

60 Years of Caring



A Message from the President

Dear Auxiliary Members:

On behalf of Memorial's leadership team, employees, and boards of directors, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Memorial's Auxiliary as you celebrate your 60th anniversary. The level of dedication and caring I have witnessed over the past 13 years has been extraordinary. I am so proud to have such a dedicated group of women and men at Memorial willing to serve our patients, employees, and community.

Your history of financial support and service hours to our patients, their families, Medical Staff, and employees over the last six decades is admirable and an accomplishment many other healthcare institutions could only hope for. I am constantly impressed by the selfless service you provide and the enthusiasm and teamwork with which you approach your activities.

Again, please accept our congratulations and sincere thanks for your continued dedication to Memorial and those we serve throughout the Southwestern Illinois region. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,



Mark J. Turner

Mark J. Turner
President

A Letter from the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary President



Congratulations to our Memorial Hospital Auxiliary on its 60th Anniversary.

Memorial Auxilians have served 2.8 million hours from 1957 through 2016. What an accomplishment! We are the largest hospital auxiliary in southern Illinois.

Our volunteers are all ages, come from varied backgrounds, and live in many local communities. But they all have one thing in common...service to others.

Three of our most successful endeavors over the years are the Gift Shop, Book Bazaar, and Educational Assistance. Our Gift Shop has continually provided quality gifts, jewelry, cards,

and flowers. Each year our Book Bazaar is a huge success with thousands of donated books for sale. The Educational Assistance program has helped countless clinical and allied health employees with the opportunity to receive specialized training and degrees.

These endeavors, and so many others, are successful because of the many volunteers who donate their time and energy. So, thank you, to the 525+ Memorial Auxiliary volunteers...you are very special people. Happy Anniversary!

Lynn Blomberg
2017 President

A Letter from **the Governor**

Congratulations!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to congratulate Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary on the celebration of its 60th anniversary.

Since its founding in 1957, more than 500 dedicated volunteers of Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary have provided more than 2.8 million hours of service to the hospital and its patients. Your volunteers have also contributed more than \$9 million to the hospital, and more than \$500,000 to students pursuing healthcare careers during the past six decades.

To celebrate an anniversary such as this is a significant milestone for any organization. This is an excellent opportunity to reflect on all you have accomplished during the past 60 years and to make plans for the future that build upon past success. The longevity of Memorial Hospital's

Auxiliary is truly a testament to the quality healthcare and compassionate services it provides, and the relationships it has developed throughout the years. I have no doubt that your group of dedicated volunteers will continue to provide the same level of excellence for many years to come.

Once again, it is my honor to join in commemorating your 60th anniversary. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable anniversary celebration, and for another 60 years of continued success.

Sincerely,
Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois

A Letter from the Mayor of Belleville

Dear Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Members,
On behalf of the City of Belleville, I would like to congratulate you on your 60th Anniversary. Over the 60 years you have been serving others, you have been an integral part of Memorial Hospital's history.

As the Mayor of the City of Belleville, one of the things I enjoy doing most is recognizing individuals, businesses, and organizations for outstanding achievements. Your organization of dedicated men and women has been extremely effective in providing comprehensive healthcare services to the residents of Belleville and much of Southern Illinois.

Thank you for your time and dedication to hospital and convalescent center patients. Belleville prides itself in being a Community of Character, and it is organizations like the Auxiliary with its mission to help others that reinforces that character each day.

Congratulations again on over 60 years of dedicated services to others.

Sincerely,
Mark W. Eckert
Mayor

Letter from State Representative Jay C. Hoffman

Dear Volunteers:
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary on celebrating its 60th anniversary. Your hard work, dedication, and expertise have provided comfort and care to so many people. Volunteers provide love, care, direction, and comfort to many people during hard times. You should be very proud of your achievement and I commend you for all of your hard work. Best wishes for a happy and successful future.

Again, congratulations and thank you for your hard work and commitment to our community.

