



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE ADVOCATES

# Highlights

Volume 62, Number 2



Alma Bershas  
MAHA President

## President's Message

As you read this issue of *Highlights*, winter has arrived and we are experiencing a "Michigan Winter." Some members have already left for warmer climates and just a reminder to please keep in touch with us by means of our website, ([www.mahaonline.org](http://www.mahaonline.org)). To those who have remained, thank you for filling in as we continue to volunteer in our respective hospitals.

During the Fall Swing Around, Jeanette Havel, President Elect, and Stacy Dowdy, MHA Manager for Grassroots Advocacy and HealthPac, had the pleasure of visiting the six districts in the MAHA. Spectacular fall foliage took us on a journey through our wonderful State of Michigan. The various districts again gave us the most interesting and informative meetings possible, which included a tour of Camp Grayling in Grayling, Michigan, and a wonderful meeting with a young man who was injured in a car accident at the age of seven and how the laws regarding medical insurance have impacted him over the past twenty-five years. We left with an entirely new appreciation of what needs to be done for people who are in need of long-term medical care. We met potential new leaders wherever we went. Our districts are performing with a lot of talent and enthusiasm and we are just waiting to be overwhelmed by their next district meeting. Jeanette and I are looking forward to the Spring Swing Around.

The **65th Fall Conference** was held at the newly renovated Crowne Plaza of Lansing in October.

Our theme for this conference was *"Together toward Tomorrow."* It was one of the most successful we have had in recent years. A detailed report will appear later in the newsletter. This year for the first time we

presented a "Volunteer of the Year" Award. The members who received this award represented what being a true "Volunteer" means to their respective hospitals. The MAHA donated 125 pounds of food to the Southside Community Kitchen in Lansing, who were very appreciative of the donation, which will help them to continue the ongoing work of feeding people who struggle with hunger.

Next year the Fall Conference will be held at the Crystal Mountain Resort in Crystal Mountain, Michigan. The resort has a great deal to offer and especially in the fall when you will enjoy the fall foliage. Looking forward to seeing you there where a full and promising program awaits you.

MAHA is experiencing the first phase of going green. We are in the process of increasing our Gmail folder. If you have not given us your email address, please give it to your District President to forward to our Membership Director, Sheryll Mithen. In order for this program to succeed we must have your cooperation in this endeavor.

**Healthcare Advocacy Day** will be held on April 30, 2014, in Lansing. Please plan to attend. This meeting will again keep you up to date on healthcare issues and legislation concerns. You will have a chance to meet the Legislators from your District and discuss your views on how the issues relate to your local district and your personal concerns.

Thank you for your commitment to volunteering. Together we will continue to support our hospitals.

**Alma Bershas**  
MAHA President

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# Highlights

## MAHA LOOKING AHEAD 2014-2015

The following dates are for your calendar — Information current as of 1/1/14

|                         |                                  |  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| January 14, 15, 2014    | MAHA Committee Meetings          | Lansing, Quality Inn                       |
| January 16, 2014        | <b>MAHA Board Meeting</b>        | Okemos                                     |
| April 9, 10, 2014       | MAHA Committee Meetings          | Lansing, Quality Inn                       |
| April 11, 2014          | <b>MAHA Board Meeting</b>        | Okemos                                     |
| April 30, 2014          | <b>Health Care Advocacy Day</b>  | TENTATIVE                                  |
| May 5-6, 2014           | AHA/SAL Meeting                  | Washington, D.C.                           |
| May 13, 2014***         | NCD Spring Meeting/Installation  | Otsego Memorial-Gaylord                    |
| May 14, 2014***         | ECD Spring Meeting/Installation  | Horizon Center, Saginaw                    |
| May 15, 2014***         | WCD Spring Meeting               | Zeeland Hospital                           |
| May 21, 2014***         | SED Annual Meeting               | Sterling Heights                           |
| May 22, 2014***         | SWD Spring Meeting               | Southern Exposure, Battle Creek            |
| May 28-29, 2014***      | UPD Spring Meeting               | Hancock                                    |
| June 10, 11-12, 2014    | <b>MAHA Annual Meeting</b>       | Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island               |
| July 8-10, 2014         | MAHA Board Retreat               | St. Frances, Dewitt                        |
| August, 19-22, 2014     | AHVRP Conference                 | Washington, DC                             |
| September 9-10, 2014*** | UPD Fall Meeting                 | Iron River                                 |
| September 17, 2014***   | SED Fall Meeting                 | Detroit                                    |
| September 24, 2014***   | ECD Fall Meeting                 | Horizon Center, Saginaw                    |
| September, 2014***      | NCD Fall Meeting                 | Alpena Regional Medical Center             |
| October 14-16, 2014     | <b>MAHA Fall Conference</b>      | Crystal Mountain                           |
| May 13-14, 2015***      | UPD Spring Meeting               | Munising                                   |
| May 19, 2015***         | SED Annual Meeting               | Detroit                                    |
| May 20, 2015***         | ECD Spring Meeting/Installation  | Horizon Center, Saginaw                    |
| May, 2015***            | NCD Spring Meeting/ Installation | Cheboygan Memorial Hospital                |
| June 9,10,11, 2015      | <b>MAHA Annual Meeting</b>       | Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island               |
| July 7-9, 2015          | MAHA Board Retreat               | St. Frances, Dewitt                        |
| August 25-28, 2015      | AHVRP Conference                 | Atlanta, Georgia                           |
| September 2-3, 2015***  | UPD Fall Meeting                 | Aspirus, Keewenaw                          |
| September 16, 2015***   | SED Fall Meeting                 | Sterling Heights                           |
| September 23, 2015      | ECD Fall Meeting                 | Horizon Center, Saginaw                    |
| September, 2015         | NCD Fall Meeting                 | Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital<br>Frankfort |
| October 13-15, 2015     | <b>MAHA Fall Conference</b>      |  |

