corner, the flowers are beautiful and the vegetable gardens are starting to produce a lot of good healthy eating. Hard work always pays off. I am glad to be back home so I can work in my yard and garden.

In March I attended the SHVL conference in Ashville, North Carolina with Carol Hunter and 30 other people from Alabama. One session I attended was Empower, Engage and Enrich. We need to Empower new people to take leadership roles, let them be creative and make changes. This is how we learn and grow. We need to Engage our volunteers, with engaging there are 3 words: Stop, Start, Continue, What events or fundraisers are we doing that take a lot of energy with not much response? We need to Stop doing these. What are we not doing that we need to Start Doing? What are we doing so well that we need to Continue without making any changes? We need to Enrich people, to look for good qualities in people that they don’t see in themselves. Other speaker’s reminded us; Everyone wants to feel important! People want to be involved and volunteer if they can make a difference. We need to be contagious. Our biggest challenge is finding and keeping good people. You’re only as good as the people who passionately interact with other people. The first and last impressions are the most important. We always need to remember to spread smiles and share the message of Hope. It’s not always what you say or do rather how you make people feel. One of the best things I learned was when someone tells you no, NO means Next Option!

If we are going to attract the New Millennials, Generation X’s and other young groups, we are going to have to learn to text them. Most of them don’t take the time to read long messages. In April I attended EAMC’s spring luncheon. They ask everyone to wear a hat. It was fun to see all of the different styles. Also I went to Brookwood’s annual luncheon. They had an author that has a rare book store. He was a great storyteller. I also went to Princeton, UAB, and Children’s. On April 30th I attended the District I meeting in Anniston. Their speaker told us about the yellow dot program. This program enables you put your medical information in a yellow folder with your picture so if you are in an accident and can’t talk emergency personnel will have access to all of your information. May 11th I attended Wedowee’s annual luncheon. It was nice to see people again that I hadn’t seen since last October. I was finally able to attend the District IV meeting in Fairhope at Thomas Hospital on May 13th the Cardiologist that was presenting the program had to leave. He had a call for a person coming who was having a heart attack. Before leaving he challenged each auxiliary to collect food sometime between now and the Fall Conference. This will enable the auxiliary, community and everyone in District IV to be working on the same community project. On May 21st I traveled to Demopolis to the District III meeting. Again the Doctor who was to present their program got called to surgery. Their DVS put together the Family Feud game with questions about hearts, healthy food, how to know when you’re having a heart attack and some exercises to help you. This was a fun program.

Please mark your calendars for the Fall Conference in Birmingham at the Sheraton November 1-4.

Blessings to each of you.
The end of the “school year” or “volunteer year” is always exciting! Recently, I have attended a Barons baseball game where the Auxiliary members were recognized; a special luncheon in honor of Palliative Care Volunteers; and an Auxiliary membership Fair where recipients of Auxiliary financial support personally thanked the Auxiliary members! Many thanks to hospital administrators across Alabama who have shown their appreciation for ACHA members!

Truly, there really are no lazy days of summer for Auxiliary leaders. Summer is the time to plan training retreats for new officers, contact speakers, outline programs, and secure venues. As a member of District II and your Chairman-Elect, I am honored to be assisting in the selection of speakers and the outlining of presentations for our fall Conference which will be held in Birmingham November 1-4.

Faye Burns, Project Chairman

About Cholesterol

It may surprise you to know that cholesterol itself isn’t bad. In fact, cholesterol is just one of the many substances created and used by our bodies to keep us healthy. Cholesterol is a waxy substance that comes from two sources: your body and food. Your body, and especially your liver, makes all the cholesterol you need and circulates it through the blood. But cholesterol is also found in foods from animal sources, such as meat, poultry and full-fat dairy products. Your liver produces more cholesterol when you eat a diet high in saturated and trans fats. Excess cholesterol can form plaque between layers of artery walls, making it harder for your heart to circulate blood. Plaque can break open and cause blood clots. If a clot blocks an artery that feeds the brain, it causes a stroke. If it blocks an artery that feed the heart, it causes a heart attack. There are two types of cholesterol: “good” and “bad”. Too much of one type—or not enough of another—can put you at risk for coronary heart disease, heart attack or stroke. It’s important to know the levels of cholesterol in your blood so that you and your doctor can determine the best strategy to lower your risk. Making healthy eating choices and increasing exercise are important first steps in improving your cholesterol. For some people, cholesterol-lowering medication may also be needed to reduce the risk for heart attack and stroke.

Fay M. Burns, Projects Chair
Information obtained from Americanassociation.org
We attended the District 1 meeting at Anniston which had a very interesting program called the yellow dot campaign. It is a state wide program that provides you with a folder with your picture and medical information to be kept in your glove box so that in case of an accident the medical professionals can begin to treat you immediately.

We have received information for the yearbook from all districts for the fall and have only gotten a few items for the spring activities.

The awards committee under the leadership of Sara Jane Pugh is concentrating on obtaining the names of potential judges for the fall convention.

Joyce & Charles Purple

Planning for our 2015 ACHA Fall Conference on November 1-4 at the beautiful downtown Sheraton in Birmingham is progressing and we are so thrilled to announce the theme for this year. “Redefine, Reinforce & Reinvent Volunteering” will allow us to explore the many changes that we will be facing in volunteering in the future. Our hospitals continue to evolve and we are compelled to be constantly aware of the challenges ahead for us as we strive to provide the best care to patients, families and visitors.

At our ACHA Board Meeting on July 15th we will formally approve the general agenda for the conference. We will be sending out this information along with registration and hotel details as soon as possible.

Here are just a few things that you can expect in November;

Outstanding speakers and Break-Out Sessions which will help our Auxiliaries to be better equipped to function creatively in our ever-changing hospital environments.

Bingo will be on Sunday Night! Be prepared for a night of fun and laughter.

Monday afternoon we will have the opportunity to share new ideas during our District Meetings followed by our Vendor Fair and Vendor Door Prize Drawings.

