



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year 2006 is a pivotal year, full of transitions. In the fall of 2005, the ACHE of North Texas Board evaluated the membership policy of the chapter. In previous years, a separate membership and dues were collected from ACHE affiliates to be member of the local chapter. Chapter membership rolls accounted for less than 200 of the over 800 eligible ACHE affiliates in the North Texas region. The separate chapter membership dues caused much confusion among national affiliates, who thought that, through their national membership, they were automatically members of the local chapter. This is a similar structure to Healthcare Finance Management Association.

In the Fall 2005, the Board evaluated the impact of enrolling all 800+ national affiliates into the local chapter by waiving local dues. It was determined that the offset of local dues would be far outweighed by the increased involvement of all ACHE affiliates. A change in membership policy and bylaws was adopted at the Fall 2005 General Membership meeting, thus making the ACHE of North Texas chapter one of the largest ACHE chapters in the country. This process has also received much notice from ACHE Headquarters, as this has become the blueprint for local chapter membership participation across the country. It will be officially adopted nationwide in 2008.

Through increased involvement of ACHE affiliates, we have been able to offer many more educational programs and networking opportunities. In 2006, we kicked off a monthly "Breakfast with the CEO", allowing ACHE affiliates to visit many of the hospitals and health systems throughout the North Texas region. These monthly breakfasts also provided ample opportunity for affiliates to network.

In the Fall 2006, we plan to produce our first ever Category I certified educational program. A total of three Category I hours will be awarded to chapter affiliates who participate. Minimal travel is involved, and the enrollment price is by far the most economical path to acquiring Category I credit. After the educational program, ACHE of North Texas will hold its Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament. This event will yield over \$15,000 for future educational programming, as well as scholarships and grants for qualified chapter affiliates to attend the Annual ACHE Congress on Healthcare Leadership to be held in New Orleans in March 2007. Look for information on how to apply in early December 2006.

With the flurry of activities and increased involvement of all ACHE affiliates, the ACHE of North Texas chapter will be advancing to fully chartered status with the American College of Healthcare Executives by the end of 2006. This advancement will create the foundation for a strong and vibrant chapter for years to come.

Regards,

Paula M. Zalucki, FACHE
2006 President, ACHE of North Texas

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...NOW!



October 26, 2006

General Membership Meeting

The ACHE of North Texas chapter will hold its Fall General Membership Meeting at the Las Colinas Country Club. This is a new venue for the chapter. The meeting will have several activities, including recognition of the participants in this year's Mentorship program, voting on the 2007 Slate of Chapter Officers, and an educational program on the Hospitalist movement.

To obtain meeting information and to RSVP and pre-pay to attend, please contact Courtney Grimes at the DFW Hospital Council at courtneyg@dfwhc.org or 972-719-4900.

November 6, 2006

Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

The third Annual ACHE Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, November 6 at the Texas Star Golf Course and Conference Centre in Euless, Texas. Tee time begins at 12 Noon. This event yields over \$15,000 in funds for chapter educational programs, scholarships and travel grants to ACHE Congress. ACHE of North Texas members can golf for only \$90, and non chapter members are \$100.

To register to play, contact Courtney Grimes at the DFW Hospital Council at courtneyg@dfwhc.org or 972-719-4900 before October 23, 2006.

Category I Educational Program

On November 6, prior to the Golf Tournament, the ACHE of North Texas chapter will present an educational program awarding three hours of Category I credit. Breakfast is included with the program starting at 8:00am. This is the most economical method to obtain Category I credit anywhere, and no extensive travel is required. Students who are ACHE Student affiliates can participate for \$50, and ACHE of North Texas members can earn their Category I credit for only \$100. Non-chapter members can participate for only \$150. To enroll, please contact Courtney Grimes at the DFW Hospital Council at courtneyg@dfwhc.org or 972-719-4900 by October 23, 2006.

November 16, 2006

Monthly Breakfast with CEO

In 2006, the ACHE of North Texas chapter launched a very popular monthly program, "Breakfast with the CEO". Each month, a different DFW facility hosts a breakfast and a short program about their facility. Affiliates have enjoyed learning about each campus and many have participated in campus tours following the breakfast. Each program is unique and have offered many opportunities for interactive discussions. The last breakfast planned for 2006 will be in November at **Children's Medical Center Dallas on November 16th.**



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Regent Elections

In the month of October, we will be electing a new Regent. The Regent elected for 2007-2010 will serve a larger geographic territory, which will include parts of northeast Texas currently served by Regent Elmer Ellis, FACHE of Tyler. The title for the new Regent will be Regent – Northeast Texas.

All eligible ACHE affiliates were sent an electronic ballot on October 2, 2006. Votes should be cast by October 27, 2006. If you did not receive an electronic ballot, please contact Gerry Berish at (312) 424-9323 or gberish@ache.org.

A majority vote will determine the winner. Should we not have one candidate with a majority, a runoff election will result and eligible affiliates will be notified in November with another ballot of the runoff candidates.

Regent's Awards

Each year, Regents have the honor of bestowing awards to two special affiliates – the Senior Level Healthcare Executive of the Year and the Early Careerist of the Year. Awards are officially bestowed at the Horace Cardwell ACHE Affiliates Breakfast at the Texas Hospital Association's Annual Leadership Conference in Austin on October 11, 2006.

This year's award winners are active members of the ACHE of North Texas Chapter:

Senior Level Healthcare Executive of the Year – **Philip M. Wentworth, FACHE**
President, Presbyterian Hospital of Plano

Early Career Healthcare Executive of the Year – **John G. Hill, CHE**
Chief Operating Officer, Medical City Hospital of Dallas

Please join me in congratulating these outstanding executives.

Evening Networking Events

Throughout the Spring and Summer months, we held several Networking Events in the evening hours, providing additional opportunities for members to network. Many new friendships and possibly business relationships have been created from these fun activities.

Thank you again to RTKL and Cardinal Health for sponsoring the events!

Look for announcements for an event over the winter months, possible in December or January or if you or your company is interested in sponsoring, contact Courtney Grimes at 972-719-4900.

Mentorship Program

We've held another successful Mentorship program in 2006. Over 12 pairs of Mentors and Mentees were matched in early Spring 2006. Mentors provide over 16 hours of "shadowing" opportunities for graduate students and early careerists (within 5 years of matriculation) to observe a healthcare executive at work. Those who have successfully completed their mentorship will be recognized at the Fall General Membership Meeting in late October. Many of the Mentees who have participated in the mentorship program in years past have established long-lasting relationships with their mentors and keep in touch today.

January 2007 we will be sending out applications for our Mentorship Program for the upcoming 2007 year.

Coming Soon

Congress Scholarship Applications will be going out in **December**. Qualified applicants will be considered for financial assistance to Congress '07 in New Orleans.

**New ACHE of North Texas
Chapter website**