

# Myrtue Medical Center Auxiliary Volunteer Voice

Volume 71

Issue 1

March 2024

## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Greetings, MMCA members.

I am honored to serve as president of Myrtue Medical Center Auxiliary. We have an ambitious year ahead. The MMCA board members were installed during the January board meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held in the spring, on April 5th. I hope many of you can attend.

As you read the newsletter, be mindful if there is a particular activity, or a new activity, in which you would like to be more involved. The Auxiliary committee chairs are listed in this newsletter.

We have set goals for the year and will share accomplishments through the Volunteer Voice.

Highlights of the goals for 2024 are listed:

### GROWTH

- Increase membership by 20 members
- Continue Membership Recruitment table at MMCA events with opportunity for established members to pay annual dues

### QUALITY

- Achieve 100% compliance with health assessments, required vaccines, HIPAA, and compliance forms
- Assure the Volunteer Voice includes all programs, services, and fundraising events and is communicated to members, the MMC board, and the Health Foundation

### PEOPLE

- Continue MMCA-led appreciation activities for MMC employees
- Maximize marketing and communication activities, including social media

### SERVICES

- Host Unique Boutique at MMCA Bazaar and the annual Holiday Open House
- Continue to provide scholarships for students in healthcare fields
- RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) continue to recruit drivers
- Continue auction food concessions
- Continue MMCA-led projects: hats/Afghans for newborns, Skilled Care patient visits, POP tours, and Tree of Lights

### FINANCIAL

- Analyze MMCA needs and purchases as determined by the board
- Donation of \$20,000 to MMC departments

Thanks to each of you for your support of MMCA. All members are valued. Every amount of participation is appreciated!

- Cheryl Ferry, President



Cheryl Ferry, President, presented a \$30,000 check to Myrtue Medical Center at our board meeting in February on behalf of the Auxiliary. The Birthing Center, Diagnostic Imaging, Inpatient, Pharmacy, Specialty Clinics, Infusion Center, Cardiac Rehab, and the Surgical Department will all receive a portion of the money donated to purchase patient care equipment. Kristy Hansen, Chief Financial Officer, accepted the check and thanked the Auxiliary for all their time and efforts given to Myrtue.

# 2024 AUXILIARY BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Officers and new board members were installed at the January 2024 board meeting. Did you know that Myrtue Medical Center Auxiliary follows a set of rules known as “bylaws”? The bylaws are a guide that the board utilizes when making decisions and when planning events. Bylaws are reviewed annually, updated as appropriate, and approved at the December meeting.

## 2024 Auxiliary Board:

(Front L to R seated): Jolene Lytle, Ruthanne Grimsley, *Treasurer*, Cheryl Ferry, *President*, Sandy Nelsen, *Secretary*, Nancy Osborn, *Vice President*, and Sharon Daberkow. Back row (l-r) Cindy Hanson, Pat Hemminger, *Gift Shop*, Deb Morgan, Loretta Harder, Bonnie Fiscus, Karissa Sears, Joan Chamberlain, Phyllis Lytle, and Julienne Ferry. Absent: Cheryl Burchett and Jolene Behrend (*Gift Shop*).



## Committee Chairs:

### ADMINISTRATIVE

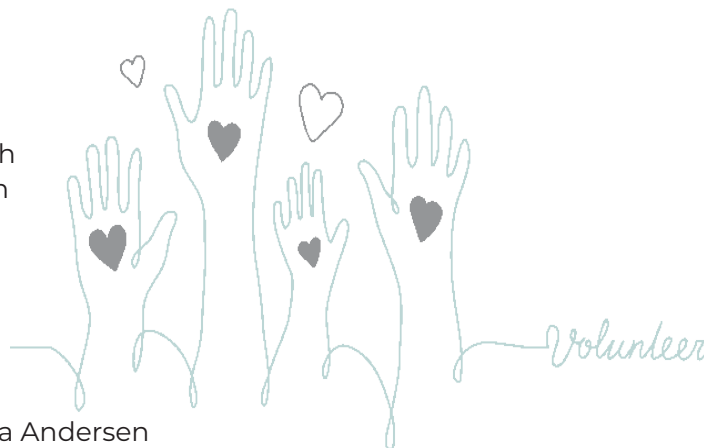
- **Scholarships** - Bonnie Fiscus
- **Budget** - Officers
- **Communication** - Julienne Ferry
- **Recruiting/Membership** - Nancy Osborn, Linda Quinn, Deb Morgan
- **Audit** - Bev Goshorn
- **Nominating** - Joan Chamberlain, Loretta Harder, Cheryl Ferry
- **Bylaws** - Nancy Osborn, Cheryl Burchett, Cheryl Ferry, Sandy Nelsen
- **Compliance** - Cheryl Burchett

