

The Manatee Messenger



January 2019

Connie Lesser, Editor

From the Desk of the President Connie Lesser



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year's Eve. I wish all of you a new year of good health and many blessings.

This will be my last newsletter article as your President. I will be passing the gavel on to your new President, Raleen Reiher, on January 18th. I must say that my time spent serving this auxiliary has been a most rewarding experience....one that I've enjoyed very much. I have served as your representative proudly. When I took office in 2016, my theme was "**Volunteers Soaring with Inner Radiance**". I read a story about the geese which explains this theme. That story can be found on page 5.

Our last vendor sale of 2018 was with Collective Goods. We earned \$1,800. I hope everyone had a chance to check out all the nice things they had to offer....and hopefully purchased some.

The 2019 Celebration/Installation Luncheon will be held on Friday, January 18th. It will be in the beautiful Crystal Ballroom of the Manatee Performing Arts. More information on this can be found further in this newsletter. The sign-up sheets will be available in the Volunteer Office and Thrift Shop beginning Wednesday, January 2nd. The deadline to sign-up is Monday, January 14th. We will be distributing our monetary grants to the selected local organizations as well as installing your new officers at this time. **See page 8 for details.**



*From the desk of our DVS
AnnaLuisa Huffman*



It seems like the year 2018 just flew by! I have been telling people that I have been here two years but come March, I will have been here three years and starting my fourth! That is hard to believe because it seems like just yesterday that all of this was "brand new" and I was trying to find my way around the hospital and not get lost, and learning everyone's name which is hard when I only saw you once a week (or in the case of the Thrift Store, only at special events). What I do remember was that everyone was warm and welcoming and willing to help me learn. I loved getting to know everyone and still continue to learn something new every day. Today I finally found out where the Case Management Department is! Three years it took me! Three years!

So, as we face a New Year with a new Emergency Care Center, with departments moving in to the old ER area, with exciting ways to improve the patient experience (AKA new volunteer positions) and new staff at the Thrift Store, I remind you that we are never too old to learn. We have to learn new traffic patterns around the outside of the hospital. We have to learn where departments have moved to and what department moved into their space. We will have to learn to make new habits to increase customers' shopping experience in our Thrift and Gift Shops. Volunteers are coming and going, and we must make adjustments and say goodbye to friends and welcome newcomers.

We do not know what the year 2019 holds in store for us. I hope and pray that you welcome each new day, each new experience, and each new facet to your life that this year brings, and EMBRACE it. Let us grow together and work to make Manatee Memorial Hospital, the MMH Foundation, the Thrift Shop and Gift Shoppe a warm, welcoming place to come to be healed, supported, and fulfilled.

I wish you a happy and healthy new year!





THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Jason Fultz, Manager

Located at 4517 Manatee Avenue W.



Our November sales were \$54,547.60, down \$1,434.77 from last year.

Our donations have been down from the last few months along with fewer customers. After the election, our sales started to pick up some. I have talked to some of the northern customers and they are not coming this far down this year because of the red tide outbreak on our beaches.

Our half-price sale was the best we have had with sales of \$6,003.44 and we served 411 customers! Thank you to all the volunteers that put in the hard work to make this happen. Also, thank you to Vernon, AnnaLuisa, and Connie for coming out and helping us.

We are looking forward to a great 2019.



Shop where your dollars stay in Manatee County



Sally Scarborough, Manager



Our Gift Shop had a very busy December helping visitors, staff and volunteers prepare for Christmas. It was great to have so many of you shop with us! Our holidays were busy, merry and bright!

We really enjoyed hosting former MMF Auxiliary President Nancy Stolle's Red Hat group in early December. It's always so nice when they visit our Gift Shop and we thank them so much for their patronage! They bring so much love, joy and fun along with them! We love it when they visit.

Thanks to Kathy Browning and our outstanding volunteers for their constant help and support. We couldn't serve our hospital and community without you!

As we plan for the year ahead, we look forward to seeing you in our shop. We're here to serve you!

Sending everyone our very best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019!

Meet Our New



Seated L-R: Carrie Sperlunto, Kathleen Anderson, Lisbet Gongora, Larry Cohen.
Standing L-R: AnnaLuisa Huffman, DVS, Diane O'Grady, Alejandro Gomez, Geralyn Jenkins, Cari Gomez, Samantha Hoskinson, Nanci Jones, Connie Lesser, President.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another"
~ Author Unknown

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.



5 Lessons from the Geese

'Individual empowerment results from quality honking'

Lessons from *Geese* provides a perfect example of the importance of team work and how it can have a profound and powerful effect on any form of personal or business endeavor. When we use these five principles in our personal and business life it will help us to foster and encourage a level of passion and energy in ourselves, as well as those who are our friends, associates or team members.

It is essential to remember that teamwork happens inside and outside of business life when it is continually nurtured and encouraged.

1 - The Importance of Achieving Goals

As each goose flaps its wings it creates an "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a 'V' formation the whole flock adds 71% extra to the flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson:

When we share a common direction and sense of community, we create trust and can help each other to achieve our goals.

2 - The Importance of Team Work

When a goose falls out of formation it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the birds in front.

Lesson:

If we had as much sense as a goose, we would stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

3 - The Importance of Sharing

When a goose tires of flying up front, it drops back into the formation and another goose takes over the point position.

Lesson:

It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership.....because people, like geese, are interdependent upon each other.

4 - The Importance of Encouragement

Geese flying in formation 'HONK' to encourage those up front to keep up with their speed.

Lesson:

We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups and teams where there is encouragement, production is much greater. 'Individual empowerment results from quality honking'

5 - The Importance of Empathy and Understanding

When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to the ground to help and protect it. They stay with it until it's either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, either with another formation or to catch up with the original flock

Lesson:

If we have as much sense as geese we will stand by each other in difficult times, as well as when we are strong.



**Volunteer Hours Report for
November 2018**
Connie Lesser, Hours Chairman



100 HOURS

David Berger
Karen Champion
Marshall Jeffers
Herbert Zuercher

500 HOURS

Tony Minito

1500 HOURS

Karen Pollari

3500 HOURS

Nancy Goldsworthy

1000 HOURS

Trudy Clarke

2000 HOURS

Valerie Beechy

4000 HOURS

Johnny Robinson



Sunshine Report
Karlene Rowland, Corresponding Secretary



AnnaLuisa Huffman
Tamara Wagner
Kay Riel
John Rombough
Juanita Adams
Janie Gibbs



Betty Chambliss



Jason & Carly Fultz



Jonie Enos
Sonny Kellner





January 2019



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 	2	3	4	5
6	7  Orientation	8	9	10	11 New Auxiliary Board Orientation	12
13	14	15  Auxiliary Board Meeting	16	17	18 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Celebration/Installation Luncheon
Friday, January 18, 2019
Manatee Performing Arts

MENU

Pier 22 salad
Bruschetta Chicken
Petite Filet
Tuscan Vegetarian Pasta
Chocolate Cake
Water, tea, coffee

11:30 AM—Social Time

Noon—Lunch

Reservations are required. Sign up in the Volunteer Office or at the Thrift Shop or by calling 745-7287.

Please make your entrée choice at that time.