

PARTNERS OF WHA is committed to advocating for the health of our communities and advancing the success of local health care volunteer organizations, through the coordination and provision of volunteer education, development resources, and leadership opportunities for health care volunteers and their organizations.

A Message from the Partners of WHA President

Gear Up for Convention



Bonnie Olson

Remember when I gave my acceptance speech and said I was going to use the F word? I certainly have and I hope you are using it too. The F word of family, friendships, faith, flowers, focus, finance, future, fundraising, and most importantly FUN—this is what Partners is all about.

On behalf of Partners and our sponsoring hospitals, we look forward to your participation at the Partners Annual Convention October 4-6 at the Radisson Paper Valley in Appleton, WI. The convention represents a unique opportunity to explore a broad spectrum of activities. I am confident that your participation will be informative and productive. Remember to wear your western garb including denim, cowboy boots, spurs, and cowgirl hats. Wednesday night will be a banquet with and where new officers will be installed. Please wear banquet attire for this event.

A teleconference about the convention is being planned in August. Information will be forthcoming on the Partners website, partnersofwha.org.

Please read the proposed bylaw changes in this *Reaching Out* issue. If you have any questions, contact Mary Licht, bylaws chair, or myself for an explanation of the changes. We trust that all the voting delegates will clearly understand the proposed changes.

On the Spring Tour, we heard of so many wonderful ideas of how volunteer Partners give support to their hospitals. One organization donates clothing to their Emergency Room. In the winter, they donate sweat pants and shirts and in the summer, shorts and t-shirts. Patients that are injured or need new clothing are able to wear something fresh and clean home.

Another volunteer organization did a safe-environmental healing garden for adolescences who have psychological problems or addiction to drugs or alcohol.

What great work we are doing at our hospitals in Wisconsin!

Why Should You Attend Partners of WHA Convention?

- To hear great speakers with a message.
- To learn ways to re-energize your group.
- To network, renew friendships, and make new friends.
- And last, but not least,
- To relax, have fun, and go home revitalized.

"Those who can, do. Those who do more, volunteer."

- Author Unknown

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The Basket Raffle Tradition Continues!

We're looking forward to another exciting basket raffle this year, filled with unique and interesting gifts. Plus we have many other prizes. This is an annual FUN event at the Partners convention. Remember to include a card with the contents listed inside the basket, as well as one to display outside. Please put your district name on the cards.



Partners will have the WINE raffle again—beautiful wine bags with a bottle of wine for \$20. If you purchase a bottle, you will have a chance to win a beautiful basket with wine accessories. If you can donate a bottle, please bring it to the convention.

Sell your raffle tickets!!! All contributions benefit the Partners of WHA convention.

Speakers Chosen for Convention

Plan to “Kick Up Your Heels for Volunteers” at the Partners of WHA Annual Convention at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, October 4-6, 2016. Be sure to wear your cowboy/cowgirl gear and plan to have a wonderful time!

Kim Hodous will present a keynote address: “How to Kick Up Your Heels and Live Life to the Fullest.” Kim will follow with a breakout session entitled “Communication is More Than Words: It’s Not What You Say, It’s What They Hear.”

Tuesday evening, KG & THE RANGER and band will entertain and engage us. They too, come with rave reviews.

We will dress business casual for Wednesday evening’s installation of the new executive officers of Partners.

Dr. Todd Mahr, a pediatric allergy/immunology physician at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, will close Thursday with his enlightening delivery of “All About Asthma: What’s New.”

The Western District has worked enthusiastically to bring you an outstanding program and speakers for learning and networking opportunities. Numerous vendors, a silent auction, and raffles offer more excitement for our Western-themed convention.

See you there!

Rose Raska, Convention Chair
Email: ra-raska@usa.net

SHARE THE WEALTH

Pass along this newsletter,
or make copies and share it
with your CEO and Partners or
auxiliary members.

