

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 45, Number 19

May 9, 2014

WHA Calendar:

WHA Board Meeting
Casper 5/15

Trustee Educational Program
Casper 5/16

Other Events:

Western Regional Trustee Symposium
Henderson, NV 6/11-6/13



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Report From the AHA Annual Conference

The American Hospital Association held its annual conference in Washington D.C. this past week.

Wyoming hospitals were well represented among participants from across the country, with seven Chief Executive Officers participating in the 2014 meetings.

Vickie Diamond, CEO, Wyoming Medical Center in Casper continues in her active service on the AHA Board of Trustees. Wyoming hospitals are certainly fortunate to have her leadership and perspective reflected within the AHA Board.

The conference sessions initiated over the weekend, with a State Issues Forum and a variety of focused breakout sessions. A special briefing on the important issues affecting rural and critical access hospitals, a briefing on the AHA's efforts to improve the CMS' Recovery Audit Contractor program, and an update review regarding the 340B pharmaceutical program were included in the early section of the conference agenda.

The investiture of James Hinton as the new Chairman of the AHA Board of Trustees was held on Sunday evening. Mr. Hinton is President and CEO of Presbyteri-

an Healthcare Services in Albuquerque, NM – and delivered a very engaging address in his accepting of the vast duties and responsibilities as the AHA Chairman.

Rick Schroeder, CEO at North Big Horn Hospital in Lovell, was also recognized within this program for his leadership as the current WHA Board Chairman.



Charlie Button, Rick Schroeder, Eric Boley, Dan Perdue

Monday's schedule included a wide variety of political perspectives on the current status of healthcare reform efforts, with lively debate regarding the elements that are perceived to be revealing positive benefits balanced with those with impacts that are yet to be fully determined.

Several panel discussion sessions were very well attended throughout the conference, providing attendees the opportunity to participate in

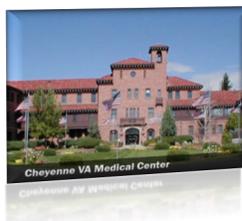
an open forum dialogue with key leadership individuals.

Additional breakout sessions included presentations on continued healthcare integration efforts and Medicaid reform creativity taking place in certain states – topics that are interrelated and viewed in necessity to work in supportive ways to genuinely provide the cost structure and quality patient outcomes as desired.

The Wyoming attendees also had excellent opportunity to meet with Senator Barrasso, Senator Enzi and House Representative Cynthia Lummis. The Wyoming congressional delegation was very attentive to the issues and concerns offered by WHA, and together with their respective health policy staff assistants were very interested to engage personally in the legislative needs at the federal level on a variety of regulatory issues.

WHA expresses its great appreciation for those having made the time to attend this annual conference and will continue to facilitate the efforts with AHA leadership in appropriately addressing the issues present – with Wyoming perspective.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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



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Cheyenne VA Hosts WWII Living History Display

In April, the Cheyenne Veterans Affairs Medical Center hosted the 6th Division, 20th Regiment, Company A for the annual World War II living history display.

The living history camp was made available to the public each day at the VA. The exhibit provides an opportunity to see and hear about the military equipment and weapons used during the 1939-1945 war.

The 6th Division, 20th Regiment, Company A is a local group of historians dedicated to preserving and portraying the history of World War II through a collection of artifacts, public education and historical reenactments.

Visitors got the chance to walk through a replica World War II bivouac, where a battalion medical station, mess tent, radio shack, officer's quarters and enlisted pup tents were on

display. Also available was an Army Air Corps pilot, who explained the equipment and functions of the AAC, and well as commented on the equipment, weapons and uniforms of German soldiers.

A portion of the living history display was dedicated to the "home front" where American gas and food ration stamps, and more was on display.

Smith Named Grassroots Champion for Wyoming

The American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the Wyoming Hospital Association, has awarded Ryan Smith, CEO of Memorial Hospital of Converse County, with the American Hospital Association Grassroots Champions Award.

As the 2014 Wyoming Grassroots Champion, Ryan is being recognized for his exceptional leadership in generating grassroots and community activity in support of a hospital's mission.

The American Hospital Association Grassroots

Champions Award was created to recognize those hospital leaders who most effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affect the hospital's vital role in the community, who have done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital, and is a tireless advocate for the hospital and its patients.

"We depend upon strong voices like yours to help tell the story of hospitals as cornerstones of the communities they serve," said Rich Umbdenstock, AHA presi-

dent and CEO. "This award is a small token of our appreciation for your hard work and dedication to improving health and health care in America."

Smith began as the CEO in Douglas in December of 2011. In April, he created the first integrated healthcare delivery network within Wyoming and he continues to work with the state's key employers and insurance companies to better position the hospital within the state.

Noridian Medicare Face to Face Seminars in Wyoming

Noridian education teams will be addressing a variety of issues including the provision of resolutions to common billing issues and ways to reduce claim denials at seminars being held in face to face seminars around Wyoming.

Providers are encouraged to register and partici-

pate in this educational opportunity.

The seminar agenda and registration information are located at:

Part B providers: https://www.noridianmedicare.com/partb/train/workshops/in_person_seminars.html.

Part A providers: https://www.noridianmedicare.com/parta/train/workshops/in_person_seminars.html

www.noridianmedicare.com/parta/train/workshops/in_person_seminars.html

Noridian has posted registration information regarding these in-person seminars via their web site, in seminars/meetings and email list serv.

Noridian's website is www.noridianmedicare.com/