



# OUTLOOK

Published by the  
Texas Association of  
Healthcare Volunteers, Inc.  
[www.tahv.org](http://www.tahv.org)

FALL 2020



## *From the TAHV Board*



*Please note, this photo was from the Spring Board Meeting and pre-COVID.*

### **What's In It For Me???**

by Kathy Jenkin, President, TAHV

You might ask "Why would I want to be a Board Member of TAHV?"  
That is a good question!

Ask yourself what you would gain through the experience of being a TAHV Board Member!

We invite you to grow with TAHV through Leadership. Great leaders not only bring growth to the cause they serve, but also give purpose to their own lives. Leaders understand the need for connection, support and continuing education. Serving on the TAHV Board provides educational venues helping other organizations, and connections with others attending District Meetings and the Annual TAHV Convention. The networking opportunities are endless. The friendships you make will last a lifetime.

Your service can and will take TAHV into the future with greatness.



# The President's Reflections

By: *Kathy Jenkin*, President

## It is a great honor to serve as your 2020/2021 President.

Wow! What a crazy and unpredictable year this has been with events being cancelled and not being allowed to volunteer at the hospital. These are trying times but know that TAHV board members are here to help answer your questions or just to talk. We need to stay strong and help each other when we can. Support one another by having a meeting outside, or a virtual meeting with your volunteer family or gather in a park and have a picnic. We will get through this difficult time and be stronger than ever. Hang in there my friends, there is a light at the end of this tunnel.

I know these last eight or nine months have been hard on everyone. The TAHV Convention in Galveston was cancelled, and on top of that, we had to cancel the District Meetings due to COVID. I would like to say "Thank You" to all District Coordinators for agreeing to host your District Meeting. It's always so much fun getting to share stories with other volunteers and finding out what other auxiliaries have been doing for fundraising and other events.

For a while NO volunteers were in their hospitals volunteering. If you were like me, I was going crazy *not* being allowed to volunteer. It really left a hole in my life. We will bounce back and be bigger and brighter than ever.

A little about your President.... I am married to my wonderful husband (Sam) of 43 years and we have 1 beautiful and amazing daughter and three wonderful and adoring grandchildren. If not for Sam, I would not be where I am today. Sam helped me fulfill my dreams of being a volunteer. I have always wanted to be a volunteer but was unable to since I worked full time at a bank for 30 years. Once I retired from banking, about six months passed and of course I was bored. My husband suggested that I go to Driscoll Children's Hospital and fill out an application. My volunteering began about 11 years ago. I have filled numerous positions within the hospital. The areas where I volunteer are the Cottage Shop (resale shop), Cookie Shop, Gift Shop, Surgery Waiting and Volunteer Services. I also chair the Scrub Sale, Sort N Sack (give toys to the clinics at Christmas), and am on the committee for Holiday Cards. In 2017 when I became President of our Auxiliary, my goal was to see what the volunteers did daily in their service areas. Driscoll Children's Hospital has so many events each year that our volunteers help with. We do what we do because we are so grateful for all the care that DCH provides for South Texas' children. Many of our own families have been served by DCH.

I have been on the TAHV Board of Directors since 2015 and have been on various committees as well as serving as First Vice President and President Elect.

As President, my theme is "VOLUNTEERS... PEACE LOVE DEDICATION". The design for the 2020/2021 President's pin is a colorful dove in the center to represent all the colors of our uniforms. The dove is symbolic for purity, gentleness, devotion, beauty, and faith, reminding me of the character of volunteers. Doves are so beautiful. The dove is also a symbol of love, hope and peace. Peace, Love and Dedication is what makes a volunteer.



The platform I have chosen is .... **Childhood Cancer.**

### Childhood cancer facts:

- 43 children per day are diagnosed with cancer.
- The average age of diagnosis for a child is 8 years old.
- About 1,190 children under 15 are expected to die from cancer this year.
- Children's Oncology Group, also known as COG, has more than 9,000 experts worldwide and numerous active clinical-trials open at any given time. These trials include front-line treatment for many types of childhood cancers, studies aimed at determining the underlying biology of these diseases, and trials involving new and emerging treatments, supportive care, and survivorship. The COG believes that the most rapid path to improving the outcome for children with cancer is by engaging scientists around the world. Children's Oncology Group needs more funding. These children are our future.

By the way, might you be interested in being a TAHV board member? Contact me by phone (361-877-3412), or email me (mkjenkin@icloud.com)

Stay safe and healthy,

### How to Become a Member of the TAHV Board of Directors?

Go to the TAHV Website... [www.tahv.org](http://www.tahv.org)

Put your cursor on "ABOUT" and choose "BOARD" on the drop-down list

If interested, click on the **NOMINATION FORM** at the bottom of the page, print it, fill it out and call or email Kathy.