Monday evening dinner will be on your own. This will be a chance to explore the Birmingham Area. We will provide you with local restaurant information and places of interest.

Tuesday will begin with the announcement of our Yearbook, Newsletter, Tray Favors & Special Program Awards. You will be able to view all of the submitted items on Tuesday afternoon.

Our new State Project will be announced Tuesday during Lunch. Tuesday evening we will have the opportunity to elect and install ACHA Officers for the coming year. Our “Officers Reception” will immediately follow this general business meeting.

Once again we are asking that each Auxiliary provide two gifts to be used for Bingo and Door Prizes. Please be sure to be looking for items which we can use for our “Goodie Bags”. We always look forward to receiving these at the Conference.

We will have a Silent Auction with gifts provided by the ACHA Board for you to bid on. Winners will be announced Tuesday after Lunch. All proceeds will be used for Conference expenses.

CAN’T WAIT TO SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER!
**Shirley Brocato, Gift Shop Chairman**

I attended District I Meeting at Regional Medical Center, Anniston, Alabama on April 30th. I toured their new Gift Shop and it is perfectly located in their Main Lobby. It’s the first thing you see when you enter the Hospital. It is next to the Information desk and a Coffee and Sandwich Shop. There is a lot of activity around it and it gets a lot of exposure and a lot of business. Vicki Simmons is the Director of Volunteer Services and Myrna Degner is the Gift Shop Manager. They are very proud of their Gift Shop and should be.

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**Personal**

Note:
I wanted to share with you what a good experience I had Thursday when I volunteered at my hospital (Helen Keller Hospital) Gift Shop. My only granddaughter and I went to lunch and then I went to the Gift Shop and she went to her assignment as a Teen Volunteer. What a joy to have another generation volunteering here too!

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**Yvonne Estell-McElderry, Newsletter Chairman**

Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall? I can’t seem to keep up with the changing of the seasons. But I won’t complain. He knows what we need, when we need it and just how much we need. Praise the Lord.

As usual I am busy finishing up this issues of our newsletter. THANKS to all who got articles in to me. A very special THANKS to all the District chairmen who always answer my call for help in getting articles from all the hospitals. You really help to make my job an easy one. Keep up the good work and God bless each of you. It is my goal to get every Auxiliary submitting articles each quarter before I leave this position and with your continual support and help I know I will get it done. So just be patient with me and all my email reminders.

If your phone number was in my phone contact, you got a birthday wish from me to me. I celebrated my birthday on June 18th. Sometimes you have to encourage yourself. So I didn’t wait for wishes to come in, I got on the phone early and sent birthday wishes to everyone in my contact list. I had a ball reading and listening to all the text and voice messages. Well, enough about me. Keep up the good work and the deadline for the next Communicator is September 8th but you can start sending them to me right now.
Board Chairmen 2015-2016

Past Board Chairmen 2014-2015
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(800) 489-2542
Our District 1 Meeting was held in Anniston at the Regional Medical Center on April 30. Attendance was very good, with 8 of our 10 hospitals represented. Mr. Louis Bass, RMC President/CEO, welcomed us and made us feel right at home. Wanda Berry, District 1 Vice-Chair, gave the thought for the day. Shirley Brocado, State Gift Shop Chairman, spoke briefly about her work helping organize new shops and advising others about ways to display merchandise. Beverly Commander, State Chairman, was also present and told us about her travels and how she and her husband are both doing well following their treatments. Beverly, as always, was very positive and encouraged us to keep them in our prayers. Charles and Joyce Purple, State Historians, reminded us to send pictures and any information that could be used in the yearbook to show what all our auxiliaries are doing.

Vicki Simmons, DVS, introduced the speaker, Lora Weaver, the Alabama Yellow Dot Program Coordinator. This was a very interesting program about the importance of having a Yellow Dot on our back car window to indicate that our current medical information, as well as a picture ID, is located in the glove compartment of our vehicles. This would be valuable to medics in case of an accident.

Again, our District 1 auxiliaries are involved in many activities. In addition to the usual fundraisers of jewelry, uniform, and book sales, there were special Valentine and Easter sales at some of the Gift shops. Our volunteers were also busy making stuffed bears for pediatric patients, providing bingo prizes to nursing homes, donating books for the Pediatric Department, having benches recovered in their lobby, helping renovate their ICU waiting area, buying food delivery carts for the food service department, giving scholarships to deserving students pursuing a medical career, and even planting flowers at the hospital entrance! There were also volunteer appreciation luncheons hosted by the hospitals and even a Valentine tea given for hospital employees. It’s always interesting to hear of these activities and how our auxiliaries help others.

A special thanks to Regional Medical Center DVS, Vicki Simmons, Brenda Johnson, Auxiliary President, and all the members for their great hospitality and for the delicious luncheon. We certainly enjoyed being with you in Anniston and look forward to seeing everybody July 29 at Marshall North.
On April 14, our Marshall North Volunteers, along with those from Marshall South and the Cancer Center, were honored with a luncheon at Lake Guntersville State Park. It was a beautiful day and everyone enjoyed the gorgeous view from the lodge. A chartered bus (for those who chose to ride it) was used to transport the volunteers from all three sites. This was well received and those who rode had a lot of fun on the trip.

Our auxiliary recently purchased 5 large rolling food delivery carts (approximately $9,500) and the food service department was very grateful for this gift. They are very sturdy, but lightweight, and are much easier to handle than the ones they replaced.

We recently had a Masquerade Jewelry sale as well as a book sale. These sales are always favorites and our regular customers look forward to these events.

The newly planted flower containers at the front entrance to Marshall North have been an attractive addition to our facility and we have received many compliments from both visitors and hospital staff members.

Due to so many of our volunteers moving, having surgeries and other long term illnesses, we have really been shorthanded lately. Many volunteers are working extra shifts to try to cover these vacancies. Response has been very good, but we do plan to hold a recruitment coffee very soon to try to get some new members.

