FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

If you are like me, we are sooo ready for spring. But I did notice the other day that some of the Jonquils have popped up, even a Dandelion. Let’s hope they don’t get frozen.

To all of you who went through the tornado recently, I pray you are well on the road to recovery. Knowing the volunteers as I do, I know you are picking yourselves up and moving on, helping others as you go.

Very soon Betty and I will be going on our Spring District Meeting trips. We are looking forward to seeing all of you again. I am inspired by everything I hear. You all have so many interesting ideas and enthusiasm. I always learn something new.

Betty and I will be going to Washington next month. You make us so proud that we are able to brag about everything you do and represent. We have the opportunity to meet with our state representatives with the Arkansas Hospital Association people. We are always welcomed, very graciously, and it is nice to know that we are heard and our State representatives are interested in doing the best for our hospitals. Believe me they also know what a great job the auxiliaries do for the hospitals and the state. As I said, you make us proud and it is an honor to represent all of the auxiliaries.

I feel the quickening of spring and the excitement of the next months.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you soon.

Each one is Essential to Make the Picture Complete
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT
Baptist Health Medical Center – North Little Rock
Harold Flake

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT
Baxter Regional Medical Center – Mountain Home
Vera J. Condella
Dorothy Kern

Ozark Health Medical Center - Clinton
Sophia McCay

NORTHEAST DISTRICT
Arkansas Methodist Medical Center – Paragould
Evangeline Cothren

St. Bernards Medical Center – Jonesboro
Jane Henry

NORTHWEST DISTRICT
St. Marys Hospital – Rogers
Shirl Coleman

Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital – Siloam Springs
Gail Bishop
Sadie Cole

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT
Jefferson Regional Medical Center – Pine Bluff
Edith Trotter
Priscilla Bateman

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
St. Joseph's Mercy Health Center - Hot Springs
Bill Glenn
Glen Cox
Ruby McIntyre
In addition to those listed in the Memorial Section, we have lost three women who made great contributions to this hospital association. In February, Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association (AHAA) founder, **Ms. Verna Hudson** passed away. Ms. Hudson was the first administrator for Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital. She organized and staffed the hospital, served as head nurse and scrub nurse for surgeries. She located a permanent administrator, and then served as director of nurses until retiring in 1977. While working as administrator; she served on the board of Arkansas Hospital Association. Ms. Hudson encouraged the formation of the AHAA and served on its first board of directors. Even though she organized the AHAA, she did not have an auxiliary at her own hospital. **Ms. Willie Oats**, who was the AHAA president from 1963 to 1964, passed away this month. **Ms. Bina Foy**, past AHAA president from 1983 to 1984, from Rebsamen Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, passed away.

The AHAA State Board of Directors is also mourning the loss of our Northwest District Chair, **Ms. Shirl Coleman**, who passed away Wednesday, March 13, 2008. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and her auxiliary family.

**MEMORIAL ARTICLE:**

Please submit the following information so that we may memorialize your Auxiliary members in the AHAA newsletter:

DISTRICT__________________________________________________________

AUXILIARY__________________________________________________________

AUXILIARY MEMBER(S)___________________________________________

Mail to: Kathy Gammill
348 Lebanon Road
McRae, AR 72102

**ATTENTION AUXILIARIES!**

We want to recognize auxiliaries that are 50 or more years old at the convention this year. This is our fiftieth convention and the recognition will fit right in. Please email the convention chair at nancyjo@tdn.to if your auxiliary fits this category. (Nancy McFarland)

**Corrections to the 2007-2008 Handbook**

p. 12 - North Central District:

ADD: Community Medical Center of Izard County
Lou Ingram
P.O. Box 624
Calico Rock, AR 72519
870-373-1249
kristiebranscum@hotmail.com
Southeastern Directors of Volunteer Services in Healthcare Organizations (SDVSHO)  
Conference  
Williamsburg, Va.  
2008  
From Pat Heinz

This past week, March 3rd thru the 7th, Betty and I had the privilege of attending the SDVSHO conference in Williamsburg, Va. The conference was well attended by representatives of Arkansas.