\*\*\*Attended by MAHA President and MAHA President Elect (and/or VP Ed)

++ Attended by MAHA President Elect

Prepared by: Jeanette Havel, President Elect 2013-2014, chilly2@charter.net

**Please notify the MAHA President & President Elect as soon as you know of a new meeting date or meeting change so we can keep the calendar accurate and up to date. Thank You!**

## 65th MAHA Fall Conference – “Together Toward Tomorrow”

Our wonderful team from the West Central District welcomed all to our Fall 2013 MAHA Fall Conference, “*Together Toward Tomorrow.*” They worked tirelessly to accept the many district baskets, stock the food donations to the Harvest Gathering and to give directions with a smile. We had over 180 attendees represented by 55 hospitals throughout the State. Some of the comments on the evaluation sheets stated, “Best Conference Ever” and “Thoroughly Enjoyed the Entire Conference.” Our Board works hard to provide varied educational opportunities, and comments such as the above are so appreciated.

Generally, our attendees gave our hotel, the Crowne Plaza of Lansing, good scores and much improved over last year. The one concern about the hotel expressed by numerous attendees on the evaluation sheets was the displeasure with the served breakfasts. Several members suggested that a buffet breakfast be considered. The MAHA Board will be discussing this possibility at future Board Meetings. We welcome all comments on the evaluation sheets as that gives the Board a gauge for future conferences.

Our MAHA President opened the conference by welcoming everyone present. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the Auxiliary prayer, Jeanette Have, President Elect, welcomed by name all first timers to the Conference. We especially appreciate our “first timers” and hope they will become our “many timers” in the future.

Our vendors with their 34 tables represented four new vendors to the MAHA conference venue. The majority of the vendors donated door prizes that were awarded after the close of the vendor show. Several vendors have indicated that their experience was positive and definitely will be returning next year. Our Vendor Coordinator has also signed up new vendors who will be joining us next year at our Fall Conference.

Because of the government shut down, the Lansing Food Bank was not open to receive our donations of over 125 pounds of food. Our food donations were donated to a local soup kitchen, which was very appreciative of our generous act.

Our opening speaker, **Leslie Charles**, supplied us with an uplifting message entitled “*Life is Not a Duress Rehearsal*” which helped us see how to take life as it comes with a positive attitude. The following day Mr. Finkbeiner presented his legislative update followed by our second speaker **Sharon Greenhoe** speaking on “*Elder Abuse.*”

Following lunch, our attendees were able to choose from four workshops scheduled concurrently: (1) “*The Face and the Future of Your Hospital Gift Shop,*” (2) “*Steps to Success for Your Volunteer Organization,*” (3) “*Computer Skills,*”

and lastly (4) “*Slightly Irregular: Putting Life’s Imperfections Into Perspective.*” In addition a four-member panel discussion session was held discussing the effects on volunteer/auxiliary when not for profit hospitals change their status to for profit hospitals.

The highlights to our banquet was the presentation of certificates, pins and congratulations to five individuals who had previously been chosen by their districts as their Volunteer of the Year. **Juanita Dickerson** is from SED, **Elfie Steigerwald** is from NCD, **Rose Ann Carne** is from the UPD and **Tena Fiebelkorn** is from ECD. Congratulations again to all of you. The evening concluded with the group Uncorked, a barbershop quartet entertaining the group. We found ourselves tapping our toes to old and familiar tunes.

Our closing speaker was **Kathy Ptaszek** who, through her alter ego Selma, gave us a humorous look at life in the Upper Peninsula entitled, “*Heart Smart Humor.*” Kathy received a standing ovation for her uproariously funny tale.

We closed our conference with comments from our MAHA President, Alma Bershas and the distribution of district baskets. Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the following hospitals who provided such beautiful baskets: Alpena Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, Aspirus Grand View, Aspirus Keweenaw, Bell Hospital, Bronson Battle Creek, Butterworth-Spectrum, Caro Community, Carson Health Auxiliary, Charlevoix Area Hospital, Chelsea Community Hospital, Community Center of West Branch, DMC Huron Valley Sinai, East Central District Board, Genesys Health Park (2), Henry Ford Wyandotte, Hurley Medical Center, Iron River, Lakeland Health Care Auxiliary, Marlette Regional, McLaren Flint Auxiliary, Midland Mid Michigan, Munson Medical Center, Northstar Health, Otsego Memorial-Gaylord, Owosso Memorial, Port Huron Hospital Auxiliary, Portage Health System, Providence Park, Providence-Southfield, Sinai Grace Hospital, Southeast District Board, St John Macomb, St. John River District Hospital, St. Joseph Health System, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Schoolcraft of Manistique, St. Mary’s of Saginaw, University of Michigan, War Memorial, West Branch Regional Medical Center, West Central District Board, West Shore Medical Center.

We hope that you will join us at the **MAHA Annual Meeting** on Mackinaw Island June 10-12, 2014 and our **66th Fall Conference** at Crystal Mountain Resort and Spa on October 13-15, 2014.

**Nancy Viele**  
**MAHA Vice President, Education**

# Highlights

## 65th MAHA Fall Conference – Vendor Update

The Vendor show presented twenty-four participating businesses displaying innovative products and creative ideas at the **MAHA Fall Conference** that was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Lansing, Michigan on October 15, 2013 from Noon until 5 p.m.

Among the participants this year there were the tried and true Gift Shop Vendors, Fund Raising Vendors and some very interesting new participants who displayed many innovative ideas and merchandise. All in all this year there was quite a variety of merchandise and all were well received.

Each fall conference there is a drawing for the Vendors for a complimentary booth for the following year. This time the lucky winner of the complimentary booth for the 2014 Vendor Show is Ms. Julie Orrock who represents “Pearls with Purpose.” Julie is one of our new vendors this year and MAHA is looking forward to Pearls with Purpose participation in 2014. Congratulations “Pearls with Purpose!”