Diane Butler, DVS

Pictured: Paul Moore, Food Service Dept. and Linda Davidson, Auxiliary Member
The Huntsville Hospital Auxiliary gathered together on May 15 at the Huntsville Country Club for the Annual Awards and Installation of New Officer’s Luncheon. Members enjoyed a delicious lunch with old friends and new members. Many received long term service awards and 7 were given the distinguished lifetime membership award for their dedicated service and commitment to the Auxiliary.

This quarter also kicked off the Summer Youth Volunteer Program. Youth volunteers were placed in 16 departments across the hospital’s Main and W&C campuses. Youth will serve one 4 hour shift per week for the duration of the 9 week program. We were excited to learn that many of the students serving have expressed an interest in pursuing an advanced degree in the medical field after graduating from High School.

Seventeen clowns were inducted into the Rebecca Crowson Memorial Klown Klub at a graduation ceremony on June 5. Each clown had been carefully screened before attending a series of training classes in make-up, costume, magic, juggling and patient safety. They also received “on the job” patient clinical contact to allow them to apply their newly acquired skills. RCMKK members are now permitted to clown around with our patients and at hospital sponsored events held in the community. They are excited about the opportunity they will have to bring humor and laughter into the room of a sick patient. Laughter is such good medicine!
Chairman with getting ready for the State Conference to be held on November 1-4, 2015 at the Sheraton in Birmingham. Since the conference is in District II, we want to be good hosts and hope it all comes together as well as the past meetings have, in order to provide everyone attending with a fun and memorable event. We have already had the Walker Baptist Auxiliary to step forward and offer to do the table decorations, and we are also talking daily within our district to see what else we can do to help out. Our district is looking forward to attending and supporting the conference and even though it is only June, we know that November will be here before we all know it. Please spread the word and make plans to send as many delegates as possible to the conference so it will be another successful meeting for ACHA.

Meanwhile, our district held its May 6th meeting at the Bibb County Medical Center in Centreville, Alabama. The Bibb auxiliary members were excellent hosts with their theme of “Sweets for the Sweet Volunteers” They used colorful decorations on the tables and each attendee was allowed to fill a “To-Go” bag with candy treats to hit the road back home. The guest speaker was Joseph Marchant, CEO for the facility. He told of the operations of the hospital and adjoining nursing home and assisted living quarters on the property. Their focus is to offer a continuum of care for elderly residents. Our next meeting will be August 5th at

Fayette Medical Center

The Fayette Medical Center hosted a delicious Volunteer Appreciation luncheon in April that was well attended and greatly appreciated. After our volunteers were recognized for their hours of service, it was time to say good-bye, to Brandy. Brandy Watkins had worked in the FMC gift shop for nearly thirteen years. She decided it was time to spend more time with her husband and four children, so Brandy gave up her job to stay home. With Renee Cowart still relatively new as the gift shop manager, and still learning the marketing, processing, and accounting, it was a challenge for gift shop volunteers to move merchandise. To compound our anxiety, Rena severely sprained her ankle and had to stay home for several days.

Our gift shop volunteers, Sylvia Campbell and Wendell Hayes, did double duty in order to keep the shop operating. These two special ladies earned the gratitude of everyone at FMC. “Cat” Cannon, Bessie Nell Otts, and June Harkins loyalty fulfilled their commitments in the shop as well.

Our auxiliary sponsored a uniform sale in March that was successful, but the Masquerade jewelry sale in May occurred during our period of crisis. The FMC volunteers responded by doing exactly as they always do and our sales totaled more that last November’s! We have a dedicated team of volunteers at FMC.

Since Rena returned, the shop is back on course. We missed our hard-working supervisor and pray that she doesn’t step into anymore holes.

FMC Auxiliary President,
Jane Cotton
We are gearing up for summer here at DCH Regional and with that means the return of our Junior Volunteers! It’s always a welcome sight to see their bright young faces ready and eager to help. We hosted forty seven Junior Volunteers on the evening of June 1 for the orientation program. About half of the forty seven were returnees from last year’s program.

On May 19th we had our Volunteer luncheon. Nurse Manager Tracy Schaffer presented a very interesting program concerning Patient Satisfaction and the AIDET system. AIDET stands for ACKNOWLEDE–INTRODUCTION–DURATION–EXPLANATION–THANK YOU and ways that we as Volunteers can help incorporate that to the patients or visitors at our hospital. A simple hello, introduction or offering to explain what they may expect while at the hospital can make a huge impact on patient satisfaction. Tracy also reminded us that usually the first contact the patient or visitor encounters is a volunteer, so always take that opportunity to make a great first impression for our facility.

Also on May 21st & 22nd we held our Just For You Women’s clothing sale and coming up on June 29th & 30th we will host Ultimate Linens. These are both very successful fund raisers for us and we look forward to hosting them each year.

Every May we award scholarships to students who are furthering their education in the medical field. This year we had thirty four amazingly qualified applicants ranging in the areas of advanced nursing, radiology, biomedical engineering OT and PT. Along with The Foundation seventeen $1000.00 scholarships were awarded; ten of those were awarded from our auxiliary.

Wishing you all a Safe and Happy summer!

Kristie Scott
Auxiliary President

To be successful, have heart in your business, and business in your heart.
This spring has found UAB Auxiliary members working hard and having fun together! We are excited to welcome new volunteers Lori Theodoras (Luna Tunes) and Terry Dailey (Socks the Clown). Serving both Children’s and UAB Hospital, these clowns bring joy whether they are calling Bingo, visiting patients or singing in the halls. Our Clown family is further enriched!

On Monday, May 4th, UAB Hospital hosted an event for all volunteers at Regions Field. We were conveniently shuttled to the stadium in time for the 11:30 opening pitch of the Birmingham Barons vs Tennessee Smokies baseball game. A lunch spread including hot dogs, burgers, chili and all the fixins, onion rings, popcorn, pretzels, Cracker Jacks and a tray of cookies and brownies was laid out within a comfortable private upper box along the first base line. Attendees could eat, visit and view the game from inside or in the adjacent outdoor seating. Jordan DeMoss, Charolette Beeker, Amanda DuBois and Carolyn Matthews were present as hosts and to present pins earned by volunteers for hours and years of service. The picture perfect weather, along with great company, food and surroundings, made for a truly enjoyable experience. AND the Barons won 4-3 in the 13th!!

