**North Central District Newsletter**

**Summer – 2017**

**Happy Summer to everyone! I don’t know about you, but it seems like summer just rolled around, and now all the school supplies are flying off the shelves.**

**Our Fall District meeting will be held in Marshfield, October 25th, 2017. More details will follow soon. Liz Emmerich, District Treasurer, will be passing out the special assessment of $50.00 invoices at the Fall meeting. This is to cover some of the costs associated with our district hosting the 2018 convention in Stevens Point. Also, the $20.00 each organization contributes for the 2017 District Basket should have been paid to Wisconsin Rapids. If you have not sent yours in, please do so. Thank you Wisconsin Rapids for taking care of basket duty for this year!**

**I hope everyone has sent in their registration for the convention, October 3-5, 2017, at the Hyatt in Green Bay. The deadline is coming up fast, September 1st. Also, the block of rooms will be released September 11th. Be sure to mention the Partners of WHA when you reserve your room. As you know, our theme is Partners Building a Better Future! We will be “Under Construction” for three days. What does this mean for you? It means we will have a Groundbreaking Keynote Speaker, Chris Freytag, followed by workshops with names that include Laying a Good Foundation, Maintaining, Building, good food, good fellowship, learning, and FUN! Tuesday evening will feature Action DJ Music. I was told he will play anything! Rock. Country, etc. Does that include the Chicken Dance?? Our tool box is almost full, but one more thing to add will be our closing speaker, Rep. John Nygren – 89th Assembly. He has been working hard to combat Opioid Abuse, and what we can do to fight this major epidemic. On Thursday, please wear RED to promote awareness of Opioid Abuse!**

**For the rest of the convention, please feel free to wear your hardhats, tool belts, florescent vests. Anything comfortable that you can “WORK” in! Evening meals will be business casual.**

**As you know, we will be hosting the 2018 Convention in Stevens Point. Be sure to take notes on anything you see or hear that can be useful. If something works, take note. If you see something that could be changed or refined, please take note of this too. We can always learn! I will cover our convention in a separate newsletter and at the Fall meeting in Marshfield.**

**Around the District**

**Antigo. I would like to thank Mars Chrudimsky, for the wonderful job she did as president of Aspirus Langlade Hospital Auxiliary. Due to personal reasons, she has resigned her position. Karla Martinsen and Jeanne Tatro have agreed to complete the term as co-chairs. I wish Mars the best and thank Karla and Jeanne.**

**Merrill. Volunteers have planted window boxes for patient rooms! How wonderful to look out and see the best that nature has to offer. The volunteers are busy organizing for the Hospital Rummage Sale. Good luck!**

**Rhinelander. The volunteers held a successful plant sale this spring! They have expanded their “Little Free Library” at the hospital entrance. They also provided a BBQ lunch for the local MASH blood drive in July. The Little Libraries are a fun addition to our communities!**

**Marshfield. The volunteers held two Eric Andrew’s Jewelry sales, one in time for Mother’s Day. They also held their annual Geranium and Herb sale in time for spring planting. Planning is going on for our Fall District meeting. We will be looking forward to a great time!**

**Wausau. Rainbow’s End Day Camp was held in July. Each year our youth volunteers pair with a special needs camper to assist with outdoor and art activities. The Aspirus Volunteers have purchased a Charging Station for the Aspirus Heart & Vascular waiting room. Eight cables work with all popular devices. Four of the gals entered the Aspirus Women’s Golf Outing. The event raised over $90,000, for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Volunteer Prez, Paul Dobbratz, dressed as Uncle Sam, was their caddie! Paul already knows what he will be wearing to Advocacy Day, March 21st, 2018 at the Monona Terrace.**

**Eagle River & Woodruff. These two groups join together for the “Spotlight on Fashion” and used purse raffle. The fashions are provided from the MERMH Thrift Shop and accessories and gifts are from the AHYMC Gift Shop.**

**Last year, The Thrift Shop was recognized by the American Hospital Association as a finalist for the Hospital Award for Volunteer Excellence (HAVE) award. This is the national equivalent of our state WAVE award. Congratulations again!**

**On a Personal Note**

**I would like to thank everyone who sent prayers and condolences for the passing of my sister, Carla Norton Drews. She spent nine months fighting leukemia, but when there was nothing more the medical field could do for her, she accepted it, and lived her last days with her family. When she was told she should be in the hospital, she said she just wanted to sit on her deck with her dogs. She was a spitfire! Wausau and some of the Antigo volunteers knew her. She was a conceal-carry instructor. I think women were more comfortable taking a gun course from a woman. Funny story her husband told at her funeral. The week before she passed away, they were at one of the grocery stores. Carla wanted a watermelon. They looked them over, and Carla saw how much they cost. “I’m not paying $6.00 for a watermelon!” And they didn’t. That’s the way she was.**

**If there is anything you need from me, let me know anytime! I’m looking forward to the convention; I even have a nail apron. I will also be taking notes. When this convention is over, the manuals and all information will be turned over to our District. Then we can begin to plan a wonderful convention in Stevens Point!**

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