



AUXILIARIES IN ACTION



2020-2021 AHAA President



Kathy Gammill

Hello Everyone!

As we begin our new year we are still facing rising COVID numbers, masks, washing and more washing of hands and social distancing. I'm sure you're complying and doing all that you can to help stop this virus.

Your AHAA Board held its January meeting by Teleconference on the 14th. We are working to firm up the 2021 Spring District Meeting dates and locations. Please check your March AHAA Newsletter for the dates of your district's meeting and location. We are hoping things will be safe and we will be able to meet then. We must be safe and do whatever is appropriate to keep us that way. I miss seeing your smiling faces and warm hospitality.

Hopefully, more will soon be vaccinated and we will be on the road to recovery. Let's stay positive and do our best to stay that way - and safe.

In the meantime, as you have an opportunity to visit others, either by telephone, social media or in person, please share your story - why you volunteer.

Your fellow volunteer –

Kathy

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Northwest

Northwest Medical Center Bentonville
Anita Smith
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Bradley County Medical Center (Warren)
Jo Ann Dew Reichen

Jefferson Regional Medical Center (Pine Bluff)
Nancy Longacre

Southwest

Ouachita County Medical Center (Camden)
Margaret Chandler
Betty Jackson
Frances Jordan
Avalene Reynolds
Betty Sebaugh
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HANDBOOK CORRECTIONS

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NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK - CORRECTION
MAY 2, 2021 – MAY 8, 2021

A Message from Legislative Advocacy

The official start date for the Arkansas legislative session is January 11, 2021, however the work of the committees has been in progress since mid-October. The highest priority for The Arkansas Hospital Association and AHAA will be to continue the coverage provided under Medicaid and the Medicaid Expansion program.

The programs continue with a simple majority vote in both Houses; however the appropriation which allows funding requires a 75% (super majority) vote in each chamber. The Legislative Bulletins we receive during the Legislative session make us aware of the bills being considered and the position AHA is taking in regard to those bills. They explain the reasoning for supporting or opposing these bills very carefully. We are encouraged to contact our elected officials to make them aware of our feelings in regard to the impact legislation has on our hospitals and our communities. Register for VoterVoice through the AHAA website at <http://www.arhaa.org>. Your communication that is brief, specific, timely and courteous will be heard. Peg Kuhnly

President-Elect Carol Evans has extra 2019 – 2020 AHAA Handbooks if anyone would like to have one. Excess books will be disposed around October or November of this year. Contact Carol if you need one.



METROPOLITAN

ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

ARKANSAS STATE HOSPITAL

BAPTIST HEALTH – LITTLE ROCK

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER - NORTH LITTLE ROCK

CHI ST. VINCENT INFIRMARY / SHERWOOD

Ara Yanker, Barbara Bender

Jan Gardner, Volunteer Liaison at CHI St. Vincent North, had fun giving out Christmas packages from Petit Jean Meat Company that the Hospital gave to the Volunteers December 9th



CHI St. Vincent continues our Covid 19 Safety Guidelines which prohibits auxiliary members and volunteers from any in person activity on any of our hospital campuses for the safety of our patients and our members.

The Auxiliary and Volunteers are extremely grateful to CHI St. Vincent for offering the Covid vaccine to all auxiliary members and volunteers. With an overwhelming response and grateful heart those individuals recently received their first shot and will be following up with their second shot in the coming weeks.

CHI ST. VINCENT MORRILTON

SALINE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (BENTON)

UAMS MEDICAL CENTER

W. P. ROCKEFELLER CANCER INSTITUTE

Janie Lowe

The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute is hopeful that volunteers will be able to return by the end of March, if not sooner. The plan was that they would be return before the end of the year, but with the spike of cases after Thanksgiving, that did not happen. Now, it is hoped, that as the volunteers are vaccinated they will be able to return as ready.

The Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Auxiliary Partners Card project, October 30 – November 8 was very successful. \$100,000 was raised which will be used for grants that support the mission of the auxiliary and UAMS programs. Partners Card began in 2004 and has raised \$1.5 million since then.

The Miracle Star program, which is always during the holidays, raised almost \$8,000. All funds from Miracle Stars go directly to the Cancer Institute Patient Support Fund.

On December 17, which was a beautiful day, the volunteer office invited all volunteers and auxiliary board members to a “Drive-By” Holiday Celebration. Each volunteer was given a large package of cocoa mix, iced cookies, a beautiful star ornament and a note of thanks. For those unable to come, their gifts were delivered to their homes. It was a huge success and so good to see all the familiar faces (behind masks, of course)



NORTH CENTRAL

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER (HEBER SPRINGS)

BAXTER REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (MOUNTAIN HOME)

Jim Whalen

As we approach year end we each reflect on the passing of this year and anticipate the beginning of 2021!

Expressing gratitude will provide an effective buffer against blown budgets and annoying relatives. Going forward into our New Year each of us will be far more resilient to stress by developing a greater sense of gratitude. It works and, if in doubt, refer to Thessalonians 5:13 for affirmation – *Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!*

The Day of Giving on Tuesday, December 1st, our hospital Foundation raised \$42,940. Our Auxiliary Board voted at their December Meeting to meet the Day of Giving Commitment of \$50,000 plus an additional amount to the Foundation. Our Auxiliary donated \$57,060 in order for the Community Education Houses to receive \$100,000 to support their great work. We kicked off our Christmas Season with a ***Drive Thru Thank You!*** for our volunteers. It was a great way for us to see so many of our volunteers. We gave our volunteers a trunk organizer, an ice scraper, a Keychain tire gauge, and some candy and good cheer.



Tim and Jacki Spotts at the Thank You! Drive Thru 12.4.20

During November our volunteers collected body lotion, body wash, and Chap Stick for our patients on the Hensley Behavioral Health Center. These are gifts given to the patients at Christmas time and throughout the year.

Auxiliary Board with the Hensley Behavioral Center patient gifts – LtoR Barb Klein, Barbel Appleton, Carol Chentnik, Joan Young, Judy Shaffer, Jackie Spotts, Jennifer Baker, Jim Whalen, & Rich Jannick



12 Days of Christmas in the Pink-A-Dilly Gift was a success. Our patrons at the shop get an additional 25% off along with your volunteer/employee discount on the featured items of the day. This event runs through Christmas Eve. We were able to open until Midnight one night during the event for our night shift employees.

We hosted our **Christmas Gift Wrapping fundraiser** again this Season – we have our gift wrapping station just outside the gift shop in the Main Lobby of the hospital. This will continue until December 23rd.

Santa and Carolyn Hannon at the Gift Wrap Station



We hosted Holidays at **Flippin Bargain Box** – their last days to be open in **December were 17th, 18th, & 19th** – **Store wide 50% off purchases!** They will close to re-stock and clean and re-open in the New Year January 7th with new treasures.

And our **flag ship, the Mtn. Home Bargain Box** held a **Christmas Celebration on December 19th** – all remaining Christmas items were 50% off (a great selection still available), special sales throughout the store, door prizes & Christmas cheer!



LtoR - Richard Stansbery,
Rosalee St. Clair, Kathy Swim,
Donna Kimes, Bud Swim

Merry Christmas Everyone!! And have a Healthy & Happy New Year We have much to be thankful for!

OZARK HEALTH INC. – CLINTON

Bobbye Bennett

All of us continue to adapt to a new way of life, not just in the hospital and nursing center but in our personal lives. We have continued to keep the Gift shop open mon-Friday, December was a very profitable month. Betty and Scott Spencer opened the shop two evenings during December for 3-4 hours to sell to the night shift. We have decided to continue opening the shop two nights a month.

