



American College of Health Care Administrators Georgia Chapter News

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A leader's credibility begins with personal success. It ends with helping others achieve personal success.

John C. Maxwell



Chap Nelson is the Administrator of Gray Health & Rehabilitation located in Central Georgia. He's also the president of the Georgia Chapter of ACHCA.

Message From The Chapter President

Dear Fellow Professional,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Chap Nelson and I am the administrator of Gray Health and Rehabilitation, located in Gray Georgia. I am also a registered nurse who has been in long term care for the past 15 years. However, since my parents were owner/operators, I have been around the business all my life. I'm married, have two young children and live in Gray.

This past January, I was elected president of the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Health Care Administrators. Other chapter officers are; Steve Fromm-Vice President, Debra Pittman-Secretary, and Troy Churchill-Treasurer. We've already met and are busy developing a plan of action for our time of service. We'd like to include you on these plans and request your participation in the chapter. I won't go into in-depth details at this time, but our three focus areas are Professional Enhancement, Information Communication and Membership. However, we will present detailed action plans and get your input at the next chapter meeting, to be held June 17th in Amelia Island, Florida, at the GHCA Summer Convention. We are also in the process of compiling and distributing a chapter newsletter in order to keep you abreast of the current news within our organization.

ACHCA will be very involved during the summer convention. On June 17th, the featured speaker's appearance at the morning education session was arranged by our chapter. Marianna Grachek is President/CEO of ACHCA and Eli Pick is a nationally recognized member and educator for ACHCA. They will provide us with information about the college and professional certification. This promises to be a session with valuable information to aid us in our professional growth. Later that day, both Mrs. Grachek and Mr. Pick will give us a "pep talk" during our chapter luncheon. Lastly, during the break at the afternoon education session, the chapter will serve chocolate and ice cream to all attendees. All members are invited and encouraged to bring a friend that might be interested in learning more about the college. ACHCA membership and certification material will be provided. In order to insure these plans go smoothly, on June 14th, at 3:30pm, we'll hold a short meeting to coordinate the events. Any member interested in assisting is encouraged to attend.

If you are not a college member, please consider membership. If you are a member, consider becoming active in our chapter. You can start by electing to attend the ACHCA luncheon when you submit your GHCA summer convention registration. ACHCA is a great place for long term care administrators to gather mutual support and work together in order to advance our profession. The web site for ACHCA is <http://achca.org/joomla/>. Information such as membership and certification is listed under the "main menu" You may also contact me at cnelson@ethicahhealth.org or by calling (478) 986-3151.

Respectfully,
Chap Nelson

2009 - 2010 ACHCA Board Members



Debra Pittman, Secretary - Chap Nelson, President - Steve Fromm, Vice President - Troy Churchill, Treasurer

Chap Nelson, President- Chap Nelson grew up in Gray Georgia where he is currently the administrator of Gray Health and Rehabilitation. He has an Associates degree in Nursing Science from Macon College and is a registered nurse. He was a Director of Nurses at two other Middle Georgia Long term care facilities. He has a combined service of 15 years in long term care. He is married with two young children. He is an avid outdoorsman and chainsaw sculptor.

Steve Fromm, Vice President- Steve is currently the administrator at Southland Nursing Home in Peachtree City. Prior to being an Administrator he was a Social Service Director. He has a combined service of 8 years in long term care. Steve has a MSSW and graduated in 1991 from Univ. of Texas at Arlington, MACSW graduated 1991 from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ordained Baptist Minister, 1991. He served for ten years with the North American Mission Board, SBC.

Troy H. Churchill, Treasurer-Troy was born and raised in Lansing, MI. In 2001, he moved to Chattanooga, TN to attend Southern Adventist University where he earned a Bachelors of Science in Long Term Healthcare. Between his Sophomore and Junior years, Troy participated in a ten month missionary stint in the South Pacific where he taught 8th grade on the island of Pohnpei.

In 2006, he signed on with Ethica Health and Retirement Communities as an Administrator in Training at Gordon Healthcare Center under the direction of Andy Miller. Throughout his career he has been the Administrator at Toombs Health Care Center in Lyons, GA and Regency Park Health and Rehabilitation in Dalton, GA where he currently serves.

