Mayor Jerry Carlson of Green Forest in attendance. Our Auxilians provided some great snacks for our visitors



Above, front row left to right: MHBA President Jean Vance, MHB Administrator VonDa Moore, Thrift Store Manager Juanita Baker and Treasurer Shelba Miller

A successful blood drive was held on February 21 with the donation of 27 pints of blood and we only had 5 deferrals. Again we thank our auxiliaries for the donations for the wonderful snacks and helping with this community service.

March and April will be busy with fund raisers and we also are making plans to attend our District Meeting hosted by Washington Regional Medical Center.

MERCY HOSPITAL NORTHWEST AR – ROGERS

Shirley Long

Auxiliary volunteers Jim Long & Kathy Hardy, hard at work making a Valentine for every patient's food tray on Valentine's Day



Shirley Long, Jim Long & Kathy Hardy ready to roll and make valentines for every patient at Mercy, Rogers.



Volunteers heading up Valentine Day Sweet Sale



NORTH ARKANSAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – HARRISON

Robby Scucchi

The NARMC Auxiliary Scholarship Committee Chair, Frances Doshier awarded three \$1000 scholarships to Jessica McDonald, Courtney Boswell, and Rea Nagtalon. The scholarships are awarded twice a year to students enrolled at North Arkansas College and whose course of study is in the medical field.



SOUTHEAST

CHICOT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

Dean Smith

On January 8th, we did Employee Appreciation for the nurse anesthetists. Pictured is Mary Hollins-Scott with a basket of goodies.



On February 13th, we packed candy for our big Valentine's Candy Sale made by the auxilians. This year the boxes sold for \$8 a box, up from \$6. We brought in a total of \$1,122.00.



We will have the Collective Goods Sale March 3rd and 4th. Also in March we will honor our dental office, doctors and nurse practitioners, and the offices of Registration, Scheduling/Business, and Medical Records.

On April 16th, we will be hosting the Southeast District Spring Meeting of AHAA at the Wayne Edwards Building here in Lake Village. There will also be a Scrubs Sale in April. Also, around April 18th, we are helping the hospital again with another Health Expo. Free health screenings will be offered, along with other information regarding health services.

DELTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Shirley Sandlin

Shirley Sandlin, Olene Ferguson, Patty Posey chair, Clarice Poole, Alice Branson, Sybil Tanner and standing behind is Lorra Kelley. These ladies gathered in the boardroom of Delta Memorial Hospital and assembled "goodies" for Valentine's. This was a great fundraiser for the auxiliary. We are planning another fundraiser in late March. More news to come about this.



What a showing we had for the first blood drive of 2020. The Delta Memorial Hospital Auxiliary meets their quota! Following are a few pictures of some donors.



DEWITT HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME

Mary N. Jacobs West

DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home Auxiliary's annual Christmas Cottage was a great success this year. Not only was the fund raising successful, it is a great time to fellowship with members of our community. We were blessed to raise enough funds to purchase a vital signs monitor for the hospital and nursing home.

DHNHA had a wonderful Christmas get to gather at a local restaurant. We were very surprised to learn our lunch was paid for by a friend of the auxiliary.

In January DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home Auxiliary was honored as the "Volunteer Group of the Year" by the DeWitt Chamber of Commerce.

We have begun our IN-SERVICE PROJECT for 2020. A library for the hospital: the auxiliary is supplying the materials and the hospital maintenance man will build the bookcase. Members of the auxiliary will donate books, magazines, and puzzles.

March 9, 2020 DHNHA will host our annual Chicken Spaghetti Supper. This has always been a great fund raiser for us. We look forward to using the funds raised to provide needs of our hospital and nursing home.

The DeWitt Hospital and Nursing Home will have its annual Spring Fling on April 21st. The auxiliary will have a booth to show our support. This is a great event. There are lots of door prizes, but most importantly the hospital provides health education information and services.

The Blood Mobile and the Mammogram mobile unit will be on hand to provide services. Many different businesses from the health care industry will have booths. Lunch is provided.

DREW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Heather Harper

Drew Memorial Health System warmly thanks both Drew Memorial Health Foundation and Drew Memorial Auxiliary for their efforts to raise and donate the \$150,000 used to purchase new monitors for the Emergency Department.

Auxiliary members, Mellie Jo Owen and Barbara Brown and Emergency Department Director, Dana Miles are shown with a new monitor



Our Christmas Tress Auction raised \$1700 for purchase of wheel chairs for Drew Memorial Health System.

Auxiliary member Edith Thurman at the Christmas Gift Shop Open House. \$7,000 was raised at the event.



Ola Hayes participated in the Fall Health Fair at Drew Memorial.





Members Shirley Kizer and Debra Burt welcomed the first baby born at Drew Memorial in 2020.



SOUTHWEST

MAGNOLIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Jenni Daniel

The MRMC Auxiliary met on January 21st 2020 for their January business meeting and annual training. We had a wonderful baked potato lunch provided by the Magnolia Blossom Grill. Each auxiliary member completed their annual competency and paperwork.

