



# HEARTBEAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE AUXILIARY - PARTNERS OF MERMH

Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital

June 2017

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## Six Scholarships Awarded

By Terri Kressin

This Year the Auxiliary Partners of Ministry Eagle River Memorial Hospital awarded six \$1,000 scholarships to high school students in the area who are going into health related careers. Jesse Boldebuck, Audrey Lindemann, Mariah Miller, and Hailey Ruth from Northland Pines and Paxton Bores and Hope Sanderfoot from Three Lakes High School received scholarships. The committee used the following Criteria to determine winners - GPA, class rank, SAT scores, need, references, extra curricular activities, community involvement, and pursuing a career in health related care. These young adults were very impressive during their interviews and it was difficult to choose just four which is why additional scholarships were given this year. We wish them well in their educational aspirations. Congratulations scholarship winners!



L - R Audrey Lindemann; Jesse Boldebuck; Marie Maciag, Treasurer; Hailey Ruth; Mariah Miller



L - R Teri Kressin, President; Hope Sanderfoot; Paxton Bores; and Diana Sell, Secretary/Publicity

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Teri Kressin, President Eagle River Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

It's June already and summer is in full swing. The robins are back and flowers are blooming. The snowbirds are also back and we are thrilled to have them.

Four of us attended Advocacy Days in Madison on April 19 along with about 1000 other people. In the afternoon three of us met with our legislators to discuss issues pertinent to health care in Wisconsin. We all enjoyed the speaker and the panel discussion. Then Governor Scott Walker talked to us over lunch. It was a good event.

This month we were privileged to award six \$1,000 scholarships to some very accomplished seniors from Northland Pines and Three Lakes High School who will be attending college and majoring in a health care field. It was a pleasure interviewing all applicants and a very hard decision to pick the six young women and man. Marie Maciag, Diana Sell, and I enjoyed making the presentations.

We have a meeting coming up on Tuesday, June 20. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. At our April meeting we had a presentation by Cate Wilson and Dan Halverson from the EMS discussing the need for a new ambulance and lifts designed for those ambulances so that the staff does not have to do any manual lifting. The feeling from the general membership is that we pursue this for the hospital.

We will be discussing our upcoming fashion show to be held in August. Everyone received a "Save the Date" in the mail. We want a great turnout and are hoping everyone brings a friend. THIS IS OUR ONLY FUNDRAISER FOR THE YEAR! It's a lot of work to put this all together and a good time is enjoyed by all who attend. Please come.

We are still in need of someone to fill the office of President-elect, PPE, Heartbeat Editor and other offices that may become vacant in the very near future. So please consider very seriously about filling any one of these vacancies. As usual, we have many areas that are in need of volunteers; some of these are the "Help Program", Outpatient, Life Direct and Thrift Shop. Thank you for all you do for our organization. We appreciate each and every one of you.

## Spring District Meeting

By Diana Sells

On April 7, five members of the Auxiliary, Pam Cira, Teri Kressin, Marie Maciag, Peggie Lambert, and Diana Sell attended the Spring District Meeting in Medford, WI. The Guest speaker was Nicky Kollmansberger from Aspirus, Medford. She talked about the "Stepping On Fall Prevention Program". Presidents from the other hospitals in our district shared written reports on recruiting new volunteers, retaining current members, growing community outreach, events, normal business meetings, finances, food sales, fun events, and how the District meetings and Convention benefit the various Auxiliary/volunteer programs. If interested in looking at these written reports, contact any of the attendees.

The District business meeting included reports from the President, Mary Licht who was absent due to health reasons; the President-Elect, Jan Molaska; the PPE Chair, Barbara Filla; and the CHE Chair, Sherry Jelic. The Fall District Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 25. The 2017 Convention will be October 3-5 at the Hyatt on Main in Green Bay. The theme is "Building our Future".



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## In-Service June 2017

Spring is slowly moving into summer, as the beauty of the northwoods awakens with greenery of leaves and the endless color of flowers! So too, our summer volunteers are appearing, ready to join those who have carried the load all winter. We are anxious and very grateful for these extra helping hands and smiling faces to return.

In Out-Patient Surgery, we commend the following volunteers for their faithful service: Bev Ginnow, Margo Granat, Rose DeBartels, Dawn Guzman, Karen Young, Sherrie Mondus, Marlys Lee and Mickey Jensen. There is always room for more volunteers in Out-Patient Surgery. If this is something you have a few hours of your time to give in this area, please give **Pam Cira, Membership**, a call - 715-479-5485.

### **OR CONTACT:**

Mickey Jensen, Co-chair, Heart Beat Articles, Training, Volunteer, 715-479-7504, [flipdaflyr@msn.com](mailto:flipdaflyr@msn.com)

Marlys Lee, Co-chair, Attends Board Meetings, Training, Volunteer, 715-479-5443, [ovr\\_mar@hotmail.com](mailto:ovr_mar@hotmail.com)

## To Our Volunteers

*by Lisa Ellinwood*

V is for the Very special people that you are

O is for the Overwhelming support & compassion you offer others during their time of need

L is for the Little things you do that make such a difference in someone's life

U is for the Unspoken words that sometimes mean just as much

N is for the Need you fill when others aren't able

T is for the Time you give of yourselves on top of your own busy schedules

E is for the Emotional support you continually give

E is also for the Endless energy you all seem to possess

R is for the Responsibility you have taken on & never once complained

S is for the Smiles you bring to patients & families by just being you

-- Unknown Submitted by Lisa Ellinwood



## New Howard Young Foundation Board President

Howard Young Foundation has named Erin Biertzer as their new Board President, filling the role most recently held by Mike Gibbons. Erin has been a member of the board since 2013. During that time she served as the Chair of the Giving Committee which focused on raising awareness of the Foundation as well as fundraising to support Howard Young Medical Center and Ascension Eagle River Memorial Hospital. She begins her new role on June 5, 2017.

