

Motivate... Resolve... Believe!



M R B - Motivate... Resolve... Believe!
Marilyn R. Beverley

THE SEASON OF GIVING, SHARING AND CARING.

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Thanksgiving, the day is behind us. Yet, I believe we continue forward with thankfulness in our hearts for the many blessings that are bestowed upon us each day. We are now in the "Holiday Season" and I say to all of you, "Merry Christmas!" As I think of Christmas I think of the season of giving, sharing and caring. That's what volunteers do. That's what auxiliary members do. As I have traveled across the United States and around the world my heart has been touched over and over again by many volunteers. There are even volunteers who work in airports! Giving, as you serve within your organizations you give from your hearts without even counting the cost. You share comfort with all those who come within the doors of our facilities,

with the staff, with other members and volunteers, with patients and their families. Recently, I had to buy some band-aids and as I went to the store to buy them, I looked up and down the row. There are so many kinds of band-aids. clothe ones, plastic ones, water proof ones, even band-aids with cartoon characters on them. Somehow I think that makes that "Owie" feel a little better, don't you.? That led me to think about caring and that is what we do as we volunteer within our facilities and with our organizations. We the volunteers, who are from diverse backgrounds, are like those many types of band-aids that bring comfort to those who are hurting, who are in pain, who are sick, who are weary who are lonely and just need someone to

care. As we touch them with our smiles, with the services we give, we are the band-aid, we help them bear the sickness, the operation, the loss of a loved one or even the birth of a new born baby with the celebration of a basket to take home or in giving that be-reavement basket of lotion and soap with a card to the mother who just lost a new born baby. So as December rushes by, make those moments matter, give, share and care. It all starts with a smile that says, "I care", then the question, "How may I help you?" and then they know we care. Be that band-aid in the season of Christmas, but carry the season with you in your heart every day. As we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Christ, it is His example that we follow in giving, caring and sharing. Volunteers truly are "lights" in a world that is dark. In our hospitals and organizations we are the hearts of our community, walking with the members of our communities through all the walks of life, giving, caring and sharing.

WOW!

- **W**ONDERFUL
OUTSTANDING



The standard this month is in being kind. "Random Acts of Kindness". This past month as I was traveling, I was in Missouri and wanted to share this story of a "random act of kindness". A volunteer was having her grown children home for Christmas along with their friends. Her son's girlfriend was of another faith and wanted to attend on Christmas Eve, this volunteer and her whole family attended with her and truly the young woman was touched by

this act of kindness but it did not stop there. Her husband went to get the car to pick up the family and it seemed to take a long time. As they got into the car she realized it was warmed up already and asked her husband what had taken so long. He stated, "A homeless man came to me and ask for money, I told him I had no money but I would get him a room and dinner for the night, so I took him to a hotel, informed the manager that I wanted a room for him

and dinner. Then he turned and asked the homeless man if he had a friend who would want to stay the night with him and they went and picked up another homeless man. This was truly a random act of kindness and all were touched the family, the friends visiting, the manager at the hotel and the two homeless men. I met this volunteer in person and know that she and her husband have hearts of gold and truly are "Good Samaritans" of our day. So to all of you I say, "be kind".

FUNDRAISING CAN BE FUN!

Put the "fun" back into "fundraising".

These days we hear on the news daily about the bad economy . We also hear that many have lost their jobs. With this we can see that fundraising can be a bit difficult, especially with all the other organizations that are fundraising for worthy causes. Just this past week as I went to the grocery store twice I donated to the "Little Red Bucket", the Salvation Army". So this coming year as you take the time to plan for fundraising, think of projects that will benefit the buyer, that will fill a need, and that your volunteers will enjoy being a part of in raising those funds. Once again this year I have been a part of the "Festival of Trees" This is a fun project that we work on as a

committee of 30 with sub-committees and we get the whole community involved from sponsors of trees and wreaths, to volunteers working at the three day festival, designers decorating the trees and wreaths and then having over 10,000 people from our community enter the winter wonderland over the three days of the festival. It truly is a community event, an event the whole family can take part in. Another great project would be to host a "Holiday Home Tour", selling tickets and the whole community being involved.

Host a Salad Luncheon with a fashion show and ask the hostess showing the fashions to be creative in sharing money saving tips in dressing and accessories. You could host this in the spring or in the fall.

Another great fund raising event that gets community involvement and fun for all is a golf outing closing with a dinner in the evening in celebration of the success of the event.

Last spring our foundation hosted a "Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon" attended by over 300 people, the decorations were outstanding, a keynote speaker and the event raised thousands of dollars. So give it some thought and have some fun as you raise funds for those worthy causes.

"DID YOU KNOW?"

Get the news out to staff, volunteers and other members of your organization about exactly what it is you do as volunteers.

One of my officers came up with a very informative idea. She has asked that in the newsletter that goes out to the staff of our entire hospital, that each service chairman write a very brief article about what they do in their service area. She has entitled the article, "Did You Know?"