A Message from the President-Elect

Bylaws and Honor Points Updated

The hot, lazy, crazy days of summer are upon us; time to get out the grill and make some hot dogs, steaks, and burgers. Now days, I pretty much do that all on the George Foreman grill—not too much for eating outside in the heat. I like my creature comforts more and complete with air conditioning.

During our Spring Tour this year, I went over the by-law changes we will be presenting at our convention in October. I explained who is supposed to do the voting for your hospital—that would be the two delegates that you checked off on the convention registration form. Then, I went through each by-law change to explain exactly what we are trying to change and why we thought the change was needed. Sometimes the change is needed to eliminate a conflict with another by-law or to update what is currently the best and most practical practice. Since I did not get a lot of questions, I will assume you all pretty much understood what I was saying. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know and we can talk it over. I am always just an email or phone call away.

I also went over the Honor Points so you know what you need to qualify for the Honor Point Award. I hope that helped you understand what was needed to achieve the minimum 40 points to receive this award. Again, if you have any questions, please let me know.

After Spring Tour, I was honored to go to Washington D.C. this year for the AHA/SAL (American Hospital Association/State Auxiliary Leaders) meeting where I met with peers from other states and listened to some really great speakers. Then, we also lobbied “up on the hill” for hospital bill legislation to help our hospitals. It was a wonderful trip and I learned a great deal. One of the speakers I heard during the SAL meeting talked about “Story Tellers.” These are volunteers who sit with older people in their nursing homes, and in some cases hospice, and listen and record and write down their life experiences to hand down to posterity. These are valuable life experiences and family information, too many of which are already lost and taken to the grave without being shared. Like one of those “I wish I had listened to grandma’s stories more when she was alive” moments. A very worthy project!

This year’s convention is going to be a “hoot” and “holler,” a real “rootin, tootin” time. Bring your boots and jeans but forget the six-shooter—no guns allowed. We will “Kick Up Our Heels for Volunteers.” The team has some great workshops planned and very interesting speakers, and some fun stuff too. If you have any suggestions for the 2017 Convention, now is the time to send them. Our convention chair for next year is John Tully. You can find his contact information on our website.

Don’t forget to check out the bylaw changes in this issue of *Reaching Out* that we will be presenting during the business meeting at the convention.

Have a great summer and I will see you in the fall.

Mary Licht, President-Elect
729 Morning Star Drive – Unit 1, Portage, WI 53901
608-556-1291; Email: Marylicht2608@yahoo.com



Mary Licht

Award Nominations are in for 2016 Best of the Best

The June 10th deadline for submitting nominations for the Best of the Best Administrative Award has passed. This year, we received seven nominations. The Selection Committee has reviewed and returned their evaluations to me. I am in the process of tallying the final scores and shortly we will know who our 2016 Best of the Best will be!

This award will be presented at our 2016 Partners of WHA Annual Convention in Appleton on Wednesday evening, October 5, 2016.

It has been a thrill for me to learn about all of the wonderful contributions the leaders of our health care facilities throughout this state offer to their teams, volunteers, patients, and communities in which they serve. A special thank you to all of you who took the time to share their accomplishments by submitting a nomination form.

I would also like to thank our wonderful Selection Committee members. They have made my job so easy by responding in such a timely manner! These members include our 2015 Best of the Best Administrative Award Recipient David Gundstrom, now retired president and CEO of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital in Chippewa Falls, WI; Jackie Halverson, Ripon Medical Center Associates, Lakes District; Dianne Schmidt, St. Mary's Auxiliary Madison, Southern District; and Diane Brown, Friends of Vernon Memorial Healthcare, Western District.

I would be remiss if I did not give an extra special thank you to Jennifer Frank of WHA for all of her coordination and guidance in this process.

I want to remind the Partners of HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital to include two honor points for 2016 through 2019. As last year's winning nomination application, you are awarded these points as your group will not be able to submit another nomination until 2020.

See you at convention!

Barb Jamerson, 2016 Best of the Best Chair
893 Goldenview Ct., Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-408-91239; Email: bjamerson54@gmail.com



Help us Keep your Partners of WHA Information Up to Date

Be sure to email our website coordinator, Peg Larson, at pegvoluntr@aol.com with any changes in officers, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.

