



RIPON MEDICAL CENTER
A MEMBER OF AGNESIAN HEALTHCARE

HEARTLINE

AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER • JUNE 2018

WHAT'S NEW AT RIPON MEDICAL CENTER

We have a lot going on at Ripon Medical Center these days - all exciting developments to help us continue our efforts to grow, and offer as many services as possible at a local level. I'm proud to share with you but a few of these key advancements.



Tami Schattschneider

Joint Commission

Ripon Medical Center is slated for a survey by The Joint Commission this fall. Surveyors are working ahead of schedule making visits three to four months prior to expected times. John Rosing, consultant, will be visiting Ripon Medical Center to complete a mock survey to ensure compliance to The Joint Commission standards. Agnesian HealthCare has been tapping into feedback from SSM Health surveys, and departments are being asked to free their areas of clutter and other unnecessary items.

Physician Recruitment

Ripon Medical Center is currently recruiting for physicians in the emergency department (interim coverage is being offered through other Agnesian HealthCare emergency medicine physicians), as well as two primary care providers (one physician and one nurse practitioner) in the clinic to replace two retirements, and an obstetrician/gynecologist physician.

Clean Hands Count for Safe Healthcare

Most germs that cause serious infections in health care are spread by people's actions. Hand hygiene is a great way to prevent infections. However, studies show that on average, health care providers clean their hands less than half of the

times they should. This contributes to the spread of health care-associated infections that affect one in 25 hospital patients on any given day. Every patient is at risk of getting an infection while they are being treated for something else. Even health care providers are at risk of getting an infection while they are treating patients. Preventing the spread of germs is especially important in hospitals and other facilities. Ripon Medical Center is focusing on hand hygiene by conducting audits and asking employees and volunteers to remind each other about the need for good hand hygiene.

New Project Manager

Rick Helfrich started as a project manager in the Plant and System Facilities department on April 2. With 17 years of health care facility management experience, he comes to Agnesian HealthCare from ThedaCare where he served as facility manager since 2006. At Agnesian HealthCare, Helfrich will have a focus on construction and renovation project management, and with a passion for codes, will lead efforts to meet all applicable codes and standards related to facility operations. He is a member of the Wisconsin Healthcare Engineers Association (WHEA) and serves at the state level on the organization's code committee.

Staff & Organization Development

Staff & Organizational Development has welcomed Kris Tagliapietra as she fills an open .8 FTE position. Tagliapietra has been with Agnesian HealthCare for many years, most recently serving with the Fond du Lac School District's YScreen program. Another CNA class session is approaching and recruitment efforts are underway.

Tami Schattschneider, Ripon Medical Center Chief Operating and Chief Nursing Officer

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I can't believe that a year has passed since I took over the reins as president of the RMC Auxiliary. We had a very busy and productive year. Thank you all for your support and help as I nestled into my new role. Also, I want to thank the Auxiliary Board for your patience while I was out on medical leave.

Fund-raising continues to be very successful thanks to the efforts and time our faithful Auxiliary members have given. Our first brat fry netted more than \$500. The Treats for Sweets Chocolate sale did a fantastic \$819 for planning it so quickly. The scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded this month to one Ripon and two Markesan recipients. The annual flower sale did a fantastic jump from last year and continues to prove profitable. We collected \$3,748 before paying Bloch's. The gift shop has many new items with the addition of some clothing. Stop in and see the items our talented buyers have selected. Sales continue to increase. These are just some of the activities the Auxiliary continues to do for our community.

I urge all Auxiliary members to think about what role you can play as a member of the Auxiliary. We are always looking for volunteers to help at various activities and fund-raisers the Auxiliary has during the year. If you can give maybe an hour or more to help at a brat fry, bake sale, Lights of Love or whatever we may decide to do this coming year, it would be appreciated. New ideas for fund-raisers or programs at the luncheons are always welcome. We have fun and the more the merrier, so they say. Remember that any Auxiliary member is always welcome to attend a board meeting as guest and observe what business we conduct. Feel free to contact myself or any board member if you are interested.

Six members from the RMC Auxiliary attended the Spring WHA Regional Meeting in New Holstein on April 10. It was a very informative and the food was delicious! Ripon will be the host hospital for the Spring Regional meeting in 2019. A committee will be setup to begin the planning process. Interested? Contact me.

As Agnesian HealthCare continues to transition into SSM Health, I want to congratulate Katherine Vergos, St. Agnes Hospital chief operating and chief nursing officer, who has been named as the new president of St. Agnes Hospital. Steve Little is now serving as regional chief operating officer with SSM Health in Wisconsin, with Doug Trost as vice president of long-term care. We wish them well in their new roles.