In May, UAB Auxiliary elected its 2015-2016 Executive Board Officers. Susan Frantz and Jennifer Joyce will act as Co-Leaders to fulfill the responsibilities of President and 1st Vice President. Jonlyn McCuan will continue her service as 2nd Vice President. Mike Gibbs has been elected for his 6th term as Auxiliary Treasurer. Janice Clifford joins the board as our Recording Secretary. Beth Clarke will serve another year as our Ways and Means Chair.

The new UAB Auxiliary officers will be installed in June and will get down to the business of filling committees, planning for fundraising and preparing for our opportunity to host the District II quarterly meeting in August.
HAPPY NEW YEAR! No, the calendar is not stuck in January. This is the Communicator article for first quarter, 2015. And here's hoping everyone has had a good start to this year. Things at Walker Baptist have been going at a steady pace.

Our first big activity for the year was our Annual Meeting which was held on January 30. This is when our new officers are installed and reports for the previous year are given. We were privileged to have Don and Sarajane Pugh come do the installations. As always, they did a wonderful job and we always enjoy having them with us.

Rosalie Nicholson, Joanne Stephenson and Marty Staggs attended the District Meeting at Children's Hospital in February. Children's is something that our state should really be proud to have. If a child must be in the hospital, this is an ideal place. It has such a happy feel to it and they are red wagons everywhere you look. And who doesn't like a red wagon?

Our first vendor sale was with Britches and Bows. A line of women's clothing was added and was a big hit. All women love clothes.

Our auxiliary has been participating in the Rotary Club's Trivia Night for the last three years. This is a fund raiser for the Rotary Club to help with their projects. Even though we didn't win, we had a lot of fun. The Cowboys and Cowgirls made a good showing anyway. Most importantly, we made a positive impression for the auxiliary. Beverly had stated early on that we should be doing outreach programs. Helping another organization with their efforts seems like a good way to do just that.

Our uniform sale was in March and as always we had a captive audience. Our nurses love this sale. We love for them to love it, too.

We have gotten past the cold weather and are ready for spring and warmer temperatures. This is a good reason to break out your best smiles and make someone feel better. You just might be the only bright spot they see in that day.
Spring is in the air at Pickens County Medical Center. We have had two very successful fundraisers this spring with our Spring Masquerade Jewelry Sale and our Good Friday Bake Sale. We raised over $900 at our Bake Sale with Volunteers from all over our county baking delicious homemade goodies.

We recently purchased a new video laryngoscope for $2500.00 for our Operating Room and Emergency Department. This equipment allows safe intubations and airway placement during emergencies. We also made a $100 donation to Pickens County Relay for Life.

Our Auxiliary project for 2015 of hand-sewn cotton dolls and hand-sewn monkey socks for our Senior Care, Geriatric-Psychiatric patients has been very successful. We met our goal of 50 dolls for the month of March with eight members working on this project.

Pickens County Medical Center honored the Auxiliary with a luncheon in appreciation for our service. The food, catered by our very own PCMC Dietary Department, was delicious and we had a wonderful time of fellowship.

At the Appreciation Luncheon, the PCMC Auxiliary Scholarship Committee gave out six $500 scholarships to local students who exceeded the criteria required.

We also recognized our 2015 Volunteers of the Year. Our first 2015 Volunteer of the Year is Diane Nance, a Volunteer since 2008. Diane has worked diligently on our “doll” project this year and had over 137 volunteer hours in 2014.

Our second Volunteers of the Year is John and Juanita Raymond, Volunteers since 2013. Affectionately known as the dynamic duo, this couple had over 1,000 volunteer hours in 2014.

Barbara Lancaster, President

2015 Volunteers of the Year
Juanita and John Raymond and Barbara Lancaster, President

2015 Volunteer of the Year
Diane Nance and Barbara Lancaster, President

Sock Monkey and Doll Volunteers
Lois Bruce, Diane Nance, Gladys Nicely and Judy Halbert
This quarter has been great for Trinity Hospital Auxiliary. The Auxiliary Appreciation luncheon was held in April. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful lunch. Also, members received pins and awards from Administration.

Dr. Kyle Hudgins, one of Trinity’s physicians, gave a report on his annual Mission Trip to Africa. This trip included several physicians, nurses and support personnel. Over 1800 patients were treated. The Auxiliary furnishes funds to purchase medication and assist with other projects. Several churches donated cloth bags, small stuffed animals and Beanie Babies to distribute to children and patients. This is a wonderful mission trip and the Auxiliary is always ready to assist in any way.

A two day Masquerade Jewelry sale was held on April 30 and May 1, which was very successful. This sale is always fun. There are so many items to purchase.

The Auxiliary made a donation to purchase items needed for patients in the Behavioral Science Department.

Trinity Hospital will be moving to a new location on Highway 280 in the Fall. We are preparing for the move and are excited to be relocating into a new building. Our Director Kim Munroe is receiving phone calls for interested volunteers.

We are looking forward to the ACHA Conference in Birmingham.

Sandra Whalen, President
Auxiliary members were treated to a luncheon given by the Bibb Medical Center Nursing Home for Volunteer Week during the month of April. They each received a t-shirt and a bag of goodies for their hard work. Bibb was also the host for the District II Meeting held on May 6th. Around 30 people attended the meeting. This year’s theme was “Treats for Sweet Volunteers”. Each table had candy theme centerpieces as well as Dum Dum topiaries as door prizes and also each member present received a bag full of goodies as a thank you gift for attending the meeting. They all had a really great time and are already looking forward to the next meeting. Enclosed are photos from the Auxiliary Luncheon. Photo #1- Auxiliary Members  Photo #2- Vice President Virginia Miller  Photo #3 Treasurer-Marjory Bates  Photo #4  Recording Secretary Joyce Fitts Last photo design on back of the volunteer shirts.
Well, Summer has finally arrived but I do expect it to get much hotter as we approach July and August. This time of year is a little slow for us but we have had a couple of sales and a community activity to help recruit new volunteers.