Our Vendors participate in a drawing for the attendees of the **MAHA Fall Conference**. They donate a product from their business and we thank them on behalf of our attendees for their most generous donated offerings.

To all the attendees of the fall conference I have a request to make ... Please be sure to give a copy of the Vendor



Booklet to any and all key personnel at your hospitals so they have all the contact information for this year's Vendor's.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those Vendors who participated in the 2013 **MAHA Fall Conference** and thank each and every one of the MAHA members who participated and look forward to seeing all of you at the 2014 **MAHA Fall Conference**.

**Carol D'Alberto**  
MAHA Vendor Coordinator

## MAHA Volunteers of the Year Recipients



## Health PAC

Healthcare is one of the most regulated industries in the world. State and federal laws determine when and where hospitals are built, what services are offered, who may perform certain medical procedures, what services can be performed, the cost of services and even how much information can be shared and with whom. In fact, our elected leaders make decisions every day that affect Michigan hospitals and patients.

It is important that the hospital community have a voice in public policy discussions and work together to ensure that these policies are in the best interest of Michigan hospitals. The Michigan Health & Hospital Association Health Political Action Committee (Health PAC) is the political voice for Michigan hospitals, health systems and their employees.

Please plan to contribute to the Health PAC campaign and assist MHA in keeping our issues and concerns on the political radar screen in Lansing and Washington. It is an extremely important tool that has contributed to the success of the MHA's statewide advocacy efforts throughout the years. Help us continue this strong tradition.

Since Michigan has term limits, it costs a significant amount of money to be elected. When we elect a legislator who supports our cause, the PAC dollars you give can help decide the issues he will support and get passed. Your contributions buy yard signs, host meetings to meet constituents, and support discussion forums.

An interesting fact is that if you put aside just ten cents a day starting in January, you will be able to contribute \$10 to Health PAC at your district meeting this spring! Think what an impact MAHA would have on your health care legislation with support of this magnitude. Please set a goal for yourself and make a pledge to support Health PAC when the cards are distributed at your district meetings.

## Healthcare Advocacy Day

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

**SAVE THE DATE!** Registration brochures will be mailed in February concerning **Healthcare Advocacy Day** to be held on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at the Lansing Radisson Hotel in Downtown Lansing from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is very important that we start planning now to send representatives to this event.

We need to stress that the need for health care coverage for all and to improve the state's health care delivery system. You can do this by attending **Healthcare Advocacy Day** and speak personally with your legislator during lunch.

Please send back your registration form immediately and recruit other auxiliary members and/or volunteers from your hospital and/or facility to attend this very worthwhile informative event. We look forward to your attendance!

## Legislative Update



As I write this article, it is November, and the Affordable Care Act is very disorganized and needing help. It is not helping the people that need better healthcare as well as less expensive healthcare. I am hoping our healthcare will be more organized and helping those that are in need of better healthcare. Whatever the outcome, it is very important that all advocates stay informed, and be good advocacy for good healthcare.

I was so glad to be able to visit with so many of our volunteers at the Legislative Advocacy table at the **MAHA Fall Conference**. I hope the information given to you was of some help. We are planning to have a Legislative Advocacy table at the **MAHA Annual Conference** in June. The most current information on legislation will be available for you at that time.

**Healthcare Advocacy Day** is Wednesday April 30, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Lansing. You will be getting a registration form in the mail in February. Legislators will join attendees in their districts for lunch, and over lunch you can share with them your views. **Healthcare Advocacy Day** is sponsored by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, the MAHA, and the Michigan Council of Directors of Volunteer Services.

For further information, please visit websites: [www.mha.org](http://www.mha.org) or [www.mahaonline.org](http://www.mahaonline.org).

**Claudia Bryant**  
**MAHA Legislative Advocacy Director**

# Highlights



## **EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT**

As November approaches, the hospital auxiliaries of the East Central District look back on the activities of the fall and summer and begin to anticipate the projects of the coming winter months. The ECD Fall Meeting was an interesting and informative one. HealthSource Saginaw hosted and provided beautiful decorations and knowledgeable speakers. The ECD Volunteer of the Year was presented: Tina Fiebelkorn of Caro who has served in numerous capacities in the Caro auxiliary since 1980. It was an honor to meet her and to present her at the ECD Meeting and again at the **MAHA Fall Conference**.

The hospitals in our districts have been very busy and have exciting plans for the months to come. *MidMichigan Medical Center-Gladwin* has had several fundraisers and looks forward to their Annual Love Light Tree which combines with a quilt raffle featuring five beautiful quilts. A day is coming up for provision of free mammograms to those who can't afford them, paid for with the proceeds of the women's golf tournament, Doe Day. Other projects include a Reach Out and Read program which provides training to healthcare providers who then supply books to pediatric patients. *MidMichigan Medical Center-Midland*, in a facilitated Board Retreat, has identified "Communication" as their number one priority with other focus areas of Recruitment, Retention and Mentorship. One effort to improve communications has been "Coffee Talks," joining together