We welcome Betty Walleser as interim volunteer coordinator and contact for Kim Bresser who will be out on medical leave this summer.

Mark your calendars for the Auxiliary Noon Luncheon on Monday, June 25 at Ripon Medical Center.

As we approach the new year for the Auxiliary, we are putting together the new 2019 budget and reviewing the current bylaws. Copies will be available when they are completed.

The Nominating Committee will present the new slate of officers at the June luncheon. The positions of treasurer and secretary are up for election. After the vote, they will be installed. Thank you to the candidates for volunteering to take on these positions.

We also will award three scholarships to a Ripon and two Markesan students at the luncheon. These scholarships are awarded to students who wish to pursue a career in the health care field.

The Partners of WHA Fall Convention is scheduled in Stevens Point, October 2 to 5. Mark your calendars if you are interested in attending. More information will be available later. There are raffle tickets for the WHA Partners Raffle at the convention available in the gift shop. You could be a lucky winner!

I thank all the wonderful and dedicated volunteers for their time and efforts to keep RMC Auxiliary a strong and viable organization we can be proud of.

Have a great and healthy summer. Stop and smell the flowers!

Barb Miller, President



*Barb, Bobbie, Georgia
Julie, Linda, Jackie*

RMC AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The 2018 Scholarship Committee received 17 applications this year! We were equally thrilled and impressed with each application. We are excited to announce that we awarded three \$1,000 scholarships and selected the recipient of the \$500 Arlene Fenner Memorial Scholarship on behalf of The Foundation for Ripon Medical Center and Fenner family. Please join us at the June Auxiliary Luncheon to recognize these outstanding students!

Katelyn Whitrock attends Ripon High School and will be pursuing a nursing degree at Moraine Park Technical College. Katelyn is a member of the Varsity Girls Soccer team, National Honors Society, Youth Apprenticeship Program, Student Council, Key Club, Drama Club and band. Katelyn serves as a CNA at Ripon Medical Center and has previously worked at Ripon High School, as a lifeguard, aerobics instructor and swim lesson instructor. Congratulations, Katelyn!

Morgan Krueger, of Markesan High School, lives in Randolph and is planning to attend Concordia University to pursue a career in pharmacy. Morgan is the class valedictorian, National Honor Society treasurer, member of the cross-country team, and Green Lake County Fair exhibitor. Outside of school, Morgan works at Leahy's Rustic Inn (Fairwater) and MAM Farms (Markesan). Congratulations, Morgan!

Alexis Mast, who lives in Dalton, attends Markesan High School, and plans to pursue a degree as a registered nurse and diabetes educator, at either Edgewood College or Carroll University. Alexis is a member of the National Honor Society, band, choir, drama club and student council. Alexis works at the Wilderness Campground and previously helped at the Markesan Resident Home. Congratulations, Alexis!

Arlene Fenner Memorial Scholarship - presented by The Foundation for Ripon Medical Center

Austin Lopez, who attends Ripon High School, is pursuing a pre-med/biomedical science degree at Concordia University. At school, Austin is a member of the Boys Basketball team, track and field team, concert and pep band, and Activo Group. Austin works as a Red Cross lifeguard /swim Instructor and CNA. Congratulations, Austin!

RMC AUXILIARY LUNCHEON/MEETING

Our next luncheon/meeting is scheduled on Monday, June 25 in the Ripon Medical Center Green Lake Room at 12 p.m. Scholarship winners and their parents will be our guests. We will also have the installation of officers - Bobbie Pollesch, treasurer, and Ann McDonald, secretary. Come and join us to honor our scholarship recipients and elect our new Auxiliary Board members! The cost for the luncheon is \$6 and can be paid at the door. Reservations made and not honored will be charged.

RSVP to Jackie Halverson no later than Tuesday, June 20 at noon by calling (920) 539-8292 or by e-mail at jackiehalverson009@gmail.com. Please indicate if you have any special dietary needs.

NOTE: We will be collecting dues for 2018-2019 at the June meeting. Annual dues are \$10.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Auxiliary Board positions of secretary and treasurer are open for nominations. If you are interested in either position on the board, let Mary Schieffer know, (920) 767-0029. Bobbie Pollesch has agreed to run for re-election as treasurer and Anne McDonald has agreed to run for secretary. Voting for these two positions will be at the annual membership meeting, the June luncheon.

