

Banner Blue News

In Memory

Wabash extends condolences to family members and friends of Wabash members who have recently passed away. Life can be the same after a trinket has been lost - but **never** after the loss of a treasure.

Wilma P Abell
Richard E Andrews
Harvey E Blake
Jeanette Burrus
Anna M Calvert
Kevin L Cogswell
Donald L Deering
Ruth Elder
Mary E Evans
Jeffie J Forsythe
Lorraine Gnojek
Margaret A Horve



Donald C Johnson
James E Logsdon
Shirley J Lotter
Mary L Mattox
William D Sanders
Doris R Stephens
Lee E Stephenson
Juanita I Tipp
Maebelle Venice
Ellen M Vincent
James R Weber
Marie C Weber

Wabash Grief Support Services has grief brochures and information that may help your walk through this difficult season. Call Janet at Wabash to receive Grief Recovery information (888-800-9161).

What better way to support your Wabash family and remember your friends and loved ones than a tax-deductible donation to the Wabash Hospital Association Foundation. Make your tax-deductible check payable to Wabash Hospital Association Foundation (PO Box 1340, Decatur, IL 62525) in memory of your loved ones. Call Tamara at 888-800-9161 for information on other ways to donate to the Foundation.

Wabash Members Receive SPIRIT Award

The First Quarter 2009 winners of the NS SPIRIT Award included some Wabash members. Winning members are **Forest Fields, Mark Lessley, Mike Patrick, Tracey Sumpter and D. Wayne Taylor**. According to **NS Newsbreak**, this award "recognizes individuals or teams making a significant contribution in the creation, development, or diffusion of innovative solutions to business challenges." Congratulations to each of you from the staff at Wabash Memorial Hospital Association.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Nona Tohill, Wabash Claims Processor, for completing twenty years of service at Wabash Memorial Hospital Association in April of 2009.



Wabash Management

Stephen Speagle - Board Chairman
Tamara Bivins, CPA - Administrator
Bonnie Musgrave - Office Manager

Wabash Consulting Staff

Thomas Handley, FS, MAA
Actuary Service

James Peckert, Esq., JD
Legal Services

Ronald L Ruecker, M.D., MBS
Medical Director

Thomas Curb, RPh
Pharmacy Services

The Banner Blue News

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Any crafts associated with
Wabash Association may submit
articles or announcements
concerning Health & Welfare
to Janet for publication in
future editions.
Their inclusion is
subject to space available
and appropriateness as judged
by Editor and management.

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Medicare Members - Notice of Non-Creditable Coverage

Wabash drug benefits provided to Schedule G and H participants are not actuarially equivalent to the Medicare Part D prescription drug program as defined in the 2003 Medicare Law Therefore, they do not provide 'creditable coverage'.

Wabash Schedule G members have the option of keeping their Wabash drug benefit under Schedule G or converting to Schedule H. Schedule H offers a free EHO discount card and access to our Canadian mail order import plan, but has no defined drug benefit. Members who remain under Benefit Schedule G will not be eligible to enroll in a Part D plan. Generally, those with under \$8,000 in annual prescriptions will benefit by remaining under Schedule G. Members in Benefit Schedule H will be eligible to join any commercial Medicare Part D drug plan. They are advised to check Schedule H pricing on specific drugs through EHO or Friends of Wabash by calling Trent or Bob at 800-650-1817. Compare the price quoted through EHO with any commercial Part D product to see which is best for you. Members enrolled in a Part D program will not be allowed to take advantage of Canadian imports or negotiated discounts and will be locked in to whatever prices that Part D plan chooses to charge for a full year.

Wabash At Home and On The Road

■ On behalf of Wabash Association, Membership Coordinator, Carol Sincebaugh attended the annual BMW picnic in Moberly, MO in early June.

■ BRS Local 55 held their meeting on Saturday, May 30th in the Wabash Board Room. Wabash Administrator, Tamara Bivins, and Membership Coordinator, Carol Sincebaugh were available to answer questions concerning Wabash Association. For Wabash representation at your meeting, please call Tamara at 888-800-9161.