In April we had a three day sale for Jessie Mae Monogram Bags. There was a variety of merchandise: tote bags, backpacks, purses, coolers, and a variety of children's merchandise as well. We did profit a little from this sale and people purchased bags for themselves and others. Several purchases were made for Mother's Day and upcoming graduations.

Tray favors were provided for our patients for Easter and for Mother's Day. That sometimes seems like a menial task but the recipient is glad to see a "cheery" note or Bible verse.

This was the 11th year for City Fest in Alabaster where there are booths for arts and craft vendors, volunteer groups, food vendors, rides for adults and children. There is live entertainment throughout the day and evening. The "BIG" name this was American Idol's Scottie McCreery and was well attended.

The Shelby Baptist Medical Center volunteers participated in the City Fest on Saturday, June 6th. We had 7 volunteers that took care of the booth for the Shelby Baptist Medical Center. They handed out fans, hand sanitizer, and bags. The volunteers also gave out volunteer applications and used this opportunity to recruit more volunteers. The volunteers that manned the booth throughout the day were Virginia Barksdale, Larry Loyacano, Tommie Harrison, Jack Sadler, Linda Camps, Mildred Benton, Hope Hundley and Janice Lindgren. A BIG Thank You to this group.

The significance of man is not what he attains but rather in what he longs to attain.
During the last quarter we had 41 members working a total of 2,674 hours. Six Junior Volunteers have worked 20 hours during the month of June. We have 3 new volunteers and we one retired with 38 years of service and a total of 5,654 hours. We wish Hazel Morgan a happy and blessed retirement.

Six Auxilians received service awards:

- Peggy Frazier 250 Hours
- Shirley Broadwell 1500 Hours
- Maxine Gowins 1500 Hours
- Dale Miller 1500 Hours
- Annette Summers 2500 Hours
- Gloria Richards 4500 Hours

At our general meeting we honored our five scholarship recipients. They each received a $3,000.00 scholarship. The recipients were:

- Casey Gamble—Victory Christian
- Peyton Whitten—St. Clair County High
- Breana Thomas—Springville High
- Sidney Savannah-Pritchett—Crossroads Christian
- Lenzie Macon—Pell City High

All the recipients will be pursuing a career in the medical field.

Submitted by: Ruby Stasko

Smiley face If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours! 😊
What a great year our District has had. I learned that each auxiliary is really taking serious our state project. (HEART HEALTH) our state project chair provides articles from American Heart Association to the different Presidents of each Auxiliary. Some hospitals are having speakers to learn more about how to stay healthy. Our recent District meeting had their cafeteria prepare a healthy lunch, and the food was great. This meeting was well attended and was enjoyed by all as we played Family Feud with all the questions related to the heart.

We really are seeing more involvement in our different communities to let people know we are all about helping others.

Different fundraisers have been held to raise money for the annual scholarships and to purchase items for our hospitals. Varied items were purchased, wheel chairs, exercise bikes for the Cardiac rehab unit, hydro-walkers for staff with early mobility of ventilator patients, car seat for child bearing classes, created a breast pumping room for employees to Policy Management System for our education department. All these items save the hospitals a great deal of money, and are greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to our next District meeting and seeing our different volunteers.

I LOVE YOU AND MAY GOD BLESS!
2015 Spring Luncheon

Hats off to EAMC volunteers! That was our theme for the Auxiliary Spring luncheon held Thursday, April 2 at the Marriott Grand National. It was a beautiful day to fellowship with a fun or fancy hat. The hats were festive and made for great conversation. Not only were the Auxilian hats festive, but so were the decorations. The tables were lit with votive candles and were decorated with a springtime combination of garden hats and Gerber daisies. The Auxiliary participation in dressing the part completed the room to show the fun spirit of our Auxiliary family.

The program began with a warm welcome from Auxiliary President, Fay Burns. Terry Andrus, EAMC CEO, expressed greetings and a special “thank you” on behalf of EAMC staff for a job well done to all Auxiliary members. The Auxiliary Psalm was read by past president, Barbara Blankenship, preparing us for the invocation by EAMC’s Chaplain, Laura Eason. Laura captivated the audience with her “special hat story” from a previous mission trip ending with a beautiful invocation. Lunch was served by the staff at the Grand National. The menu included chicken piccata, rice pilaf, broccoli, and fresh baked rolls. A luncheon wouldn’t be complete without a delicious dessert! Dessert included Boston creme pie and New York cheesecake with strawberry topping. The guest performers were an extraordinary duo from the Plantation Singers. Ernestine Robinson and Reverend Willie F. Smith, Sr. performed a few traditional hymnals such as “Old Rugged Cross,” a Negro ritual named “Calvary”, and a classic favorite “Danny Boy.”

The awards began with Johann Kucik, TAV Chairman, who awarded Jae Won (Kate) Han the Ida Mae Armistead Healthcare Scholarship winner and Jordan Marquez, the
Teenage Volunteer of the Year winner. Jordan is the granddaughter of Auxiliary member Toni Lender. Johann also spoke briefly about Kaitlynn Green, the Auxiliary Healthcare Scholarship winner, who was unable to attend the Luncheon. Read more about these fantastic students on page six. Barbara Ervin, Awards Committee Chairman, announced all Auxiliary service awards. This year we awarded 12 Auxiliary members with Service Year Pins ranging from 10 years of service to 30 years of service. The lists of names are posted on this page. Please give each of these Auxiliary members a “pat on the back” for their commitment and dedication to the staff, patients, & EAMC Auxiliary.