In this article that is to appear

once a month, each service chairman will describe briefly the work that takes place within their service area. In our hospital we happen to have 12 service areas so each chairman will just need to write one article. This will introduce our service chairmen to the hospital staff and also the service areas to the entire staff. We are excited about this new article

appearing each month and about continuing to build great relationships with staff, volunteers and members and also in letting all of our volunteers and auxiliary members know that they truly do make a difference and we value each one and each task they perform to ensure that we as a team make every moment matter in our hospital. Touching lives and making a difference in our world!

*Plan
Act
Dream
Believe
And
You
Will
Achieve!
Plan a board retreat !
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~Marilyn R. Beverley*

BYLAWS AND POLICIES

It is important that our members know what our organization is about and how our organization operates. Many have not had the opportunity to review the bylaws and policies. One way that we can make this possible is to place a binder with a copy of the bylaws and policies in each work area or service area.

Then, as opportunity is given each volunteer can preview the bylaws and policies and become familiar with the workings of our auxiliaries. This can also encourage auxiliary members to ask questions about leadership positions, committee positions, and can help with recruitment. As leaders of our organizations

it is our responsibility to provide education to our membership and this is one way to provide education and make it convenient for our membership. As you place the binders in the work areas you can mark them, "please leave in this area, if you would like a copy for your personal use please contact our policy and bylaws chairman or you service chairman.

Why Volunteer?

It's not for money; it's not for fame,
 It's not for any personal gain.
 It's just for love of fellow man,
 It's just to lend a helping hand.

It's just to give a tithe of self,
 That's something you can't buy with wealth.
 It's not for medals won with pride,
 It's for that feeling deep inside.
 It's that reward down in your heart,
 It's that felling that you've been a part
 Of helping others far and near
 That makes you a volunteer!

(Author unknown)

Share those ideas with your board and your chairpersons. This will keep your organizations objectives, projects, mission and vision in the presence of your team.

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

~ John Quincy Adams

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Who wants to be on the nominating committee? No one, is that your answer? I believe the nominating committee is the most important committee of your organization, it is the future of your organization. We can take the time to develop our nominating committee to be a “nominating/leadership committee”. As you bring the committee together with members from your board and members-at-large, ask them to be willing to give a brief breakout session on a quarterly basis to your mem-

bership or if they would be willing to host a “panel discussion” at one of your luncheons/dinners to:

1. Educate your membership to positions available in the coming year.
2. Educate your membership as to what the duties of each position.
3. Even to give leadership training to embrace, encourage, engage and

endow your members to go back out into the community to recruit great volunteers just like themselves.

These quarterly training sessions could be quite valuable to your nominating committee, your membership and the future of your organization.

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According to the Associated Press—
Volunteerism is down in across the
United States. They have recorded
that volunteerism fell in 2007 for the
second year in a row and had contin-
ued to decline. There is an interest to
volunteer but per National and Com-
munity Service Board Chairman,
Stephen Goldsmith, “they are just not
staying with it.”

With the economic situation, people
jobless the report states that “you have
less people willing to help and more
people needing help.”

So with the national statistics report-
ing volunteerism down it is so impor-
tant for us to treasure the volunteers
we have, to truly let them know how
very much they are appreciated and to
use all the volunteers we can get, tra-
ditional, episodic, virtual and corpo-
rate, and continue making a difference
in our world!

Marilyn is the author of:

“Miss Missy of Jamaica” and “Jesus In Jamaica Blessed Love”
both available at www.amazon.com

Planning a Board Retreat—contact Marilyn R. Beverley;
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This month a “gold star” to Ben and Jerry’s Ice Cream, a business created  with
the “golden rule” as its’ center!

CUSTOMER SERVICE THAT COUNTS...

As I travel around the world and across the USA it amazes me that it
is no longer the “norm” to receive super outstanding customer service.

In a volunteer organization you are many times the first and last per-
son that the customers you serve sees in the facilities for which you
volunteer. We want to hear those words... “THANKS” and yes the
words, “We’ll Be Back!” so remember in all that you do give it your
best and “do unto others as you would have them do unto you”.
Practice “the Golden rule”. We want the service we give to be

Superior...Super...Outstanding! Remember to SMILE!

DIVERSITY—WE ALL NEED DIVERSITY IN OUR ORGANITIONS.

Does your organization mirror the image of your community? If
not, why not? Is your organization keeping up with the changes
of your hospital and your community? Take the time as a team
to ask yourselves these questions and to answer them with hon-
esty and in planning for the future of your organization so that
your organization does not fade into history. I recently received
a newsletter from an American Legion group and in that particu-
lar state membership is down for the year of 2008. We face many
challenges with the economy, with many of our auxiliary mem-
bers and volunteers returning to work and with these challenges
we need to be willing to **create jobs that fit the volunteer**, not
just jobs for volunteers. Remember your organization needs di-
versity to survive.

Different
Individuals
Valuing
Each other
Regardless of
Skin color
Intellect
Talent or
Years! ~ (unknown)