Since the *Reaching Out* newsletter is now sent electronically, it is imperative that we have your correct email address.

Thank you!



Partners 2016 Convention Committee

2016 Convention Bylaw Changes

Change number 1---ARTICLE 10.1.13 SECTION 4

Currently states:

The Nominating Committee shall select a slate of qualified nominees for the offices of President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. This slate shall be published in the Partners of WHA newsletter edition prior to convention.

Change to read:

The Nominating Committee shall select a slate of qualified nominees for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. This slate shall be published in the Partners of WHA newsletter edition prior to convention.

Rationale: Eliminate the office of President from this article, 10.1.13 Section 4, to make it coincide with article 10.1.9 section 2 which states:

Terms of office commence January 1, following election at the Partners annual meeting, for two (2) years or until successors are elected. President shall serve one two-year term unless the President-Elect becomes unable to assume the presidential duties, in which case, the President will be eligible to serve a second consecutive two-year term.

President-Elect shall serve one two-year term as President-Elect and then assume the Presidency. Secretary and Treasurer shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Change number 2---ARTICLE 10.1.13 SECTION 3

Per the discussion after passage of bylaw 10.1.13 Section 3 to change the wording slightly from:

Nominations may be made from the floor. Person being nominated must accept the nomination. If not present, the acceptance must be in writing.

To read:

Nominations may be made from the floor. The **qualified** person being nominated **should be present to** accept the nomination. **If they are not there in person then a letter of acceptance from him/her needs to be presented to the nominating committee on or before the day the nominations are presented to the membership.**

Rationale: This will change the word “must” to “should” in case the nominee cannot be present at the appointed time. If not present then there needs to be a written statement that they will accept the nomination and the deadline for when it should be presented to the committee.

Change number 3---ARTICLE 10.1.12 SECTION 1

Currently states:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, District Chairpersons, and Partners Standing Committee Chairpersons. The immediate Past President shall serve in an ex-officio (non-voting) capacity for a term of two (2) years. The Board of Directors referred to in the Articles of Incorporation on file in this matter will relate to the directors elected pursuant to this paragraph.

Revised to:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the following:

VOTING MEMBERS

PRESIDENT
PRESIDENT-ELECT
SECRETARY
TREASURER
DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON (1 vote per district)
COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION CHAIR
PUBLIC POLICY CHAIR
STRATEGIC PLANNING CHAIR
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

CONVENTION CHAIR
WAVE CHAIR
BEST OF THE BEST CHAIR
PARLIAMENTARIAN
RESOURCE DIRECTOR
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
WEB COORDINATOR

Should any member of the Board of Directors hold more than one (1) voting office they will still be entitled to only one (1) vote per election. (Continued on page 5)

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Rationale: List separately each of the standing committee chairs. We are also limiting the past president's vote to the immediate past president, and each district only gets one vote per election—in the event a district should have co-chairs, there is still only one vote.

Change number 4----ARTICLE 10.1.12 SECTION 6

Currently states:

A majority of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Revised to:

A majority of **voting** members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Rationale: Added the word "voting" to define a quorum as voting members eligible to make decisions on the board of directors.

Mary Licht, President-Elect

608-556-1291; Email: Marylicht2608@yahoo.com

Convention Vendor Marketplace Open to All

Tuesday & Wednesday, Oct. 4 & 5

Come to meet the vendors, get ideas to take back to your gift shops, sign up for a new fundraiser, or shop 'til you drop!

Gift shop buyers, volunteers, and fundraising chairmen, take advantage of this opportunity to chat with the vendors and receive assistance in choosing products for your gift shops or kiosks.

VENDOR SPACES are STILL AVAILABLE.

If you or any of your Partners members or gift shop personnel know gift shop vendors or fundraisers who might be interested in participating in our convention, please contact Sue Lynch as soon as possible by email at kells52@aol.com or by phone at 608-792-5131.