as volunteers to share ideas and a cup of coffee while offering educational/motivational topics of discussion. As well as their work to make the volunteer organization stronger and more successful, they have also held several fundraisers and gift shop sales. The current membership count is 350 with 18 service categories and 11 general service areas in which they assist. They are hoping that all of the new ideas will increase membership and "open the door to new and better opportunities for excellence." *Genesys Health Center* sent several members to the ECD Fall Meeting and six to the **MAHA Fall Conference** and said that they found both to be informative and well done. Their fund-raising for the year began with an HCI \$6 Sale, a Linen Sale and a Book Sale. Several sales will follow to finish off the year. *HealthSource Saginaw* had an open house for the new Adolescent Behavioral Health Unit, Open House and Reunion for the Medical Rehabilitation Unit and has hosted the ECD Fall Meeting. Other projects include working out details for a Volunteer/Auxiliary Recognition Wall and continued support for long term resident activity programs. The group gave out six \$500 scholarships for college bound employees and has had many sales within their gift shop. *Hurley Medical Center* is continuing to work on its long range plan developing a plan of unification of auxiliary and volunteers. New officers have been installed and policies, procedures and by-laws have been reviewed and changed. Monthly luncheons for members have begun as well as vendor sales, the first one being "Out of the Box Shoes." *Marlette Regional* is looking for more money making projects for updating the Long Term Care unit. They have given \$500 to the Acute Care activities room and \$200 to help pay for office items for the Caring Heart Clinic which is run by a total "all volunteer" staff twice a month. The fall \$5 Jewelry Sale was held October 29th and the Christmas Home Tour was scheduled

for December 5th. McLaren Flint reports that their **MAHA Fall Conference** attendees really enjoyed the speakers, workshops, fellowship and fun! At their Installation of Officers Luncheon their hospital President and CEO announced the allocation of capital funds for the renovation of the gift shop – a plan and dream that is becoming reality. The group has over 30 volunteers at the new Hospitality House. Anyone wishing to tour this new facility can call the McLaren Flint Auxiliary Volunteer Office at 810-342-2009. Plans continue to be underway for the McLaren Flint 95th Anniversary celebration to be held in early 2014. *Memorial Healthcare of Owosso*, through a generous endowment for the elderly, has opened a section of the hospital on the fourth floor for long term care, sub-acute care and hospice. The auxiliary's yearly hospital project is redoing the Critical Care Unit and Surgical Waiting Area at a cost of \$52,100. Scheduled is the November Auxiliary Luncheon which will kick off the yearly Tree of Love project, complete with a visit from Santa and recognition of Auxiliary Lifetime Members. Holiday decorations will be done for the gift shop and the entire hospital areas. *Scheurer Hospital* of Pigeon had their installation of new officers in June following the May Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show. Their biggest fund raiser of the year, the Golf Outing, was

## **MAHA District Presidents**

*Please send a copy of your District newsletter to the MAHA President, Vice President, Resource Chairperson, and Communications Director. Also, remember to send a copy to each of the other District Presidents.*

held in August and a raffle for an iPad and Jewelry was also held as well as an event, Tasting Pleasures, with local restaurants having tables and providing “tastes” of their foods. The year finished with a Jewelry Sale and a booth at the local “Holly Berry Fair.”

*Covenant Healthcare* celebrates that their “Tree of Love,” begun in 1991 as a fundraiser to remember loved ones, has raised \$125,000 for patients’ needs. They are committing, this year, to donating \$8,000 toward Covenant’s Sexual Assault Center. In October, volunteers, as an annual fundraising activity, sold 5,000 Breast Awareness calendars to staff and patients. A second annual educational session was held, giving volunteers a way to learn about Covenant and to meet each other. The next big event will be Spring Fling, with potted and hanging plants as a fund-raiser.

**Janet Barker, ECD President**

## **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**

*Alpena Regional Medical Center* Auxiliary is purchasing a Central Fetal Monitor System and five Maternal/Fetal Monitors for the Women’s Health Center at a cost of \$279,205.

They held their successful annual Christmas Tree Ball.

*Mercy Hospital – Cadillac* Auxiliary has just made their final payment of a \$250,000 Pledge for a new Surgical Wing and Waiting Room. They have, also, purchased 13 Round Tables and 100 Chairs to be used for future events.

They had a fundraiser called “power of the Purse. Purses were donated. They then had a Women’s Night Out and the purses were auctioned off. \$18,500 was raised and donated to Breast Cancer Awareness.

*Charlevoix Area Hospital* – A new expansion will be started in the spring, have not made a Pledge but will see what the year-end numbers are.

They held their Annual Membership Tea and invited visitors and several showed interest in joining the Guild.

*McLaren Cheboygan Campus* Guild has raised over \$30,000 as a Guild.

They had a fundraiser called “Taste of Up North” that raised over \$9,000. The Greens and Bake Sale was held in December. Proceeds will be used to purchase gasoline gift cards to help defray the cost of traveling to Petoskey for medical procedures.

*Otsego Memorial Hospital – Gaylord* Auxiliary paid off their Pledge of \$40,000 in December, 2013.

Peg Metzger and Bev Cherwinski are heading up a contest to see how many New Organ/Tissue Donors each Hospital Auxiliary/Guild can enroll. For more information contact Peg Metzger at metzgerp28@gmail.com or Bev Cherwinski at bevo@core.com.

*Mercy Hospital – Grayling* Auxiliary has Pledged \$100,000 towards their new Cancer & Infusion Center.

They hosted the Fall NCD Meeting at Camp Grayling. Instead of a speaker they had a guided tour of Camp Grayling, which everyone enjoyed. Camp Grayling is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

*Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital – Frankfort* Auxiliary just paid off \$60,000 towards their Pledge for the Dialysis Suite. They have told the hospital they would raise \$100,000 for a new Bone Density Machine.

They had a Tour of Interesting Places fundraiser. The title was “Into the Woods” and featured seven homes in a wooded setting.

*Munson Medical Center – Traverse City* Volunteers no longer make Pledges, instead they accumulate their funds and donate an amount for a particular item.

Munson has revamped the creek and the area that cuts through their property. It is a beautiful quiet area near their new Cardiac Center.

*West Shore Medical Center – Manistee* Auxiliary paid off their Pledge of \$152,000 for a new Ambulance in June. Their new Pledge is \$50,000 to go towards a Wound Department.