Mr. Deaton our CEO has been very accommodating to assist the auxiliary in coming back to work. We have just opened two of our weekly medical clinics to let the volunteers back in. There also is a volunteer in the business office one day a week.

Jan 11 we are scheduled to have our training on the new POS. looking forward to using the new system in the gift shop.

There is a collective goods sale scheduled for February, we have not had to cancel any of our vendors due to the virus.

We hope to have a February meeting as they have been postponed during the holidays.

STONE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (MOUNTAIN VIEW)

Frances Bullard

We are all still eagerly awaiting our return to the hospital, and we know that someday we will be notified that we can return to serving others, which is what we love. We still haven't been able to meet and confirm our calendar of events for the year, but it will happen. Ms. Rachelle Rushing, our president, is waiting for a warm day in March or April to have a meeting outside to discuss our yearly itinerary and hold our officers' installation service. We do know that GOD is in charge, and HE has a plan.

Although the unexpected pandemic is still present, the vaccine has provided hope for a light at the end of the tunnel. Not being able to work our weekly shifts has reminded us just how much we love our work and ALL people. We are more than eager to return—to serve those in need, to assist the hospital employees, and to help our awesome members! National Volunteer Week will be April 18-24; National Hospital Week will be May 2-8; and National Nurses' Week will be May 6-12. We are still very excited about our Secret Pal activity, and we are ready to go.

We extend a loud "Shout Out" to Ms. Carolyn Shipman for opening our gift shop every Tuesday and Wednesday for our employees and customers. We recognize that she is AMAZING!

We are sad to report that we have lost two AWESOME volunteers. Sarah James, a retired elementary teacher, passed after volunteering for twenty years with over forty one hundred hours of service. Jenina Henderson had not been with us as long, but she still donated close to 300 hours before she left the auxiliary. GOD blessed our lives by allowing us to know and work with these SPECIAL ladies, and their memories will remain with us forever!

When opportunities allow individuals to serve as volunteers that is a true blessing from GOD.

We volunteer because . . . we can make a positive difference in someone's life.

“Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.”

Charles R. Swindall

UNITY HEALTH – HARRIS MEDICAL CENTER (NEWPORT)

UNITY HEALTH – WHITE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (SEARCY)

WHITE RIVER MEDICAL CENTER (BATESVILLE)



NORTHEAST

ARKANSAS METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER (PARAGOULD)

FOREST CITY MEDICAL CENTER

HELENA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

NEA BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (JONESBORO)

Kathy Miller

A donation of \$730 was made to City Youth Ministries of Jonesboro. The check was presented by President, Kathy Goodman.



A donation of \$500 to Food Bank of NEA was presented by President Elect, Ginny Presgrove.



Below: Past Aux. Pres. Amye Peacock receives a certificate by President Elect Ginny Presgrove acknowledging placement of brick in NEA hospital prayer garden in her honor.



Virtual Christmas tree lighting was held Nov 22, 2020. Santa Claus read “T’was The Night Before Christmas”. The Christmas story was read from Luke by a local pastor. Below: CEO of NEA Hospital, Sam Lynd, President Kathy Goodman and President elect Ginny Presgrove flipped the witch to light the tree.



Christmas gifts were presented to CEO Sam Lynd and our Associate Administrator, Stephanie Taylor, the hospital support for our auxiliary.

In appreciation to the hospital staff the auxiliary treated them to a drive in movie of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas". An outdoor movie screen was set up in the back parking lot. Staff and their families could attend one of 2 showings on 12/12 at 5:30 or 7:30 pm.

Donation of \$3000 was presented to Director, Kristi Pulliam of Jonesboro Foundation of Arts by Faye Haney, to be used for recording equipment, online classes and to present The Nutcracker virtually this year.



Annual Duck Classic was on 12/10 & 12/11 virtually. There was a silent action. The auxiliary donated \$4500 for the purchase of a zero turn lawn mower from Cox Implementing to be auctioned. Below the check was presented to Cox Implementing by President Elect Ginny Presgrove and auxiliary member Kathy Miller.