The MRMC Auxiliary helped serve at the Magnolia Regional Medical Center Annual Service Awards Banquet on January 29th 2020 at the LifeSmart Center. We have several members of the MRMC Auxiliary who are retired hospital employees and it was a treat to get to serve them along with all of our employees honored at the banquet.



MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTH ARKANSAS –EL DORADO

Liz McKay

The MCSA Auxiliary donated \$4,500 towards a patient transport vehicle that will be used to transport chemo patients from the parking lot to the facility and is carrying other patients and visitors using the services of the hospital to their destination. A picture of the donation presentation was taken with the MCSA Auxiliary members in January and was published in the El Dorado News Times. Another patient transport vehicle was purchased by the Murphy Foundation and given to the hospital in February. The auxiliary paid the taxes of \$1,514 on the cart



The One-Day Surgery waiting room volunteer station was reopened and is now fully staffed five days a week.

Our auxiliary advisors traveled to the Dallas Market to restock the gift shop. Many wonderful items were purchased and have transformed our gift shop into a cute boutique!

The Auxiliary co-hosted a fundraiser with the MCSA Cafeteria called Soup-er-Bowl. The fundraiser was held on January 31st prior to the Superbowl Sunday. We decorated the cafe as a Superbowl party and our volunteers served the soup. This fundraiser netted the auxiliary \$840. During the fundraiser we also hosted a canned soup/food drive. We were able to donate 200 cans of soup to the Interfaith Health Clinic food bank.



The auxiliary gained two new members in February, raising our total membership to 29.

The hospital hosted a Christmas tree silent auction. Proceeds from the auction were given to the MCSA Auxiliary totaling \$700.



The auxiliary donated \$500 to the #teamcorrie foundation that provides individuals battling cancer with scholarships to cover medical expenses.

The MCSA Auxiliary made a \$500 donation to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

The MCSA Healthy Woman Board hosted their annual heart health luncheon Healthy Heart Health You on 2-20-2020. Over 400 community members attended the event to listen to keynote speaker a comedian named Dr. Brad Nieder. The MCSA Auxiliary was the underwriter and beneficiary of the event which raised approximately \$26,000 (gross). The auxiliary also assisted with pre-event help and provided 8 volunteers at the event.

Alex Bennett, our liaison, keeps our Auxiliary Facebook page up-to-date on our activities with pictures.

NATIONAL PARK MEDICAL CENTER

Dorothy Stringer

The NPMC Auxiliary purchased another 10 wheelchairs for the hospital. This is a total of 24 wheelchairs purchased in the last 12 months. All of our new wheelchairs have anti-theft bars and wheel locks on them. We hope this keeps our chairs in the hospital longer.

We also did Blessing Bags for the homeless and delivered them. We took some to our ER and they were such a hit with the employees and the people who received them that we have taken it on as a new project. We take 5 men and 5 women at a time. When they run low, we take more to them.

The NPMC Auxiliary also purchased a coffee system for the Breast Center. They went through a remodel and needed a new one. We purchased a new sideboard and large Keurig system.

Since February is Heart Health Month we sent a large basket filled with information about healthy eating, mints, magnets, and more ideas to keep a healthy heart. This is a project we developed a couple years ago.

The NPMC Heart Ball is also in February and the Auxiliary always donates something for the silent auction. This year we donated a couple's spa day.

We lost a member of our Auxiliary family. On January 30, Joyce Reeves suddenly passed away at her home.

We had a new fundraiser come to the hospital, Alexander Hamilton Group. This was successful for us.

OUACHITA COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

Daphne Bennett

Our annual Tree of Life in Lights ceremony was on December 5--a total of \$2,071 was raised.

Good news for us is that we have gained seven new members since June 1, 2019; however, one has found it necessary to begin full time employment as of March 1.

We have donated two infant car seats to our nursery as a new Community Outreach project. Two scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each have been awarded for the spring semester to candidates for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Our Valentine sales for two days were \$3,707.71. We featured red roses and gift boxes, bags, mugs, etc. We also took 60 Valentine balloons to one of our four local nursing homes. We alternate each year with the four.

Scrubs and Sew On were here for a fundraiser on February 27-28.



VALLEY

BAPTIST HEALTH – VAN BUREN

Pam Henderson

There was not a lot going on in January. Our guest speaker this month at our meeting was Bill Yates, a retired educator from Waldron, Arkansas. You can follow Mr. Yates stories on his blog (growingupinWaldron.blogspot.com). One of the stories he shared with us was about little Pearl Turner. Pearl went missing on Friday morning, October 19, 1923. Her sisters were helping their father who was cutting firewood. Pearl, who was only three years old, wandered out to where they were working. Their father asked her sisters to take her back to the cabin so she wouldn't get hurt. They did this and left her at the cabin. No one would ever see her again. The family searched for a long time but never found her. There was talk that she had been kidnapped but was alive and grew up somewhere else. She was never found and to this day it remains a mystery. Her parents, Lynn and Lela Turner, died in 1969 wondering what happened to their daughter.