Debra Pittman, Secretary- Debra is the Administrator of Heritage Healthcare of Monroe in Forsyth, GA where she has been since August 2007. She has been in long-term care for 13 years and is a Registered and Licensed Dietitian. She received a B.S. Degree in Food and Nutrition from Fort Valley State University and a M.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics from University of Memphis. Prior to long term care, She worked in an acute care setting and public health. She served as a Step I Examiner for the Quality Award Program with AHCA in 2008 and has been chosen as a Senior Examiner for 2009. She is a member of the Membership Committee, Reimbursement Committee and Quality Committee with the GHCA. She is a native of Moultrie, GA and currently resides in Milledgeville. She enjoys cooking, reading, traveling, and just relaxing.

Professional Certification

ACHCA offers two exam-based professional certification programs. Certification candidates may earn a professional credential in Nursing Home Administration (CNHA) and Assisted Living Administration (CALA). ACHCA certifies professionals who have demonstrated the knowledge, skills and values consistent with the high standards of management necessary to provide quality care. Now is your chance to demonstrate your professional expertise to your colleagues, employer, managed care organizations, and consumers by earning the designation CNHA and/or CALA.

The eligibility requirements for all three certification programs vary. For more information, click on Certification, or call (202) 536-5120 or send an email to certification@achca.org. This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it or go to <http://achca.org/joomla/>

Advancement to Fellow

“Fellow” status is the highest honor ACHCA can award you. It signifies your commitment to professional growth and your efforts to improve the profession. To be eligible, you must be an active member of ACHCA for a minimum of two years, participate in civic activities, have taken 160 CE hours or 11 college semester credits in the past five years, and be involved in a professional activity or organization. For additional information email achca_professional_advancement@achca.org

“About ACHCA”

Founded in 1962, ACHCA is a non-profit professional membership association which provides superior educational programming, professional certification, and career development opportunities for its members.

Guided by the vision that dynamic leadership forges long term health care services that are desired, meaningful, successful, and efficient, ACHCA identifies, recognizes, and supports long term care leaders, advocating for their mission and promoting excellence in their profession.

Our Vision:

Dynamic leadership forges long-term health care services that are desired, meaningful, successful and efficient.

Our Mission Statement:

The American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) aspires to be the leading force in promoting excellence in leadership among long-term care Administrators.

Our Values:

- The College identifies long-term care leaders
- The College recognizes long-term care leader
- The College supports long-term care leaders
- The College advocates for the mission of long-term care leaders
- The College promotes professional excellence among long-term care leaders

Upcoming Events

**ACHCA Georgia Chapter
Summer Luncheon Meeting**
GHCA Convention Ritz Carlton
Amelia Island Florida
June 17th, 2009

For registration packet Go to
- [http://www.gnha.org/index.php/
calendar/](http://www.gnha.org/index.php/calendar/) or call GHCA at
678-289-6555.



ACHCA 2009 Summer Leadership Conference
Southampton, Bermuda
July 27-31, 2009

For more information visit <http://achca.org/joomla>

Join your colleagues to learn, re-energize and develop professionally.

Value of Membership in ACHCA

By Ken Reynolds, CNHA FACHA

From time to time, I am asked by colleagues about the value of being a member of the American College of Health Care Administrators. It is a fair question, especially with other organizations that represent nursing homes charging per bed fees and addressing government relations. Why should an administrator pay additional dues to be part of an additional organization? Having been a member since 1990, I guess I have a personal challenge as to why I would continue to pay dues and continue to be a member of ACHCA.

My answer in simple form is that ACHCA is the ONLY organization that represents health care administrators. Other organizations represent facilities, companies and corporate concerns and interests but, the very reason for existence of ACHCA is to support health care administrators. During my 25 years in health care administration, I have served several facilities and companies but my membership in ACHCA has continued with me, as an individual administrator, and a connection to my profession and colleagues.

How does ACHCA support administrators? They won't step in for me if I am fired to determine if there was due cause, it's not like a union. Because of the non-profit status of the organization, they can't enter into political activities like PACs to persuade legislators toward specific political legislation. Likewise, I don't expect ACHCA to come to my defense if I am ever (God forbid) escorted off my facility premises in hand-cuffs at the request of the Attorney General.