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- **Employee Gratitude** - Deb Jauron
- **Pediatric Orientation Program (POP)** - Pat Pash
- **Road to Recovery Program** - Joan Chamberlain
- **Swing Bed** - Jan Goeser
- **Liaison to MMC Exec Asst** - Loretta Harder

### FUNDRAISING

- **Bazaar** - Team
- **Bakeless Bake Sale** - Ruthanne Grimsley
- **Auction Food Concessions** - Deb Morgan, Linda Andersen
- **Tree of Lights** - Calla Poldberg
- **Gift Shop Purchasing Team/Design & Display** - Pat Hemminger and Jolene Behrend
- **Gift Shop Volunteer Coordinator** - Cindy Hanson
- **Gift Shop Orientation/Trainer** - Cindy Hanson
- **Gift Shop Unpacking** - Kim Jensen and Jolene Lytle
- **Gift Shop POS Entry** - Jolene Behrend
- **Gift Shop Greeting Cards Purchasers** - Wava Bails and Bev Goshorn



# MEMBERSHIP and RECRUITMENT

We are asking all members to check on your membership status and pay your 2024 dues. The year is highlighted on the left corner of your mailing label, if you still owe for this year. Dues again are \$10 per year or \$100 for a Lifetime membership. You can also pay any increment, such as \$20 for two years. There are no outstanding dues from 2023. The goal is to have all membership dues paid in the current year. Thanks again for all your help in meeting this goal each year! Please make checks out to MMCA; you may leave them at the Gift Shop or send by mail - Attn: Ruth Pitkin, 1213 Garfield Avenue, Harlan, IA 51537. All members are very important to our organization and financial help is greatly needed each year in order to support all the areas we strive for, such as scholarships and departmental needs.

The Auxiliary Board has again set a goal of 20 new members for 2024. Every new member brings with them their time and talents and boosts the energy of our organization. You can help recruit new members by inviting your friends and family members to join! All members receive the newsletter, the Volunteer Voice, which is our communication tool and allows us to share the outstanding work of our organization.

Interested persons can go online to the Myrtue Medical Center webpage at MyrtueMedicalCenter.org and click on Patients & Visitors tab. Click Auxiliary + Gift Shop for information or to download our membership form. Or you may call Nancy Osborn at 712.579.0291 or Ruth Pitkin at 712.755.4316 for more information or to answer questions.

We added 35 new members in 2023 and our total membership now stands at 257. We have 26 Honorary Members and 100 Lifetime Members. ~Nancy Osborn

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## VOLUNTEER FORMS

Did you know there are certain procedures and documents needed for anyone who regularly volunteers at Myrtue Medical Center? HIPAA forms along with either verification of influenza vaccine and/or COVID-19 vaccine or a waiver need to be signed annually for any volunteers who work in the Gift Shop or provide Skilled Patient Care visits. Auxiliary board members also need to sign these forms annually. You may sign a form in the Gift Shop or with Ruth Pitkin in Administration. Health assessments are due every four years for our volunteers and will be done at the hospital by Cathy Buman. ~Cheryl Burchett

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## BAKELESS BAKE SALE

The Bakeless Bake Sale serves as a fundraiser where MMCA members donate money that funds our healthcare scholarships. Donation envelopes are included in the spring newsletter. Monetary donations should be mailed to the Treasurer, Ruthanne Grimsley, 911 Victoria Street, Harlan, IA 51537. Please give generously as this provides **SIX \$800** scholarships each year. Eligible scholarship applicants should be a resident of the area served by MMC, overall GPA of 2.50 and be 17 years of age or older. Applications are due by April 1st and should be mailed to Bonnie Fiscus.