The annual Dillard's sale was held 12/10 & 12/11. Auxiliary members volunteered to work on site at the store located in Jonesboro. Sales results and profit to the auxiliary will be given at our Jan meeting.

Dillard Sale participants Pam Moyer and Sandy Hughes



Dillard Sale Participants Sandy Hughes, Kathy Gibson and Kathy Goodman



On December 15th auxiliary members had poinsettias delivered to their homes by hospital staff, Executive director of NEA Charitable Foundation, Robbie Johnson, Director of Marketing, Ty Jones, Director of Clinical Operations, Katie Grissom and Admin staff member, Kim Provost.

Below: Auxiliary member Faye Haney receiving her poinsettia



Auxiliary member Kathy Miller receives her poinsettia from Ty Jones and Katie Grissom



On 12/14/2020 the first COVID vaccine was given.



**Dr. Steven Stroud, Infectious Disease Specialist
was the first to receive the vaccine.**

Auxiliary member Judy Lee received certificate of appreciation from President Kathy Goodman for achieving 10,000 hours of volunteering at NEA. Judy also balloons and flowers from the hospital.



Aux member Sandy Hughes presented donation of baby items to Sara Lambert, Nurse Manager at NEA Women's Center for the first baby born at NEA in 2021.

Aux member Evelyn Glisson completed putting labels in My First Bible which is presented to all newborns at NEA hospital- a gift from the auxiliary.



Due to COVID only Gift Shop workers are allowed to volunteer. The Gift Shop was close from 12/23/2020 until 1/4/2021. Our meetings are held via telephone conference. We did not have a meeting in December. Our next meeting in January TBD; we will discuss 2021 budget and goals.

We had our January meeting via phone call in - 28 members on the call. We approved our budget for 2021. No events have been scheduled yet for 2021. Members are to gather ideas for donations in 2021

SOUTH MISSISSIPPI COUNTY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (OSCEOLA)

ST. BERNARDS MEDICAL CENTER (JONESBORO)

Dean Rossa

Diana Zachary, St Bernards Auxiliary President, welcomes the Facebook live video audience to the 22nd Annual Light Up A Life tree lighting ceremony on December 1st. (Picture on next page.)



Diana volunteers at the Radiation Dept. of the Cancer Treatment Center, where most radiation patients have daily treatments and many travel for two or more hours each way to get to the Center. She has seen the relief and gratitude on patients' faces when they are told they can get a nice room, three meals a day and transportation to and from the hospital for \$5 a day. If they live closer to the hospital or just need to stay at home, gas cards are available. This service alleviates at least some of the stress and concern of our patients.

In mid-December, Ann Ford, Beth Norwood, and Lynn Bruner help with tying ribbons around patient blankets and assembling Christmas Goody Bags for the employees of St Bernards.





NORTHWEST

EUREKA SPRINGS HOSPITAL

MERCY HOSPITAL BERRYVILLE

Jean Vance

Our December Service Project was People Helping People which is an organization assisting low income people within our county with necessary prescriptions. \$310 was raised for the project.

A committee updated membership requirements which will be implemented April 1, 2021.

Two auxiliaries who are also hospital employees have kept the Gift Shop open a couple of hours each week for the benefit of the employees.

The Auxiliary Board continues to have virtual meetings and no active volunteering is allowed. A few Thrift Store volunteers continue to work to take care of the donations which are still being left outside.

Volunteers are looking forward to receiving the Covid vaccine and resuming volunteering.