Sincerely,
Jay C. Hoffman
State Representative
113th District

County of St. Clair

County



Board

Proclamation

May 2017
60TH ANNIVERSARY
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY

WHEREAS, in the spring and summer of 1957 a group of local women had the foresight to see the need for a Women's Auxiliary in anticipation of the new Memorial Hospital opening; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 1957 Memorial Hospital Auxiliary was formed; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's charter membership closed on December 31, 1957 with a total of 1,488 members; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 1958 Memorial Hospital admitted its first patient and 27 Auxilians assumed their respective duties which included assistance in the Surgical, Medical and Pediatric Departments and in Dental Supply, the Gift Shop, Business Office, Volunteer Office, Hostess Desk and cashiers in the Cafeteria; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's membership now includes many gentlemen and junior volunteers, formerly known as candy strippers; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary has brought cheer to Memorial Convalescent Center residents by hosting games and parties for the residents throughout the year and on holidays; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxilians have always been a valuable resource, from sewing the first curtains for the original hospital to the on-going fund-raising efforts to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and the countless hours volunteered so that the residents of Southwest Illinois have the best healthcare services available; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary has donated 9 million dollars and 2.8 million service hours to the Hospital and Convalescent Center; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is celebrating their 60th Anniversary and we remember those who played an important part in establishing the Auxiliary and those carrying on the tradition.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Mark A. Kern, County Board Chairman, do hereby congratulate **MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY** on their 60th Anniversary and thank them for their outstanding community service.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of St. Clair County to be affixed.

*Done at the Courthouse in Belleville, Illinois
this 9th day of May in the Year of Our Lord
two thousand seventeen*

MARK A. KERN, Chairman
St. Clair County Board

History of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary



In the spring and summer of 1957, a group of Belleville women had a vision to contribute to the community by organizing an auxiliary to serve Memorial Hospital, a new healthcare center then under construction for residents of the surrounding communities. May 9, 1957, marked the birth of this organization. Auxiliary members walked door to door selling cardboard bricks for one dollar to raise funds for the new hospital. Once Memorial was built, volunteers sewed and hung curtains throughout the hospital.

Sixty years later, that initial burst of enthusiasm and success is still evident and continues to make Memorial Hospital Auxiliary a strong and viable force in the hospital and community.

The charter membership closed on December 31, 1957, with a total of 1,488 members. The Auxiliary has maintained a strong and dedicated membership, currently standing at 590. Over 325 of those members are actively involved in some way to benefit Memorial and the patients we serve.

Our membership now includes many men as well as junior volunteers.

May 18, 1958, marked Dedication Day for Memorial Hospital, with the first patient being admitted on May 19. Volunteer service has always been the prime focus for the Auxiliary, starting on the opening day when 27 Auxilians assumed their respective duties. Six Pink Angels were assigned to the surgical, medical, and pediatric departments; the remaining 21 volunteers assisted in dental supply, laboratory, gift shop, business office, volunteer office, and hostess desk and acted as cashiers in the cafeteria. As of December 31, 2016, volunteer service hours totaled nearly 2.8 million with financial support of over \$9 million.

Memorial's Auxiliary currently has 11 charter members, and two are still actively involved with the Auxiliary and its projects. Pearl Spies has recorded the most volunteer hours with 15,655. Caroline Busse still volunteers time to the organization.

Several volunteers have worked with the Illinois Hospital Association Constituency on Volunteers, a state organization educating auxiliaries throughout the state.

The Auxiliary's Educational Assistance program helps our employees achieve certification in all disciplines of hospital work through reimbursement of their tuition. Nearly \$1 million has been given to students and employees through this program since its inception.

The list of everything Memorial's Auxiliary does for our patients, visitors, employees, and physicians could go on and on. Suffice it to say, this is a group of truly dedicated volunteers who give of their time, talent, and expertise selflessly. We truly appreciate all that they do.

Past Presidents of Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

1957-58	Wilma Needles*	1978-79	Arlene Freeark Goalby	1994	Adele Valentine*	2009	Joanna Stork
1959-60	Viola Etling*	1980	Doris Fischer*	1995	June Heidinger	2010	Phyllis Parrish
1961-62	Mildred Eversull*	1981	Patricia River*	1996	Myrtle West	2011	Janice Dorris
1963	Jo Wigglesworth*	1982	Barbara Martin*	1997	Evelyn Meyer	2012	Rena Murphy
1964	Dorothy Keil*	1983	Judie Louden	1998	Dale Trinka	2013	Barbara Sutton
1965	Celeste O'Neill*	1984	Dolores Blase*	1999	Caroline Busse	2014	Sandra Jaskowiak
1966-67	Herta Gola*	1985	Marguerite Grogan*	2000	Marge Schanuel	2015	Mary Ann Silhavy
1968-69	Ruth Eckert*	1986	Judie Louden	2001	Charlene Dori*	2016	Dolores Miller
1970	Helen Neff*	1987	Audrey Pensoneau*	2002	Mildred Revoire*		
1971	Nell Fincke*	1988	Kathryn Kelley*	2003	Kay Mehrtens		
1972	Mary Hempel*	1989	Jean Nebel Joseph	2004	Shirley Wehrenberg		
1973-74	Lucile Marshall*	1990	Lois Gentsch	2005	Patricia Lanter		
1975	Patricia Schroeder	1991	Ruth Verges-Schubert*	2006	Janice Dorris		
1976	Margaret Badgley	1992	Pearl Spies	2007	Marlene Kassebaum		
1977	Neveda Godbold*	1993	Charla Nichols	2008	Winnie Gibbs*		