# Auxiliary In Action!

## GIFTS OF GRATITUDE



On November 11, a group made up of Deb & Vince Jauron, Jan McElwain, Ella Hazelton, Deb Morgan, Rebecca Gough, and Janet Thomsen delivered individual bags to MMC team members working that day, evening and night. An apple with individual caramel dip was handed out with the message, "Season of Thanksgiving, we are thankful for you." Appreciation gifts were received by team members working off-site locations also. 290 gifts were delivered. The reward is the smiles on faces of MMC team members. Thank you to those who assisted in making these events successful.

290 employee appreciation gifts were delivered to MMC team members on Feb 14. Deliveries were made throughout the hospital and to all the off-site locations. Our team included Deb & Vince Jauron, Bonnie Fiscus, Shirley Olson, Jan McElwain, Mary Tremel, Ella Hazelton, and Deb Morgan who helped with assembly and delivery. Treat bags were also left for team members working the evening and night shifts. Each bag contained a cookie, candy kisses and a gift tag that read, "A little Valentine treat to say thank you for all you do! Myrtue Medical Center Auxiliary."



welcome baby

Some of our wonderful volunteers knit or crochet baby hats and Afgans for babies born at MMC. Pictured at left is Denise Van De Berg delivering hats to Michele Monson, Birthing Center Nurse Manager. Middle photo is Kathy Kienast. Right photo is Loretta Harder. Our babies and families are so appreciative of the keepsake items.

# AT THE *Unique* GIFT SHOP BOUTIQUE



The annual Holiday Open House was held Nov 8th & 9th with new fall and Christmas treasures.

Both days were busy with steady shoppers. Multiple MMCA members and multiple MMC departments worked together to make this event successful. Door prize winners were: Julienne Johnson & Amanda Erwin [Unique Boutique gift certificates], and Sharon Schwartz [MMCA 1 year free membership]. The net income from the Holiday Open House was \$3,121. Thank you to those who helped in any way. Your continued support is valued!



Pat Hemminger and Jolene Behrend, Unique Boutique purchasing team, attended market in Minneapolis, MN in January. This was a great opportunity for them to meet the vendors and to see and touch the merchandise they buy or order for Unique Boutique. These ladies are organized and have to prepare for merchandise needed months in advance. We are so grateful for their expertise!



Unique Boutique sales were boosted with a Pop Up Spring event hosted Feb 21st & 22nd. New spring merchandise was featured. Our guests continue to be impressed with the new location and selection of goods. We are thankful to MMC team members and to the public for their continued support. Congratulations to our door prize winners: Jean Ferry, Jean Bieker, Tara Rihner, and Kim Burchett. Thank you to the Unique Boutique volunteers who worked an extra shift.

## RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The **RSVP** program, which is a collaborative effort with HR, Patient Access and the MMC Auxiliary, is in full swing. We now have 13 volunteer drivers who have provided 48 rides to patients for medical appointments to local clinics in Harlan, Shelby, Elk Horn, Earling and Avoca since October. The feedback from the patients has been overwhelmingly positive and a rewarding experience for the drivers as well. Volunteers are required to be 55 years of age. Mileage reimbursement is available. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Joan Chamberlain at 712.579.1103.

## AUCTION CONCESSIONS

Last year we added Auction Food Concessions, as a new form of fundraising for the Auxiliary. We have set a goal of 3-4 concessions annually. The first auction in 2024 will be held on March 10th at Vet's Auditorium. Food and drink for concessions is donated or purchased by the Auxiliary. We accept monetary donations also to offset food expenses.

We have made a commitment to host concessions at two other auctions. One will be on May 5th and the other on June 2nd. If you are interested in working, donating bars, or have questions, please contact Cheryl Ferry at 712.579.5420. Every action for the success of the food concessions is appreciated.

~~Deb Morgan, Concessions Chair



AUXILIARY

1213 GARFIELD AVE | HARLAN, IA 51537

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Myrtue Medical Center Auxiliary's  
**Annual Meeting and Brunch**  
will be held on April 5, 2024  
at 9:30 AM  
in the Auble Conference Room.  
Join us for honorary member recognition,  
annual committee reports,  
door prizes and fun!  
Please RSVP to Ruth Pitkin at 755.4316.