## Brief History of the Challenge Coin

By **Mary Pfeffer**,  
Texoma Medical Center,  
Denison, District 5 TAHV Board Member

Originally, Challenge Coins were used by veterans or members of the armed forces. Today, **Challenge coins** are used among firefighters, police, businesses and even members of fraternal organizations.

A challenge coin is a small coin or medallion bearing an organization's insignia or emblem and carried by the organization's members. Traditionally, they were given to prove membership when challenged and to enhance morale. They have become collectibles!

Today the coins often represent an achievement, a good deed, hard work or completion of a special project. There's no better way to reward special efforts than with a challenge coin. Often when an employee or member is recognized for a job well done, they will be more satisfied with their job or organization.

### How to Give Someone a Challenge Coin?

Once you find the right moment to award someone a challenge coin, make sure that you properly hand it to the recipient. Transferring the coin should not be dramatic or obvious.

Many veterans and soldiers had their coin handed to them during a handshake. A commander holds the coin in his/her hand until shaking hands with the soldier. The coin is then silently passed to the soldier while they shake hands.



## A Spirit of Adventure...

By **Barbara Giannotti**, District 9 TAHV Board Member,  
Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital Volunteer

As we face this coming year, a year so different than any we can remember, one hopes we can look to what is unfolding for our volunteer communities with a spirit of adventure. We need to find ways to make connections with each other and those we seek to serve in new ways. We are challenged to approach our service with difficulties not yet seen. We will be called to set aside our own agendas and to share with each of our hospitals, ideas for keeping our service organizations informed and engaged. Sometimes we will experience success right away and sometimes success will come later. Now is the time to regroup and recharge, to share our hits and misses, and to stay connected to each other.

Start with enlisting others locally with zeal and a sense of purpose so that we can achieve a common goal of making the very best of the journey that is set before us. We can get through this time together and manifest a better future with our hands, feet, and hearts of action. Share how we are keeping in contact with our volunteer families, fundraising ...when and how, and how we are all handling the changes that we are facing. Please know we are working on our new normal together!

Email our awesome editor with your ideas and photos!

“Each of us will be a blessing to the other.”—Romans 1:2

Be safe, healthy, and blessed,  
Barb Giannotti

## What's been happening in Kerrville?

by **Diana Stevens**, 1st VP,  
Newsletter Editor,  
Peterson Health Auxiliary, Kerrville

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Peterson Health Auxiliary has tried to keep things moving forward and keep its members updated.

\* In June, the Executive Board placed phone calls to all active members to check in and to update them on the status of a possible return date.

\* In late August, the Executive Board sent a "checking in" note to all members (picture, below).



*Banner hung in the halls of Peterson Hospital and at the Ambulatory Care Center September 1.*



*Postcard sent to every member of the Peterson Auxiliary in late August.*

After September 14th, the banners honoring Peterson employees were modified to reflect that the Peterson Auxiliary was back. Peterson employees were very appreciative of the banners and cookies and still talk about it today. The steps taken to remain active in early September, we believe, helped create an even stronger bond between the Peterson employees and the Volunteers.

- \* On September 1, the Auxiliary sponsored a morale booster for the Peterson staff. Even though Volunteers were not at the hospital, a banner was placed in a prime location in the Ambulatory Care Center to let Peterson staff know that the Auxiliary members missed them.
- \* The Peterson Blue Sage Bistro wrapped individual cookies for every employee (700) with a note from the Auxiliary, and the cookies were delivered to each department.
- \* Additionally, the hospital gift shop, "Gifts, etc.", was opened two days per week, manned only by the gift shop manager. All Peterson employees were offered a 20% discount throughout the month of September. All Volunteers were invited to return on September 14.



*Banner hung in the halls of Peterson hospital and at the Ambulatory Care Center September 14, after the auxiliary returned.*

# Celebrating National Hospital Week

by **Connie Rogers**, Shannon Medical Center  
Volunteer President

These are Shannon Medical Center volunteers who live at Rio Concho West Retirement Community. We are wearing our new t-shirts celebrating National Hospital Week.



*Pictured Front Row L>R: Betty Kvapil, Darrell Rogers, Geneva Nelson, Marilyn Kent, Dolly Werley, Connie Rogers (President). Back Row L>R: Don Ruckelhausen, Trish Harrison, Caryl Morrison, Mary Schmedicke and Mary Sanderson*

## Showing Appreciation

From **Carol Sebesta**, President of The Angleton Danbury Auxiliary.

