



OUTLOOK

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Austin, Here we come! TAHV Board Meeting November 2nd



Austin, Here We Come! Your TAHV State Board Wants to Hear from YOU

The Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers (TAHV) State Board is packing its bags and heading to Austin for a board meeting on November 2 with committee meetings the day before! But before we hit the road, there's something we'd really like to take along—YOUR ideas, suggestions, and concerns! After all, TAHV exists to serve its members, and who better to tell us what you need than YOU?

State Board meetings are much more than reports, budgets, and business discussions. This is where the planning begins for the educational opportunities, programs, and resources that help our members grow and succeed. It's where we discuss challenges facing healthcare volunteer organizations across Texas, explore ways to better support our members, and begin developing the educational sessions for our annual conference. We want those sessions to be timely, relevant, and valuable—and your input helps make that happen!

Your voice matters, whether you serve in a large hospital auxiliary or a small volunteer organization.

Are there challenges you'd like help addressing? Topics you'd like to see covered at conference? New ideas or successful programs you'd like to share? We want to hear them! And while you're thinking about ways to make TAHV stronger, why not consider serving on the State Board yourself? Board service is a wonderful opportunity to share your experience, develop leadership skills, build friendships across Texas, and help shape the future of an organization dedicated to supporting healthcare volunteers.

Not sure who's serving on the State Board or whom to contact? Visit www.tahv.org for board member names and contact information. Reach out to any of us—we welcome your thoughts and suggestions! Don't wait until after the meeting. We want to hear from you BEFORE we pack our bags and head to Austin on November 1! Help us make sure your voice has a place at the table. After all, this is YOUR association, and together we can make it even better.





President's Message

By: Kathy Jenkins, President, TAHV

When will this weather ever cool down. Hopefully soon we will start to see cool weather.

We finished district meeting at the end of September. What a trip Mary Ann Almendarez and I had. We traveled over 3,000 miles. We attended some fantastic meetings. There were lots of fellowship, good food, education and exchanging some great ideas. There is an idea that I want to share with all.

That idea is to open the Gift Shop earlier in the day, so that the night shift can come shop before they go home. This is just one idea that was shared. To hear all the great things our Texas volunteers are doing at their hospitals, come to 2027 Conference May 3-5, 2027, at the Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas. Bring those ideas to ETV session and share. I would generally love to see you all at conference.

I would like to take a minute and thank all the district coordinators for hosting their district meetings. It takes a team of volunteers to host these meetings. You all did an outstanding job!

You Are Awesome!

District 1 –Hereford Regional Medical Center

District 2 – Medical Center Health System

District 3 – South Texas Health Systems

District 4 – Baptist Hospital of Southeast Texas

District 5 – Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital and Texas Health Harris Fort Worth

District 6 – Hendrick's Medical Center

District 9 – Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital

The Fall Board meeting will be October 31 through November 2, 2026. We will be working on the 2027 Conference. The new conference t-shirt order forms will be coming out soon, so watch Facebook for the instructions.

If you know of anyone in your Auxiliary that might want to join Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers, call one of the TAHV board members. We are here to help.

God Bless each one of you,

Kathy Jenkin



Still need to purchase your
President's Pin?

\$4.00 each

Please call me at
361-877-3412
to place your order.

If you order
5 or more pins,
the postage is
FREE!

THE TRAVELING DUO

On the road with President Kathy Jenkin and President-Elect Mary Ann Almendarez

DISTRICT 1

Hereford welcomes TAHV

Hereford Regional Medical Center hosted the District 1 meeting on September 18. Volunteers gathered to reconnect, exchange ideas and celebrate the work being done in their communities.



DISTRICT 2

A strong turnout

District 2 welcomed 68 attendees and two guests. President Kathy Jenkin and President-Elect Mary Ann Almendarez joined board members Josie Mediano and Gracie Sanchez for a photo during the gathering.



DISTRICT 3

South Texas shows its spirit

South Texas Health System Edinburg welcomed volunteers from South Texas and the Coastal Bend. The auxiliary includes more than 350 adult and student volunteers. A sea of pink also recognized Breast Cancer Awareness Month.





Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers



Save THE Date!



—TAHV CONFERENCE—

**MAY 3 - 5, 2027** |  **Omni Corpus Christi Hotel**
900 N Shoreline Blvd
Corpus Christi, Texas

Look for more information
to follow January 2027.

THE TRAVELING DUO

On the road with President Kathy Jenkin and President-Elect Mary Ann Almendarez

DISTRICT 4

Friendship in every photo

District 4 met on the 21st. The shared photos show volunteers gathering around tables, greeting colleagues and enjoying the connections that help strengthen auxiliaries across the state.



