



Volunteers Matters

A Publication for the Volunteers of Hospice Ministries

Jan - April 2017

“Off with her head” shouted the Queen of Hearts, during the **Mad Hatter Tea Party Social** after the **2016 Awards Program**. “I’ve always felt a little uncomfortable with that phrase,” stated Jeri Flinn Volunteer Services’ Coordinator.



Our **2016 Awards’ Program** was filled with playful characters, a fantastic array of food and funny costumes. One of our **Mad Hatters’** in attendance was **Sonya Lee** who has been the inspiration and driving force behind our colorful and fun filled events and Get-togethers over these past years. This year Sonya was the recipient of our **Volunteer of the Year Award** for all of her hard work and creative good will making every event exciting and fun.



Jeri with Sonya Lee

New Volunteers: Mary Lou Boles, Bonnie Hawthorne, Donna Listig, Julianne Rains, Peggy Reeves, Charles Dabbs, Bert Currie, Leland Sentell, Libby Marley, John Malanchak, Beth Huntsberry, and Lynda Hunsicker were introduced and welcomed to our group.

Hours Award Pins were given out for those who have given 25 to 2000 hours. The **Angel** award went to **Jane Nash Jones** and **Shelley March**. **Wings, Hearts, Halos** and **Stars** were given to Volunteers who continually give more than expected. Other extraordinary pins, **Spirit of Excellence, Excellence, Champions, Master of Volunteering** and the **Angel Badge** were given out to those who continue to demonstrate how huge the hearts of our volunteers really are.

With grateful appreciation, Hospice Ministries would like to thank you all for your love, time and compassion, you have given to our patients and thier families.



Prep Singers’ Healing Voices



The healing voices of a volunteer group of the **Prep Singers** call **Healing Voices**, filled our chapel with song as special guest for our **2016 Awards Program**. Their heavenly voices bought joy to all who attended. After leaving the program these hardy students sang for patients and thier families in the halls of our suites.

Memory Garden



Lead gardener **Ferrell Tadlock** led us through an overview of the new **Memory Garden** just inside the South Court Yard. For \$20 one can have a rock engraved with the name of a loved one and placed in the Memory Garden. After the Awards program, we honored our volunteers who have died with a ceremony of remembrance placing thier rocks in the garden.



Winter Get-together 2017



On Sunday afternoon in the third week in January, volunteers gathered to attend Volunteer Service Quarterly Meeting and special In-service on the **Introduction of Wine**. Volunteer Coordinator Jeri Flinn announced that help was still needed for Juice Cart on Mondays, Wednesday's & Thursdays, along with vases pick-up on the different Sundays of the month. Also, she announced the new special events we would be hosting this spring, the night with the **Mississippi Braves on April 7th** and the Gardeners new **Spring Fling scheduled for May 18th**. Our guest speaker for the In-service was Master Gardener **John Malanchak**, a wine connoisseur who teaches about wine with **Milsaps College Enrichment Courses** and also works with **Joe T's Spirits** in Madison. John led us through the history of wine, its culture, and the proper way of serving wine with dishes. A very enlightening evening was had by all.



The buffet table after our meeting was enchanting. **Sonya Lee** our resident creative spirit, along with volunteer cooks, transported us to a Wine Chateau's event, complete with a cork filled centerpiece to interesting dishes for both sweet and delicate taste.

The buffet table was a very busy place during the social hour. With so many different dishes everyone's taste buds were satisfied. Coming back for seconds was a common yet delightful experience for most of us.



Kathy Hilton is seen in the photo to the right, signing in for the popular in-service and picking up copies of our last Quarterly meeting's minutes, held during our Get-together in January.



Kathy Hilton

Our next Volunteer Services' **Get-together is Sunday, August 23rd at 3:30 p.m.** Watch your emails for more information about the Get-together.

Volunteer Training Class



Terrance Moore one of the attendees of the Volunteer Training course held on the first weekend in February, listened intently to our HIPPA expert



Jean Nash Jones

from Medical Records, Volunteer **Jean Nash Jones** during her talk. Our new volunteers included **Donna Lustig, Bonnie Hawthorne, Peggy Reeves, Mary Lou Boles, Terrance Moore, Julianne Rains** and **Libby Marley**. Volunteer Panel attendees included **Diane Marler, Jolly & Kris Sahu, Beth Huntsberry** and **Linda Smith**. Other speakers included **Joyce Burnett** from Bereavement, **Donna Evans** Medical Social Worker, **Deloris Bell** Chaplain and **Jill Dent, RN**. Our next class will be held on the second weekend in June 9th - 11th, 2017.