Mary Schieffer, Nominating Committee



VOLUNTEER NEWS AND NOTES

Out with the snow and in with the rain. Hello, spring... finally! As many know, each spring Agnesian HealthCare recognizes its team of volunteers during April's National HealthCare Volunteer Appreciation Week. We hosted a 1920s "Roaring Good Time" themed party a few weeks back and I'm glad folks from Ripon Medical Center joined in on the fun. I'd like to take a moment to thank each Auxiliary member for the hard work and time you dedicate to serving Ripon Medical Center. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and are appreciated!



Kim Bresser

As we look ahead to summer, I'll be out on maternity leave, so I want to share a few notes, dates and contact names so you have quick access to everything you need while I'm gone.

- I'm due May 27 so I'm planning to work until Friday, May 25 - unless baby decides to arrive early.
- For Ripon Medical Center, Betty Walleser, from Agnesian HealthCare's Green Lake Hospice Hope will be your main point of contact. She has similar hours to mine (off Tuesdays) and is just a few minutes away. She will be stopping a few hours a week at Ripon Medical Center and will post her schedule and contact info in the Volunteer Kiosk Computer Room just like I do. Betty can be reached at (920) 294-6220 or at Beatriz.walleser@ssmhealth.com.
- Don't forget to support the Auxiliary at these upcoming events:
 - Wednesday, June 20 - Nutman Sale at RMC
 - Wednesday, August 15 - Nutman Sale at RMC
 - Saturday, August 18 - Brat Fry at Webster's; and
 - Wednesday, September 12 - Book Sale at RMC

Finally, the June Auxiliary Luncheon is scheduled for Monday, June 25, at 12 p.m. Please join the Auxiliary at this event as it will be installing new officers and presenting its scholarships to local students! Please RSVP to Jackie Halverson by e-mail at jackiehalverson009@gmail.com or phone at (920) 539-8292 no later than Tuesday, June 20.

Have a blessed and wonderful summer; I'll catch up with you when I return - right around Labor Day!

Kim Bresser, Volunteer Coordinator, Ripon Medical Center & Waupun Memorial Hospital



FINANCIAL REPORT

APRIL 30, 2018 - Net fund-raising for the period of January 1 to April 30, 2018 was \$3,054. The Flower Basket Sale raised \$1,195, compared to the \$829 raised last year. Thank you to all who bought and sold baskets. The "Treats for Sweets" raised \$813 in the first year for this event. The first brat fry of the season raised \$533. We received a \$254 bonus check from Younkers for the Community Days Book Sale. We also raised funds with two Nutman sales and a book fair.

Gift shop sales for January through April were 17 percent more than last year for the same period, and year to date sales are 21 percent above last year at this time. The buyers for the shop have done a wonderful job!

In January, we donated \$12,728 to Ripon Medical Center for four patient transport chairs. We also replenished the patient hospitality cart with \$64 of supplies.

We had \$20,702 in cash at the end of April. So, we have the funds for the three \$1,000 scholarships that we will award in June, as well as a cushion for any unexpected needs of Ripon Medical Center.

The board is working on the FY 2019 budget and will have copies available at the luncheon.

RMC Auxiliary, Inc. Treasurer's Report - Four Months and 10 Months Ended April 30, 2018

	Jan-Apr Actual	Year to Date Actual	Annual Budget
INCOME			
Fund-raising	\$6,074	\$18,330	\$14,125
Donations	140	343	-
Membership Dues	40	552	600
Gift Shop Sales	10,776	33,431	31,725
Total Income	\$17,031	\$52,656	\$46,450
EXPENSES			
Fund-raising Expenses	\$3,020	\$5,333	\$3,276
Luncheons	(19)	(11)	(1)
State Conventions/District Meetings	54	760	920
Organization Expenses	86	140	184
Gift Shop Expenses	9,863	26,007	23,991
Total Expenses	\$13,004	\$32,229	\$28,370
NET INCOME BEFORE DISTRIBUTIONS	\$4,027	\$20,427	\$18,080
DISTRIBUTIONS			
Scholarships	-	-	3,000.00
Donations for RMC	12,792	14,063	10,100
Total Distributions	\$12,792	\$14,063	\$13,100
NET INCOME AFTER DISTRIBUTIONS	\$(8,766)	\$6,363	\$4,980
CASH BALANCES		\$20,701.83	

Bobbie Pollesch, Treasurer

PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION UPDATE

Medicare Card Update

Here to give you a little information if you are not already aware.

New Medicare cards are coming to all of us within the next 12 months with only the last four numbers of our social security card on it. Remember when you get the new one to shred the old one.