Consider Applying for a HAVE Award

The 2017 AHA Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence (HAVE) will take submissions until September 23, 2016 at 4:30 PM PDT. The program was established by the American Hospital Association to help hospitals and health care systems attract and retain volunteers by recognizing outstanding contributions of organized volunteer programs. In addition, the HAVE Awards acknowledge the value of volunteerism to individuals, organizations, and communities. This is very similar to the WAVE Awards for Wisconsin organizations.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Affiliated with an AHA institutional member hospital or health system.
- Has functioned successfully for at least two years (since September 1, 2014) within a health care organization or a community the organization serves.
- Organizations affiliated with members of the HAVE selection committees are not eligible to apply.
- The organization submitting a nomination may not have received a HAVE Award the previous three years.
- Awards go to specific areas, initiatives or programs, and not volunteer departments or auxiliaries as a whole.

Award categories include Community Service, Fundraising, In-Service, and Community Outreach and/or Collaboration. Questions may be directed to Joan Ryzner, 312-422-3321 or jryzner@aha.org – website is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2017HAVEAward>.

2016 Nominating Committee Recommends Officers

On behalf of the Partners of WHA Nominating Committee, Barb Jamerson, Carolyn Ward, and Mary Licht, I would like to thank those members who submitted an application interested in serving as an officer for 2017-2018.

The committee reviewed all applications and met via conference call, Monday, May 16, and reported the following information to be submitted at our convention in Appleton, October 4, 2016:

President – Mary Licht
 President-Elect – Jan Molaska
 Secretary – Rose Raska
 Treasurer – Peg Larson

Sue Lynch, Chair, 2016 Partners of WHA Nominating Committee
 Email: Kells52@aol.com

Biographies of Partners of WHA Nominees

President – Mary Licht



I received my college degree from Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI. After college, I also received my CPM (Certified Purchasing Manager) from the professional group NAPM (National Association of Purchasing Management). While working as a senior buyer for Prime Manufacturing, I joined the professional association NAPM, and took the position of chair for the Speakers Committee for them. My professional career was as an industrial buyer, from which I retired in 2005.

After I retired, we moved from the Milwaukee area to Portage where I first volunteered at my local hospital. I enjoyed working in the various areas around the hospital such as the gift shop, blood pressure screening, heart care program, employee wellness program, and other areas as they were assigned to me. I was asked if I wanted to join the volunteer board and I accepted. I soon found myself in the position of vice president, after which I served a term as president for two years. I served on committees at my hospital such as the scholarship committee, Love Light committee, and then the cookie committee, which I also co-founded. I am currently the vice president of my hospital's board.

I served on the Partners district board as the secretary/treasurer, chaired the 2013 Convention at the Kalahari, and volunteered to do the Partners website, which needed much help. After my term as district secretary/treasurer, I moved on to the chair-elect position, and became chair of the Southern District for two years. I am now serving as the president-elect for the Partners of WHA.

I am married to Keith, am the mother of three, grandmother of seven, and great grandmother of four. I like to read and belong to a small book club; I like to crochet. I also like working on my computer, which I don't have problems with it—just challenges, and I do enjoy a good challenge!

President-Elect – Jan Molaska



I am a lifelong resident of central Wisconsin. I received an undergraduate and master's degree in communicative disorders from UW-Stevens Point and was employed as a speech and language therapist in the public schools for 36 years.

In 2006, I retired from the Wausau School District, but the need to help people was still very strong. Our daughter, Wendy, was diagnosed when she was five years old with Marfan syndrome. We spent numerous hours in clinics, hospitals, and ICUs. So when it came time for me to find something to fill my time, I joined the Aspirus Volunteers with the intention of just giving a couple hours a week. Initially, I volunteered in the ICU waiting room and called Bingo once a week. After a short period of time, I served as vice president of our local volunteer group for two years, and then served two years as president of the Aspirus Volunteers. While serving as president, I was a member of the Aspirus Wausau Hospital Accountability Board as the volunteer representative. As past president I continued to serve as the chairperson for the Research and Development Committee. I continue to work on many of the volunteer projects.