Meadow, Jill Smith & Shelley March

Even Meadow our Therapy Dog, seen in the photo to the left, with her friends, **Jill Smith** and **Shelley March**, anticipating the upcoming in-service, **Introduction of Wine** presented by **John Malanchak**.

Valentine Day Treat Bags

Volunteer Events

Volunteers and family friends created Valentine Day treat bags on the Saturday before Valentine's Day.

Volunteers attending were: **Jane Nash Jones, Martha Jones, Bob Perry, Kathy Hilton, GiGi Ray** and grand daughter **Emma Ray, Lynda Hunsicker** and grand daughter **Emma Taylor, Danerika Holloway, Kelslyn Williamson, Meka Ezell, Jazmine Hopson**, from Tagauloo College.



St Patrick's Day Treat Bags

Volunteers: **Kathy Hilton, Peggy Reeves, Bob Perry, GiGi Ray**



along with guests **Patty Perry, Anna Dearing, Emma & Chris Ray**, gathered to create our St. Patrick's Day Treat Bags. **Emma Ray** enjoyed creating the festive bags for our patients.

Emma Ray

Hospice Ministries' Night with the Mississippi Braves



Hospice Ministries was chosen for a charity night with the **Mississippi Braves**. Tickets were sold to friends, staff and volunteers to help raise money for our **Night with the Mississippi Braves**.

We raised over \$1700 for Hospice Ministries and had a wonderful time doing it. **Daine**

Marler came with friends along with some of the **Brookhaven staff** who drove up for the game.



Volunteers **Linda Smith** and **Happy Cossell** brought friends and tired their luck with the raffled painting



in honor of the game.

Beverly Taylor, RN of Hospice Ministries won the raffle.



Easter Treat Bags

Volunteer **Gigi Ray** along with her daughter and grand daughter created brightly colored bags for



our Easter Treat bags. Helper volunteers included; **Jeanne Rozman, Julianne Rains, Jean Jones, William Thomas, Peggy Reeves, Martha Jones** and **Sonya Lee**. Gigi's family **Craig & Emma Ray**, also came to help stuff the bags.



A Run to Remember



The morning of our 2nd Annual Run to Remember perfect. People came from all over the Jackson area to participate in our exciting fund raising event.



Students and from Madison Central High School SGA along with Hospice Ministries volunteers joined us to be marshalls for the race. Marshalls included:

Harrison McKinnis, Victoria Stevens, Westbrooks Ross, Kristy Partrich, Elle Minthead, Claire Iupe, Cayden Shirley, Abby Johnston, America Yarvis. Hospice Volunteers **Robert Miller, Bob Perry, Luz Dail, Olivia Havrilla, Sonya Lee**, and **Happy Cossell** also helped. Other volunteers like **Helen Haygood** and **Peggy Reeves** and others baked cookies and muffins for snacks the runners.

Bereavement volunteers **Debra Grubbs, Jeanne Rozman, Sabyna Mills, Pat Bell, Nancy Williamson** joined **Joyce Burnett**, Bereavement Coordinator at the Personal Items check-in station.



Bob Perry and **Robert Miller** walked to thier stations as marshalls to ensure all runners/walkers knew where the course headed.



Happy Cossell and **Sonya Lee** helped with the different vendors and answered questions for guests and runners alike. We are very grateful for our wonderful volunteers who got up early to make this event run so smoothly.



DEVOTION. PERSEVERANCE. EXCELLENCE. The Young men from Shawreth

Shawreth Mission's Group from Mississippi College is a brotherhood with hearts and minds united to serve and glorify the teachings of Christ. Founded in 1998, the **Shawreth Order of MC** has and continues to strive for excellence in every aspect of college life: spiritually, socially, and academically. Their name is a Hebrew word that means servant, minister, and worshipper, and it certainly describes the way its members aim to live. This dedicated group of young men visit Hospice Ministries throughout the year to help with gardening chores.



The young men from Shawreth returned in March and April to help us clean our gutters in the court yards and finished trimming the hedges around the grounds.



The young men could not join us for our Awards Program so Jeri presented them with a *Certification of Appreciation*. The guys in the photo to the right take a minute for a photo with the award they were given. They promised that they would be back next fall to help where they can.



Spring cleaning on the grounds of Hospice Ministries

Volunteers Clear out, trimming back and cut down the over growth our grounds.

The month of April started out with a mission; to clean up Hospice Ministries grounds and get ready for the 5K Run to Remember at the end of the month. With the help of White Construction Company employees and our volunteer gardeners a miracles of love and hard work brought our grounds back into order. These angles of the gardens and lawns worked clearing, trimming and cutting back many areas of Hospice Ministries to make



our grounds presentable for our run. We can't thank them enough for their hard work.