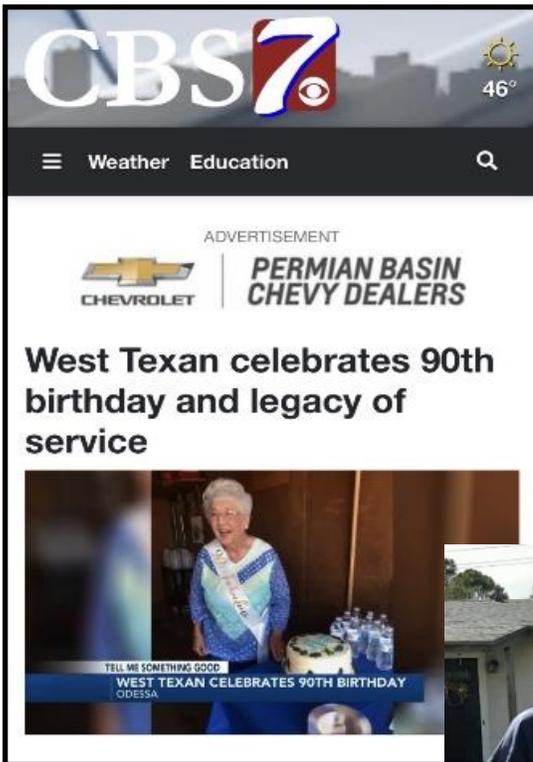
The Auxiliary of Angleton Danbury at UTMB Health ADC stays busy by showing appreciation to their hospital workers in various ways. Some of the things they've done??

- Give out meal tickets to all workers for either a breakfast or lunch at the beginning of the lock-down.
- Rotate each week giving Flower arrangements to each department
- Auxiliary members bagged and distributed cookies baked by the 1st Presbyterian Church
- Distributed candy and gum donated by the Gift Shop
- "We ♥ Our Nurses" yard decoration
- Balloon Thank You (lasted from May through October)
- A Sundae Ice Cream Bar and had an Ice Cream Truck come in July and August



Our members continue to make burp cloths, baby caps, small pillows, masks for visitors and headbands with buttons to save ears.

UTMB gave active volunteers the same shirt given to their employees. We miss volunteering and every time we see employees they say "We miss the Volunteers".



## Monumental Birthday Celebrations

By Pam Andrews, MCHS Auxiliary President,  
District 2 TAHV Board Member

**Medical Center Healthcare System** Volunteers (Odessa) voted to honor all monumental birthdays (60, 70, 80, 90 and on) in some special way. It could be a quartet singing Happy Birthday with balloons and a card, or taking a tray of cookies. In this case, volunteers and church members combined to celebrate and surprise volunteer member, **Mary McQueen** on her 90th birthday. She was elated at the line of cars and support she received especially during this COVID-19 pandemic. She was even on TV!!! (left photo) **We love you Ms. Mary!**



Volunteers Mona Navarette and Martha Hernandez with Mary



Nonagenarian Mary McQueen

< J'Lynn Collins dressed as a birthday card

## Helpful hints from ETV

by Dave Westerhaus, CHI St Lukes Medical Ctr Auxiliary President Elect, Past President, District 9 TAHV Board Member

Now that 2020 is drawing to a close, it's a good time to look back. Some of us may shudder at the thought, but chances are the challenges made us all a little stronger. With that thought in mind, let's help our auxiliaries stay strong and maintain up-to-date status on protocols.

In 2017, the **Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers (TAHV)** held its educational conference in The Woodlands, featuring great speakers and breakout sessions. One of the highlights was a little thumb drive that was handed out by the **Educational Topics for Volunteers (ETV)** Committee. If you attended this Convention, you may have picked up one of these thumb drives which contain 3 topics: Learning Not to Fall, Quality Customer Service, and Teen Volunteers. Please take a moment to find that thumb drive and put it to work for your auxiliary! It contains PowerPoint presentations suitable for individual view or for large groups. Use your hospital computer (check with the IT folks) or your own. Consider giving your volunteers and teen volunteers extra hours for watching it on their own time. You can even print copies of the material for them to reference later.

So, check your drawers, filing cabinets and storage closets for that thumb drive. It's from the Educational Topics for Volunteers Committee and can be a great tool to keep auxiliaries involved and up to date for 2021 (which has to be better than 2020!).

## Sharing the Christmas Spirit

By **Brandi Neeb**, Volunteer Coordinator, Baptist Hospitals of SE Texas, Beaumont

Volunteers and Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas choose a special project within the hospital every Christmas. Rather than exchanging gifts at the Christmas luncheon, volunteers bring donations to support the special project. This has included art supplies for children at the Behavioral Health campus, comfort bag supplies for the Cancer Center, and NICU survival kit supplies for moms with babies in the NICU.