Our Volunteer of the Year award was extra special for 2015. We had 9 extraordinary and deserving nominees for this award. In most cases, ballots are collected and counted showing an end result of a Volunteer of the Year winner. For 2015, we had a TIE! The Service Awards Committee was puzzled over what to do with two winners. After much contemplation and checking over the criteria, it was decided that both nominees were more than worthy of receiving this honorable award. Fay Burns and Lillian Overton were named 2015 Volunteers of the Year. Herschel Rowland, 2014 Volunteer of the Year, spoke on behalf of Lillian Overton and Barbara Ervin, 2013 Volunteer of the Year, spoke on behalf of Fay Burns. The year, 2015, will be well represented by both Fay Burns and Lillian Overton.

“Hats off” to all involved in the planning of the 2015 Spring Luncheon. A special “thank you” to Sarah Strawn, Vice President of Programs, for the Planning and Coordination of this event. Thank you to those who helped plan and finalize details which made this year’s Spring Luncheon one to remember.

AUXILIARY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Ten Years of Service
John Cason
Barbara Ervin
Teresa Howard
Judy Newman
Debbie Riddle
Nancy Roberts
Barbara Webber
Cliff Webber

Twenty Years of Service
Mattie Lou Akin
Helen Brown
Martha Jones

Thirty Years of Service
Ruth Dutton
It has been a busy spring for the auxiliary members of Bryan W. Whitfield Memorial Hospital in Demopolis, Alabama. Besides sponsoring a very successful Masquerade Jewelry Sale, they have cleaned the courtyard, planted the four large urns at the hospital entrance, and reinstalled the fountain that mysteriously disappeared for about a month.

On April 16, the hospital honored auxiliary members with a luncheon at historical Lyon Hall. Six $1500.00 scholarships were awarded to area students who plan to pursue a degree in a medically related field. Marge Reineke and Hester Brown were chosen by their peers as Volunteers of the Year.

On May 21, the BWWMH Auxiliary hosted the District III Quarterly Meeting of the Alabama Council of Hospital Auxiliaries. Six hospitals were represented and fifty-two members were present. The state project of "Heart Health" was carried out in table decorations and a heart healthy menu was served for lunch. A rousing game of Family Feud was led by Stephanie Hoggle, with questions relating to heart health, heart attack symptoms, exercise, and diet. Door prizes were given out, and guests were taken on a tour of the hospital and the gift shop. The vendor, Britches and Bows, had a display in the board room and answered questions concerning her products and the possibility of exhibiting at other hospitals.

Registration table: Betty Baxley, Brenda Parker, Carol Bell and Alice Washburn

This quarter, BWWMH Auxiliary welcomes Doug Null and Nadine Ivory as new members.
Youth Giving of Self

It is a great reward when young people want to give to their community. Citizens Baptist Medical Center is blessed with nine young men and women who have decided to give of themselves to help the betterment of their community by volunteering for the summer. Now if you think volunteering is not enough, think about the fact these young adults are giving up their time of summer fun, swimming, traveling, beach fun to come work without pay. It is said that whatever you give it will come back to you. Not only will it come back but the return is multiplied. I am excited about the enthusiasm I see on the faces of these young people. The smiles on their faces show the compassionate hearts. We expect to see them soar in life with a start as great as what is offered through Citizens Volunteer Auxiliary.

I spoke with Jacob Tibbs and he spoke of how excited he was to be at Citizens. He is assigned to the Admissions Desk and he is a welcomed asset to the department. Desmick Walker is assigned to ICU and is helpful in many ways to the nursing staff. I walked in the other day found him fixing the cell phone of one of the RN’s. The nurse (James) knew medicine, but Desmick knows cell phone. Jacob Vaughn and Reese Cotton can be found throughout the hospital working with the Facilities Management team. Volunteering is one thing but working hard is another; we appreciate these young men. Taylor Hammonds is giving her time to the Imaging Services, while Erika Wilson’s smiles greet the people coming into the One Day Surgery Department. The Fitness Center is blessed to have Kendarius Wells, Haley Marie Johnson, and Jorri Simmons. High school athletes know the importance of exercise and fitness and they lend a much needed hand to the community that uses our fitness facility.

We have been fortunate to have young people blessing Citizens with their service. More important, volunteer work for high school students can be a life-changing experience, one that allows teens to expand their horizons and foster meaningful relationships. The Volunteer Auxiliary along with the staff at Citizens welcomes the vibrant, energetic youth volunteers to Citizens Summer Program. Thanks to Mrs. Yvonne McElderry and Ms. Edna Wynn for their wisdom in placing and recruiting these Stars at Citizens. Jacob Vaughn, Reese Cotton, Taylor Hammonds, Haley Marie Johnson, Jorri Simmons, Jacob Tibbs, Erika Wilson, Desmick Walker and Kendarius Wells we are glad you are “Here for us”. Citizens love you!

Unfortunately we are not unable to submit a picture of our teens this quarter but we will submit one for you to see and share the blessings that we have here at Citizens.
Our Auxilians have been busy this spring. We started out with our spring $5 Masquerade Jewelry Sale in March. The Auxilians that volunteer to help with the event had a great time visiting with shoppers and helping select items.

The District III Quarterly Meeting was held at Citizens Baptist Medical Center in Talladega also during March and we have six officers to attend. The program, lunch, and door prizes were enjoyed by everyone. It is always good to visit with other Auxilians, the hospitals, and the gift shops. We see and learn something new every time. This meeting was planned for February but due to the weather we had to postpone until March.

Our second District Meeting was held in May at Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital in Demopolis. We had four officers to attend this meeting. The drive down was early and well worth it. The meeting was great and we had an outstanding group in attendance.

The CVMC Administrators provided us with a Volunteer Appreciation picnic in April. We had entertainment, hamburgers and hotdogs, and Blue Bell Ice Cream (before it was all taken off the shelf and none of us got sick). Our auxiliary made a presentation to the CVMC Foundation with a check in the amount of $20,000.00. These funds were raised with our jewelry sales and gift shop sales.

We also purchased a menu board for the hospital café and we have purchased eight new maroon wheelchairs for the auxiliary transporters to use carrying patients in and out of the hospital.

We will be having our summer $5 Masquerade Jewelry Sale on July 23rd & 24th. If you are in the area we would love for you to stop by and shop with us. We are looking forward to hosting the District III Quarterly Meeting in August.

