

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 42, Number 35

August 24, 2012

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament
Cheyenne **9/25**

Annual Meeting & Convention
Little America Cheyenne **9/26-9/27**

Other Events:

Mid America Summit
Des Moines, IA **9/5-9/7**

Best on Board to be Unveiled at WHA Convention

The Wyoming Hospital Association is pleased to announce a new trustee education opportunity for Wyoming hospital trustees.

In establishing the Trustee Education Council, its primary function was to work in an advisory capacity with the board and leadership of the Wyoming Hospital Association to make significant advancements in hospital trustee education to benefit hospitals statewide.

The origins of the council were established as a result of excellent open discussion that took place at the WHA annual trustee education event in May 2011. Since that time, the Council has taken a very detailed and thorough approach to reviewing a wide variety of education programs.

A key element that was clearly desired involved access to an online, web-based program that provided quality content and current information in a format that was easy to access and put to use.

We also wanted to be very discerning regarding pricing and cost, wanting to get the best value program for our purposes here in Wyoming.

As a result of these efforts, WHA has established a relationship with “Best-on-Board” – a well-established, leading trustee educational

program that comes highly recommended.

In full intent to more fully background everyone on this effort, we are pleased to have Best-on-Board’s Connie Curran to deliver a 90-minute presentation as part of our agenda at WHA Annual Convention.



Connie is pleased to conduct this session to thoroughly review the program, provide some live demonstration, and field questions – building enthusiasm and local engagement into this new venture.

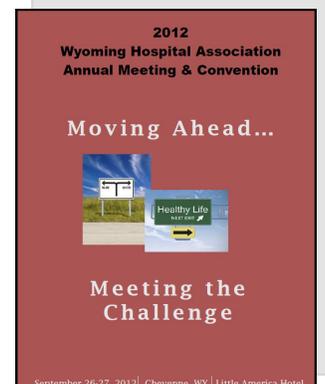
Our thanks to the members of the WHA Trustee Education Council for their leadership:

- Joseph Quiroz – Lander Regional Hospital
- Linda Young – Wyoming Medical Center
- David Cesko, MD – Memorial Hospital of Carbon County
- Ron Mischke – Sheridan Memorial Hospital

- Janet Marschner – Cheyenne Regional Medical Center
- Larry Parker – Powell Valley Healthcare
- Marti Halverson – Star Valley Medical Center
- Tammy Krell – South Lincoln Medical Center
- Sandy Neiman – Crook County Medical Service
- Linda NeVille – North Big Horn Hospital

The Wyoming Hospital Association Annual Meeting and Convention is scheduled for September 26 and 27 at the Little America Hotel and Resort in Cheyenne.

Registration materials are available online at www.wyohospitals.com or by calling 307.632.9344.





More Healthcare for Vets: Cheyenne VA Opens the Doors

As a part of the continued effort to increase access to high quality healthcare, officials at the Cheyenne VA Medical Center held a grand opening and ribbon cutting event to the new ambulatory clinic on August 14, 2012.

“Opening the new ambulatory clinic at the Cheyenne VA is a milestone event for Veterans who receive outpatient services here,” said Andrew Ruben, Cheyenne VA Medical Center spokesperson.

“The new wing offers

more than 40 new, state of the art, exam rooms. This is a significant increase from what we currently have in our primary care, outpatient wing.”

Workload at the Cheyenne VA Medical Center has steadily increased over past years. In just the last two most recent fiscal years, the Cheyenne VA campus center served 17,562 Veterans at the end of FY10 and by the end of FY11, that number increased by 8.6% to a total of 18,183 unique veterans receiving healthcare at

the main location.

The number of outpatient encounters during this time period increased by 12.8%.

The \$6.6 million dollar construction project expands the footprint of the Cheyenne VA’s campus by 22,000 square feet. Not only were dozens of new patient exam rooms established in this project, but also the new wing will increase opportunities for providing more patient education, additional mental health counseling as well as minor medical procedures.

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



QHCF To Host Annual Meeting in Jackson

The Quality Health Care Foundation of Wyoming will hold it's annual fall conference in Jackson Hole Sept. 12 - 14.

The conference will be held at the historic Wort Hotel.

Like others in healthcare, nursing homes continue to face an ever-changing environment,

both in terms of legislation and regulation, and in terms of the residents they care for.

As a result, the QHCF conference will feature sessions on the changing world of dementia care, as well as sessions on effective management, improving quality and service, and effective employee recruitment and

retention.

The conference will begin with a humorous keynote speech from nationally renowned speaker Scott Burton. And the QHCF will award the second annual Daniel J. Lex Award for Lifetime Service in Long Term Care.

Visit www.qhcf.org to register for the conference.

HPP Announcements

Merit Thomas, Coordinator, Hospital Preparedness Program, WY Department of Health, Public Health Division, Office of EMS has announced her resignation.

In her announcement Thomas said “It is with sadness that I tell you I have resigned as the Hospital Preparedness Coordinator. This truly has been one of the greatest experiences of my life - working with all of you and attempting to make a difference within the realm of emergency prepared-

ness. I have always admired the work that you do and it has been honor to serve in my role as HPP Coordinator. You all make a difference.”

Thomas has taken a role working in the Governor's Office as a policy advisory on social services.

Effective September 4th, Andy Gienapp, the Office of EMS Administrator, will be the main contact for HPP related matters.

All of us at the Wyoming Hospital Association want to

thank Merit for all her hard work and dedication.

Merit, you will be missed!



Wyoming Hospital Association

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