We all need to protect our Medicare cards. Here are a few ideas how to do that:

- Only share with trusted health care providers
- Don't leave the number in e-mails or on your computer in digital files
- Check every statement from Medicare for bogus services and billings.

Sandy Krueger, Public Policy Education, Chairperson

ADVOCACY DAY 2018

It was an interesting and educational day for Jackie Halverson, Barb Miller and me, as we attended the Advocacy Day conference in Madison on March 21. One of the interesting parts of the day was when four legislators joined a panel to discuss various legislation that they are involved with at the Capital. Some of the highlights of the discussion include these comments by the legislators.

Representative Patrick Testin stated that health insurance rates are going up about 25 percent. He believes that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has hurt the stable system that we had previously. He is open to using block grants to fund health care for people who cannot afford insurance. If there would be a focus on prevention, then there would be a cost savings in the long run.

Representative Jon Erpenbach stated that we need to work with the ACA, because it is a reality. He believes that waivers will not cover the cost of unpaid copayments for medical fees. He is concerned about the qualifications for BadgerCare, because the federal poverty level is below the minimum wage. He emphasized that there needs to be many more mental health providers.

Representative Joe Sanfelippo stated that new insurance rates are unaffordable. There is a severe shortage of physicians. Some solutions for the high cost for people who want to have a medical career would be incentives like tax credits for physicians, and tuition reimbursement. He is also concerned about increasing the number of psychiatrists and behavioral health professionals.

Representative Debra Kolste stated that there has been an increased cost of uncompensated care. She is in favor of adding money for crisis intervention and increasing the number of mental health providers. Regarding mental health issues, there is a severe shortage of beds for people in need of care. This point was universal for all the representatives.

Barbara Benkoski, Community Health Education, Chairperson



*Advocacy Day, March 21, 2018 in Madison.
Kim Bresser, Barb Miller, Barb Benkoski Jackie Halverson,
Barb VanEgtern*

GIFT SHOP

Look at what fun things you can purchase at the Gift Shop!



Mary Schieffer, Chairperson, Gift Shop

COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

January 19, 2018 - Wisconsin continues to lead the way forward...

Governor Walker Takes Additional Action to Fight Opioid Crisis

Governor Scott Walker will issue two Executive Orders today addressing the opioid crisis in Wisconsin. The orders embody recommendations set forth by the Governor's Task Force on Opioid Abuse to create a Commission on Substance Abuse Treatment Delivery to study the "hub-and-spoke" opioid treatment model and to implement new practices in multiple state agencies. Governor Walker will sign the orders later today in a signing ceremony at the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office along with Task Force Chairs Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch and Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette).

"Wisconsin is a national leader in addressing the opioid crisis, as we've signed 28 bipartisan bills into law so far," says Governor Scott Walker. "But there's more work to be done: too many Wisconsin families feel the painful effects of this crisis every day. Through the guidance and recommendations of the Task Force, we've created reforms that will open the door to the best treatment outcomes for patients and their families."

The prevalence of opioid misuse and abuse throughout Wisconsin, and the rest of the country, is at a dangerous level, and the ramifications are tragic and wide-ranging. According to the Department of Health Services (DHS), in 2016, 827 people died in Wisconsin of opioid overdose deaths caused by heroin, or prescription drugs, or both. From 2000 to 2016, the number of deaths in Wisconsin due to prescription opioids increased 600 percent, from 81 to 568 in 2016. Heroin overdose deaths increased 12 times, from 28 deaths in 2000 to 371 deaths in 2016.

"Wisconsin has not been left untouched by the opioid crisis that is sweeping America," says Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, co-chair of the Governor's Task Force on Opioid Abuse. "This epidemic doesn't have geographic or socioeconomic boundaries - it affects all our communities. Every day we have to raise awareness among families, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Together as a task force we will continue our working to identify and implement solutions that keep Wisconsin as a model of best practices for the nation."

The state of Wisconsin has taken numerous important steps in recent years to address the public health crisis of opioid abuse. Governor Walker signed the Heroin, Opiate Prevention and Education (HOPE) legislative package into law in April 2014, which among other reforms provides immunity to people contacting authorities for help for someone suffering an overdose and increases funding for substance abuse treatment providers. In September 2016, Governor Walker issued Executive Order #214 creating the Task Force on Opioid Abuse to thoroughly study the opioid crisis and plan approaches to both restrict access to dangerous opioids and increase access to substance abuse treatment. To date, 28 bipartisan bills have been signed into law to combat opioid abuse in Wisconsin.

