

The Manatee Messenger



August 2018

Connie Lesser, Editor

From the Desk of the President Connie Lesser



We will be saying "Goodbye" to our wonderful teen volunteers this month. A "Farewell Party" will be held for them on August 3rd when they will receive their certificates of service. We've had a super group of kids this year and are hoping they will consider returning next year. They are welcome to continue volunteering during the school year once they see if their academic work load will allow it. Be sure to let these kids know how much we appreciated having them with us.

The Auxiliary held a vendor sale with HCI last month. Unfortunately, sales were not as good as we had expected.....the invoice is not in, as of the time this newsletter goes to print, so our profit is unknown. Thank you to the co-chairs, Jane Fultz and Marilyn Jeffery. Our next sale will be September 13th and 14th, with "One Touch Linens & More". Volunteers are always welcome to work these sales. You can choose to work 4 hours in the AM or 4 hours in the PM. If you would like to work this one, give me a call at 745-6952. Volunteers that work any sale will receive double hours.

There have been a number of incidents in the hospital due to tripping and falling because of footwear. Because of this, the administration has asked all employees and volunteers when you come into the hospital for meetings or to work, not to wear sandals, clogs without a back strap, thongs or flip flops. Even though we are volunteers, we are considered the same as an employee. Please comply with this for your own safety.

I am still learning the ropes on our new Volgistics software....so please be patient with me if I forget to remember your hours tag or anything else for that matter. I am not forgetting you on purpose. It's a learning process. This program can do wonderful things.....I just have to learn how to make it do those wonderful things.



**From the Desk of your DVS
AnnaLuisa Huffman**



It is hard to believe that the summer is coming to an end, for our Summer Teens, at least. It certainly isn't saying so on the thermometer, though! It has been an exciting summer with over 90 teenagers volunteering throughout the hospital and thrift shop. We have heard many compliments on their work and it seems that the teens are having a good time as well. Their last "official" day is Friday, August 3rd and I bet there are some departments who will be sad to see them go.

This summer we "reinstated" the Summer Teen A-Team. This small group proved to be the cream of the crop of our teenagers. They were named the A-Team because they were Ambassadors for the hospital, visiting patients and listening to the patients' experiences. They presented their findings to the Senior Management of the hospital and wrote essays on their 6- week involvement in the Ambassador program. We are very proud of these teens and know that they are destined to leave the hospital having grown in their understanding of the patient experience and perhaps they will go on to make major changes in Service Excellence.

SOMETHING NEW!!! We are offering ALL Volunteers, over the age of 50, FREE membership into the *Senior Advantage Program*, for as long as you are a volunteer through Manatee Memorial. Senior Advantage has many benefits including special parking in the parking garage (near the walkway to the hospital entrance), discounts at the YMCA and LECOM park for Pirates Spring Training games and Marauders games as well as the opportunity to have your Medicare Part A deductible reduced to \$0 for hospital stays (if Medicare is your only insurance). Just one more reason to be a volunteer at Manatee Memorial Hospital and Thrift Shop!

Special Kudos to Nancy Minito!

Last month, we had a patient who was homeless and did not have any clothes with which to leave the hospital. A call to the Thrift Shop could not locate any size 12 shoes for this patient. Nancy went on a "hunt" and returned the next day with a new backpack full of clothes and a new pair of size 12 sneakers for the patient. The nurses were amazed that someone would go out of their way to help this patient and they felt comfortable in discharging him from the hospital. Thank you, Nancy, for helping the "least of our brethren" and proving that MMH truly is blessed to have such wonderful volunteers!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Vernon DeSear, Vice President, Manatee Healthcare System and Executive Director of the Manatee Memorial Foundation, Inc., recently received a special tribute. He was surprised by the staff from Southeastern Guide Dogs when they showed up with a puppy that they named after him. This was in honor of his and the Foundation's support over the last 20 years.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you to all who expressed an interest in serving on the Auxiliary Board. We are pleased to have more interested people than available positions. Our slate of officers and directors will be introduced at the Fall Luncheon in October.



THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Jason Fultz, Manager

Located at 4517 Manatee Avenue W.



Our sales for June were \$51,606. We are up from last June by \$6,342.05. It's looking like we could hit \$600,000 this fiscal year! So, let's keep our fingers crossed.

We had a half-price sale on July 14th. We made \$5,419.03, which is great since we are in the slow months. Thank you, AnnaLuisa, for coming out and helping along with all the volunteers who helped get ready and work the sale.

We raffled off a 65 inch flat screen TV that was donated a month ago. We sold 70 tickets at \$10 each. We also got a \$2600 donation from the same estate along with a lot of nice furniture. A card was sent to the family saying "thank you" for the donation and also the list of charities that benefit from their donation.

Shop where your dollars stay in Manatee County



Sally Scarborough, Manager



This summer has gone by so quickly, as they always do. We've just completed our Christmas in July Sale. We hope you joined us. Our customers enjoyed great bargains on decorations and gifts! We had fun!

Our Teen Volunteers are finishing up their volunteer hours and heading back to class soon. We had such a nice group this year, including two teens with parents working at MMH and another teen whose older sister had volunteered in the gift shop several years ago. It's been a good summer.

August is always busy! We look forward to the joys of the holidays and the return of our many volunteers who have spent their summer in the cooler climates!

Best wishes to all and Happy Labor Day!

Meet Our New



Seated L-R: Adriana Maldonado, Neri Fonarev, Valerie Collison, Shirley Betts
Standing L-R: AnnaLuisa Huffman, DVS, Nikhil Patel, Benn Sesante, Peter Duun, Larz Sesante,
Connie Lesser, President

Foundation/Auxiliary Philosophy of Giving

The MMH Foundation/Auxiliary's mission is to support MMH in providing compassionate and dedicated care to all those who are in distress of mind or body. We serve more than 50 departments within the hospital such as the Information Desk, file clerks, patient transporters, Gift Shoppe, Thrift Shop assistants, shuttle drivers, spiritual care providers and many more. As an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization, we also make substantial contributions to charitable organizations in our community in the form of grants, donations and scholarships.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Every day thousands of unsung heroes bring caring and compassion to the lives of millions. Their names are never featured in the headlines, but our world would be a much darker place without them.

~ Charles Devlin



*Volunteer Hours Report
For June 2018
Connie Lesser, Hours Chairman*



500 HOURS

Madeline Schrader
Jeanne Wacker

2000 HOURS

Raleen Reiher

8500 HOURS

Mary Comstock

1500 HOURS

Jim Frank
Marilyn Garland

2500 HOURS

Herb Hunter
Karlene Rowland

11,000 HOURS

Ginny Morrish



*Sunshine Report for June
Karlene Rowland, Corresponding Secretary*



GET WELL

Genessa Brown
Nancy Newman
Steve Tobin
Coralie Viner
Tom Murray



THINKING OF YOU

Norma Brunson





August 2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>Summer TIME</p>			1	2	3 <p>Teen Back to School Party</p>	4
5	6 <p>New Member Orientation</p> <p>Orientation</p>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <p>Foundation Board Meeting</p>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	