## **A Reminder**

Please help keep our mailing list current by sending address changes or corrections to your District Vice President of Membership. This will ensure that the publications will be delivered promptly.

### **ECD**

#### **Sheryll Russo**

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### **NCD**

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### **SED**

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### **UPD**

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### **WCD**

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Hospital

# Highlights

They worked on their Sleigh bell Craft Show/Raffle Bake Sale which was held the first Saturday in December.

*West Branch Regional Hospital* no longer makes Pledges, their money from Fund Raisers goes to the Foundation.

It has been reported that all Gift Shops are doing great. All Auxiliaries/ Guilds prepared for the Holiday Season.

Fundraisers throughout the District: Books are Fun, Uniform Sales, Rose Sale, Jewelry Sale, and Lights of Love..

**Patt Luomala, District President**

## **SOUTHEAST DISTRICT**

Southeast District Auxiliaries and Volunteer Groups have been very busy through the fall and holidays with fundraising events, Christmas and Holiday projects at their hospitals and all are looking forward to the New Year!

*Chelsea Community Hospital/St. Joseph* – Chelsea enjoyed hosting the SE District Fall Meeting and “showing off” our new hospital! Nine members attended the October Conference in Lansing and felt it was a valuable learning experience. Our last blood drive resulted in 33 pints donated and another drive is scheduled for the end of October. The Arbor Nook Gift Shop had excellent sales in July and August and is all set for Christmas sales with extended hours of operation. Two volunteers now serve in the Pharmacy Department and there are now 17 Emergency Room volunteers. Chelsea Community Hospital CEO Nancy Graebner opened her home to answer questions regarding the cancer center and possible donations by individual volunteers. The Auxiliary is on target to make the first \$20,000 annual donation toward their pledge of \$100,000. We held the November Fall Bazaar which featured home baked goods and handcrafted items.

**Elaine Pastor, President**  
**Chelsea Community Hospital – St. Joseph**

*Crittenton Hospital Medical Center* – Crittenton welcomed Roy Powell, new President and CEO, effective July 1st. In September, auxiliary volunteers participated in the Crittenton Auxiliary Awareness Day and Fashion Show at Carson’s in the Rochester Village Mall. Sale of Carson’s \$5 Community Day Coupon Books is a fundraiser scheduled for mid-November. In November the “Tree of Lights” was decorated with angels in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Ways and Means sold the angels and 500+ brand new donated Beanie Babies. A \$6 Sale was held in November. All proceeds benefit the new CHMC Tower Fund. The grand opening of the new Tower addition took place on January 8, 2014. January also began with new Auxiliary officers for the 2014 volunteer year.

**Bea Bailey, President Elect**  
**Crittenton Hospital Medical Center**

*DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital* – On October 2, the annual *Art from the Schools* reception was held. This program was instituted in the late nineteen eighties by the Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Auxiliary as a community service project. The *Gallery of Student Art* is located in the hallway adjacent to the cafeteria on the hospital’s ground level. This year five pieces of art were selected by the Volunteer Art Committee from local students through school district art shows. The artists ranged from grade 1 through high school. The students, their families, art store representatives, art teachers, hospital administration and volunteers attended the reception honoring the artists. Volunteer Services holds a *Gently Used Holiday Sale* to support the cost of the *Art from the Schools* project. This year’s sale was held the first week of December. At this sale holiday items donated by staff and the community were sold at bargain prices. The event was very successful thanks to the many hours of work put in by the volunteers who collect, price, merchandise and sell the holiday items.

**Barbara Brennan, President**  
**DMC Huron Valley – Sinai Hospital**

*DMC Sinai Grace Hospital – Detroit* – The Grace Guild of Sinai Grace Hospital of has been VERY busy financially supporting several community outreach projects this fall.

1. We gave \$1,308 for “Back to School” book bags which were filled with school supplies.
2. We paid \$14,000 to support 6 DPS summer students, a seven week hospital experience.
3. We paid \$3,000 for underprivileged Detroit children the joy of a day at “Cedar Pointe” in August.
4. Purchased \$200 for dinners for the annual Champlain retreat.
5. Donated \$750 for neighborhood Thanksgiving dinners.
6. Donated \$10,000 for Seasons Hospice grieving children’s camp.
7. Donated \$4,300 for healthy eating neighborhood program here at Sinai Grace Hospital. Altogether we have given \$33,558 this fall. We are very pleased that the Grace Guild could make these donations in support of the health of Northwest Detroit.

**Juanita Dickerson, President**  
**Grace Guild of Sinai Grace Hospital**

*Garden City Hospital – of Garden City* – Garden City Hospital Guild worked very hard this Fall. They had many lobby sales including a \$5 Sale, Sheets & Blankets Sale, Sterling Silver Jewelry Sale and candy sales. Along with the proceeds from the Gift Shop and Garden Café, the Guild presented the President of the hospital with a \$60,000 check. Their total donation to the hospital for their fiscal year was \$110,000.

**Bonnie Barringer, Auxiliary Liaison**  
**Garden City Hospital**

*Henry Ford Macomb Hospital* – Clinton Township – Our Volunteer office has been living out of “boxes.” We have finally moved into our lovely new offices. We are now located off the main entrance to the hospital and our location is much more convenient for our volunteers as well as persons interested in applying to our programs. We also welcomed back our 69 medical careers students from a local high school. They are truly an asset to our volunteer program as they rotate through various departments in the hospital. They also assisted in our exciting “trunk or treat” event during the Halloween season.

**Bev Hartman, President**  
**Henry Ford Macomb Hospital**

*Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital Auxiliary – Wyandotte* – Our hospital is doing a major renovation of the Main Lobby area. As part of the renovation, they are combining the Information and Registration Desks to improve the flow of traffic into the hospital. They also relocated the Coffee Shop and are almost finished installing new elevators. We anticipate that all Gift Shop volunteers will be trained on the new cash register system that was recently installed in our Gift Shop. The Gift Shop planned a special pre-Christmas sale for the midnight shift, where they were open from 11 p.m. until 2 a.m., providing an opportunity for employees to make holiday purchases. Pet therapy dogs visit the hospital regularly and bring smiles to the faces of patients, visitors and staff.