This past year volunteers chose to support the food insecure patients at our Smart Health Clinic. The Smart Health Clinic provides follow up care for patients with certain chronic medical conditions such as COPD, congestive heart failure, and diabetes in an effort to avoid hospital readmission. Many of these patients are on a fixed income and struggle to purchase their medications and other basic needs.

Volunteers brought individual serving sized foods and drinks to be made into care packages that Smart Health staff will gift to patients in need. The staff was overwhelmed by the amount of donations received. To assist with distribution, storage, and organization of the donations, a group of volunteers got together to make the care packages. They sorted the food and drinks into categories and used an assembly line to stuff Ziploc bags.

The donations and additional assistance to staff in preparing the donations was a great service. There was such a high need for these supplies that the food was being taken and given to patients in need while the bags were still being packed. This was such a kind way to spread the Christmas spirit. Our volunteers are so special and appreciated!



*Do you have questions that come up in your meetings or updating or writing your bylaws???*

**Ask the Parliamentarian**

**Call Sue Bickham**

**With your Bylaws Questions**

**361-241-1766**

## Keeping Volunteers Active...

by Pamela Andrews, Auxiliary President, Medical Center Hospital Systems, Odessa, District 2 TAHV Board Member

**What's the latest venture with the crafty auxiliary ladies?** They made witches shoes from cardstock and filled them with candy for one floor of patients. Each month they will make something for a different floor. Here are a few pictures from their first day on this project.



Just a thought, but this project could just as well be used for Christmas by using Christmas colors and Christmas candy!!! If you would like the pattern, email Pam at [pjseay4@att.net](mailto:pjseay4@att.net).



### Send articles/pictures for the Outlook!!!

*Let's learn from and celebrate one another! Especially at this time, we need to share the stories and successes of your volunteer group. Do you have special holiday traditions or unique fundraisers-we'd love to hear about them...and don't forget the pictures. What does your auxiliary plan to do to help your hospital recover from the Corona Virus- share your stories.*

Send to: Judi Winslow at [mkjudiwinslow@hotmail.com](mailto:mkjudiwinslow@hotmail.com)

### YOUR DATABASE UPDATES ARE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT!

Up-to-date information is always important, but during this pandemic, it's harder to keep in contact with our membership who are often not back to working in their hospitals. Please provide email addresses and mailing addresses where you can be reached so we can be sure to keep you updated with information and ideas to help one another.

Please use the "Member Update" form from the TAHV website ([www.tahv.org](http://www.tahv.org)) throughout the year to keep your information current.

**IF YOU CANNOT DOWNLOAD OR PRINT IT, PLEASE CONTACT: Dana McGinnis, Database Chairman**

PO Box 2795, Crystal Beach, TX 77650 — Phone: 972-971-9790

Email: [danamcginnistahv4@yahoo.com](mailto:danamcginnistahv4@yahoo.com)

(A form can be sent to you!!)

## Let Them Eat Cake!!

By Carol Coburn, Knapp Medical Center Auxiliary President, Weslaco, District 3 TAHV Board Member



The Volunteers sent cake and cupcakes to all staff at the hospital in appreciation for working so hard during the COVID pandemic.



## Two retirements and a wedding for Ruth celebration

By Carol Coburn, Knapp Medical Center Auxiliary President, Weslaco, District 3 TAHV Board Member

Just before the Covid-19 lockdown, the **Knapp Medical Center Auxiliary** had a Retirement Party for two of our senior volunteers, **Ruth Nielson** and **Wiley Finney**. They both work the Front Desk. Ruth has been a volunteer for four years at the front desk. She is getting married... but not to Wiley. As for Wiley, he has been volunteering at Knapp since 1984. They will both be missed.



Long time volunteers Ruth Nielson and Wiley Finney

Another volunteer on hiatus is working with her church to provide meals for people affected by the COVID virus.

Our Craft Crew has been making these little caps for newborns as they are needed.





## Thank You to Our Hospital Volunteers

by **Ted Shaw**, President/CEO, Texas  
Hospital Association

With the chaos of today's world, it can be easy to lose sight of what matters. We don't always say "thank you" enough. But with the adversity this year has brought, it has also reminded us that we have a lot to be grateful for. It's important for us to acknowledge that our mission of healing the sick would be much harder to achieve without the assistance of dedicated volunteers.

As COVID-19 continues to circulate, our healthcare heroes are committed to providing care and compassion to those in need. And the world's top scientists have been hard at work, developing and testing candidates for the new COVID-19 vaccine. The Texas Hospital Association is working closely with the state health agency to prepare for the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in the coming months. We are all working together to ensure that Texas hospitals are ready to safely administer the vaccine to the most vulnerable members of our communities.

