

Communiqué

Fall 2016

A newsletter for Aspirus Volunteers

Scholarship Recipients 2016



Amelia Brown
UWMC
Music & Theater



Maria Bunczak
Marquette University
Nursing



Hunter Gage
UW Madison
Biochemistry



Taylor Hackel
UW LaCrosse
Microbiology



Anusha Naik
UW Madison
Biochemistry



Kailey Penn
UW Whitewater
Marketing



Benjamin Rauen
UW Eau Claire
Marketing/Communications



Abby Sann
UW Madison
Environmental Services



Katherine Schneider
Iowa State University
Special Education



Logan Schroeder
UW LaCrosse
Biomedical



Ava Sczygelski
UW Madison
Finance/Pre-Law



Our Mission

The Aspirus Volunteers is an inclusive organization through which people individually, or as a group, volunteer time, talent, and resources to improve the spiritual and physical health and well-being of the residents of north and central Wisconsin, fostering the mission of Aspirus and its subsidiaries.

From the President

by Paul Dobbratz, President



I can't believe I'm writing this column for the fall newsletter! Summer has gone way too fast. I've been busy building an outdoor wood fired pizza oven and I am now looking for good recipes to cook in it. If anyone is willing to share recipes for wood fired ovens, please send them to me.

This is my first newsletter as president. In the four years that I have been on the board I've been amazed by the dedication of our volunteers and the many roles they fill. If you see me roaming the hallways with Cado, our therapy dog, stop and say hello.

In early October, many members of the volunteer board, along with several staff people, will be attending the Partners of the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) conference in Appleton. It's a great opportunity to network and learn what other volunteer groups are doing.

In early August, four of our volunteers participated in the Aspirus Women's Golf Classic. Once again, I was able to be their caddy. And, we won first prize for the Best Dressed team in the nine-hole event! Over \$120,000 was raised.

Once again, thanks for all you do for the patients and staff of Aspirus.

Heart & Vascular Institute Volunteers



Exciting Facility Projects at Aspirus Wausau Hospital

Upcoming building projects that will be occurring on the campus to better serve our patients include:

Cafeteria – The Courtyard Café will undergo a remodel that will result in a larger seating and serving area, updated décor and nicer views. Work is expected to be completed in spring 2017.

Café Voluntario (also fondly known as Starbucks) is moving across the lobby next to Aspirus Pharmacy. Work is expected to start in late November and be completed in March 2017.

ICUs – The Med/Surg ICU and the Cardiac ICU are receiving updates including larger rooms, family space and additional equipment. Work on the Med/Surg ICU is expected to start in November 2016 and continue through July 2017, while work on the Cardiac ICU is slated for July 2017 – January 2018.

Palliative Care Unit – Work has started and is expected to be completed in December 2016. When finished, there will be 10 private patient rooms with private bathrooms.

Ambulance Garage – The ambulance garage is being expanded near the emergency department to accommodate up to three ambulances. Exterior signage and parking lot lighting also will be enhanced in the area. Work has begun and is scheduled to be completed in December 2016.

Wayfinding (see insert) – New exterior signage to identify hospital entrances and parking lots is scheduled to be completed this fall.

Volunteers and staff of the Aspirus Heart & Vascular Institute waiting room held a meeting on August 24th to review volunteer duties and processes. The volunteers were given a new Volunteer Reference binder created by Aspirus staff members.

Front Row: Gene Nelson, Ann Ovel, Joanne Howard, Gale Gilge

Back Row: Shirley Iczkowski, Joyce Frickenstein, Jeff Raasch, Mike Cain, Sue McDonald, RN, BSN, Manager Cardiovascular Specialty Services, Brenda Rowe, RN, Interim Manager ACU, and Yo Voigt.

Volunteer Spotlight

Marie Kamenick, volunteer knitter since 2012, recently donated her 1200th baby hat! Aspirus Birthing Center staff expressed their gratitude for all the beautiful hats with a thank you card.

(Picture: Marie Kamenick and Amanda Seubert, RN, Aspirus Birthing Center Supervisor.)



Aspirus Lifeline

September was Falls Prevention Month. Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for seniors, threatening their safety and independence. Falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced.

Ask yourself or a loved one these two simple questions:

1. If I fell tonight, how would I get up?
2. If I fell and could not get up, what would I do?

Lifeline with Auto Alert features the most widely-proven fall detection technology. Auto Alert detects more than 95% of falls, automatically placing a call for help if a fall is detected and you cannot press your button. For more information and an application for Aspirus Lifeline, call 715-847-2781 or visit us at www.aspirus.org/lifeline. Since 1983 Aspirus Lifeline has been a community program of the Aspirus Volunteers keeping people living safely and independently in their homes. Ask about our new wireless units for seniors without a landline, and the new GoSafe mobile help button for seniors on the go!