**Sandra Chavez, President**  
**Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital Auxiliary**

*McLaren Macomb Volunteer Guild – Mt. Clemons* – In June, 2013, we installed our new officers for 2013-2014. We also held our annual Book Fair fundraiser. In July, we met at our annual New Board Retreat to plan our Fundraisers and other activities for the coming year. In August – we rested. In

September we will held our Fall Uniform Sale and our Duck Derby Fundraiser. They were successful. In October, we held our Shoe Sale and are happy with the results.

**Sue Gallas, President**  
**McLaren Macomb Volunteer Guild**

The *Mercy Memorial Hospital System* Guild of Monroe held a \$6 Sale in October and a \$5 Sale in November. The staff and community enjoyed these events and helped to make them profitable. In December the Guild Board hosted a Christmas Tea for the membership. All in attendance took pleasure in the Christmas music performed by a hospital employee. The members presented a check to the MMHS Administration for over \$53,000. The monies will purchase 40 regular size and 4 bariatric sized recliners for the patient rooms. On a lighter note, our Guild President, Michelle “Bella” Ruwart resigned in October. The MMHS Guild thanks her for the time she invested and wishes her well in her future endeavors. Thankfully Bella will remain an active Guild member. In her absence our Vice President, Beth Grna has taken on the presidential role and former President, Ruth Ann Peters has resumed the role as Ways and Means Chairperson. The MMHS Guild is looking forward to 2014!

**Lisa Gramlich, Manager of Volunteer Services**  
**Mercy Memorial Hospital System Guild**

*Providence Hospital – Southfield* – Southfield went going Pink. Providence Hospital joined Mayor Brenda Lawrence and the city of Southfield in a PINK DOOR CAMPAIGN in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October.) Businesses, non-profits, schools, and residents were encouraged to decorate their front door PINK. It was a wonderful way to honor someone who has lost their battle with breast cancer, celebrate a breast cancer survivor

## MAHA Highlights

**Deadlines for future issues:**

*February 01, 2014 –  
April 2014 Issue*

I wish to thank everyone who sent articles for the January issue in a timely manner. I look forward to receiving more articles for the April, 2014 issues. Please send your articles to the addresses listed below.

**Remember:**  
**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION  
IS PREFERABLE AND IS  
ENCOURAGED.**

If you do not have a computer your DVS or someone at the hospital my let you use theirs. Remember to send your hospital articles to your District Presidents so they may make a synopsis of the district to present to *Highlights*.

**Gail M. Riley**  
**14303 Garfield Street**  
**Spring Lake, MI 49456**  
**popspet@charter.net**

and increase breast cancer awareness. Door were decorated Pin during October 13-18.

**Carolyn A. Drake, President**  
**Providence Hospital Southfield**

*Port Huron Hospital Auxiliary – Port Huron* – We enjoyed many activities that were scheduled this fall. First, we sponsored the annual Harvest Gathering. The PHH employees donated food items and they were delivered to the food banks in the Port Huron area. We also had three fundraisers this fall. Included were “Books R Us,” Silvique Jewelry and our annual Tree of Peace. Our Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on December 5th. The Auxiliary served cookies and punch. The Auxiliary Bazaar was held in November for current employees, their immediate families and Auxiliary members. The Auxiliary had a table with donated hand crafted items

# Highlights

for sale. The Auxiliary also planted a flower garden outside of the emergency department. This is an ongoing work in progress. The West Entrance garden was planted this spring and doctors, patients, employees, visitors and auxiliary members all appreciated it. Committee meetings started again in September to discuss the 2014 Little Black Dress Event. The Event will be held in April and is an extraordinary fundraiser for cancer patients at Port Huron Hospital and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Each hospital received \$12,500 for their cancer programs in 2013.

**Joyce Fairbank, President**  
**Port Huron Hospital – Port Huron**

**Providence Park Hospital and Medical Center – Novi** – After celebrating the hospital's fifth birthday, we looked forward to our holiday party, and joining with our sister and brother volunteers from Providence hospital. The volunteers also looked forward to joining with hospital associates in honoring our veterans on Veteran's day. Our grants program this year will be used to fund beautifications of art, throughout the hospital. Thank you.

**Doug Drobnis, President**  
**Providence Park Hospital – Novi**

**St. John's River District Hospital – East China** – was very busy through the holiday season and the "Light's of Love Program" was a huge success! We are busy planning for the following spring events: Two volunteers, Lori Wheeler and Betty Zweng, will serve as co-chairman for the "Evening to Share Program" which is a dinner/dance sponsored by the St. John's Foundation. The auxiliary is planning a fund-raising tea in the spring. They are also planning to sponsor along with the hospital "Brunch with the Bunny" an Easter Celebration free to the community.

**Joyce Friederichs, President**  
**St. John's River District Hospital**

**St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital – Pontiac** – My first year of service to the Mercy Volunteers has been an amazing journey. It gave me great pleasure to be a part of an organization that continues to give. The Mercy Volunteers are continuing to have fundraisers that benefit various programs in our hospital. This is the second year we have raised money for the Mother-Baby Unit to purchase "Sleep Sacks." In addition, our funds will provide 4 East Rehab patients with a "GivMohr Sling." This particular sling will be given to patients who have a flaccid arm due to a stroke. We are looking forward to the completion of our new South Patient Tower. With this new addition, there will be many more opportunities for the Volunteers. The completion for the Tower is expected May 2014. — Volunteers are love in motion —

**Michele Dunaj, President**  
**SJMO Mercy Volunteers**

Thank you to all of the Auxiliaries and Volunteers Groups of Southeast District for giving from your hearts! Volunteers are the hearts of our communities!

