

DIRECT FROM YO

When I wrote my first article as President of AHVRP in April I asked everyone a question-

“If you could select a word or phrase to describe our profession, what would it be and why? My answer was “At Aspirus we believe in “Passion for excellence and compassion for people.” I have been thrilled to meet so many members of AHVRP and listen to your stories of why you love working with volunteers.

This year, I have especially seen the **POWER OF AHVRP** with all the ways that AHVRP helps our members- networking, conferences, web site, list service for volunteers- hospice and retail, webinars, social events, publications and especially the chance to receive your CAVS Certification.

(Include picture of board members wearing their shirts).

I have been so thrilled to serve as your 2017 President and learn about all the ways AHVRP helps you and your programs. At this year’s conference, Laura Stack, the CEO and President of The Productivity Pro, Inc. was a plenary speaker. Laura’s presentation was a key take-away for me by sharing how to do more in less time. I want to share some of her basic points:

“I practice what I preach and get a tremendous amount done. The most important part of my life revolves around my loved ones, so I want to spend as much time with them as possible. You can’t work nonstop. You much take a little time to back up, breath- and give yourself a break. Literally. Then you can put your head down and get to work anew. Try these tips to get you there:

1. Get on top of your to do lists
2. Review your goals
3. Take your breaks
4. Disconnect
5. Have fun at work.”

This year’s national conference theme was COMPASSIONATE Care- COMMITMENT to Service. We had over 500 attendees and it was great to see each of you “wear your passion”.

As Directors of Volunteers we are leading the charge to help our hospitals and volunteers. We learn about how to **Lead With a Purpose**. We also should continue to accept the challenge to take care of ourselves.

Thank you for all you do for your hospitals, volunteers, friends and loved ones. The success of our organization lies in our rich history, and our strong foundation. The challenges and goals of the future will be handled with the caring spirit and energy that all of you show as members of AHVRP.

I look forward to the future of AHVRP and helping our volunteers and each other continue to show the value that we bring to our organizations. I would like to thank the past presidents, board and committee members and AHVRP staff who have contributed to AHVRP with nearly 50 years of service.

I am excited about looking ahead and attending the 50th anniversary for AHVRP in Chicago, Sept. 28th to Oct. 2nd, 2018. We will be celebrating GOLDEN OPPORTUNITES: Patients, Community, You! , the conference theme created by Kristyn Ireland, 2018 AHVRP President.

I also encourage you to submit a nomination for a 2018 Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence (HAVE). Award winners will be recognized at the 50th Annual AHVRP Conference, Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 2018. Deadline to submit a nomination is February 1, 2018. You can learn more about the submission process during the AHVRP webinar, HAVE Awards: How to get started, December 6, 1pm(CT).

All of you as AHVRP members reach out to others and make a difference. You bring joy and sunshine to others' lives and set a positive example. Thanks for all you do. You're truly a treasure.



Yolanda Voigt, CAVS
2017 AHVRP President