DISTRICT 5

Plenty of moments to share

District 5 supplied so many photographs that multiple posts were created to share them. From the colorful gathering space to group portraits, the meeting offered many moments worth remembering.



DISTRICT 6

A warm welcome at Hendrick

Hendrick Medical Center Auxiliary hosted the District 6 gathering on September 17. The photos capture lively conversations, colorful tables and the fellowship that makes district meetings special.





Send articles/pictures for the
Outlook!!!
Let's learn from and celebrate one another!

Share the stories and successes of your volunteer group.

Do you have special traditions or unique fundraisers—we'd love to hear about them...and don't forget the pictures. What does your auxiliary plan to do to reactivate and attract new volunteers? Share your stories.

 **Send to:** tahvoutlook@gmail.com



Welcome to The Trading Post—your place to connect with fellow auxiliary groups across Texas! Whether you have equipment, uniforms, gift shop fixtures, or other items you'd like to sell, trade, or donate, this is the space to share them with organizations that may be able to use them. One auxiliary's extra could be another auxiliary's perfect find!

THE TRAVELING DUO

On the road with President Kathy Jenkin and President-Elect Mary Ann Almendarez

DISTRICT 9

The final district stop

The Traveling Duo concluded their district meeting travels in the Houston area. Memorial Hermann The Woodlands hosted the District 9 gathering, where volunteers enjoyed time together around cheerful, red-checkered tables.



A SPECIAL STOP

Memorial Hermann hospitality

During a free day in their travel schedule, Kathy and Mary Ann visited volunteers at Memorial Hermann Southwest and Memorial Hermann Sugar Land. Their hosts shared the beautiful chapel originally located at the first Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, later dismantled and reconstructed at the Southwest location.



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

To every host auxiliary and district attendee: thank you for the warm welcome, shared ideas and continued dedication to healthcare volunteer service. Have more photos? Send them to TAHV.org@gmail.com.

Stay **CONNECTED** with our **WEBSITE** or **FACEBOOK**



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.tahv.org

Check out the TAHV website.
Updates on conference, board
actions and more.



LIKE AND FOLLOW
us on Facebook!

From your Facebook page,
search for Texas Association
of Healthcare Volunteers.



WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Contact Mary Pfeffer
tahv.org@gmail.com
or call/text 903-271-9243.

Texas Health Huguley Hospital Volunteers Fundraiser



Emily and Mildred showing off Nothing Bundt Cakes Goodies



Picture with Viviana and Judy working the check out table.

Texas Health Huguley Hospital volunteers held their first ever fundraiser with Nothing Bundt Cakes in conjunction with a Volunteer, Gently Used Purse and Luggage sale.

All the purses and luggage were donated by volunteers and hospital employees. We sold most of the purses and luggage and made \$1,215.00 to go into our volunteer account.

The Nothing Bundt cake vendor sold \$8,081.00 of Bundtlets and Buntini's. Our commission from them was \$1,012.15.

I must say that I am truly amazed at the amount of bundt cakes that were sold. I was also curious about how these cakes were made and decorated. I asked Kelsey from Nothing Bundt cakes if they had machines that filled the cake pans and put the icing on the cakes. Everything is done by hand. She showed me a video of their baker that has worked for Nothing Bundt Cakes for 16 years' work his magic. He fills the cake pans by hand. It is amazing how he scoops the cake from a bucket and it looks like he throws the cake batter into the pan. He moves fast and I would say fills 24 cups in the baking pan in just a few minutes. Then the decorator's, hand decorate the tops of the cakes with the icing. Each decorator has a signature way that they ice their cakes and they can show you which cake has their icing on it.

Judy Hollis, Texas Health Huguley Hospital Volunteer

A Big Shoutout for Supporting Future Healthcare Professionals!

A big THANK YOU to Texoma Medical Center and Hendrick Medical Center for their generous annual contributions to the Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers (TAHV) Gifts and Memorials Fund! Their continued support helps provide scholarships to deserving students pursuing careers in healthcare. What a wonderful way to invest in the future of healthcare while demonstrating the generosity and commitment of our volunteer organizations!

Scholarships are one of the many ways healthcare volunteers make a lasting difference beyond the walls of their hospitals. By supporting students pursuing healthcare careers, we are helping encourage the next generation of professionals who will care for our families and communities.

Does your hospital or auxiliary provide scholarships locally? If not, consider contributing to the TAHV state scholarship program through Gifts and Memorials. Every contribution, large or small, helps support students working toward a future in healthcare. Together, we can make a difference!

Kudos to Texoma Medical Center and Hendrick Medical Center for leading by example!

Outlook NEWSLETTER

Copy/Print Dates

Pre-Conference Newsletter

Copy Deadline 02/19/2027

Print Deadline 02/22/2027

Good communication is the bridge between chaos and clarity.