Patient - Physician Medication Management

At times physicians will prescribe narcotic medication. Your physician may ask you to sign an agreement signifying your understanding about the use and effects of the prescribed medication. Areas commonly addressed in the agreement include:

- Physical dependence on the medication
- Problems with withdrawal from the medication
- Wearing a medical alert bracelet containing information about the medication
- Importance of taking the medication as prescribed
- Agreement not to sell, lend or give the medication to anyone else
- Agreement to avoid alcohol or other mood altering drugs while on the medication

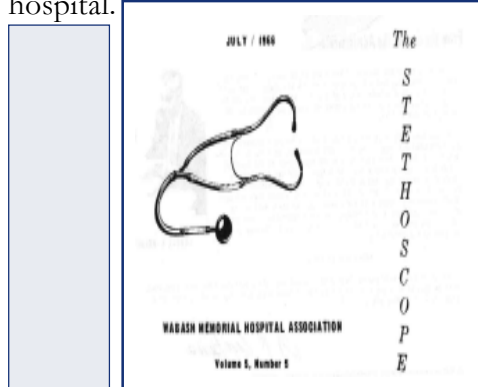
If you are asked to sign an agreement, it is because your physician has your safety and best medical care in mind.

Wabash Memorial Hospital Association
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 Decatur, Illinois 62526
 www.wabashcannonball.org

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Signals From The Last 125 Years
 "What was the name of the Wabash Memorial Hospital Association newsletter in 1966" was the question in our last newsletter. Although several readers responded, **we didn't receive a correct answer.** The Wabash newsletter in 1966 was called **The Stethoscope** and a copy of the front page of the July 1966 newsletter is shown below. Lowell Adkins was Administrator at that time and he was busy initiating the Medicare program while a third floor was added to the hospital.



What year did the Decatur, Illinois Wabash Hospital Open?
 The first three correct responses will receive a gift from Wabash.
 Call or email your response to Janet
 Phone -1-888-800-9161
 janet@wabashcannonball.org

When the Wabash Hospital in Decatur, IL first opened, it had three patients but, by 1954 the hospital was averaging forty-four patients daily. There were dispensaries in cities such as St. Louis and Chicago and two other Wabash Hospitals - one in Peru, Indiana and one in Moberly, Missouri. The headquarters for the Wabash Hospital Association were maintained at the Decatur Hospital (information taken from Decatur Herald and Review article in 1954).



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125 Years of Railroaders Serving Railroaders
 Summer - 2009

A Publication of Wabash Memorial Hospital Association

YOU May Be Carded

When your health care provider or pharmacy asks to see your insurance card, be sure you have the correct card. Current cards are (top row, left to right) all primary coverage prior to Medicare, Active Secondary Healthcare and Medicare supplemental and (second row, left) Active and Retired Pharmacy benefit card/Plan 9 and on the right, the Pharmacy discount card/Plan 10. Call Wabash at 888-800-9161 if a current card is needed.



Railroaders Serving Railroaders for 125 Years

From the Wabash newsletter published in 1966 an Arkansas member wrote, "I wish to give a note of thanks to all I could not thank in person for the outstanding services and care shown me...". In that same issue another member from Missouri writes "...I am sending a note of thanks for the help received during the illness of of J.J.K. who passed away November 1st. He has paid in to the hospital association since 1907 (almost sixty years) ...Hope it will be possible for the Association to continue their wonderful care..." Well, the **GOOD NEWS** is, in June of 2009 we're still receiving comments like the ones above. A daughter of a Missouri member called expressing her gratitude for the stress that was taken off her mother and the family once they learned she was entitled to Wabash coverage. She commented "she never had a medical worry regarding bills after getting her insurance with us." They were also grateful for the personal service received from Wabash. Another example of "Railroaders Serving Railroaders" for 125 years.