MERCY HOSPITAL NORTHWEST AR (ROGERS)

NORTH ARKANSAS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (HARRISON)

NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER – BENTONVILLE

NORTHWEST MEDICAL CENTER- SPRINGDALE

SILOAM SPRINGS REGIONAL HOSPITAL

WASHINGTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (FAYETTEVILLE)



SOUTHEAST

AHLEY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (CROSSETT)

BRADLEY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (WARREN)

CHICOT MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER (LAKE VILLAGE)

DELTA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (DUMAS)

Shirley Sandlin

Sybil Tanner, Patty Posey, Shirley Sandlin and Clarice Poole gathered to decorate the Christmas Tree in the lobby of The Delta Memorial Hospital.



Donuts were also passed out to employees.

The auxiliary hosted a door decorating contest. Cash prizes awarded were 1st place-housekeeping \$75.00, Surgery 2nd place \$50.00 (they donated it to the scholarship fund) and 3rd place was \$25.00 to medical records

DEWIT HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME

DREW MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (MONTICELLO)

JEFFERSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (PINE BLUFF)

Charlotte Jackson

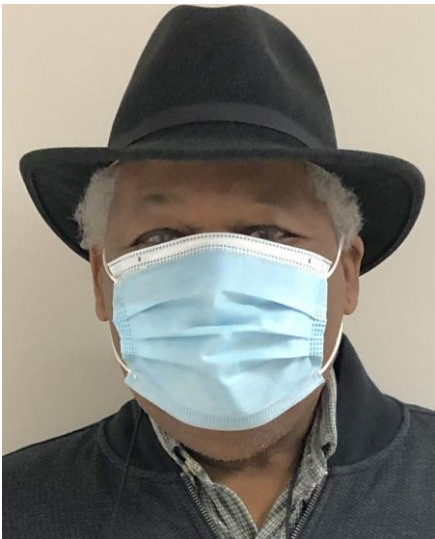
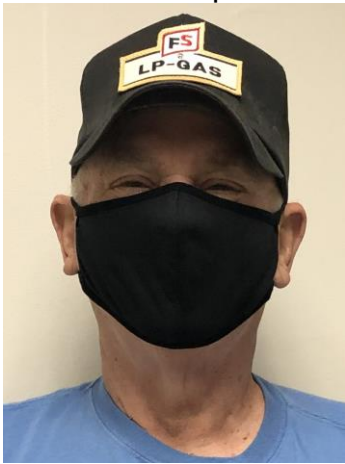
Jefferson Regional had a drive through Christmas party for the volunteers.



Santa and Mrs. Claus presented volunteers with gifts.



Jefferson Regional offers Covid-19 vaccine to their volunteers. Some are pictured below.





Many other volunteers received their shots.

MCGEHEE HOSPITAL



SOUTHWEST

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – ARKADELPHIA

BAPTIST HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER – HOT SPRINGS COUNTY

CHI ST. VINCENT HOT SPRINGS

Lynn Smith

**Happy
New Year!**

From our auxiliary to yours...Happy New Year! We are optimistic that 2021 will allow us to return to volunteering and serving our community.

Covid-19 Vaccinations were made available to our Volunteers on January 5 & 6, 2021. Many of our volunteers came out to receive the vaccine. The second shot will be given in three weeks. We appreciate our hospital for providing the vaccine to us and in a very timely

manner. Again we are reminded of the value the hospital puts on our volunteers. Hopefully this brings us one step closer to being asked to return to our volunteer positions.

In December CHI gave staff and volunteers a ham for Christmas. It's so good to be appreciated even when we are unable to volunteer.

DALLAS COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (FORDYCE)

HOWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (NASHVILLE)

MAGNOLIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

MEDICAL CENTER OF SOUTH ARKANSAS (EL DORADO)

Lori DeWese

The MCSA Auxiliary has continued their monthly meetings via Google Meet to stay in tune with current issues and be involved as much as possible during the pandemic.

Our 2020-2021 Auxiliary Executive Board members have definitely stepped into their new roles quite comfortably. Even though our volunteer program is still temporarily suspended until further notice, our volunteers have taken initiatives and are moving forward to prepare for reopening.