The Outlook Newsletter is one of the primary ways we share information across TAHV. Please note deadlines for copy and print are firm; items received after the deadline will be held for the next issue.

Contributions always welcome!
Send to: tahvoutlook@gmail.com



Kudos are expressions of appreciation or recognition given to acknowledge someone's efforts, achievements, or positive contributions. Recognizing others with kudos boosts morale, reinforces positive behavior, and fosters a supportive and motivating environment. In both personal and professional settings, giving kudos helps build stronger relationships, encourages continued effort, and creates a culture of gratitude and respect.

Kudos to the travelers for their many miles on the road! Welcome home!

Kudos to the various district coordinators and districts who planned and executed all the wonderful District Meetings!

Kudos to the TAHV Board, who will be traveling to Austin for the Fall Board Meeting. Safe travels for all!



HEALTH MATTERS

The holidays are a wonderful time for family, friends, food, and festivities, but they can also bring busy schedules, added stress, and a few too many tempting treats! Staying healthy doesn't mean missing out on the fun. Enjoy your favorite holiday foods in moderation, drink plenty of water, and remember to include fruits and vegetables along the way. A little balance goes a long way toward keeping you feeling your best throughout the season.

Don't forget to keep moving! Whether it's a walk around the neighborhood to admire Christmas lights, dancing to your favorite holiday music, or simply staying active while preparing for celebrations, movement is good for both body and spirit. Make time for adequate sleep, wash your hands frequently, and take precautions around those who may be ill. For healthcare volunteers, staying healthy is especially important. We spend time in hospitals and healthcare facilities where patients may be particularly vulnerable to illness. If you're feeling under the weather, give yourself permission to stay home and recover. Your fellow volunteers and the patients you serve will appreciate your thoughtfulness!

Finally, don't overlook your emotional well-being. The holidays can be especially difficult for those who are hospitalized, missing loved ones, or feeling lonely. As healthcare volunteers, we have a special opportunity to bring a little holiday cheer to those who may need it most. A warm smile, a friendly conversation, or simply taking a moment to listen can brighten someone's day. But remember, you can't pour from an empty cup! Take time to care for yourself while caring for others. After all, one of the greatest gifts you can give your patients, your fellow volunteers, and your loved ones is a healthy, happy YOU!

Do you have questions that come up in your meetings or when updating/writing your *Bylaws*??

"ASK THE PARLIAMENTARIAN"

Call Mary Ann Almendarez with your questions.

832-363-7955

WE NEED YOUR Database Updates!

You can find the **"Member Update"** form on the **TAHV Website** at **www.tahv.org**

Use the form throughout the year to keep your information current so you don't miss anything!

DOWNLOAD OR PRINT THE FORM

Send to:

- Christina Garcia
- 4425 CR 2289; Odem TX 78370
- 361-215-9675
- garcia523@hotmail.com



Texas Association of Healthcare Volunteers
1108 Lavaca, Ste 700
Austin TX 78001

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE

Where Have All the Volunteers Gone? Recruiting the Next Generation of Healthcare Volunteers

It's a question being asked in hospital auxiliaries across the country: Where are we going to find our next generation of volunteers?

For decades, healthcare volunteer programs have depended heavily on dedicated retirees who generously share their time, talents, and experience. But times are changing. Today's younger generations are juggling careers, families, and countless other commitments. It's not necessarily that they don't want to volunteer; they may simply need opportunities that fit their lifestyles.

So, how do we attract them? Perhaps the answer isn't changing who we're looking for, but changing how we invite them to participate.

Consider offering shorter shifts, occasional weekend opportunities, or special projects that don't require a weekly commitment. Young professionals might enjoy sharing their skills in technology, marketing, or event planning. Students interested in healthcare careers could benefit from meaningful volunteer experiences while learning the importance of compassion and service.

And let's not overlook one of our greatest recruiting tools: our current volunteers! Personal invitations, positive experiences, and enthusiastic word-of-mouth can be far more effective than simply posting a notice that says, "Volunteers Needed."

We also need to ask ourselves an important question: Are we welcoming new ideas and making room for new faces, or are we expecting newcomers to fit into the way we've always done things?

The future of healthcare volunteering depends on our willingness to adapt while preserving the heart of what makes our organizations special: service to others.

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

What creative approaches has your auxiliary used to recruit new volunteers, especially younger generations? Have you tried something that worked—or something that didn't?

Share your experiences with Outlook at tahvoutlook@gmail.com. Your idea might be exactly what another auxiliary needs! The Volunteer Challenge is a new Outlook feature exploring the issues facing healthcare volunteers and sharing ideas to help our organizations grow and thrive. Add concrete recruiting examples