Public Policy Education News

by *Cindy Hermel*,

Public Policy Education Chairman



It has been a very good year for the Partners of Wisconsin Hospital Association advocacy efforts. The

initial response to the “Just One More” Challenge has been very encouraging. From 2014 to 2015 there was over a 9% increase in Hospitals Education & Advocacy Team (HEAT) membership and legislative contacts among Partners’ members. Let’s help increase these numbers. HEAT membership is a wonderful way to learn about the issues and ways to positively promote hospital and patient friendly public policy. Request a HEAT registration form from the Volunteer Office and join today.

As the November 8 general election nears, becoming educated about the candidates for office is critical. The WisconsinEye is Wisconsin’s version of C-SPAN. It will provide the state’s most extensive coverage of Wisconsin legislative races. You can watch/listen to candidate interviews at www.wiseye.org now and continuing through the inauguration of election winners in 2017. Interviews are updated frequently throughout these coverage dates and are a great opportunity to become familiar with the candidates’ positions on the issues.

Wisconsin continues to actively work to promote and protect rural hospitals. The United States Senate Rural Hospital Caucus co-chairs are supporting the National Quality Forum’s (NQF) Rural Health Committee recommendations to integrate rural providers into Medicare quality improvement programs. The Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) was very involved in the development of the report that outlines the challenges rural hospitals and other small-volume providers have with current CMS quality programs. In addition, the report also includes recommendations for use of rural relevant measures, flexibility to choose the measures that reflect the type of services provided, consideration of smaller patient populations and an incremental approach resulting in required participation of rural hospitals and providers in CMS programs. We are fortunate to have WHA leadership and state and national elected officials who understand the important role rural hospitals play in the lives of patients and the vitality of communities.

It has been the summer of the Olympics, political party conventions, and the Zika virus. The Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH) and local health partners are at work on prevention and response plans for the Zika virus. There is

no sign of mosquitoes that could transmit the virus in Wisconsin. The DPH is also providing information to local health care partners on lab testing protocols for people who have traveled to Zika-affected areas.

Opioid use, abuse and addiction continue to be critical issues among communities, healthcare providers, and law enforcement agencies. An additional piece of the Heroin Opioid Prevention Education (H.O.P.E) package sponsored by Rep. John Nygren (R-Marinette) has fallen into place. The Medical Examining Board, along with the Podiatry Affiliated Credentials Board, the Board of Nursing, the Dentistry Examining Board, and the Optometry Examining Board approved guidelines regarding best practices in prescribing opioids. These guidelines are consistent with those of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The plan for dissemination of the guidelines will be determined at a later date.



2016 Aspirus Womens' Golf Classic

The Aspirus Women's Golf Classic celebrated its 10-year anniversary on Monday, August 1, and raised over \$120,000 (gross). More than 250 golfers, caddies, and volunteers partnered with Aspirus and many businesses and community members to raise funds for two important causes:

- Children and victims of sexual assault and abuse by advancing a nurse examiner program at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.
- Children's brain development using books through the Reach Out and Read program at Aspirus Clinics.



The Aspirus Volunteers' team of Paul Dobbratz (caddy), Ann Wicklund, Sue Henning, Judy Ward, and Cindy Hermel earned first place for their costumes in the nine-hole competition.

Pet Therapy Visits Medical College of Wisconsin

The Medical College of Wisconsin – Central Wisconsin campus is located inside the east entrance on the second floor of Aspirus Wausau Hospital. The first group of student began their training on July 5.



The Pet Therapy Volunteers of Aspirus visited the students on September 1 to give the students a break from finals.

Front row volunteers:

Paul Dobbratz with Cado, Dottie Miner with Beasley, Chip (owner Marlin Block in back row), Alice Van Skike with Bailey and Snickers, and Tom Gilbreth with Rev.

Direct from Yo

“Passion for Excellence.
Compassion for People.”

What is this? This is our Aspirus promise to the people we serve. These words help us reach our ultimate goal to provide our patients a true sense of comfort and reduce their anxiety.

I proudly wear my Aspirus name tag each day, and I wear this promise every day. Sometimes we are so busy with our everyday duties and business that we may forget what this means. Each day at Aspirus, I see our volunteers show Compassion with smiles, kind words, gentle touches, and offering of “How can I help you?” Your passion is what makes the Aspirus Volunteer group and all volunteers everywhere so special.

At Aspirus, all entities are also measuring five areas of focus, or “pillars”; Quality, Service, People, Growth and Finance. At Aspirus we currently have volunteers coordinated through these locations who play an important role in these areas of focus:

- Aspirus Grand View Hospital, Ironwood, MI
- Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital, Laurium, MI
- Aspirus Langlade Hospital, Antigo, WI
- Aspirus Medford Hospital, Medford, WI
- Aspirus Iron River Hospital, Iron River, MI
- Aspirus Riverview Hospital, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
- Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Wausau, WI

We currently have quarterly teleconference calls with the Directors of Volunteers at these locations. This allows us to share information about our volunteer groups and best practices to help each of our organizations do the great things we do.

