

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 45, Number 38

October 3, 2014

WHA Calendar:

Patient Safety Summit
Laramie 11/7

Other Events:

Labor Health & Social Services Committee
Evanston 10/16-10/17



Follow us on Twitter
and Facebook

President's Corner

Well, another successful WHA Annual Meeting and Convention is in the books.

Our yearly gathering gave convention goers a venue to hear some outstanding speakers, reconnect with old friends and meet new ones, visit with vendors regarding their latest offerings and conduct business meetings with their peer groups. The WHA Staff is already making plans for next year's event.

One of the highlights of the Convention was the captivating presentation from Ryan Smith, CEO at Memorial Hospital of Converse County.

Ryan had the full attention of everyone in the room as he recalled the events that he experienced with a deadly active shooter situation at the rural Alaska hospital where he was the CEO.

He described how a disgruntled employee, who was fired the day before, entered the hospital and opened fire, targeting his two supervisors.

The events of that fateful day were described in detail by Ryan. His main message – this type of horrific event could happen anywhere in the country and everyone needs to take part in preparedness activities to be ready for an event like this.

I would like to single out the tremendous support we received from the WHA Board this year.

Under the guidance of Chairman Rick Schroeder, the board met a number of challenges head on and provided some steady leadership. Rick was selected at the Annual Meeting to remain as chair for the upcoming year.

It truly has been my distinct pleasure and privilege to serve the membership of the Wyoming Hospital Association for almost twenty-three years.

While it has sometimes proved challenging mostly because of ingrained systematic procedures, it has been relatively easy to advocate for people whose mission is to not only save peoples' lives but improve the health of their communities. The healthcare miracles being performed in our hospitals on a daily basis are certainly not showcased enough.

The Association will be well-served by the guy stepping into my place, Eric Boley. Eric is no stranger to the inner workings of our organization, having served on the WHA board for eight years, including two stints as board chairman.

His thoughtful and caring demeanor will be a great asset in navigating the membership through a healthcare environment characterized by diminishing resources and increasing regulations and oversight.

Our meeting also gave some good friends of mine the ability to roast me at our Awards' Banquet on Wednesday evening.

Tall tales were spun and memories were dug up by a distinguished cast of characters.

I was humbled and honored that so many people wanted to share their thoughts – many at my expense and some that were actually true. My only regret was not preparing better for my end-of-the-evening remarks



Dan's new set of golf clubs

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight



Wyoming Hospital Association

**2005 Warren Ave.
Cheyenne, WY
82001**

www.wyohospitals.com

307.632.9344

Niemoller Receives Norman S. Holt Award

Jeanine Niemoller, RN, MSN, BC has received the 2014 Norman S. Holt Award for Nursing Excellence.

The award is presented annually at the Wyoming Hospital Association Annual Convention to honor one outstanding nurse in Wyoming.

Jeanie is employed by Ivinson Memorial Hospital and was nominated by her peers.

Jeanie has had a long and industrious career in nursing, graduating with her BSN in 1981 and achieving her MSN in 1995.

She has had varied jobs over the years, serving as Administrator/Director of Nursing for the Extended Care Unit at Ivinson since 1989.

Jeanine's lifelong passion in nursing is in caring for the elderly and that focus had

led her to a very successful and rewarding career.

Jeanie is a positive ambassador for IMH, promoting and projecting a professional image of nursing to staff and the community.

She is viewed as a leader at IMH and as a nursing leader in the state of Wyoming.

As stated in the application "Jeanie meets the highest standards for excellence in nursing."

Hospitals Receive Quality Health Care Awards

Mountain-Pacific Quality Health has announced the winners of the 2014 Hospital Quality Awards. The awards were presented to fourteen Wyoming hospitals on September 25, 2014 during the Wyoming Hospital Association Annual Meeting and Convention.

Each hospital showed a dedication to providing high-quality patient care in seven nationally measured project areas. Mountain-Pacific is proud to present these awards and celebrates these hospitals and their dedication to Wyoming patients.

Six hospitals received the Quality Achievement Award—the highest award possible: Community Hospital, Torrington; Evanston Regional Hospital, Evanston; Memorial Hospital of Converse County, Douglas; Mountain View Regional Hospital, Casper; Platte County Memorial Hospital, Wheatland; and Wyoming Medical Center, Casper

Eight hospitals received the Commitment to Quality Award. They were: Campbell County Memorial Hospital, Gillette; Cheyenne Regional Medical

Center, Cheyenne; Ivinson Memorial Hospital, Laramie; Sage Health Care, Lander; SageWest Health Care, Riverton; Sheridan Memorial Hospital, Sheridan; St. John's Medical Center, Jackson; and Washakie Medical Center, Worland.

All Wyoming hospitals are eligible for Hospital Quality Awards. Mountain-Pacific will continue to work with Wyoming hospitals to help ensure that every patient receives the safest, highest-quality care possible.

CRMC Volunteers Win Auxiliary of the Year Award

The Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Volunteers are the recipients of the 2014 Auxiliary of the Year Award.

The CRMC Volunteers have pledged \$500,000 to be donated over a five year period to the new Cancer Center at CRMC.

To help meet the pledge, the volunteers hosted a new

fundraiser called the Shabby Chic Sale.

Volunteers donated gently-used jewelry, belts, purses and scarves. The hospital gift shop, The Pink Boutique, also donated jewelry and other accessories for the sale.

While the primary goal was to raise funds for the Cancer Center, the project achieved many secondary goals.

The CRMC Volunteers benefitted from excellent public relations within the hospital and the general community.

Members of the public were given the opportunity to see what the group does and potentially increase membership.