**PARTNERS OF WHA**

**WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

Greetings!

I hope everyone is having a good summer. It’s hard to believe it is mid August already. Fall is just around the corner which means it’s almost convention time.

This years convention is being held in Appleton Wisconsin at the Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel and Convention Center on Oct. 1-3. The theme this year is Volunteers our Precious Gems. Remember registrations have to be in by Friday Sept. 6th and hotel registrations by Monday Sept. 9th. If you any more information it is all on the Partners of WHA website. They have many pertinent workshops planned. If you are attending they ask that you wear something bright or shiny or both. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

The Fall District meeting is going to be held on Thursday Oct. 17th in Cumberland. This is going to be after the convention so that everything learned at the convention can be passed on in a timely manner instead of waiting for the Spring meeting to pass it on. Ann Bergmann and her volunteers are working hard at putting together a great meeting. Notices will be coming out in Sept.

I have some bad news to pass along. River Falls has dropped out of the Partners of WHA. They were unable to find anyone who wanted to step up and take a leadership position. This seems to be a growing trend today. We all have to try to find and mentor volunteers to take leadership positions or else there will be no more Partners of WHA. We will be discussing this further at the Fall meeting.

In other news, Donella Christianson President of Partners with Our Lady of Victory Hospital in Stanley received the Blood Program Leader of the Year Award for the Eastern District of the Red Cross on June 25th at the Red Cross annual meeting in Chaska, Minnesota. Donella organizes 5 Red Cross blood drives a year with the help of volunteers collecting 45-65 units each drive. CONGRATULATIONS DONELLA!!

Convention 2019 = Bling, Bling, Bling  
But in reality it equals so much more!!! A time to revisit old friends and acquaintances and make new ones. All the while exchanging ideas and adding knowledge to make our organizations stronger in the support of our hospitals.   
This is also a chance for our voices to be heard....concerns, what works for us, where we need help from the State etc. There is strength in numbers and we can learn so much by listening.   
So hope to see you there to learn, participate and show off your bling.   
  
Betty Oddo  
President Elect  
West Central District

I’ve been the West Central District Secretary/Treasurer since the Spring District Meeting. As of this writing, I’ve already missed by first time to take minutes because I had a prior commitment for that day. As far as the treasurer part of this position, there hasn’t been any activity so our balance hasn’t changed.it’s $2,383.85. Just a reminder when your group’s turn to host a District Meeting, you will need to have some kind of fundraiser for the District at the meeting. If you are unable to do a fundraiser, you need to give a donation to the District. Hope to see all of you at the State Convention and/or at the West Central District Fall Meeting on October 17 in Cumberland.

Donnella Christianson

Secretary/Treasurer

West Central District