## Fashion Show and Purse Raffle

By Diana Sell and Pam Cira

Be sure to save the date for this year's Fashion Show. It's on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 11:00 at the Whitetail Inn in St. Germain, WI. This year we are hoping that more ladies from Eagle River's Auxiliary will come. We are going to have a joint style show again with fashions from the Thrift Store in Eagle River and accessories from the gift shop in Howard Young. Our models will show both a casual and dressy outfit this year.

We had huge success with the purse raffle last year and will have it again this year. Gently used purses can be dropped off in a box in the conference room at the hospital adjacent to Cate Wilson's office. Remember to place a new "surprise gift" worth at least \$10 inside each purse you donate. The theme of the fashion show is "Spotlight On Fashion". We will be spotlighting our Thrift Store so we hope the volunteers who work there will support this event. You should have received a "Save the Date" notice in the mail. Invitations will be forthcoming where you can choose among three food choices. The cost is \$29 per person. Remember that this is a fundraiser - our only one! We hope to see you there. Those who attended last year said they had a great time!

We ask for your support of this effort once a year. And to help ease the hardship for those who have a financial burden with the cost, we offer our members a \$10 subsidy on that cost. If transportation is a problem, we can even arrange car pools to help. So PLEASE try to work attending into your schedule. Please feel free to contact Pam Cira at (715)479-5485 or [pamcira@yahoo.com](mailto:pamcira@yahoo.com).



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## Advocacy Day 2017

By Diana Sell

On April 19, 2017 Teri Kressin, Marie Maciag, Lisa Pepp, and Diana Sell attended Advocacy Day with more than 1,000 other hospital advocates at the Monona Terrace in Madison, WI. Amy Walter, a political analyst provided the keynote address with Governor Scott Walker providing the luncheon keynote. In the morning a bipartisan panel of state senators and state representatives answered a series of healthcare related questions.

In the afternoon our volunteers and 600 other attendees went to the capitol. We met with an aide of Senator Tom Tiffany and Rob Swearingen. Several key points were discussed with these legislators such as Graduate Medical Education, Rural Wisconsin Initiative's Focus on Healthcare, the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital Program, Paying for Provider Care Coordination in Medicaid, and Increasing Reimbursement for Outpatient Mental Health Services. Information on these key points can be found on the Valued Voice pages on the WHA website ([www.wha.org](http://www.wha.org)).

Our Auxiliary needs a Public Policy Education Chair (PPE Chair) to keep us abreast of the legislative concerns of our hospitals. Blanche Babcock did an excellent job in the past, but because of health concerns is no longer able to serve in that area. If interested, please contact Teri Kressin, President.

We all can be part of the grassroots force shaping our hospital's future by becoming a HEAT (Hospital Education and Advocacy Team) member. Ask your Executive Committee members for more information on how to become a member.

I have attended Advocacy Day every year since I became a member. I view it as one of the most interesting, exciting, and worthwhile events that I can be part of. The legislators are very receptive and want to know how their policy decisions can help protect our hospitals, patients, and communities. I am proud to be from one of the Wisconsin hospitals which provides some of the highest quality, highest value care in the nation.



## PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION

By Teri Kressin, PPE Chairman

There were over 1,000 attendees at Advocacy Days on April 19 in Madison, Wisconsin. Of these, 600 went on for state legislative visits. Three topics were discussed with our legislators. The first topic covered the importance of our hospitals to the local community, its residents, and employers. The second was asking legislators to use the Medicaid surplus to fund health care reimbursement increases. The third issue was telling our legislators about the importance of investing in Wisconsin's health care workplace.

Under the first topic we discussed the high quality of health care in this state which is one of the most important factors when employers are considering where to locate or expanding their business. Under the second topic it was discussed that in Wisconsin hospitals are reimbursed 27% less than the national average. We also need additional access to mental health care for those on Medicaid. Our state is very much in need of critical health care professionals. We need to attract these individuals to want to study and stay in our state to practice by providing incentives for them.

I urge all volunteers to sign up for Hospital's Education and Advocacy Team. It costs nothing to enroll and will give you updates on what is going on in our state capitol regarding health care.

## THRIFT SHOP



Exciting things are happening every day at the thrift shop. Welcome back to our wonderful snow birds. You help so much to fill in where needed. Our volunteer staff numbers are down and the winter crew has been doing an amazing job but there are not enough people to call when someone is ill or something. So they double up many days.

Being a volunteer means to do something for the auxiliary and not be active only in the social end, which we all love. There is so much to do every day. Donations have been really coming in as is usual this time of year. So, come on ladies, let's get to work and make some more money for the hospital. We all come from different walks of life but, speaking for myself and others, God has given each of us different gifts. Why don't you come on in and join us and show off your special gift or talent. We need help on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please, check your calendars and hopefully, you will find time to help out.

Please call me anytime. I'm happy for your calls. Joan Holdmann, Chairperson 715-479-6930

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**August 7** - Joint AERMH and AHYMC Fashion Show, Whitetail Inn

**October 3-5** - State Convention, Green Bay

**September 19** - Day of Renewal, Moon Beach Camp



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES COME AND WORK WITH US

If interested, please contact Kathy Viergutz at 715-356-8677 for more information.

**Thrift Store Volunteers**

**HELP Program Volunteers**

**Office of President-Elect**

**Public Policy and Education Chair**

**Out-Patient Surgery Volunteers**

**'Heartbeat' Newsletter Editor, Training provided**

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