Sharolyn Givens has exceeded in her new role over the gift shop. It looks amazing and you can see the love and hard work she puts into making sure it looks appealing and is filled with beautiful items for the employees. The gift shop continues to do very well during the pandemic. After several inquiries from a few volunteers to help in the gift shop, the decision was made to incorporate a few volunteers who were willing and ready. We have only one volunteer in the morning and one volunteer in the afternoon. The volunteers follow all protocol such as wearing a mask when someone enters the gift shop and staying 6 feet apart. This has been an uplifting decision for the hospital employees who have missed the volunteers and also for the volunteers because they are out of their homes and doing what they love. The volunteers are logging their hours.

One of our volunteers, Mr. Jim Mullins celebrated his 90th birthday on October 26. Mr. Jim volunteered in the Pharmacy here at the hospital. We wanted to honor Mr. Jim on his special day with a small birthday surprise at the hospital in the Robert Tommey Conference Center with his fellow pharmacy co-workers and his daughter. He was thrilled to see everyone and had so many stories to tell. We all wore our masks and social distanced.

Pictured left to right on next page: Alex Bennett (Auxiliary Liaison), Alison Burroff, Lori DeWese (Auxiliary Liaison), Karen Murray, Casey Tucker, Haylea Cater, Eli Vinson, Pharmacist.



We are looking forward to returning and continuing our mission.

NATIONAL PARK MEDICAL CENTER (HOT SPRINGS)

Dorothy Stringer

The NPMC Auxiliary had our Annual Holiday bake sale in November. We did not do as well as we have in the past, but the point is not making a profit. The reason we have the bake sale is so the employees can spend more time with their families and less in the kitchen. It was of course “modified” to account for the COVID-19. It was not in the gift shop, but the employees came anyway.

Our December Dillard’s sale was also modified. We sold gift cards instead of merchandise. Again, not as well as last year, but the employees appreciated it.

Everything we do is “modified”, but hopefully we will get back to our new normal in the Spring or Summer. We are continuing to do our Baby Closet which helps new parents and their newborns. Many people are out of work or have some other hardship due to COVID-19.

We look forward to the time when COVID-19 is gone and our NPMC Auxiliary can return to the hospital.

OUACHITA COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (CAMDEN)



VALLEY

BAPTIST HEALTH – FORT SMITH

BAPTIST HEALTH – VAN BUREN

MENA REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Sharon Jewell

Below are pictures of Christmas at MRHS with a visit from Mrs. Claus. It looks like there was way too much explaining going on from Jay Quebedeaux, MRHS CEO and Sara Mitchell, MRHS SBH Marketing/Auxiliary Member



Our medical staff has been caring for patients on the frontlines during the COVID-19 pandemic for months. They were among the first in our area to begin receiving vaccines. This was an exciting and historic day in the fight against Coronavirus.





Despite the masks and shields, you can see a sense of hope among the staff. We can't let our guard down with a long road still ahead, but we can take a moment to acknowledge this milestone in our efforts to return to a sense of normalcy.

Our annual Christmas open house in November was cut down quite a bit due to the current pandemic. We decided that since COVID cases were on the rise, the shop would not be opened extra hours or at night. It would also not be advertised, just employees of the hospital would be notified. Door prizes were given each day.

With the COVID numbers still on the rise, the decision was made to close the gift shop in December. Hopefully, we will be able to open again sometime after the first of the year.

Can it get worse...Yup!

2020



2021

JGrov

CHAMBERS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (DANVILLE)

JOHNSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (CLARKSVILLE)

SAINT MARY'S REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (RUSSELLVILLE)

Articles for March/April newsletter should be submitted by February 28. Please report what you did in January and February and what you have planned for March and April. Pictures are most welcome! If possible please send jpeg format and actual size – not reduced size and give information on the occasion and the names of those in the picture. Please use Word or Office format whenever possible.

Neta Stamps, Editor
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