Volunteers Continued the Clean Up



Volunteer Master Gardener **Libby Marler** brought her own creativeness to area under the flag



pole, by creating this lovely rose garden with Angelic Statue. What a perfect touch for our entrance. We want to send a special thank you to Libby's husband **Mark Marley** and his crew of golfing friends for mowing our grounds every few weeks. It is a very big job they have undertaken and we thank them for it.

Volunteer **Susan Haltom** and her husband **Dr. John Haltom** along with lead gardener **Ferrell Tadlock**, came to cut back and cut down some of the smaller trees around the building, all to get ready for the **Run to Remember 5K** at the end of April.



Inner Strength, A Common Prayer for Strength



Life's adventures may have a tendency to hit many of us hard at times, making it difficult to carry on. If you have ever felt that you needed supernatural strength to face a situation head-on, but do not know who to turn to or what to pray for, Ask your Divine Spirit, (God), whatever your religious faith, to help you find strength in time of need. Do not be afraid to ask for that strength. The simple act of clasping hands while praying is not at all exclusive to Christianity, in fact, nearly all major religions, including pagans, clasp their hands, in like fashion, while praying. Sometimes this physical symbol of "holding on" helps us cope with our difficult situations. When you feel weak, weary or unready to stand, unsure of what to ask ...try these words below, ... they may help you find your strength in time of need again.

Taken from, crosswalk.com...*A Prayer for Strength*.

Lord, I'm weary. My energy is sagging, and my motivation is lagging. And I am so in need of you. I need your strength and your fresh touch to get back on track again. Your Word says the "joy of the Lord is my strength". If that's true, then I need your joy to replace all the bone-tired parts of my mind, body and soul.

The pressures of life sometimes push me into a corner, rendering me helpless to move forward. A hundred voices call my name, and I feel paralyzed at times to answer, not knowing where to turn. Lord, help me not to quit, to keep running the race faithfully, and to find strength in that safe, secret place of yours, under the Shadow of the Almighty.

I need your strength to say no when I'm tempted to surrender to harmful things, or when selfishness clings to my heart and won't let go.



I need your strength to say yes, when cowardice and fear nudge me to deny the convictions of my heart. I need your strength to reach out in love to those both close to me and all around me. When don't I need your strength, God?

You are my rock, and I run to you today, believing that you will lift up my heavy arms, that you will fuel me for the tasks you're given me, and that your joy will completely consume the weakness of my life and make me strong again. I don't want to stay grounded, crippled by limitations and failed attempts. I'm tired of these feeble efforts. Lord, I want to mount up with wings like an eagle and not just fly. I want to soar.

Renew my strength, Lord. Fill me with your supernatural power to overcome each obstacle in my path. With my eyes on you, Lord. With you walking beside me, working through me, I can make it. Thank you Lord!

Hospice Program Needs for Volunteers' to let your "wings fly".

1. A great bridge for patient visits is "***picking up of vases***" on one Sunday afternoon of each month.
2. Another great bridge for visiting patients is the "***Juice Cart***" on Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday.
3. There is always a need to help "***feed the patients***" during lunch or dinner time. What a wonderful way to get to know someone and develop a trusting relationship.
4. We need volunteers to help with the ***Friends of the Garden's*** continuing development.
5. There are several administrative areas which need help. Please call if data entry could work for you.
6. If you are interested in participating in a new program similar to the ***Vigil Program***, please call Jeri.

Up-Coming Events June - Aug, 2017

June:

Friday- Sunday: June 9th - 11th

Volunteer Training Course. Fri 5:30 -8:30 p.m.;

Sat. 9:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m. &

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



July:

Saturday: July 1st,

4th of July Treat Bags

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Dining Room



Saturday: July 8th:

9:00 - 12:00 p.m. Vigil Training

Board Room

August:

Sunday: Aug. 20th: Summer Get-together and
Quarterly Meeting 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Chapel & Dayroom



September:

Saturday: September 2nd,

Labor Day Treat Bags

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Dining Room



Friday- Sunday: September 22- 24th.

Volunteer Training Course. Fri 5:30 -8:30 p.m.;

Sat. 9:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m. &

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

October:

Saturday: October 7th

Hospice Ministries Yard Sale

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Saturday: October 21st

Fall Festival Treat Bags

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Dining Room



450 Towne Center Boulevard

*Life is a gift
given to share with others
but for a brief moment.
Through sharing this gift,
we learn about the process of dying.
We learn what is most important in life.
Our conversations take on new meaning.
Our body, mind and soul
bond in companionship.
And the process of living and dying*