With COVID-19 hospitalizations increasing at a steady rate in Texas, many hospitals continue to limit visitor access. While you may not be able to physically volunteer at your local hospital, there are still things you can do to help those in need. Texas hospitals face a blood shortage right now. If you're healthy, you can call your local blood bank and set up an appointment to donate blood. You can also help fight the flu by getting your flu shot. Hospitals are strongly encouraging the public to stay up to date with their vaccinations to reduce the burden of respiratory illness this winter. And of course, the best thing you can do for hospitals right now is to continue wearing your mask, hand washing and practicing social distancing.

An extension of hospital employees, hospital volunteers' care is as instrumental to health and healing as any medicine. Texas hospitals certainly will miss their volunteers this holiday season, but we know your compassion extends well beyond the hospital walls. While we await therapeutics and vaccines that can get us closer to normal, I hope you all have a safe holiday season and continue to spread the importance of healing. Thank you for your kind words, smiles and listening ears for Texans who need it most.

## Health Matters...

By Judi Winslow, Editor

I want to tell you about **GBOMBS!!**

What are we doing to ourselves that we could change to improve our lives? We live in such a technological age and so many of us suffer in varying degrees from chronic conditions like arthritis, fatigue, migraines, bloating, nerve problems and more. Recent studies show that our gut is affected by stress, toxic exposure, the quality of our foods, and lifestyle, all of which affect our immune system, and negatively impact our lives. Often we choose a not-so-healthy lifestyle out of convenience.

We need to take care what we put in our bodies. Dr. Joel Fuhrman, a physician and researcher maintains that improving our immune system can protect us at ANY AGE from COVID-19 and other viral or inflammatory conditions. Here's what we can do to build up our immunity and improve our quality of life:

## EAT REAL FOOD

Get rid of fast foods, convenience foods, junk foods, preservatives, and refined ingredients. Some might be helped by avoiding dairy and gluten.

Dr Fuhrman recommends what he calls **GBOMBS...** **G**reens, **B**eans, **O**nions, **M**ushrooms, **B**erries and **S**eeds. He says the most important meal every day is lunch and recommends a big healthy salad and advises thoroughly chewing every bite until contents are almost a sauce. To your large salad add well-cooked beans (or have a vegetable bean soup on the side) ... Also add fresh cooked mushrooms, and perhaps instead of oil dressing, use the seeds/nuts for the oil part. You can make a dressing out of tomato sauce with almond butter... or orange mixed with sesame seeds, cashews, and a good vinegar like Braggs Cider Vinegar. If that's too much trouble, then use Cold Pressed Extra Virgin Olive Oil, vinegar, sea salt, pepper, garlic or other spices you like..

**My takeaway?** You can eat other REAL foods as long as you include the 'GBOMBS'. By the way, this helps with weight, if that's a concern, as well as appetite and can reduce your risk for cancer and diabetes. I think we can help ourselves by eating many kinds of vegetables and fruits with smaller amounts of meat and refined products like grains. My daughter says to eat a GOD diet... and that's REAL FOOD!! If God didn't make it, then don't eat it!

I just want to say, YOUR health matters to me!!! My health is pretty important to me too. If I can reduce my risk for cancer and other debilitating conditions and age without dementia, auto-immune diseases, etc, I'm willing to make some changes. I'm really tired of losing so many friends to cancer!!!!

**If you like articles about health that affects our age group, let me know, and we'll make this a regular column.**

## Gift Shop POP-UP Store!

By **Mary Ann Blome**, Parkland Health & Hospital System  
Auxiliary President /Volunteer, District 5 TAHV Board Member



The Gift Shop was asked by executive leadership to open its doors to serve our employees with essential items including staple foods, as well as paper and disinfecting products that have been hard to find in local stores. We have been practicing

social distancing regulations, limiting occupancy and asking employees to utilize the provided hand sanitizing stations as they come in the door. This effort has been appreciated by the organization as a whole and we have been proud to provide this service.



## Parkland Ideas on Staying Busy and Safe

Parkland Health & Hospital System rules to continue to exclude volunteers from volunteering IN the hospital.

There are extremely strict rules on visitors, though hopefully these will lessen soon. Our resourceful volunteers continue to stay informed and active through email, phone calls and the TAHV Website and Facebook. Our distancing practices influence changes in how we perform some of our activities. For example, we celebrated nineteen High School scholarships for Parkland employee children learning on Web EX by mailing their certificates, along with cookies and ice cream to their homes. The best part was that the Auxiliary got to see and hear from the students and proud Parkland employee parents. Another program we support, "Love thy Baby", faithfully delivered monthly curbside newborn needs to the NICU and regular newborn nurseries. This was accomplished by other volunteers working tirelessly at home and volunteers picking up the finished items from doorsteps.

