

President's Message, March 2018,

Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. The frozen ground here in the north is starting to thaw and the newness of the season is evident. Spring flowers are starting to peek out of the ground, reminding me of all that is new in this particular season. Spring is a time for celebration, renewal and looking ahead in anticipation.

This spring is no different as we get ready for celebrating our wonderful volunteers. Like many of you, I am giddy, like a young child waiting in anticipation for the annual Easter egg hunt. I look forward to the opportunity to dote over all my volunteers. Often times, they wish not to be fussed over, but they do indulge me this one time of year. It is a time where my staff and I can try to express how honored we are that they choose to share their time and talents with us.

It is also a time for **celebrating** each other. The 2018 AHVRP Award Nominations are open. Now is the time to nominate someone you know, or a program you have, for one of our four awards. Celebrate those volunteers who make our institutions the special places that they are. Nominations are due Wednesday, April 25th, and more information is available on [the AHVRP website](#).

Spring is a time for **renewal**. What better way to renew than to take time for your own personal growth? If you have not already, I encourage you to make plans for the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual AHVRP Conference & Exposition, Hyatt Regency O'Hare, September 28 – October 2. The 2018 AHVRP Annual Conference Planning Committee is working diligently to offer you the best conference yet. Great speakers, wonderful networking opportunities and fun thrown into the mix is the combination for a successful conference.

Spring is also a time for **anticipation**, looking ahead and planning for the future of AHVRP. To do this, we need **YOU**, our AHVRP member, to consider becoming more involved with AHVRP. One of the best decisions I have made in my career was to submit my application for consideration as a board member. The past 3 years have challenged me both personally and professionally, and I have enjoyed all that has come with that wonderful decision. I encourage you to consider placing your name in consideration either [as an Advisory Board member or as a Nominating Committee member](#). **Nominations close April 11th**. We also invite you to join one of the AHVRP committees. [Click here for more information](#).

Wishing you a spring filled with celebration, renewal and anticipation.



Kristyn Ireland, CAVS  
2018 AHVRP President