



Winter Edition 2013

A Note from Nan: President's Message Nan Woldin



As the leaves are blowing and the snow flurries make their appearance, it's a perfect time to snuggle in and reflect on my past two years as President of the AAHAM Western Reserve Chapter.

I am honored to have been able to travel to the National meetings (as everyone knows, my favorite being Legislative Days in Washington DC) as representative of the Western Reserve Chapter. I was able to interact with the National Board of Directors as a member of the Chapter Development Committee, responsible for grading the Chapter Operations reports of all of the AAHAM chapters across the country and assisting chapters in need. The process was very rewarding and I was able to make many new friends.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to an AWESOME Board of Directors, without whom the Chapter would not have realized the successes it did and I wouldn't have realized the personal growth that I did. Most of what is accomplished for the Chapter during the year is done so with the hard work and dedication of

the Board of Directors. These things are done *without fanfare* and with the sole intent of making AAHAM Western Reserve Chapter the best that it can be!

Collaboratively, we *launched a wonderful new website* and celebrated *40 years as an AAHAM Chapter*. Our *educational sessions were top notch*, thanks to **Toni Shamblin** and her committee. Membership grew thanks to **Diane Murray** and her team. We remained *fiscally sound* and managed to execute each meeting *without a monetary loss*, thanks to the dedicated planning of your Board of Directors and financial tracking and reporting by **Sandy Peffer**. Information was gathered and shared in our *quarterly newsletter* by **Ann Buchheit**, our esteemed Secretary. Many members attained *professional certification* under the direction and with the support of **Pam McFarland**, our Certification Chair. Corporate Partner Chairs **Casey Williams** and **Debbie Becker** *grew our Corporate Partner sponsorship* to 25! Chairwoman of the Board, **Sue Bertram** and at-large Board members **Steve Rybka** and **Mike Attebery** offered *sound advice and support*. I couldn't have asked for a better team!

As the coming year brings many challenges to our industry, Western Reserve Chapter remains committed to supporting you and meeting your educational and certification needs. Consider making your own AAHAM 2014 resolutions. I encourage you to reach out to the new Board of Directors to let us know what topics you would like to see presented at our upcoming meetings. Check out the new certification category and consider becoming certified. JOIN A COMMITTEE. We need you all!

As I pass the gavel to the 2014-2015 President, Sandy Peffer, I am confident that our accomplishments, as well as the ones of those

who came before us, will perpetuate. Please join us!

With the approaching Holidays, put aside the world of Healthcare Finance and enjoy family and friends. Life needs balance.

Abundant Blessings to you and yours in 2014

Nan

Membership Update:

Diane Murray, First Vice President

As we close the year, I am proud to announce our chapter membership is at an all-time high at over 140 members! Thank you to everyone who has spread the word about the benefits of joining WR AAHAM! With the end of my two year term approaching, I want to thank my fellow Board members and all of you for making this "job" as First Vice President so memorable and enjoyable! I am pleased to turn over registration duties to your newly elected First Vice President, Kelly Duffy of University Hospitals. Kelly has been assisting at the registration desk this year, so I know she is ready to go when the new term begins in January! Please watch for updated registration information for meetings in 2014.

Our final meeting of the year is on December 13, 2013 at the Akron General Health and Wellness Center West in Akron. This Holiday meeting promises great education, Holiday cheer and gifts to celebrate the season! Register early, as this meeting fills up fast!

It has been an honor to serve these last few years, and I thank all of you for your support and friendship! I wish you a very Happy and Joyous Holiday Season!

See you at the next meeting!

Diane

Education Update:

Toni Shamblin, BSBA, Second Vice President

Another year is quickly coming to a close along with my two-year term as Second Vice President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure on the AAHAM Board for the past several years, handling membership and education. **Thank you** for giving me the opportunity to serve you through AAHAM and continue my knowledge and skills ☺

I don't know if I would have made it without the help of my Education Committee members. A special Thank You to: **Debbie Becker, Manda Burkett, Ben Gleason, and Mike Reppa**. I also would like to share an extra special thank you to **Esther Gervins** for catering our events.

Mark your calendars now:

THURSDAY, February 27, 2014
AAHAM/HFMA joint meeting
Akron General Health and Wellness
Center West
"Summit" Meeting Room
4125 Medina Road Akron, OH
330-665-8000

The times and details are still being finalized but we have confirmed our date & location.

Congratulations **Janet Broz**, from JP Recovery Services, Inc! Janet has been elected as the new Second Vice President for the 2014 – 2015 terms.

Toni

Secretarial Scribbles:

Ann Buchheit, Secretary

Being your secretary for the past year has been a humbling and exciting experience. I look forward to continuing for another two years!

I wish all a safe, happy and blessed holiday season!

Ann

NEWS from ANI:

My favorite speaker:

The Thursday, October 16th, opening keynote session provided by Weston Smith was a great surprise for me! I admit, when I first saw that AAHAM had scheduled a former executive convicted of fraud in healthcare – I was not impressed or *‘thrilled’* to attend this session. Honestly, why reward a convicted felon by paying a speaker fee; I thought. Well, I was wrong - Mr. Weston Smith deserved his speaker fee. Mr. Smith had an engaged presentation while using the newspaper and television clips.

Weston Smith led the audience down the path of the small indiscretions that got him where he is today while accepting responsibility for his actions. It all started very normal and then just an adjustment was made one month. That is easy to understand – every healthcare organization makes journal entries (adjustments) to account for Account Receivable Reserves every month. Only in the case of Mr. Smith it was known the entries for that one month was not correct. Now he has set a precedent – so begins the snowball until it is a avalanche out of control. This is a story of ethics, integrity and morals. If you ever get the opportunity to see Mr. Smith in person I hope you take the opportunity.

My choice for best education session:

Reported by Toni Shamblin

Friday, October 17th, “Getting the Most from Microsoft Excel” for Office 2007 by Anne DelPizzo. This educational session went far beyond my expectations. I use pivot tables regularly in my day-to-day task. Ms. DelPizzo started by showing us how to build and use a pivot table. Then she really woke-up and shook the class – by unlocking an entirely new world. One can perform conditional formatting and data analysis within a pivot table. Can I just say for Excel data junkies this is equivalent to the creation of chocolate!! It couldn’t possible get any better. Of but wait it did ☺ You can group your pivot data and create new groups. For example, Jan – March data could be grouped to First Quarter, and so on.

There are a lot of educational materials and manuals for learning MicroSoft Excel 07 available for purchase none would be worth the time or money compared to this presentation. Ms. Anne DelPizzo’s presentation was priceless. What made this presentation invaluable was her choice of data. It was relevant to healthcare reporting. She used every day hospital reports – ATB’s, revenue reports, census, etc to show how the new pivot analytics can improve your reporting and save you time. I would highly recommend getting Ms. Anne DelPizzo to do a webinar for the WR AAHAM chapter.

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Stacy Gillespie
VP of Marketing
615-661-5657
stacy.gillespie@passporthealth.com



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Vice President of Business Development

Voice Mail – 800-866-6228 ext 56350

Cell Phone 330-813-1574

Email: serybka@ucbinc.com

**Merry
Christmas!**

**Happy New
Year!**