Barb Benkoski, Community Health Education, Chairperson



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

There is a lot to be proud of as members of the hospital auxiliary. At a recent thank you luncheon in Fond du Lac, all one heard was words of praise about how valuable we are. The words sounded great.

We look forward to seeing old and new members at the luncheon scheduled at the hospital on Monday, June 25 at 12 p.m. Last year was a transition year for me and many dues were delayed in getting paid for the 2017-2018 year. For that I apologize. That being said, I wanted to let you know that a new fiscal year starts in July. Dues for the 2018-2019 will be collected at the luncheon on June 25. The board has decided to increase dues to \$10 a year to help cover auxiliary costs.

We appreciate all the members who have participated in the many activities the auxiliary has sponsored. There will be many more opportunities to help with in the future. Find something that interests you. There will be information and sign-up sheets available at the luncheon.

Thank you for all you do.

Welcome to new members: Bruce Miller and Donna Schulz.

Mary Stein, Chairperson, Membership

MEMBER CORNER: ROSE WETZEL

We are pleased to highlight one of the volunteers who has been volunteering at Ripon Memorial Hospital and the Ripon Medical Center for more than 21 years. Previous to volunteering, she worked full time for 27 years at the former Parkview Nursing Home. She had worked as a nursing assistant, and then the activity coordinator for residents.

When Rose began volunteering, she filled the storage closets by the patient rooms for the nurses. She filled out 28 items that included bed pans, denture cups, bandages, combs, washcloths, etc. Later, she worked in the office filing the paperwork of patients. Finally, she spent many years helping the incoming patients and visitors at the front desk showing people where to go for services.

She said that at the old hospital she prayed that the helicopter wouldn't come in while she was there because she was concerned about the safety of the visiting families who were curious about the helicopter coming in. She didn't want anyone to get hurt by flying stones and materials in the parking lot. Rose also helped with emergency drills in the old hospital. She was told by a nurse "you were a good actress" when she had to pretend that she was a sick patient in the emergency department.

Rose also helped with some of the fund-raisers such as Lights of Love, brat fry sales and bake sales. She has been an active auxiliary member for more than 10 years. We are very thankful for Rose; she has been a wonderful and dedicated volunteer at the hospital in Ripon.

Article submitted by Barbara Benkoski



FUND-RAISING

You did it again! Thanks to all who worked on the Treats for Sweets, the Flower Basket Sale and the brat fry sales...and supported our vendors The Nutman and PRN Uniform sales. Committee chairs Audrey Kelma and Joan Amend did wonders with the new Valentine bake sale, and Diane Smith did double time for the flower basket and brat fry sales. Thanks to those of you who supported these events, too.

Mark your calendars for the fall mum sale on September 19 and 20 in the Ripon Medical Center parking lot near the healing garden. We are looking to make it even more successful than last year! Contact Diane Smith if you can assist with this fundraiser.

We are always ready to welcome new volunteers to help at our events. Come join the fun!

Jackie Halverson, Fund-Raising Chairperson

BRAT SALE

Linda Stellmacher



TREATS FOR YOUR SWEETS

Joan Amend & Audrey Kelma



FLOWER BASKET SALE

Jackie Halverson & Diane Smith



RMC AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBERS

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Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

- Leo Buscaglia

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 18	Brat Fry, Webster's Marketplace	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
June 13	Auxiliary Board Meeting, Volunteer Activity Room	9 to 11 a.m.
June 20	Nutman Sale, RMC Lobby	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
June 25	Auxiliary Luncheon, RMC Green Lake Room	12 to 2:30 p.m.
August 8	Auxiliary Board Meeting, Volunteer Activity Room	9 to 11 a.m.
August 15	Nutman Sale, RMC Lobby	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
August 18	Brat Fry, Webster's Marketplace	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
September 12	Auxiliary Board Meeting, Volunteer Activity Room	9 to 11 a.m.
September 12	Collective Goods Book Sale, RMC Green Lake Room	10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
September 19 & 20	Mum Sale, RMC Healing Garden	
September 24	Auxiliary Luncheon, RMC Green Lake Room	12 to 2:30 p.m.
October 2 to 4	2018 WHA Partners State Convention, Holiday Inn, Stevens Point	
October 5	PRN Uniform & Linen Sale, RMC Green Lake Room	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
October 10	Nutman Sale, RMC Lobby	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
October 15	Lights of Love and Raffle event begins	Ongoing
November 14	Auxiliary Board Meeting, Volunteer Activity Room	9 to 11 a.m.
November 26	Auxiliary Fall Luncheon/Meeting, Maplecrest	12 to 1:30 p.m.



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