Summer brings vacations and other commitments to a lot of our Auxilians and thankfully we have wonderful volunteers that are always willing to pick up extra shifts during this time. We are very thankful for dedicated and loving Auxilians.

Enjoy your summer in the sunshine working in the yard, going on vacation, or just walking for a healthy heart.

Cheryl Webb, 1st Vice President
Greetings from Vaughan Regional Medical Center! We hope everyone is enjoying their spring and also looking forward to summertime!

VRMC Auxiliary would like to report that in March, a donation of $100 was made to the American Heart Association which is our state project. Also for the month of March, Billie Rogers once again made some beautiful tray favors for St. Patrick’s Day and also “Welcome to Spring” tray favors for April and May.

For the month of April, a donation of $50 was made to Integrity Worldwide as well as a donation of $50 to SABRA Sanctuary. The Auxiliary had a very successful jewelry sale April 23-24 with sales totaling $%,648. These proceeds will go toward the scholarship fund for next year.

The annual Auxiliary Appreciation Luncheon was held on April 15th during National Volunteer Week. The Auxiliary would like to thank the hospital for their generosity of a delicious catered meal, gifts for each volunteer and for the beautiful floral arrangements. Rosie Dunklin was honored as Volunteer of the Year. Rosie has been a member of the Auxiliary since 2004 and has accumulated more than 2,300 hours of service. Great Job Rosie! An arm bouquet was presented to Rosie by Johnny Morris, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the hospital.

VRMC volunteers enjoyed the annual employee picnic held on May 14th during National Hospital Week.

On May 21, 11 volunteers attended the District III meeting at Bryan Whitfield Hospital in Demopolis. We would like to thank the Auxiliary their for the hospitality shown. It was a great meeting.

The service project for this year is to renovate one of the rooms in the hospital for a “New Mon’s lounge.” The lounge will be used by employees only who are new mons. We are anxious to get started on this project.

Three college students are on board for volunteering this summer.
Greetings from the Russell Medical Center Auxiliary!

As the flowers bud and bloom in the area, the members of the Auxiliary do the same as we continue to induct new members to our ranks. We welcome them to the team. It just proves that the American spirit of compassion and generosity is alive and well. Members of the Auxiliary give selfishly day after day providing much needed support to the staff of RMC.

Mr. Jim Peace, President and CEO of RMC shared these same thoughts at the Annual Appreciation Luncheon. At the luncheon, members of the Auxiliary enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by our very talented and hard working Dietary Department. We were then presented with a gift of a key chain and pen set from the hospital.

Officers for 2015-2016 have been elected and installed. They are: President, Catherine Davis, 1st Vice President, Steve Crow, 2nd Vice President, Butch Myers, Secretary, Helen Walton, and Treasurer, Sandra Martin. We thank these officers in advance for the leadership they will provide in the coming year.

Helen Walton, Secretary
To celebrate Volunteer Week, April 12-18, 2015, Greene County Hospital Nursing Home Auxiliary volunteers enjoyed an Appreciation Luncheon held on April 28, 2015 at Ruby’s Restaurant in Eutaw, Alabama where they honored their many accomplishments. In fact, the Auxiliaries donated over 7,000 volunteer hours from April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015! The Volunteer Luncheon was well attended by fellow Auxilians, Greene County Health System staff and community partners. Minister Brenda Lawrence and Jimmie Edison, Presenters, addressed the audience on “Heart Health.” During the Luncheon Ms. Bernice P. Barnes, selected by her peers, was presented a plaque – 2015 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR.

Each Auxilian also received a Certificate of Appreciation and a Volunteer Pin for their time and talents to the healthcare system in Greene County.

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock.
If you want to touch the present, touch a flower.
If you want to touch the future, touch a life. ~Author Unknown
The District IV meeting was hosted by Thomas Hospital in Fairhope on May 13th. State Chair Beverly Commander was in attendance.

The membership was welcomed by Mr. Ormond Thompson Administrator of Thomas Hospital. It was good to know that as always the volunteers are an asset to the hospital.

Mrs. Betty Poser, a past president of Thomas Hospital Auxiliary, gave the Thought for the Day, entitled “God's Graces.”

Dr. Brian D. Dearing, MD, FACC, FSCAI Clinical and Interventional, Cardiology of Peripheral Vascular Invention, was the Guest Presenter. Dr. Dearing presentation was motivational and we continue to receive valuable information on Heart Health, the State Project. It was interesting to note that the Mended Hearts program now have five programs and this fifth one was organized at Thomas Hospital. This program is a national program that offers support to cardiac patients and families.

State Chairman Beverly Commander attendance at this meeting, before leaving office later in the fall, was a plus for us. Although there were only five (5) hospitals represented at this meeting, the chairman felt we had a good meeting and encouraged the members to continue to work and to attend the Fall Conference that will be held in Birmingham.

The next District IV meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 5, 2015.
The Providence Hospital Auxiliary met at a luncheon/business meeting on March 16 in the De-Paul Center at the hospital. Election of officers was held and the following slate was elected for the 2015-2016 fiscal year beginning May 1.

President - Celia Ledbetter, Vice President - Judy Feam, Recording Secretary - Judy Allen, Treasurer - Pete Garrone, Corresponding Secretary - Carmen Baker, Historian - Sherry Davis, at Large Members - Linda Phillips and Peggy Mattison.

Volunteer Week took place April 13 - 17 with a catered lunch being served in the Volunteer Office each day. Our DVS Mary Ann Townson and Volunteer Coordinator arranged everything so that the volunteers could come in either before or after their shift to enjoy the good food and the fellowship. Each volunteer also received a small gift in appreciation of their hard work!

On May 13th we were pleased to send 4 Providence folks to the fine meeting of District IV at Thomas Hospital, Fairhope. Very well done and informative! Thank you Thomas Auxiliary. Also, delicious lunch.