While trying to adjust to this "new normal", confined at home, our Auxiliary would like to brag about the Hospital employees who preCOVID-19 were active with volunteers at Parkland. **Courtney Williams**, Auxiliary Liaison & Gift Shop Manager, and **Maricela Barron**, Auxiliary Service Coordinator, have been on the job maintaining our Gift Shop & staff. During the Gift Shop shutdown, the regular non-volunteer staff aided scanning temperatures at all entrance locations. The Gift Shop staff also initiated a way to serve employees using social distancing methods, texting, and emailing, to serve employees by stocking needed items like groceries, paper goods and cleaning supplies. Recently gift shop occupancy was expanded to 5 customers at a time, practicing social distancing of course. **Deira Lacey**, Volunteer Coordinator, and Auxiliary Staff delivered meals donated for the COVID-19 floor employees. These employees were confined to their units due to isolation. The hospital cafeteria was closed regarding gathering restrictions for a time until social distance retro changes and plexiglass were installed.

The Parkland Auxiliary had their General Summer Meeting via a virtual meeting and have planned another web meeting in October. Outpatient Clinics have used virtual appointments as much as possible. Our Ron Anderson Clinics near the hospital have recently become more active and our second Gift Shop reopened primarily selling snacks and cold foods. We were sorely missed.

To end on a reflective note, volunteer life may stay different for a while urging us to take new approaches to running our organizations. For example, we do on-line vendor sales with products shipped directly to customers or picked up outside, virtual meetings for large numbers, drop-off donations, and constant reinventing of new ways to raise funds. Volunteer work ethic and spirit will always be needed. The challenge is how to operate in these uncertain times without excluding our most senior members. Let's put on our thinking caps! We may have to meet in our winter coats for outdoor meetings. Bottom line: We must do it by being safe.



# To and From the Board

The Fall Board Meeting, like everything else, was impacted by CORONA-19. Kathy Jenkin, our president, had to change the location and of course not everyone could attend, but we made the most of the situation and met on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the San Marcos Embassy Suites. Since some members were unable to attend, we also offered ZOOM as an alternative and we had one additional member who attended by audio. The photos are of your district representatives with the District they represent in parentheses.



**TAHV Board** (Clockwise): Pamela Andrews (2), Sue Kaulfus, Pres Elect (8), Sandra Pybus (9), Kathy Jenkin, President (3), Norma Burnside (3), Judi Winslow (6), Mary Pfeffer (5), Janice Allen, Treasurer (6), and Gracie Sanchez (2) – showing off our new shirts. (Not Pictured: Barbara Wright, Secretary (8), Sue Bickham (3), Lynda DeMasco, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, (8), and Dave Westerhaus (9)

The day before the Board Meeting is taken up with committee meetings. So, for those who were unable to attend and for our membership, we will be having this column in this and in future newsletters to keep our Texas volunteers in the know as to what TAHV is doing.



Attending via ZOOM: (top) Mary Ann Blome (5), Barbara Giannotti (9), (bottom): Carol Coburn (3), Dana McGinnis (Ex Officio), Melva Harris (9), and on audio, Diane Tubbs (5). Not pictured: Pat Fortune (9)

## CONVENTION 2021 COMMITTEE

Chair: **Gypsie Hufnagle**

The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention (cancelled because of COVID) is currently scheduled for May 3-5, 2021 at the **Waco Hilton**. There are concerns that auxiliaries and volunteers will be financially unable to attend because of the uncertainty of the CORONA-19 virus. Many auxiliaries are not actively volunteering at this time and there are a number of volunteers retiring and not returning at all. So, if it is held on this scheduled date and poorly attended, our organization is liable for an estimated \$90,000 to fulfill our contract with the Waco Convention Center. If we resign (that is re-sign) the contract for 2022, there will be no penalty or monies due for the 2021 Convention. The deadline for this decision is January 1, 2021. A motion was made to skip the 2021 Convention and plan on holding the Waco Convention in 2022. The motion was unanimously passed by TAHV Board Members in attendance.

Convention dates will be announced when available.

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: **Judi Winslow**

Per the bylaws, we are to have a minimum of 3 newsletters per year. At this time, this is the best communication tool available to us, but we have some limitations with distribution as our usual printers and distributors are not able to help us. The last newsletter went out to every email address (Volunteer Presidents and DVS) in our database. To add value to our membership, we need to get help and information out to as many volunteers as possible to stay in contact with every auxiliary. The new issue is in the works and we need to get it out as soon as possible with COVID helpful articles to share our successes with other struggling volunteer groups. Of course, we'd like to hear from EVERY volunteer group, but that's not possible. Please submit materials on what your auxiliary is doing and please encourage others to send in pictures and stories. As editor, everyone's help and submissions are greatly appreciated.