Robin Armstrong from the Arkansas Children’s Hospital is on the Board and was elected to the Presidency on Thursday. Amanda Holsted from Stuttgart is also on the Board and worked with representatives of each state to carry the flag of their state into their dinner. Also present from Arkansas were: Becky Rose from Baxter Regional Medical Center; Susan Rima from St. Joseph Mercy Medical Center; Shelly Reed from Saline Memorial Hospital; and, Gloria Wright from UAMS Medical Center. Susan Rima received her certification at this conference.

Volunteers present were: the President Kay Voss and two auxilian from Sparks Health System; Darthy Tyrity, Gift Shop Manager from St. Joseph Mercy Medical Center; and, Susan Marsh, President of the UAMS Auxiliary. If you want to know about the fun of air travel be sure to ask Darthy and Susan.

So as you can see Arkansas was well represented. A big congratulations to Robin on her election as new President of SDVSHO, I think she has a big job in store for her. A lady from Tennessee won the new award for DVS of the year. Maybe next year it will be our turn.

This conference was so well organized that is was hard to miss anything. They had most of the sessions repeated so that we could get to more than one. Betty and I enjoyed a great number of the sessions; we split up and compared notes. The leadership ideas were a help and the gift shop sessions allowed us to see if we could implement new ideas. What a great opportunity for us to get together with other hospitals and see how they do things and share our ideas with them. Betty’s one complaint was that they didn’t gear their talks to small hospitals (she is right) but we were asked to give our opinions so that they can improve next year and that was the only complaint from us.

The Lodge where we stayed and the conference was held was only two blocks from the Historical District. And so we had the chance to walk over and enjoy the sights and learn a little history. We took a walking tour (Ghost Walk) at night and were very impressed, especially when the cannon went off at a very opportune time. The food was outstanding and I know we each gained some weight even with all the walking we did.

On our Spring Trip, if you have questions feel free to ask. We will answer the best we can. Also you should consider going to these conferences, the benefits are great. The one next year is in Mobile, Alabama, not too far to drive.
AUXILIARY NEWS

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

Baptist Health Medical Center/BRI – Little Rock - Our annual January jewelry sale was impacted by the winter weather. * On February 14th, we gave out big heart shaped boxes filled with chocolate candy to the staff. * Plans are underway for our Spring Style Show & Luncheon and General Meeting. * Our Bylaws are under review and steps are being taken to change our auxiliary name. (Submitted by Sheila Davis.)

Baptist Health Medical Center – North Little Rock - In January we started a trial program for recognition of volunteers who attain a “Perfect Attendance” record for that month. We had 60 volunteers who reached the goal. * Planning is under way for the 14th Annual Golf Tournament to be held June 6th at Burns Park. * We’re taking applications for the Volunteer program to be held June 9th thru June 27th and July 7th thru July 25th. * We will have a $5.00 Jewelry Sale on March 27th and 28th. * In April, our BHMC-NLR volunteers will go sailing and have lunch on the Arkansas Queen for “Volunteer Appreciation Day” recognition.

St. Anthony’s Healthcare Center – Morrilton - Our first baby (a girl) of the New Year was born January 2, 2008. The auxiliary presented a great package to the new mother, which included: reading books (donated to the hospital by the Conway County Library), a hand crocheted afghan, and many other treasures. * We were invited to a Martin Luther King Birthday celebration held at the Morrilton Community College to raise funds for sickle cell Armenia. Our auxiliary made a donation to the fund. * Gift shop sales are way up, breaking records, from the last two years. Carma Garrett, gift shop manager, does such a good job in displaying the merchandise. Each holiday, she creates a setting which reflects the particular holiday. * On February 14, St Anthony Health Care Center hosted their 6th Annual Health Care Fair. Health screenings were offered and several information booths were set up by various vendors. The auxiliary prepared breakfast finger foods. As a result of our local devastating tornados, attendance was a little below normal. (Submitted by Ellen Canum.)

