

Dear Members,

What a great start to the year this has been for the Central Texas healthcare community. As it is every year, the Texas Hospital Association Annual Conference is the highlight for our hospital affiliates from around the state and a premier event to kick off the conference season.

This year was no exception with a great turnout for the for the Horace Cardwell ACHE Affiliates Breakfast on Friday, January 23rd, where Christine Candio, RN, FACHE, CEO Inova Alexandria Hospital, and Chairman of the American College of Healthcare Executives, gave a well-received ACHE update titled: Leading Through an Evolving Healthcare Landscape.

We were also honored to host not one, but two recipients of the prestigious 2014 Baldrige National Quality Awards at the breakfast. St. David's Healthcare in Austin, TX and former Central Texas ACHE Board Member and current CEO of Hill Country Memorial Hospital in Fredericksburg, TX, Jayne Pope, MBA, RN, FACHE. Congratulations to both organizations for representing the Central Texas healthcare community so well.

Also attending the breakfast was this year's recipient of the ACHE Regents Award, Kate Henderson, MHA, President Central Market, Seton Healthcare Family. Kate is the former Treasurer for the Central Texas ACHE Chapter and as the president of the Seton Healthcare Family Central Group of Hospitals, she is responsible for Seton Medical Center Austin, Seton Shoal Creek and University Medical Center Brackenridge. In addition to her role at Seton, Kate is the executive leading the Seton Health Equities Initiatives, aligning Seton's care for underserved populations in partnership with the Community Care Collaborative (CCC) and Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at Austin with the goal of creating a population-based delivery system that can scale with our region's rapid growth.

Last but not least, I would like to give a sincere congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to the Past President of the CTACHE Chapter, current Central & South Texas ACHE Regent, and now Vice President of Cardiovascular Services HCA, Lee Holmes, MHA, MBA, FACHE. We recently learned that Lee will be moving from the Central Texas area for greener pastures, lower altitude, and higher humidity in the Houston area, where I'm sure he will pick up right where he left off with the ACHE South Texas Chapter. Lee has been an integral part in the growth and success of the Central Texas ACHE chapter and his leadership and unwavering positive attitude will be missed. On behalf of the CTACHE Board, we wish him health, safety, and success on the great adventure that lies ahead, more importantly, we would like to say "Thank You" for his commitment and service to the Central Texas community, the chapter, and our country as well.

Best regards,

Brian Henry, MHA

President - CTACHE