Compassion for people exists in many forms, and I see it every day, in many different ways. I am proud to be part of this organization and its many fine employees and volunteers. Thank you to all of you for helping me to feel this way.



Volunteer Opportunities/ Help Wanted

Honoring Choices Assistant – Provide assistance to the Advance Care Planning Facilitator. Assist patients in making informed healthcare decisions based on understanding, reflection, and discussion, honoring the patient’s goals, values, and beliefs for future medical care. Make photocopies of the documentation for the client to take home. Training will be provided. Assistants may attend facilitator training to become a certified facilitator, if desired.

Aspirus 2016 Healthy Aging, Today

This community program is offered by the Aspirus Healthy Aging Service Line. Learn about lifestyle characteristics of people who live longer and resources to support these behaviors. This includes discussions relating to “Blue Zones” research and lessons for living longer. Classes are held from 9:30 to 11:30 am at Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

This is a free program, but advance registration is required. Call the Aspirus Customer Contact Center at 715.847.2380 or 1.800.847.4707 to register for the Healthy Aging, Today series.

October 14

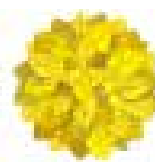
Pill Sense – Tips for safe medication use and storage

November 11

MyAspirus – How to access your health records online

December 9

Holiday Fun!



Volunteers in Action - Volunteer Hours

100 Hours

James Beese
Wendy Fox
John Grady
Peter Stavinoga

200 Hours

Hunter Gage
Taylor Hackel
Lois Jarosz
Baylee Mathsen
Karie Mcauliffe
Carly Moeller
Michelle Schaefer
Gloria Setterman
Joan Wahlquist

300 Hours

Dan Schaut
Jill Schlueter
Alexyss Schulz

400 Hours

Sally Burgener
Cathy Burnett
Jean Dehn
Gene Nelson
Jaci Seliger
Jeffrey Tiffany

500 Hours

Samantha Debroux
Donna Rule
Lynnae Schulz

600 Hours

Rushnee Chantree-Landowski
Warren Fabel
Susan Henning
Karen Resch
Jane Stotmeister
Ron Zahrt

700 Hours

Karen Schubert

800 Hours

Edward Bieno
Michael Cain
Joanne Howard
John Schlueter

900 Hours

Alyce Balk
Joyce Humpal
Bonnie Koelsch
Marsha Otto

1000 Hours

Terry Carroll
Maralee Moellendorf

1,500 Hours

Bill Dohr
George Million
Maryann Van Slyke

2,500 Hours

Earl Erickson

3,000 Hours

Carole Debauche

4,000 Hours

Lucille Richter
Jody Seybold

4,500 Hours

Carol Ruether

6,500 Hours

Nancy Zastrow

7,000 Hours

Dolly Feira

8,500 Hours

Marie Kamenick

14,500 Hours

Lee Borneman

26,500 Hours

Judith Trantow-Millar

Volunteens

50 Hours

Garrett Anklam
Gabrielle Gresen
Liane Kee
Brianna O'Flyng Halverson

100 Hours

Noah Briquet Miller
Jacob Brodhagen
Kyra Handrick
Savannah Pauls
Danielle Pitterle
Madeline Rodemeier
Elly Schlinkmann

150 Hours

Carly Maves
Sierra Moeller

We recognize and thank these volunteers for reaching these service achievements!

DON'T FORGET - Please turn in your hours every month to keep your records up to date. **Thanks for all you do!**

Aspirus Gift Shop - For Aspirus Wausau Hospital Volunteers

Spend \$30.00 **get 20% off**

Spend between \$30.01 and \$60.00 **get 25% off**

Spend between \$60.01 and \$100.00 **get 30% off**

Spend over \$100.00 **get 35% off**

Original coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. Duplicates not valid. Expires December 30, 2016.

Valid at Aspirus Wausau Hospital only. Excludes: Cards, Candy, Balloons, Flowers, Stamps, DoTerra and Sale Merchandise

Volunteer signature: _____



ASPIRUS™

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Director, Volunteer Services

Shirley Iczkowski
Coordinator, Volunteer Services

Graphic Design & Print Shop

Calendar of Events

Nov. 9: Cookie Sale

Nov. 18 & 19: Gift Shop Holiday Open House

Nov. 23 - 27: Festival of Trees, Stoney Creek Inn, Rothschild

Nov. 24 & 25: Thanksgiving Holiday – No volunteers scheduled

Dec. 1 & 2: Linen Sale

Dec. 6: Volunteers Board of Directors Meeting

Dec. 7: Volunteers Holiday Tea

Dec. 14: Cookie Sale

Dec. 26: Christmas recognized holiday – No volunteers scheduled