February was a slow month for us also. Our guest speaker was Alicia Cheshier with Jack's Helping Hands Snacks for Children. Alicia's grandson, Jack, was in an ATV accident on March 19, 2013 and died instantly. He was only seven years old. Prior to his accident Jack would take snacks from his home to school to give to children less fortunate than him. After his death, Alicia set up the program – Jack's Helping Hands Snacks for Children in memory of her grandson. It is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. She takes the snacks to the Alma elementary schools. The feedback she gets from the school states that 80% of the children partake of the snacks from this program.

MENA REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Sharon Jewell

IT'S A GIRL!!! Mena Regional Health System celebrated their First Baby of the New Year! Gracelynn Ward was born on January 7, 2020 at 8:10am weighing 7lbs 12oz and measuring 20 1/2 inches long. Dr. Carlos Rocha delivered Gracelynn with the assistance of CRNA, Ben Campbell. The mother and baby were presented with a gift basket full of items generously

donated by the following businesses: Mena Regional Auxiliary, First Financial Bank, Union Bank of Mena, Allbaugh's Florist and Gifts, Papa Pablanos, Pizza Hut, James Supersave Foods, Sweet Peas Photography, The Corner Shoppe, and Mena Regional Health System. Pictured from left: Karey Don Kesterson, CFO; Rick Billingsley, CNO; Amber Taylor, Women's Services Director; Sabrina Ward, mother of Gracelynn; Minta Milam, RN; Leah Cannon, RN; and Sasha Wise, LPN.



Mena Regional Auxiliary purchased a new sofa and loveseat for the ICU waiting room. This will provide comfort for the guest of our patients.

Below: New Sofa and new Auxiliary Member: Ewanta Turner



In January Melba Head & Linda Johnson served popcorn to the hospital employees.

Melba & Linda



Enjoying the Popcorn!



Mena Regional Health System participated in National Go Red for Women in February! Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the U.S. Visit with your doctor about your risk factors and simple steps for prevention of heart disease!
In honor of Heart Health Awareness Month, the MRHS Gift Shop offered 20% off any purchase made February 7 -14, to anyone wearing RED!



Up Coming Events:

The Mena Regional Auxiliary will be awarding spring scholarships in March

Outreach: recruiting volunteers "March into Volunteering"

Valley Spring District Meeting- April 14 at Russellville

Uniform sales fundraiser April 22-23, 2020

SAINT MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – RUSSELLVILLE

Janet Thurber

As we welcomed in the New Year, Saint Mary's Volunteers continued to show their generosity by donating water and toiletries for the Russ Buss.

February was a fundraising month for the volunteers. We held our annual Valentine Balloons & Kisses Sale and sold 244 Valentine-themed balloons that were tied to bags of Hershey kisses. Pictured below: Volunteers Sharyn French, Carl Greathouse, Kathy Palmer & Evelyn Denton preparing for the Balloons & Kisses Sale.



We also held a T-shirt sale. Between the two fundraisers we raised almost enough money for three \$500 scholarships.

Vice President Jane Hradek (left) poses with the T-shirt ladies.



Our hard working volunteers have been knitting and crocheting little red hats with hearts on them all year in anticipation of February's Heart Month. When the American Heart Association decided to cancel the February Little Hats for Big Hearts project, the Auxiliary decided to celebrate Saint Mary's babies with the little red hats as a special Valentine for the babies and the mothers.

Below: Volunteers Janet Thurber and Barbara Boeh sit with one of the babies receiving a hat.



Five \$500 scholarships were awarded during March. Two of the recipients attended the March meeting to receive their scholarships. Pictured below on the Left: Wands Reed, Scholarship Chairman, Kervin Flores and Carl Greathouse, Auxiliary President.

Pictured below on the right: Toki Asimbayo receives her scholarship from Carl Greathouse.



In March Dr. Sam Hughes, Saint Mary's radiation oncologist, spoke to the volunteers about his background, experience and the radiation therapy program offered at Saint Mary's.

Pictured: Dr. Sam Hughes and. President Carl Greathouse



A new project for the volunteers in March is participating in the the River Valley Food 4 Kids Spring Break Program. The River Valley Food 4 Kids program will continue to feed county students through the backpack program during Spring break. The Friday prior to Spring break backpacks will be filled with enough food to last the students during the entire week of break. Saint Mary's Volunteers are participating by donating snack foods to the program. Below: Volunteers Shayla and Danny show off just a little of the snack food collected so far for the River Valley Food 4 Kids Spring Break Program.



Volunteers are also busy preparing to host the Spring Valley District Meeting on April 14. We hope to see you there!



Today you could be standing next to someone who is trying their best not to fall apart... So whatever you do today do it with kindness in your heart. all-greatquotes.com