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Chair: **Lynda DeMasco**



Entries for the 2020 Convention: Scrapbooks – 16; Tray Favors – 11; Newsletters – 11; and Posters – 10. When the 2020 Convention was cancelled, those who had paid for their entries were given a choice of getting a refund or letting that money apply to the next year's Convention. As a result, the plan was to have 2 separate contests: one for 2020 and one for 2021. It was discussed what to do if the 2021 Convention is cancelled. The Committee felt that it was only fair to those who worked so hard on their entries to be judged and awarded prizes for them. With a cancelled 2021 Convention, the plan is to still have 2 categories: the 2020 entries and 2022 entries. Participating hospitals will be contacted to confirm the 2020 entries. Fees would be payable for 2022 entries only.

## **WEBSITE/FACEBOOK**

Chair: **Dana McGinnis**

The Website has been kept updated with requested information, but there is more to do to improve what the site offers to the membership. Some thoughts are to add a section for District Meeting pictures, "Around the Hospital" stories (with or without pictures), and "Words from our President". To accomplish changes, Board Members need to cover more than their own hospitals, extending queries to other hospitals throughout their districts. We learn more through interaction with healthcare volunteers from all over the state.

The Facebook page is gaining more 'friends'. Mary Pfeffer has worked hard to keep the page updated and interactive. We encourage Board Members and Volunteers from all over the state to submit pictures and articles by clicking on the email 'button' on the Facebook page. We appreciate the help of our Board Members and are open to suggestions and feedback.

## **EDUCATIONAL TOPICS FOR VOLUNTEERS (ETV)**

Chair: **Norma Burnside**

The committee retained speaker Steven Iverson for the 2020 and then the 2021 Conventions, both of them cancelled. Should we retain him for the 2022 Convention? He will be contacted to assess his interest in the 2022 Convention as he is an excellent speaker.

No Power Points are in process right now, but if someone would submit a 20-30 minute PowerPoint on Body Language, How to Operate Wheelchairs, or Proper Telephone Etiquette, the committee would take a look at it as these topics have been requested.

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chair: **Lynda DeMasco**

In times such as these, we need to build relationships by finding more ways to support our membership. We need to let them know "We're Still Here" and represent TAHV in more ways than sending a dues statement and the newsletter... something more personal. Without Convention and District Meetings, we must maintain a presence so that our membership sees value in belonging to TAHV. We also need to attract new members. A special sub-committee will look into ways to increase the value of membership in TAHV. (Dave Westerhaus, Pam Andrews, Gracie Sanchez, and Lynda DeMasco). In the meantime, Kathy Jenkin and Lynda DeMasco will be reaching out with Christmas greetings and all Board Members on the Membership Committee need to contact their District Membership with helpful inquiries, especially to those having difficulties maintaining membership without incoming funds and reduced volunteer activity.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Acting Chair: **Judi Winslow** (held over because of COVID)

Due to COVID, no new Nominating Committee was selected at the Board Meeting following Convention, so the first order of the day was to vote on members for the 2020-2021 year.

Here is the new **Nominating Committee**:

**District 1:** no Board Members

**District 2:** **Pamela Andrews** (Alt: **Gracie Sanchez**)

**District 3:** **Carol Coburn**

**District 4:** no Board Members

**District 5:** **Mary Pfeffer** (Alt: **Mary Ann Blome**)

**District 6:** **Barbara Long** (Alt: **Joann Goodwin**)

**District 7:** No Board Members

**District 8:** **Sue Bramhall**

**District 9:** **Dave Westerhaus** (Alt: **Gypsie Hufnagle**)

**District 10:** No Board Members

**At Large:** **Pat Fortune** (Alt: **Gypsie Hufnagle**)

**Temporary Chair:** **Dave Westerhaus**

## Won't You Be My Friend?

Did you know TAHV has a Facebook page in addition to our Website ([www.tahv.org](http://www.tahv.org))?

For our TAHV friends that use Facebook, we suggest you 'friend' us! You gain the camaraderie of many of our TAHV Member Healthcare Groups on a more interactive basis. You can see what others are doing right now. You can share what you're excited about in your volunteer group and get feedback on your post. Our Facebook page is managed by **Dana McGinnis** and **Mary Pfeffer**. So, **DON'T MISS OUT!!!** Go to your Facebook page, search for [Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers](#) to access our page and **FRIEND US!!!**

Here's a great Facebook entry on **COMFORT CARTS...**



Texoma Medical Center Volunteers

Posted by Mary Pfeffer

Apr 17 · 🌐

A new project the volunteers are backing is the Comfort Cart. These carts are stocked with toiletries, pens and paper, crayons and coloring books, toys for the kids, and various items that patients might need during their stay. Volunteer, **Roxanne Bartelme**, is seen here getting more supplies for the carts.