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In 2010, I was elected to serve as co-chair of the North Central District. In 2013, the North Central and Northwestern Districts hosted the Partners of WHA Convention where I served as the coordinator of the North Central committees for the convention and the liaison between the district and the convention chairperson. As a district chair, I served on the state board. I have served as the chairperson for the “Best of the Best,” the WAVE Committee, and presently serve as the secretary for the Partners of WHA Board.

I am a member of the National Marfan Foundation and PEO. I was chairperson for the high school drug and alcohol-free graduation parties, volunteer for the Festival of Trees and the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

On a more personal level, my husband Ken and I have been married for 46 years and have two children and two grandchildren. When not volunteering at the hospital or for Partners of WHA, I enjoy biking, reading, traveling, and spending time with family.

If elected, I will work with the executive team to grow the Partners organization, work with district organizations, and advocate for our hospitals across the state.

Secretary – Rose Raska



I am honored to have been nominated for the position of secretary of Partners of WHA. I currently serve as Western District chair and chair of Convention 2016. Previously, I was president of Franciscan Healthcare Auxiliary for four years and served in various board positions before that, including Tiny Tim chair. I continue to volunteer in the surgery waiting room when needed. I love being able to give back by participating with the Auxiliary and with Partners, and especially appreciate all of the wonderful women I have met through these affiliations.

I have a doctorate in education policy and law from the University of Florida, and a master's degree in counseling from the University of Central Florida. My education BA is from the University of South Florida. Yes, I am a Floridian who retired and moved north to marry my college sweetheart. I do love my new life in Wisconsin and my many friends.

I have taught, served as a guidance counselor at all grade levels, and was district coordinator for 144 school counselors when in Central Florida. While here in Wisconsin, I place high school exchange students with host families in our area for an international company and work for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, AKA “The Nation's Report Card.” And, last but not least, I belong to the best book club in La Crosse.

Treasurer – Peg Larson



I graduated from the University of Hartford with a degree in accounting. After practicing as an auditor for six years, I retired to raise our two boys. Over the years, I have volunteered for many different organizations including as referee coordinator for our recreational soccer club, raising money for our local symphony, the Catholic schools, and our parish. My longest-term commitment has been to Mercy Medical Center in Oshkosh, doing car seat presentations, working in the gift shop, doing tours, and helping at the information desks. As my children left home, I became involved in the statewide Partners organization, becoming district chair of the Lake Winnebago and Lakes District, doing registration for the 2012 convention, and chairing the 2014 convention in Green Bay. I have learned incredible amounts of knowledge doing each job, especially the last year and a half as the website coordinator.

I have enjoyed using my bachelor's degree and work experience in accounting for the last two years as the Partners of WHA treasurer. I look forward to serving again for 2017 and 2018. I have been building on the fiscal responsibility that Partners has demonstrated over the years to allow us to provide great networking and training opportunities for our membership. Health care is becoming more and more challenging as we undergo great changes in technology and funding.

“The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing, and face us with the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares.” - Henri Nouwen

Public Policy Education Report



Cindy Hermel

It has been a turbulent summer on both the national and international scenes. Our presidential primary season has been full of drama and surprises. The outcome of the Brexit vote in Great Britain stunned the world. Shootings, protests, and terrorist attacks challenge political leaders and citizens. Despite these issues, there is optimism and determination to address the problems and find solutions.

The Partners of WHA have encouraging news and something to celebrate. The “Just One More” challenge has shown positive results. Comparing the 2014 and 2015 Public Policy Education state report data, there are increases in Advocacy Day attendance (.9%), legislative contacts (9%), and HEAT membership (9.4%). During Spring Tour, the persuasive power of chocolate was on display. There was a wonderful response to the offer of a little bag of sweet treats as a signing bonus. There are **68** new Partners HEAT members.