On May 18th our Spring Luncheon/business meeting was held where we had a little remembrance ceremony for those who have passed away in the past year. Our officers were installed by Mr. Clark Christianson, CEO and President of Providence, the President presented her annual report and we awarded 3 $1000 scholarships to former TAV's who are graduating from high school.

Our TAV orientations were held on May 17th and 18th and they start June 1st!

One sad note; Mr. Christianson has announced that he will be retiring in the fall of 2015. He has been at Providence for 15 years and has been a tremendous supporter of the Auxiliary. We will miss him!

Celia Ledbetter, President
The University of South Alabama held a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast for Chaplain Water Staggs for volunteering over 1500 hours for a period of two (2) years. Invited guests, volunteers, prospective volunteers, close friends of Chaplain Staggs and Warren Green, Assistant to the Administrator were present for this occasion. Chaplin Staggs was presented a beautiful clock by Claudnette McGrew, Director of Volunteer Services.

The University of South Alabama Medical Center Auxiliary continues to plan and schedule recruitment activities to increase volunteers and board members. The President has attended a meeting with a group of community activist. The purpose of the meeting was to get the news out regarding the many available resources and the level of care that can be received at the Medical Center. serve as a recruitment tool for future volunteers.

Constance Taylor, President
The Volunteers at USA Children’s & Women’s Hospital had a busy Spring…Bell Ringing Ceremony: Volunteers funded a reception and provided volunteer support (pictured Erin Morris and Charlotte Linder) at this special event to celebrate the completion of cancer treatment.

Hospital Week Staff Picnic: Volunteers funded and provided volunteer support (pictured Renee Busby Knoll) by serving popcorn, helping with set-up, and serving food.

Birthday Celebrations: Volunteers provide spa kits and birthday cards for female patients celebrating a birthday while in the hospital. Pictured- Theresa Clarke with the High Risk OB service area receives pamper kits from Chris Klein.

May Day Tray Favor Project: Frances Dixon had a great idea. She then recruited Patricia Juzang and together they lovingly hand-crafted miniature flower pots with a spring greeting to adorn each patient’s meal tray.

Jolly Trolley: The Volunteers and Child Life added another Jolly Trolley at the hospital. Theresa Blackston is now able to conveniently spread cheer in the Evaluation Center

Welcome Aboard: Gift Shop Manager- Ashley Cox

Upcoming Fundraising Events:
Masquerade $5 Jewelry Sale: August 26, 27, 28… our first 3-day event!

Proceeds from fundraising activities were used for activities such as: Hospital Week Celebration, patient and family meals, retirement receptions, employee appreciation activities, outstanding department service recognition, monthly maintenance of 3 aquariums, and spring decorations.

Volunteer Service Hours for 2015 (Jan.- May 2015): 7,500  
Current Volunteers: 234
On April 9, we had our annual hospital luncheon. We had a short business meeting followed by a delicious lunch. After which we presented the hospital with a check for $35,000. This money will be used to buy much needed equipment for several departments.

On May 6, we honored our nurses by having a cake and a small gift in a central location to be enjoyed by each shift. We also randomly selected names of nurses who won gift certificates donated by various local businesses. The gift shop also offered flowers for sale on the Friday before Mother's Day. On May 18-20, several kindergarten classes from local schools had a great time touring our hospital.

Submitted by: Nancy Ziebach, President
Mizell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary recently held a fundraiser for employees to purchase t-shirts, sweatshirts and jackets that featured the Mizell logo on them. The volunteers delivered the items during hospital week and all the employees enjoyed receiving them.

A volunteer appreciation luncheon was held in the Wing Conference Room of the hospital to honor the volunteers for our hard work and dedication to Mizell Memorial Hospital. We were given an appreciation token and administration served us lunch.

The Auxiliary recently contributed to the renovation of the ICU and ER waiting room with the purchase of two new sofas and chairs. These will make the waiting rooms more comfortable for families and friends as they wait to see their loved one.

The Auxiliary also have helped this year to recover a respiratory chair, purchase a chair and bibs for the Senior Behavioral Care Unit, scales and bobbers for the Wellness Center, 2 sleep chairs on 3rd floor, tea dispenser for the dining room and contributions towards the mammogram and dexascan. The volunteers have also helped the hospital save 1,458 hours since September of 2014 by helping to collect shred boxes and shredding.

The Mizell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will continue to strive to help the hospital meet the challenges and accomplish the goal of caring for the community.
Our speaker for the March General Meeting was Dr. Gerry Phillips from Cardiology Associates. He informed us of new developments relating to detection and treatment of heart related problems. After the presentation, Dr. Phillips remained to answer all our questions. It was a most enlightening session.

Judging for Color by Kids competitions in Mobile and the Eastern Shore was also in March. In May receptions and awards were given to the top three winners in four age categories in each county. It’s amazing what talent these children possess.

Sara Wimbley
2nd Grader
“Baby Owl”

Our National Volunteer Week Luncheon was held at Wintzell’s Oyster House; the fine meal was followed by awards for years of service and total hours. This is Linda Reynolds’ “thing” and she did a great job in decorations and gifts to all. She was able to improve the landscaping of her home in the process. Ask Linda for details.

Shown Mary Cleveland and Ed Serba with 1000 hour pins.

Our luau themed installation of Officers for year 2015-2016 was in mid-May. Executive Board Officers for the new year are as follows: President-Ed Serba, Co-1st Vice Presidents-Dorothy Davis and Susan Maddox, 2nd Vice President-Clara Damp, Recording Secretary-Gerri Creighton, Treasurer-Carlton Nell and corresponding Secretary-Annette Williams.

Mary Cleveland in her final acts as 1st Vice President oversaw the following fundraisers: Masquerade Sale, Uniform Sale and Jessie Mae Bags Sale.

I look forward to another year as President – especially because of our fine Board.
Ed Serba, President
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Communicator Deadline—March 8  June 8  Sept. 8  Dec. 8

2015 ACHA Fall Conference November 1-4
Sheraton Hotel, Birmingham, AL

The Communicator in ONLINE!
Go to www.alaha.org.
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