## A great organization for holiday giving...Wreaths Across America

By: Pat Sowder, Ex-Officio Board Member

Do you remember Wreaths Across America? A few years ago they did a presentation at opening session during the TAHV Convention. I remember being so moved by this incredible organization and their commitment to placing wreaths on the graves of our fallen soldiers all across the United States for Christmas. What a monumental undertaking!

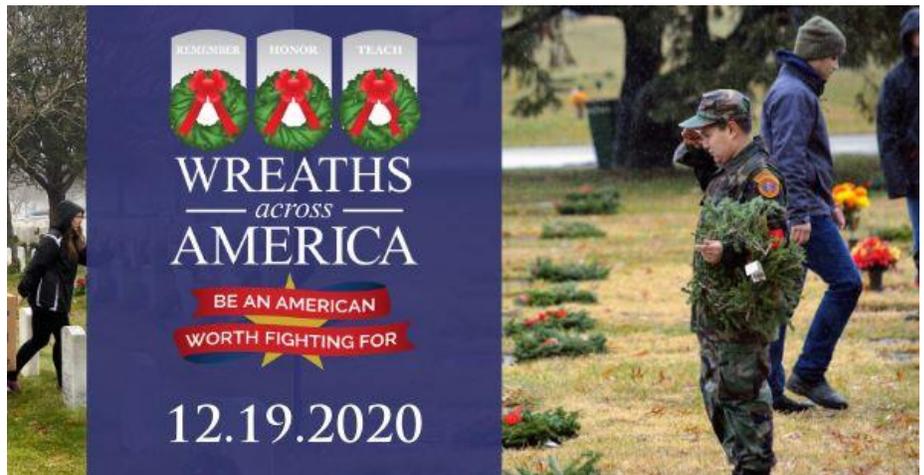
I recently came across an article in an online news site indicating they were short wreaths for this year, as donations were down due to COVID. Distribution of the wreaths takes place on December 19th.

Coming from a long line of family that served, this really hit home for me. I know the pain of that empty space at the table. If you're still looking for a charity to support this year, please consider Wreaths Across America.

You can donate today by logging onto their website at:

<https://www.facebook.com/WAAHQ/>

**May God be with and bless our military men, women and their families-past and present!**



## Odessa Friendly

By **Pamela Andrews**, MCHS Auxiliary President,  
District 2 TAHV Board Member

The Odessa Chamber of Commerce offered a class called Odessa Friendly that some of the **Medical Center Hospital Systems** volunteers took advantage of. It shows volunteers all the wonderful sites around the Odessa area to share with guests who visit the hospital. Many times guests ask where to eat and what there is to do in Odessa and this class gave us fun and informative ideas. There are so many things to do that we were not even aware of and now we know the information to share with guests. This class is offered twice a year by the Odessa Chamber of Commerce.



Sherry Card (VP) and Mary Dickson, President ORMC at Odessa Friendly class.



Julian Gallegos and Ann Ellison (far right) from MCHS

## The Oasis Room

By **Pamela Andrews**, MCHS Auxiliary President,  
District 2 TAHV Board Member

At **Medical Center Hospital System**, our financial help was sought in creating the Oasis Room for the hospital staff working directly with COVID-19 patients. We donated \$50,000 for



this project. Later we found out that they did not need the full \$50,000 and asked if we would allow the excess to be used for PPE supplies and monies to allow medical staff to stay in a nearby hotel that sectioned off rooms for them. This would ease their minds from possibly taking COVID into their personal homes and possibly infecting their loved ones. We were happy to allow the monies to be used for this as well. A plaque was placed outside the Oasis Room showing our generous donation.



*Quiet the mind and  
The soul will speak.*

The Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers proudly sponsors  
**Kilbourne & Kilbourne**

as providers of **Volunteer Award Pins** of superb craftsmanship.  
 If they don't already have what you're looking for, they can design exactly what you need.  
 If they're not yet serving your auxiliary needs, **please give them a try.**

CREATIVE JEWELRY FOR RECOGNITION, PROMOTION, AND MOTIVATION

# KILBOURNE & KILBOURNE VOLUNTEER AWARD PINS CUSTOM DESIGNED / SUPERB CRAFTSMANSHIP



- Hours / Years of Service
- Anniversary Celebrations
- Life Member Recognition
- Volunteer Week Themes
- Quick Turnaround
- Large Inventory of Stock Pins and Accessories

(800)-967-0800  
 info@kk-awards.com  
 www.kk-awards.com