While things are quiet on the Wisconsin front since the Wisconsin Legislature is in recess until 2017, the United States Congress is in session. The following pieces of legislation are on the radar:

- **Section 603/HOPD Fix** - Last year, legislation was enacted that created a prohibition on certain hospital outpatient departments (HOPDs) from using an entire Medicare reimbursement system. WHA has been working on a targeted fix for hospitals inappropriately caught up in this prohibition. Recently-introduced legislation (HR 5273) is a step in the right direction.
- **Critical Access Hospitals** - WHA continues to support legislation, including a fix to the 96-hour rule.
- **Graduate Medical Education (GME)** - WHA continues to support and advocate in favor of GME funding, including a targeted approach to address what are known as “legacy” or “micro” caps. These GME caps were inadvertently set decades ago and negatively impact several hospitals in Wisconsin who desperately want to take on more residents.
- **340B Program** - It is important to remain vigilant regarding 340 B. The HRSA will not release its final mega-guidance until late 2016.

Watch for HEAT Alerts specific to these initiatives and contact your representatives to support these important issues that impact Wisconsin hospitals and patients.

Opioid use, abuse, and addiction continue to be in the news nationally and locally. WHA, along with elected officials, are partnering to improve this situation in Wisconsin. One of the ways WHA has been active is offering an educational webinar series. In spring of this year, more than 400 individuals participated in this series. It focused on assisting hospital and health system administration and leaders understand this growing public health issue. If you would like to access these sessions, you can at www.wha.org/memberforum2-25-16.aspx.

Thank you for your advocacy efforts on behalf of Wisconsin communities, hospitals, and patients. Let’s continue to learn about the issues, share our thoughts with our representatives, and exercise our right to vote this fall. You can and do make a difference.

Cindy Hermel, PPE Chair

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In Remembrance of Past Editor

Ruth Hawks, past editor of *Reaching Out*, died June 19, 2016 in Weston, WI. She served in that position for about five years, prior to Kay Lyndahl becoming editor. Volunteering included not only serving on the Partners of WHA Board, but for the Girl Scouts of America, YWCA, her church, and local hospitals. She was a loyal Marine and had the chance to enjoy the Never Forgotten Honor Flight in 2010, realizing her important role in WWII making sure the troops received communication from home. Recently, she was the “Honored Veteran” at the Bull Falls Brewery Honor Flight run.

Community Health Education Report



Sherry Jelic

The more we learn about lung disease, the greater the chances of preventing it. The one thing we know about lungs is that they are vital to our life. Just as in the past, education and prevention efforts led to a drop in heart attacks. Experts hope that as more people learn about COPD and lung cancer, fewer will actually get it.

Here are three myths and facts about lung disease.

Myth: Lung disease is rare.

The fact is COPD is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among both men and women; about 1 out of 4 cancer deaths are from lung cancer.

Myth: Lung disease only strikes smokers.

The main cause of COPD and lung cancer is smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke. But not everyone is a current or former smoker. Long-term exposure to pollutants and some occupations are riskier for lung health. There are also genetic influences. The number 2 cause of lung cancer is exposure to the odorless radioactive gas we know as radon.

Myth: It's too late to quit smoking.

It's never too late to quit smoking. Your circulation improves and your lungs work better. The risk of lung cancer and COPD start to drop over time. Ten years after you quit, the odds of getting lung cancer will be half of what they are now. At any stage of COPD, quitting smoking will lessen your symptoms and slow COPD progression, and help manage the disease. Your treatment for lung cancer may be more effective and side effects could be milder. If you need surgery, ex-smokers heal better than smokers.

Fact: Exercise is important if you have lung disease.

Exercise helps your lungs work more effectively. It improves the way the heart pumps. It reduces anxiety and stress and improves mood. Exercise also improves cognitive function.

Fact: Early diagnosis helps.

It's crucial to catch COPD and lung cancer early to prevent more damage to the lungs and increase life outcome.

Fact: Everyone should try to prevent infections. Get a flu shot and a pneumonia vaccine.