**Marilyn R. Beverley**  
**SED President, 2013-2014**

## **SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

As fall moves into winter and the Holiday season, our hospitals have been very busy. Like the rest of the state it has been cold and very snowy here but that has not stopped all the activity in our hospitals. Auxiliaries have been having Bake Sales, Book sales, linen sales and uniform sales. The \$5 gift sale is an especially popular fundraiser for many groups. **Bronson Battle Creek** has had very successful Purse Bingo fundraisers and other auxiliaries are also starting this fundraiser. **Community Health of Coldwater** hosted a Gift Shop open house in November and a Celebration of Lights in December. **Allegiance of Jackson** along with the

Jackson County Medical Society held a Lights of Love charity event. Evergreens are lighted as the highlight of the evening. **Community Health Center of Branch County** held A Celebration of Lights December 3rd. **Sturgis Hospital** also celebrated with the lighting of a tree, their Hospital Auxiliary's Tree of Love. Each light on the tree represents a loved one. **McLaren of Lansing** celebrated 100 years in the Lansing Community with a gala and fundraiser. **Sparrow** in Lansing is celebrating 30 years of hospice care. Hospice care is provided in home or at the Hospice House on the St. Lawrence campus and volunteers are active in his area. **Community Health Coldwater** is nearing the end of their renovation, two beautiful updated floors. Auxiliaries have been busy holding Holiday parties. Parties include potlucks, luncheons and more formal meals at local restaurants. Our gift shops are brimming with beautiful gifts and decorations for the holidays.

## **UPPER PENINSULA DISTRICT**

Aspirus Auxiliary has been implementing our long term fund raising efforts to coincide with **Aspirus Grand View Hospital** building renovations.

The auxiliary has given out six \$1,000 dollar scholarships this year from the proceeds of our vending machine pop/juice sale. These proceeds are always allocated for our scholarship program and any additional funds fewer than one thousand dollars are carried over to the following year's scholarship fund.

The semiannual Book Fair was held in November and it is always a great fundraiser and especially successful for the holiday season.

The Total Women Event in September was for young mothers. The October event was about diabetes, and the November event was conducted by the UP Substance Enforcement Team.

The auxiliary enjoyed the Tree of Love program in December with the

lighting of our trees. Starting this past year we expanded our Tree of Love program as we felt it necessary to celebrate the happy and special times as well to remember those who have passed on. Our trees with white lights are for those we remember and whose memory we honor colored lights to celebrate births, good news, anniversaries, health, peace and whatever else you consider a blessing.

Our annual November Fall Holiday Bazaar drew many vendors/crafters and the auxiliary will be sold those wonderful cinnamon buns along with coffee and tea.

All profits are distributed to enhance and promote the *Aspirus Grand View Hospital* at the discretion of the Grand View Auxiliary Board of Directors.

**Mary McCreary – UPD President**

## **WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT**

*Mercy Health Muskegon* debuted its new Comprehensive Breast Center by hosting a public open house at the facility located at the lakes Village campus in Norton Shores on October 12th. The center aims to reduce stress and anxiety for patients by reducing the time from initial imaging to diagnosis and treatment from two weeks to just three days or less. The hospital's \$2.1 million Be Here campaign has funded the CBC's state of the art project. Our Volunteer Board has pledged \$50,000 over the next five years toward one of the Patient Care Exam Rooms. The first payment of \$10,000 will be made by the end of 2012 along with donations to the hospital's Wish List.

*Sparrow - Ionia* is excited because they just broke ground for the new *Sparrow Ionia Hospital* that will be built on M-66 just south of the city of Ionia with a completion date of spring of 2015. Tony Balice, was the mayor of Ionia in 1953 when the last hospital was built and Dan Balice is the mayor now and also chairman of the hospital board. Although the hospital has only four guilds remaining, they all work

hard to support the hospital any way they can and are very excited that they will have a new facility to support not only the city but all of the surrounding area. In the interim our guild members will be fundraising and pledging amounts on a five year plan to support the hospital financially.

*South Haven Health System* would like to thank the WCD for the wonderful luncheon/meeting held at the beautiful Lincoln Hills Golf Club on September 30th. It was the first time Sue Manning, Auxiliary President, and Scott Wolterink, Director of Marketing and Foundation, attended. They also attended the MAHA conference in Lansing in October, which was very educational and fun. The speakers were excellent and topics very informative. The interaction with fellow volunteers was extremely helpful. We are looking forward to a busy fall/winter season with our Books are Fun event in November, special holiday sales and a trip to Meijer Gardens sponsored by the SHHS Auxiliary on December 6th. We are currently working hard on the Harvest Food Gathering which benefits our local "food pantry." We partnered with Michigan Blood for our blood drive on December 10th. A special plaque recognizing our donation for the new "Urgent Care Center" now hangs in the reception area there.

*Spectrum Health-Blodgett Hospital* "Volunteers Are Our Stars" was the theme of Spectrum health's All Guild Meeting held annually to recognize Guild volunteers for their generous giving of time and energy in support of patients, their families, and fundraising projects benefiting Spectrum Health activities. Well over 200 guild members from Butterworth and Blodgett hospitals attended the morning program which included Spectrum Health speaker Michelle Lorenz discussing the heart & lung transplant programs, an hilarious presentation by humorist Tim Cusack, and a lovely luncheon.

A surprise visit by WCD president

Betty Bierman, Shirley Harris, and Carol Sorenson was appreciated. Betty offered a few words in clarification on the relationship between MAHA and WCD. It was reported this past year guilds donated \$324,000 to support Spectrum's purchase of equipment, Renucci House expansion and other projects, such as walkers, sleeper chairs and nursing education support.

