

ACHE WINTER NEWSLETTER

2008! I can't believe it. Where has time gone? Oops...I have already used that opening in another newsletter. This illustrates the problem when you have been a Regent for almost four years and you start repeating yourself. However, fresh material is on the way.

As you all know, Trace Swartzfager, FACHE, was elected Regent to serve Mississippi affiliates for the next three years. Trace will assume his duties at the ACHE Congress on Leadership in March. Trace is Vice President, St. Dominic Health System, and has been active in ACHE many years. He served as President of Mississippi Healthcare Executives, the ACHE chapter in Mississippi, and was formerly Young Administrator of the Year. Trace will do an excellent job in representing Mississippi affiliates.

Mississippi Healthcare Executive Annual Meeting

Mississippi Healthcare Executives Annual Meeting 2008 will be held January 24-25 at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi. The meeting will begin with a lunch on Thursday followed by two Category I ACHE programs. A moderated group discussion will be held to study medical staff relations and the future of healthcare financing.

A reception will be held on Thursday evening from 6:00-7:30 PM. On Friday, we are privileged to have Alyson Pitman Giles, FACHE, Chairman of ACHE, as the guest speaker. Alyson is the President and Chief Executive Officer of CMC Healthcare System and Catholic Medical Center, Manchester, NH. It has been a tradition of Mississippi to have the current ACHE Chairman to speak to local affiliates. Ordinarily this has occurred at the summer meeting but this year, the current chairman was available to speak at the annual meeting which is traditionally held in the winter. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. We found that last year's MHE Annual Meeting attracted some new affiliates who are not currently active in the Chapter. We hope this will be the case this time.

Membership Goals

Following are the Mississippi Membership Goals:

	Goal	Actual to Date	Difference	% Achieved
New Members	32	21	-11	65.6%
Members Who Passed Board of Gov Exam		2		
Advancements to Fellow	4	1	-3	25.0%

This goal report is through November and the latest report I have from ACHE National. Obviously we need to work hard the last few months to meet our membership goals. ACHE material is located on ACHE website and other resources are readily available to assist in advancement and recruitment.

Census Report for Mississippi

Member	159
Faculty Associate	1
Fellow	65
Life Fellow	21
Retired	3
Student Associate	<u>12</u>
Total	261

Register Now for ACHE 2008 Congress on Healthcare Leadership which is acknowledged as the premiere educational event for healthcare executives. Congress will be held March 10-13, 2008 in Chicago. As always, Congress is packed full of excellent educational sessions, hot topics and speakers for the general sessions. The networking and fellowship is unparalleled. I encourage all Mississippi affiliates to attend.

Affiliate Education Tuition Waivers

As a Regent, each year I can waive the tuition for two affiliates in Mississippi to attend/participate in the Congress on Healthcare Leadership, Self-Study Programs, Online Education Seminars, the Official ACHE Tutorial Online Course, audio conferences, or selected ACHE seminars and conferences. These waivers are intended for affiliates who are between jobs or have limited education funds to take advantage of outstanding educational sessions and networking opportunities, not as rewards or prizes. I have historically awarded my allotted tuition waivers for the Congress on Healthcare Leadership. Again this year, I have two tuition waivers available. Please remember the criteria that has been listed.

Top Healthcare Events for 2007 and Top Anticipated Events for 2008

I asked the RAC to provide the top healthcare event for 2007 and the most anticipated event for 2008 from their perspective. Listed below are the ones I received:

Eddie Foster

2007 – Statewide Medicaid controversy and funding difficulties

2008 – Presidential Election which will affect healthcare and Medicaid funding from the state perspective

Michael Zieman

2007 – Legislature did not have to deal with Medicaid funding at the state level as the Feds covered it

2008 – How the Legislature handles the funding for Medicaid as Dr. Robinson has warned the Legislative Health Committee that Medicaid services will be slashed if they don't get the \$168 million more to fund services. This cut, if it happens, will impact my hospital's ability to provide these much needed services.

Trace Swartzfager

2007 - Various events and drama surrounding funding for Medicaid

2008 - Various events and drama surrounding funding for Medicaid

Words Women Use

Five Minutes – If she is getting dressed, this is ½ an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes is you have just been given five more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.

Go Ahead – This is a dare—not permission. Don't do it!!!

Loud Sigh – This is not actually a word, but is a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A “loud sigh” means she thinks you re an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here arguing with you over “Nothing”.

That's Okay – This is one of the most dangerous statements that a woman can make to a man. “That's Okay” means that she wants to think long and hard before deciding how and when you will pay for your mistake.

Thanks - A WOMAN IS THANKING YOU. Do not question it or faint. Just say “you're welcome”.

Redneck Church

You'll know yours is a redneck church if...

1. The finance committee refuses to provide funds for the purchase of a chandelier because none of the members know how to play one.
2. The pastor says, "I'd like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering"...then five guys and two women stand up.
3. The choir is known as the "OK Chorale".
4. Baptism is referred to as "branding".
5. High notes on the organ set the dogs on the floor to howling.
6. People think "rapture" is what you get when you lift something too heavy.
7. The choir robes were donated by (and embroidered with the logo from) Billy Bob's Barbecue.
8. The collection plates are really hubcaps from a '56 Chevy.

Last night, a friend was sitting with his wife in the living room and he said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

She got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out the beer.

...She is such a darling!!!