St. Vincent Health System – Little Rock – St. Vincent Auxiliary started quietly and then took off. The first stage of the massive renovations was open with the new surgery waiting room. A new beeper system was ordered and at this writing, we are all learning how to use it. It is hoped that families can go to the cafeteria or outside for a breath of fresh air and can be reached in time to speak to the doctors following a family member’s surgery. * Our major fundraiser, the St. Vincent tennis tournament, is in full swing. The tournament is the oldest in the United States. This year the tournament will be hosted by the Pleasant Valley Country Club. * The Auxiliary hosted a Scrub sale in February as well as the sale of Chocolate covered Strawberries on Valentine’s Day. * There will be a book sale in March and a jewelry sale before Mother’s Day. * The volunteers are creating wonderful Easter baskets to be sold by March 12 and the funds will complete the newly established scholarship fund. * We had a membership luncheon in February and we had a great speaker from the Little Rock Police department who schooled us in the right ways to keep ourselves and our homes safe. We gave out tiaras to members who brought along guests and the guests received lei, the symbol of welcome in Hawaii. Prizes were given to anyone who could tell us the advantages of volunteering at St. Vincent. * April will be our Retire with Honors luncheon. Volunteers who cannot volunteer anymore are recognized for their service. (Submitted by Breda Turner, DVS.)
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

**Baptist Health Medical Center – Heber Springs** - Our 2008 officers were installed at the January meeting. * The Heber Springs Auxiliary is proud to host the Spring District Meeting on April 22 at the First Baptist Church on 4th Street in Heber Springs. * In 2008, our Auxiliary will purchase the following items for the hospital: recliner chairs for family members who spend the night, earphones for the chemotherapy department, digital thermometers and a DVD player. * The cafeteria is now accepting debit and credit cards. * Enthusiastic members continue to participate and contribute to the success of our monthly Look Good Feel Better Program. (Submitted by Carol Aldridge, Newsletter Editor.)

**Baxter Regional Medical Center – Mountain Home** - The auxiliary participated in a wreath auction, gift wrapping, a quilt raffle and Christmas Lites. * Income from the Gift Shop and Thrift Shop was $63,534.41. * The auxiliary is celebrating its half-way mark to their $1,000,000 endowment. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

**Community Medical Center of Izard County – Calico Rock** – The auxiliary is in the process of selling tickets for a Thomas Kincaid picture. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

**Ozark Health Medical Center – Clinton** - Sales in the Gift Shop’s new location were almost two and a half times that of the same time last year. * The auxiliary sold tickets for a Quilt Giveaway drawing. * The auxiliary’s fund raising events, along with its Gift Shop sales made it possible for the auxiliary to fulfill the 2008 Ozark Health Wish List. They provided funds to purchase a laundry scale bin that automatically weights laundry for the weight-programmed washing machines, six special chairs for the Medical Surgery and Emergency Department, an ice machine for the second floor, two towel warmers for Nursing Center residents, and a desk chair for the Medical Records office. * The auxiliary also provided furnishings for a room in the new Cannaday Wing. (Taken from “Hometown HeartBeat” February and March 2008 issues.)

**Stone County Medical Center – Mountain View** – The hospital was essentially destroyed by a tornado recently and the patients and hospital staff have been transferred to the White River Medical Center. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

**White County Medical Center – Searcy** - Around Valentine’s Day our auxiliary enjoyed a great evening. One of our board members, Peggy Rupp, organized and prepared a party which included some delicious food, some neat games with prizes and a local band, “Jay and the Twilighters,” who entertained and provided music for those who wanted to dance. * A Uniform Sale was conducted this past week and we received $1,355.00 from the two day sale. * The middle of this month we held a “Pretty Porch & Patio Sale.” We offered bird feeders, planters, bird baths and other outdoor items. * We are expecting a very busy period coming up. One unique event will be a “Taste/Bake” sale. Using a cook book compiled by the hospital, volunteers will prepare recipes for “tasting.” The cook book will be offered for sale. Volunteers will also bake cakes and other items for the sale. * We are preparing to host our second annual “Rummage for a Reason.” This is a unique indoor rummage sale benefiting the hospital. *This month we contributed $2,500 to the annual Fishing Tournament conducted by and to benefit the White County Medical Center Foundation. (Submitted by Eunice Holder)