*Holland Hospital's* Lights of Love Campaign for 2013 is underway: recipients this year will be Same Day Surgery and the Emergency Department. Each department will receive and AccuVein a device that helps identify patient's peripheral veins, easily and quickly, by displaying the position of the veins right on the patients skin. Patients who have difficult to access veins, including but not limited to obese patients, pediatric patients (over the age of 8), dark skinned patients and those with difficulty in the past.

*Spectrum Health - Ludington* – Effective October 1, 2013, Memorial Medical Center of West Michigan - Ludington became part of Spectrum Health and the name changed to *Spectrum Health - Ludington Hospital*. Welcome meetings for all staff and volunteers were scheduled for mid November.

## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

### **Alma Bershas, President**

(734) 433-9783 (home)  
(734) 476-9125 (cell)

### **Jeanette Havel, President Elect**

(989) 747-0268 (home)  
(989) 254-9063 (cell)

### **Lansing Quality Suites**

(517) 886-0600

### **Grand Hotel**

(906) 847-3331

### **MHA Headquarters**

(517) 323-3443

### **Chrystal Mountain Resort**

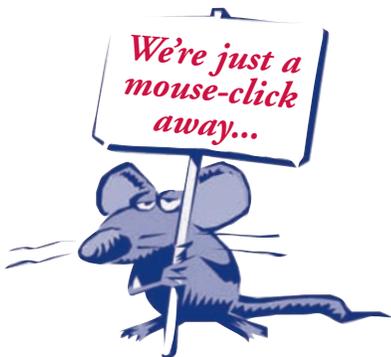
(231) 378-2000

# Highlights

On October 17, *Spectrum Health - Ludington Hospital* honored its volunteers at the annual recognition dinner at Lincoln Hills. 129 volunteers gave 18,730 hours of service to the hospital and patients during the past year. Many hours were spent planning and staffing the new gift shop. Judy Thiel, volunteer gift shop chair was honored for reaching the 12,000 hour level. It was only a year ago that she was honored for having completed 11,000 hours.

On September 30, the volunteers hosted the fall WCD meeting at Lincoln Hills in Ludington. Our speaker was Tim Prosch and he spoke on his book, *The Other Talk*, a boomer's guide to talking with your family about the rest of your life. It was an excellent meeting.

*North Ottawa Community Health System* – The auxiliary has been having frequent fund-raisers, about two each month, and our customers have rewarded us by giving us great sales results. In addition to regional vendors, we have also had success partnering with local businesses and offering their products. Our objective is to strengthen community relationships. We continue to work with a well-known local restaurant, a wonderful sweet shop and a shoe store. We will continue to look at ways of working with local partners. Our gift shop enjoys local patronage as well as casual shopper, which has helped us actually surpass last year's sales numbers to date. Of course, our very able buyers do an outstanding job of selecting merchandise that has made our Gift



[www.mahaonline.org](http://www.mahaonline.org)

## SAVE THE DATE

### Healthcare Advocacy Day

Wednesday,  
April 30, 2014

Sponsors:

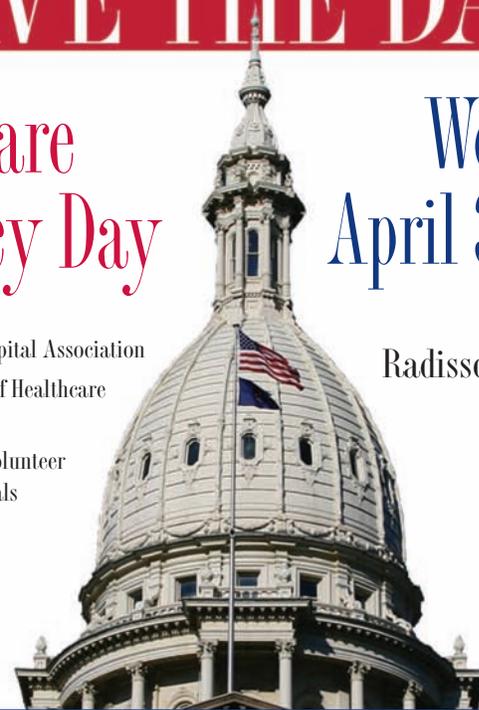
Michigan Health & Hospital Association

Michigan Association of Healthcare  
Advocates

Michigan Healthcare Volunteer  
Resource Professionals

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Radisson Hotel Lansing  
Downtown



Additional information and registration materials will be mailed in February. If you have any questions, please contact the MHA's Stacy Dowdy at (517) 703-8648 or [sdowdy@mha.org](mailto:sdowdy@mha.org).

Shop a "go-to" gift shop in Grand Haven. We frequently add and change our merchandise, which makes shopping at the Gift Shop and adventure every time.

*Carson Health* Auxiliary started the fall off with a successful uniform sale, with another planned for March or September. The West Central District fall meeting was attended by two members of the Carson Auxiliary. Four members attended the Fall conference. They had a great time talking with old friends and meeting new people. The conference was very educational with many updates and information concerning all that is going on with auxiliaries and hospitals today.

The four members also enjoyed decorating for the 65th anniversary banquet held on Wednesday evening. Light of Love planned a great evening of Christmas fun and remembering our friends and loved ones.

### Editor's Note

For all who sent an article to your District President thank you.

They are appreciated and make interesting reading to the volunteers statewide.

Some of you will note that many items were edited to better fit the *Highlights* format. If possible, please make your article 100 words or less and use the bullet type approach.

To all District Presidents please email your articles for the April, 2014 issue by February 1, 2014. That will definitely be the cutoff date.

[popsnet@charter.net](mailto:popsnet@charter.net)

Gail M. Riley

14303 Garfield Street  
Spring Lake, MI 49456