

Happy New Year, Region 5 members! This is my first newsletter since last fall, and I want to be sure to thank all of you for your support in re-electing me as your Regional Consultant. I hope to get out to more chapters this year and am looking forward to meeting many of you. Thanks for your emails and interest in what's going on with ASHHRA! It's going to be another busy year for Region 5 and for ASHHRA.

Region 5 Conference

First and foremost, I have to talk about the upcoming Region 5 Conference. Last year when I did my first newsletter back in August, actually presenting a conference seemed like a pretty remote possibility, but now it's just a month away (as I'm writing this).

As planned, Mark Sasscer was available to present his HR Leader Forum, and Region 5 ASHHRA members Bob Riney, Jim Frain, and Doug Jontz will be speaking, as well. We will be at the lovely Hilton Milwaukee City Center on March 13th and 14th, and we hope to see many of you there.

I have a super committee consisting of Sue Edminster, Angie Hupf, Tom McCawley, Julie Mann, Maureen Van Duser, Mary Beth Knake, Bruce Tisdale, and Jim Graham, and as always, we are so grateful to our wonderful vendors and sponsors - we couldn't do this without them!

If you need a registration packet, please call Brianna Ramirez at 608/745-5623 or email her at bramirez@dshealthcare.com. Your registration from needs to be in to Brianna Ramirez before March 1st. The deadline for discounted hotel rooms is February 21st - we hope to have them extend it, but that may not be possible. If you wait, you'll probably be paying full price for your hotel room.

Regional Consultants Conference Calls

The nine Regional Consultants have scheduled conference calls every other month to keep us up to date on what's happening with ASHHRA so we can share that with all of you and to share your ideas and concerns with the ASHHRA staff. We recently had our first phone call, and I'm so excited about the plans for this year.

We learned that our education efforts this year will be again focused on the HR Leader Model: HR Delivery, Healthcare Business Knowledge, Community Citizenship, People Strategies, and Personal Leadership. Our annual Leadership Conference and the HR Boot Camp at the national conference will be structured to strengthen these competencies.

Other Upcoming Events

The annual Leadership Conference is scheduled for April 24 - 26 at the Knickerbocker Hotel in Chicago. The length of the conference has been extended a bit, in response to your request for more time to network with your associates.

And our annual conference will be held in Austin, TX October 12 - 14. The planning committee is going to Austin for a site visit (or has just returned, depending on when this gets mailed out to you). They are busy reviewing all the speaker proposals.

Met Life Scholarships

Met Life will again be sponsoring a scholarship for participation in the annual conference. This is the second year that one person from each of our nine regions has been able to attend the conference due to Met Life's generosity. Watch your emails for more details about the requirements and to hear the stories of last year's scholarship winners. I hope we have many applicants from Region 5!

Member Recognition

Forms for this year's award have been posted at www.ashhra.org. Please check the website and see what you could apply for and/or consider who you should nominate. The forms are due back in to ASHHRA by June 20th.

Other Information

Please don't forget to submit your metrics information for our metrics survey. If you have questions, you can check the website or you can also email me.

I'd love to include your calendars of events in future newsletters. Please send me details of your upcoming meetings or conferences that you'd like shared with the entire Region.

I am frequently contacted about open positions and I always tell the recruiters that they should post their openings on the ASHHRA Career Center. If you have any HR needs in your organization or if you're looking to make a change, please check there first!

My next newsletter will be out in early May, after the Leadership Conference. Watch for pictures from the two conferences, as well as any chapters that invite me to come and visit. I'm looking forward to seeing you!

Contact me!

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