**White River Medical Center – Batesville** – The auxiliary is planning to make their final payment to their $500,000 pledge. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)
Arkansas Methodist Medical Center – Paragould – Our Auxiliary contributed $8,355.68 for the following items: a feeder table and four drop-leaf tables for Rehab; two vital sign machines with rolling stands and cuffs for OB and Ambulatory Care; and, the WHALE Program for OB. * Our Valentine jewelry sale (February 6th and 7th) added $1,368 to our treasury. * Our Gift Shop also posted record Valentine’s Day sales, due to a good selection of merchandise and a “personal touch” by Wanda Wyatt, one of our Buyers, who added candy and ribbons to the gifts. * Our next jewelry sale is scheduled for May 5th and 6th in time for Mother’s Day and graduations. * President Joyce Simpson and Vice President Pat Dowdy were invited by the Paragould Ministerial Alliance to present a program detailing the history and functions of our Auxiliary. Most of the ministers had been unaware of our functions at the hospital other than as “greeters” and were impressed to know that our services go far beyond that. * With President-Elect Shirley Kersey at the helm, we began our “open door” greeting card project in time for Christmas. So far, we have hand-made and delivered cards for Christmas and Valentine’s Day, and on March 10th we will begin making Easter cards. * Our Scholarship Committee is in the process of distributing applications for scholarships to college students who will be starting at least their second year of study in the health care field. We have not yet decided how many scholarships we can award or the amount of the scholarships. * AMMC will be holding its Heart Gala on March 15th at our new Community Center. * They have also begun republishing “The Beacon,” which has changed from a newsletter format to a community magazine. (Submitted by Joyce Simpson.)

Crittenden Regional Hospital – West Memphis – The auxiliary had a Book Fair in which they made $642.92. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Five Rivers Medical Center – Pocahontas – This new addition to the AHAA currently has 15 members. They manage the hospital Gift Shop and serve as cashiers in the cafeteria. * The auxiliary raises funds through jewelry sales and bake sales. * They award an annual scholarship to a hospital employee or an employee’s child who is in college and majoring in a health related field. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Forrest City Medical Center – Forrest City – The auxiliary will have a Bake Sale on March 20th. * A Photo Shoot is being planned for April 12th. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Great River Medical Center – Blytheville - The auxiliary donated $200 to the Senior Care for an electronic game for the patients. * The auxiliary is planning to award scholarships this year. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Helena Regional Medical Center – Helena – The auxiliary recently purchased a new stretcher for the ER Department. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

NEA Baptist Medical Center (formerly NEA Medical Center) – Jonesboro – In an attempt to attract more volunteers, the auxiliary has conducted Bingos and receptions for the public. * The auxiliary’s fund raisers include taking photos and are planning a bake sale at Easter. * They have donated $3,000 to the Chaplains Fund and paid for the newspaper at a cost of $5,000 a year. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Piggott Community Hospital – Piggott – The auxiliary decided to award two $1,500 scholarships this year. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

SMC Regional Health Center – Osceola – The auxiliary is planning to make cakes for the Easter holiday and has a book sale scheduled for late April. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)
St. Bernards Medical Center – Jonesboro - On January 16, at the second annual SBRMC Auxiliary Retreat at St. Bernards, volunteers attended presentations by Chris Barber, SBRMC administrator, Sister Henrietta Hockle, and Marilyn Beverly, keynote speaker and CEO of MRB “Motivate, Resolve, and Believe.” * SBRMC Auxiliary information and newsletter are now online: [http://www.stbernardsfoundation.org/view/23](http://www.stbernardsfoundation.org/view/23). (Submitted by Dean Rossa.)

**NORTHWEST DISTRICT**

North Arkansas Regional Medical Center – Harrison – Our Auxiliary has pledged $500,000 toward the new wing of the hospital. The new wing, the Patient Tower, should open the last of March or first of April, 2008. We hope to wear new polo shirts when we open the doors to the Tower. * We will also celebrate the opening of our new Gift Shop, Nightingales, which will enhance the hospital. * Our Thrift Shop continues to boast of its sales for November ($20,000) and December ($18,000). * We awarded three $1,000 scholarships to nursing students. (Submitted by Margaret Underwood, Auxiliary President.)

