

DIRECT FROM YO

For the past sixteen years I have been a proud member of AHVRP. In 2012 I wrote an article for AHVRP NEWS YOU CAN USE and the ending article question was-

"If you could select a word or phrase to describe our profession what would it be and why? Here was my answer "**At Aspirus we believe in "Passion for excellence and compassion for people."** This is evident with our team of talented volunteers who take on and lead more than 50 different areas at Aspirus."

Now move forward to 2017. I have been serving at your AHVRP President since January- and I am learning so much and meeting the best group of people ever. I love this quote for Words to Live by "**Take life as it comes, not as you order it.**" By Janet Broyles Edmond.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2017 President. Since January, serving as your AHVRP President, I have a special appreciation for all the ways that AHVRP helps our members- networking, conferences, web site, list serve for volunteers-hospice and retail, webinars, social events, publications and especially the chance to receive your CAVS certification. I hope I can make you proud during this year and thank you for your support and being a member of AHVRP .

As I write this article we are starting to prepare for National Volunteer Week, April 23 - 29, 2017. This week allows us to show appreciation to all the volunteers that make so many wonderful things happen. The U.S. has celebrated National Volunteer week every year in April since 1974. The Independent Sector, a leadership forum for charities, foundations and corporate giving programs currently estimates the value of volunteer hours at \$23.05 per hour.

Now look ahead to September 2017. This year's national AHVRP Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, from September 23-26, 2017. Please remember to mark your calendar early and plan on attending.

Our 2017 conference theme goes back to the words I used above to describe our profession. COMPASSIONATE Care and COMMITMENT to Service. All of our members have something to offer, and as a volunteer leader you'll have a chance to share your unique gifts and learn even more to help promote your profession.

Your AHVRP board consists of nine talented individuals with compassion and commitment. Our group meets monthly and we discuss many new possibilities for our organization. AHVRP also provides many ways for you to become involved- join a committee, submit a conference presentation or just "tell your story" to us. [Click here to review](#) the 2017 AHVRP Strategic Plan, which was recently approved by the 2017 AHVRP Board..

"People acting together as a group can accomplish things which no individual alone could ever hope to bring about." Franklin Delano Roosevelt.



Yolanda Voigt, CAVS
2017 AHVRP President