*Deceased



Recollections

"In 1956, when my husband, Meryl T. Schroeder, and I became volunteers for the Mascoutah area in the \$1,000,000 fundraising campaign for the construction of Memorial Hospital, we were energized by the enthusiasm of the chairmen, Charles T. Meyer and Frank E. Robinson, as well as of the other volunteers. Throughout the years, this same spirit of dedication has prevailed. Therefore, it was a personally rewarding experience to have served as president of the 1,200 member Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in 1975."

Patricia Schroeder, President 1975

"Our Auxiliary was a very large and extremely active one, and 1983 was a very busy year. In addition to maintaining our ongoing programs, we also reached out to new areas of the hospital and community. We expanded our Clown Therapy Program and were invited to present this project to auxiliary leaders from all over the United States at the American Hospital Association Innovators Conference held in Chicago."

Judie Louden, President 1983

"1986 was also a very busy year. Our services to the hospital covered approximately 40 different areas in the hospital and Convalescent Center. We participated in a State Balloon Release during Hospital Days in Springfield."

Judie Louden, President 1986

"In cooperation with Community Relations, we experienced 'Parenting Classes.' Auxilians acted as babysitters while parents attended classes, quite an experience. I still remember the three year old who hid under a table one week but sat in my lap the whole next week as if we were long lost friends. He is now married and a father."

Jean Nebel Joseph, President 1989

"We helped with Countdown USA National Heart Check Day and established the Colleen Bickel Scholarship for Nursing Professionals pursuing master levels and post-graduate degrees."

Lois Gentsch, President 1990

"As I reflect on my year as president of the Auxiliary, I remember the other members of the board who were so willing to cooperate, try new things, and look to the future."

Pearl Spies, President 1992

"It's hard for me to believe that 22 years have passed since I was privileged to be the president of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. I enjoyed all my years with the Auxiliary and especially enjoyed being the president of such a wonderful group of people."

June Heidinger, President 1995

"Looking back, I think of all those no longer with us. Will always miss them. Great ladies and all so much part of the fun."

Myrtle West, President 1996

"A value can never be placed on the friendships and memories we accumulate over the years, and my years as a Memorial Hospital Auxiliary volunteer made many, which I will hold dear as long as I live. My thoughts often reflect the names of volunteers and past presidents who have left our earthly home—they are all special. Our Past President group is a unique group dedicated to the Auxiliary Mission through the years. I feel fortunate to be part of that group."

Evelyn Meyer, President 1997

"The most notable part of my tenure as president was being elected as the first male president in Auxiliary history. It was an honor and carried a lot of responsibility. Luckily I had the support and direction of our Director of Volunteer Services Carole and the office staff of Linda and Tanya. They made the year very enjoyable and helped me from making too many mistakes. When I retired I wished I had had the knowledge and experience when I began."

Dale Trinka, President 1998

"I enjoyed my year as president. I enjoyed working with my board and all of the volunteers. They all made my job easy."

Marge Schanuel, President 2000

"I was honored to be a part of Memorial's Hospital Auxiliary of volunteers. I met many people who were pleasant, willing to volunteer and help with all projects with different backgrounds and abilities. I learned from each person I worked with what service and teamwork was all about and made many friends."

Kay Mehrtens, President 2003

Continued on page 6



Auxiliary Quilters

The Memorial Hospital Auxiliary quilters started in 1984. The organizers of the group were Barb Stevens, Irma Foote, and Phyllis Buehler. Phyllis is the only surviving organizing member.

The beautifully detailed, hand-made quilts they created were sold to raise money for Memorial. The quilters also made tab blankets that featured fluffy, bumpy, pastel fabric and ribbon tabs sewn around all four edges. Plus, they gave one of their unique quilts to the first baby born at Memorial Hospital East in Shiloh.

Although they didn't keep track of all the quilts they made, the group has crafted hundreds over the last 33 years.



Recollections *Continued from page 5*

"At the time I became president, it was the tradition for each new president to choose a theme for their year in office. I chose 'Shoes' for my theme and had great fun carrying out that idea in my monthly articles in the Auxiliary newsletter and called them 'Notes from the Shoebox.' I liked to use various 'shoe' quotations, and one of my favorites was—"If you want to get your mind off your worries, wear tight shoes." I suggested a less painful way—"If you want to get your mind off your worries—VOLUNTEER."