St. John’s Berryville – Berryville – We have pledged to purchase two Recumbent Bikes and two Ergo meters for our Cardiac Rehab Therapy Unit and one Colonoscopy plus one-half of another Colonoscopy for the surgery unit. * Our Gift Shop sales have increased. * Our newest fundraiser was the “Valentine Candy Bouquet and Valentine Gift Baskets sale. * We had two blood drives in February. (Submitted by Shelba Miller.)

Siloam Spring Memorial Hospital – Siloam Springs - The Siloam Springs auxiliary has been working double shifts due to the flu and pneumonia bugs. We are preparing for our semi-annual scrub sale and a book sale. * One of our members, Myron “Pete” Peters, was awarded the Pioneer Citizen Award by the Siloam Springs Chamber of Commerce. Pete has volunteered for almost twenty years and presently mans our desk in the lobby. (Submitted by Sharon Sly, Auxiliary President.)

**SOUTHEAST DISTRICT**

Drew Memorial Hospital – Monticello – The new year has gotten off to a great start for the Drew Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. Our new, larger gift shop is “up and running” well. * Ticket sales for our quilt have been so brisk that we have extended the time limit to March 24. * Our Information Assistance Desk project came to fruition on February 18. We operate the desk Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Submitted by Sheilla Lampkin.)

Jefferson Regional Medical Center – Pine Bluff - We are preparing for our before Easter bake sale this Friday. * We have taken on some new projects: we gave $1500 to help buy wigs and makeup for cancer patients and gave three five hundred dollar scholarships to the school of Nursing. * We gave $100 to assist with buying of new choir robes for the Children’s choir; they provide the program at our tree lighting in December. (The past 2 years have been wonderful for me to serve as the president of the JRMC Auxiliary. Happy New Year for each of you as you serve your auxiliary. Submitted by Dorothy Monk, auxiliary president.)

Stuttgart Regional Medical Center - Stuttgart – The auxiliary will be participating in the “Health Expo” on April 19th. * The Gift Gallery volunteers will have a booth at the expo in which they will be selling skin care products and jewelry from the gift shop. (Taken from the “SRMC Auxiliary News” March 2008.)
**SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

**Medical Center of South Arkansas – El Dorado** - Our Gift and Uniform Shops are really doing well. Both have added new items that have been big hits with our customers. * The MCSA Auxiliary hosted the February Presidents Meeting. * A new project for our auxiliary will be to help LifeShare with forthcoming blood drives at MCSA. * Our prayers are with any auxiliary members across the state that had losses due to recent Tornado. (Submitted by Lynn Smith.)

**Medical Park Hospital – Hope** - Our MPH auxiliary presented two $500 scholarships for the spring 2008 semester. * Our fund raisers include: a jewelry sale last November from which we earned $237; gift baskets given to the doctors and nurses by the hospital in which we made $1,583; and a scrubs sale that netted us $135, which will go toward our Scholarship Fund. (Taken from the “Medical Park Hospital Auxiliary Newsletter” March-April 2008.)

**Ouachita County Medical Center – Camden** – Our gift shop sales still amaze us. Valentine sales were good--Valentine merchandise sold well, and one of our volunteers picked up 30 dozen fresh roses in Little Rock, and we sold them by the dozen, by sixes, threes and even singles. We had two dozen left on February 15. * Four volunteers attended the Presidents’ meeting in El Dorado on February 25. Lynn Smith, president of the Medical Center of South Arkansas Auxiliary went over the forms which must be completed and submitted between now and convention time. She was well organized and did an excellent job. * We added three members in January. * We are now giving all newborns in our hospital a burnished stainless steel infant feeding spoon engraved with "Presented with love by OCMC Auxiliary, Camden.” These have been well received by our nursery personnel. * We purchased a Wii game system to be used in our Senior Care Center, and have committed to buy three vacuum cleaners for our housekeeping department. * We anticipate giving our second payment on the thirty-eight beds and fetal heart monitoring system at our March 19th meeting. (Submitted by Daphne Bennett.)