*Sherry Jelic, CHE Chair
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WAVE Award to be Announced at Convention

The deadline for the WAVE applications was June 10, 2016. Our committee was excited to learn that 18 applications were received by the Wisconsin Hospital Association. The packets were mailed by WHA and in our hands by the last week of June.

The committee has been reviewing and scoring those applications. We were scheduled for our teleconference Monday, July 18, to determine the winner(s). Those selected will be notified directly and we will announce the winners at convention.

It has been an honor to serve on this committee and I want to thank all who submitted an application. You are truly unique and we wish everyone could be a winner.

*Sylvia Emerson, Chair
715-835-8816; Email: emersosa@uwec.edu*

Strategic Planning Report

I'm happy to report that the Strategic Planning Committee has just about completed our goals for 2015-2016. Many thanks to the dedicated and energetic team.

One of our goals was to develop educational sessions. Peg Larson and Jennifer Frank conducted our first educational conference call May 3. The topic was the "Best of the Best and WAVE Awards." This subject was chosen because of the many changes this year in the application forms for both.

Peg Larson reported that we had 21 attendees, plus Sylvia Emmerson, WAVE Award chair and Barb Jamerson, Best of the Best chair. Sylvia and Barb answered many of the questions.

The feedback we received on this call was excellent!! We are so excited and pleased!!

Jennifer Frank arranged for an audio recording to be posted on our website. You can find this audio by going to Awards and then WAVE or Best of the Best. We are now planning our next educational conference call. The topic will be "Convention" and will take place in August. Time and date will be announced later.

*Dorothy Revnew, Strategic Planning Chair
522 Lac La Belle Drive, Oconomowoc, WI 53066
262-569-2763, Email: drevnew@wi.rr.com*

Around the State

Auxiliary of Howard Young Medical Center, Woodruff:

Harvest of Holidays Craft Sale will be held in October, which hopes to sell such items as birch bark creations, woodworking pieces, floral arrangements, decorated stationary and cards, quilting pieces, and other handcrafted items. What a great way to show off the talents of the volunteers!

Bay Area Medical Center Volunteer Services, Marinette:

Recently, this Volunteer Services held a scholarship luncheon for nine high school graduates. Two of the scholarships, in particular, were from Dr. Zeratsky, a physician in Lower Michigan, who had received one many years ago when he graduated from Marinette High School; and one was from the estate of Josephine Wiltzius, a former nurse and volunteer.

St. Croix Regional Medical Center, St. Croix Falls:

Proceeds from their 50th Salad Luncheon purchased some very unique items for the hospital, which included a laboratory-grade under-the-counter refrigerator to store patient blood samples to maintain their integrity for testing; a mobile tray delivery cart to accommodate 20 trays under refrigeration for meal delivery; and Granger Security Safes for patient rooms.

Partners of Memorial Medical Center, Ashland:

This group has reached their pledge of \$75,000 for the new Northwest Cancer Center on the MMC campus in Ashland. A ceremonial check was presented last December with the donation to be used for healing artwork. The new cancer center opened in May of 2016.

Aspirus Hospital Volunteers, Wausau:

2015 major contributions that were given back to the hospital amounted to \$29,472 for scholarships for Aspirus volunteers, purchase of a new EZ Rider, pill boxes for high-risk patients, Rainbow's End Camp for special needs children, student talent art program, lung pillows for ICU patients, and medical explorers.

Kay Lyndahl, Editor



Now that's a really large salad bowl that Sue Nelson from River Falls Area Hospital Auxiliary had to fill for their Spring Salad Luncheon this year! Two hundred fifty four people were served 78 donated salads for a total of \$2,417.76 profit.

Reaching Out Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
November 2016	Sat., October 15, 2016
February 2017	Sun., January 15, 2017
May 2017	Thurs., April 13, 2017
August 2017	Sat., July 15, 2017
November 2017	Sat., October 14, 2017

Partners *Reaching Out* is published four times a year by Partners of Wisconsin Hospital Association, Inc. Visit the Partners website at www.partnersofwha.org. Direct questions or comments to:

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