Shirley Wehrenberg, President 2004

"I have made many friends over the years and value those friendships. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the mentoring that Carole Middendorf does for each of us. She has always been the biggest supporter of the Auxiliary during my years here."

Patricia Lanter, President 2005

"Probably the most exciting project during my 2006 tenure was the joint venture shared by the Memorial Foundation and Auxiliary to purchase and equip a mobile health center, Healthy Directions."

Janice Dorris, President 2006

"It gives me great satisfaction when a visitor is leaving the hospital, and they take the time to thank me for my service. I am glad I took the time to give them the attention and consideration they may have needed on a difficult day for them. That's what Auxilians do best."

Marlene Kassebaum, President 2007

"One very favorite memory I have of this year [2009] is the 50th Anniversary Sculpture Dedication Ceremony. The sculpture was a gift to the hospital from the Auxiliary. Approximately 150 people gathered to hear CEO Mark Turner, Artist Gary Karasek, Past President Winnie Gibbs, Hospital Board President Jeff Lutz, Mayor Mark Eckert, and myself address the onlookers. It was a momentous occasion."

Joanna Stork, President 2009

"At the time I was president, there was one Memorial Hospital with volunteers serving in over 40 service areas, and it has been a sense of pride to see all what the Auxiliary does for the hospital and the community."

Phyllis Parrish, President 2010

"2011 was the year of putting to good use our DVD 'Today's Auxiliary at Memorial' to reach prospective volunteers in various community and civic organizations. As part of our community outreach, we established a partnership with West Jr. High and Abraham Lincoln Schools. One result of that partnership is two wall hangings currently in the emergency department created by the West Jr. High Art Club."

Janice Dorris, President 2011

"I was honored to serve as president of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in 2012. One of our main goals as Auxilians is to support Memorial Hospital's employees. The Auxiliary donated \$60,373 in educational assistance in 2012."

Rena Murphy, President 2012

"In all our endeavors, we have been enthusiastically supported by the hospital administration and board of directors. We have been welcomed at the board table and graciously thanked for the roles we play in making Memorial Hospital the best possible healthcare facility in our area."

Barbara Sutton, President 2013

"The Auxiliary is known for its volunteers who work throughout the hospital and its fundraising. The Auxiliary presented 33,000 hours of service and \$285,000 to Mr. Thouvenot, chairman of Memorial Hospital Board, at our December 2014 meeting."

Sandra Jaskowiak, President 2014

"My year as president of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, 2015, was one of the most enjoyable and memorable times of my life. The members of this Auxiliary are awesome and work very hard to make Memorial Hospital more excellent every day."

Mary Ann Silhavy, President 2015

"We had a very successful year due to the wonderful volunteers who supported the Auxiliary and all their efforts throughout the year, and I am forever grateful."

Dolores Miller, President 2016

In the Community



An Auxilian helps check out a customer at the shoe sale.



An Auxilian bags up a purchase at the uniform show.



Auxilians at the Auxiliary New Book Sale.



Auxilians and customers at the bake sale.



The bake sale had an amazing selection of treats.



Setting up for the Auxiliary book bazaar.



Auxilians selling stuffed animals, candies, and snacks from the gift cart.



Auxilians assist customers at a jewelry sale.

By the Numbers



1957 ————— 2017

1,488 MEMBERS **590**



23 LIFE MEMBERS **335**



15
JUNIOR VOLUNTEERS

FINANCIAL SUPPORT GIVEN
NEARLY \$1 MILLION

Number of
Annual Fundraisers

(INCLUDING BOOK BAZAAR, UNIFORM AND SHOE SHOWS,
NEW BOOK SALES, BAKE SALES, AND SPECIAL GIFT SHOP SALES)

25 

Becoming a Member

To become a Memorial Hospital Auxiliary member, call (618) 257-5545, e-mail MEMauxiliary@bjc.org, or visit www.mymemorialnetwork.com/volunteer.

Moving Forward



WHEN IT COMES TO Memorial Hospital Auxiliary's next 60 years, volunteers' flexibility will be key, whether they are supporting Memorial through in-service, fundraising, or community outreach. We've come a long way from sewing drapes and moving furniture. Auxilians will find themselves becoming more tech savvy while still being the tender, loving volunteers they have always been. Most importantly, human touch and communication will continue to be very important to our patients when they are receiving care.