**St. Joseph’s Mercy Health Center – Hot Springs** – St. Joseph’s Mercy Health Center and our Auxiliary provide outreach services in our community through the Woodbine and the McAuley Senior Centers. The Auxiliary has received a license from the state and will be hosting Bingo games at the McAuley Center two evenings a month. All proceeds will benefit the Mercy Senior Care Services and the St. Joseph’s Meals on Wheels. (Submitted by Peg Kuhnly.)

**VALLEY DISTRICT**

**Chambers Memorial Hospital** - The hospital has increased the size of its gift shop which will be located at the front lobby by the new entrance. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

**Johnson Regional Medical Center – Clarksville** – During our February meeting we selected Sybil Nordin as our Valentine's Day Sweetheart. Sybil has been a member since shortly after the institution of the Auxiliary. * Plans for March include a Good Friday Bake Sale and a Jewelry Sale on March 27th by the Fort Smith Diamond Center. * We will nominate a new slate of officers at our March meeting. (Submitted by Dorothy Spencer.)

**Mena Regional Health System – Mena** – The auxiliary will have a book sale in April. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

**St. Edward Mercy Medical Center – Fort Smith** – This is a recap of our busy year so far and a reflection of the 14,000 plus hours recognized at our February 7th Appreciation Dinner. * In August our newly renovated gift shop was opened. * In September, we held our Welcome Members Wine Party where we installed 7 new members and honored Kris Klein as a 20 year Merit Member. * October is always a busy month......... Starting with our heavy involvement in the Celebrity Classic, our efforts gained us a
check for $32,825 for our Helping Hands for Children project. The following week many of us attended the AHAA State Convention in Little Rock where we were presented the first place award in Community Service for our "Walk Through the Body" project. Plus, we were awarded the 5 Star Award for excellence recognizing our overall services and donations to our hospital. * A week after that we hosted 100 auxilian from the AHAA Valley District for the fall meeting and luncheon. * November 27th we lite up the hospital for the Christmas season and started selling the Christmas tree cards to raise funds for Hospice. * December’s highlight was our "So Swank" Holiday Dinner Dance & Auction. This proved to be one of the most creative, fun filled and exciting evenings in a long time. Over $65,000 was generated from this event to provide funds to purchase transportation equipment for at-risk babies from area hospitals to our Newborn Intensive Care Unit. * "Entertainment Fort Smith" magazine voted us Favorite Charity Event of the Year! * In addition to all the above we held a uniform sale, a book sale, a fine jewelry sale, a holiday fashion show and luncheon and a day long Board Retreat in January. Plus all the service areas we work within our hospital. (Submitted by Joan McCoy, Auxiliary President) (Editor’s note: it is unusual to include this many months’ activities since we do publish every other month, however, since the auxiliary was not represented in several past issues and President McCoy provided us this update of her auxiliary I thought we could all benefit from knowing how active they have been and with what projects.)

Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center – Russellville – The auxiliary helped with the hospital’s Health Fair. * Christmas stockings were given to all the December and January babies born at the hospital. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Sparks Regional Medical Center Guild – Fort Smith – The auxiliary helped with tours during the hospital’s grand opening of their new wing. * Their fund raising dinner and dance included Ray Price. Proceeds raised were to be used in their Healing Gardens. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

Summit Medical Center – Van Buren – The Summit auxiliary sponsored Women’s Heart Month in February by handing out red dress pins and heart information. (Taken from the District Chair’s Report.)

From the editor - I hope you are enjoying having quicker access to your auxiliary news. Thank you, Amber Estrada, with the Arkansas Hospital Association, for helping us to gain this quicker access through the AHA web page. Also, I thank all of you who emailed or mailed the news you chose to share with your fellow auxiliary members. Your news provides inspiration and new ideas to other auxiliaries. I’m still in awe of the numerous methods you’ve developed to provide assistance and funds to your neighbors. I guess that I’ve also become a bit mellow (or maybe it’s Spring Fever, I do enjoy the beautiful flowers, warmer weather, and the opportunity to be outside without shivering) because I’ve not edited the news as much as I normally do (or have you noticed?). Please be safe as you, too, enjoy the beautiful flowers and weather that Spring brings, along with the rain and storms. ~~~~~~~~~~~~~kathy

DEADLINE FOR YOUR MAY/JUNE NEWSLETTER IS MAY 1, 2008