So, how does ACHCA support administrators? By membership in ACHCA, you subscribe to a code of ethics that says you hold yourself to a higher bar ethically. You consider your profession more important than your position and help employers know where you stand ethically before you begin employment. ACHCA membership can be a deterrent to a bad situation. I can't say enough about p2p, the online ability of ACHCA members to roll out a question or situation and seek input from other members. The support from peers is in real life and includes discussions and sometimes friendly debates on issues facing every administrator. Members have solicited requests during survey, as well as during normal operations, that have afforded answers invaluable to them at the time. Over the years, p2p has evolved to include a Yahoo p2p file system, orchestrated by noted author, Barbara Acello, and available to all ACHCA members which contains a huge cache of policies and procedures, articles and welcomed information for every long term care administrator. What is information at your fingertips worth to you?

Fellowship and connecting with other administrators is valuable to any profession. ACHCA offers a wealth of opportunities to facilitate connections with other administrators. From the annual Convocation located in various areas of the country to a Bermuda Cruise to Winter Market Place in Las Vegas, CEUs are afforded as well as friendship and fellowship. Additionally, ACHCA offers a Certification Process whereby you can become certified. This process is in addition to the normal licensing process and sets you apart as being so dedicated to your profession that you seek to attain the highest professional standards available. While it is possible to become Certified without being a member of ACHCA, every CNHA should truly consider becoming a member of the organization that them that opportunity.

Finally, and this is personal to me, it is an opportunity to give back. I can't imagine being a newly licensed administrator in today's world. There are no classroom studies which can prepare a person for the myriad decisions and broad shoulders necessary to perform the duties of a nursing home administrator on a daily basis. Whenever I hear the term "ignorance is bliss", I think of my first Federal Survey and how I actually thought the Federal Surveyors were there "simply to survey the State Surveyors". I had no clue what repercussions it could have upon me or my facility. At this point in my career, I may not need assistance on what to do about resident who want to check themselves out daily (a recent p2p question). I may not have a need to determine if I stand above the norm through Certification. Yet, I do owe those who come after me with whatever I can afford to assist them on their journey in caring for the sick and the elderly of the next generation.

Whether you are new to long term care, one who is currently experiencing the struggle, or one who is now retired, you need ACHCA and ACHCA needs you. It is your professional organization if you consider yourself a professional in health care administration.

American College of Health Care Administrators
New Member Application
12-Month Membership Period
 Updated 4-10-09



Contact Information

___ Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Ms. ___ Mrs. ___ Sr. ___ Rev. ___ Other

Name: _____ Credentials: _____
 Title: _____
 Facility/Company: _____
 National Provider Identification Number (NPI): _____
 Business Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Business Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____
 Business Email: _____
 Corporation Name: _____
 Number of Sites: _____ Total Beds: _____
 Home Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Home Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____
 Personal Email: _____
 Preferred Mailing Address: ___ Home ___ Office
 Preferred E-mail Address: ___ Home ___ Office

Demographic Data

Collection of this data will be used for statistical and survey purposes to improve and/or create programs and services to better serve you.

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: ___ Male ___ Female

Race: ___ Black or African American ___ White
 ___ Hispanic or Latino ___ American Indian/Alaska Native
 ___ Pacific Islander ___ Arabic ___ Asian
 ___ Other _____

Check all that apply to your role:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic | <input type="checkbox"/> Director of Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator (current) | <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator (retired) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrator-in-Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Product/Service Provider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President/Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEO/COO/President | <input type="checkbox"/> Owner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. Head/Manager | |

Education:
 (Check highest level attained)

Doctoral degree
 Physician
 Masters degree
 Some graduate work
 Bachelor's degree
 Associate degree
 Diploma in nursing
 High school diploma

Clinical Background:

LPN/LVN
 Registered Nurse
 Rehabilitation Therapist
 Social Worker
 Other _____

Experience

Year you began working as an administrator: _____
 Year you began working in Skilled Nursing: _____
 Year you began working in Assisted Living: _____

Current License

Date originally licensed: _____
 List license information:
 State: ___ Number: _____ Type: _____
 State: ___ Number: _____ Type: _____
 State: ___ Number: _____ Type: _____

Profit Status of your facility:

- Private/For Profit
 Public/For Profit
 Not For Profit
 Government
 Other

Programs (check all that apply):

- Adult Day Care
 AIDS
 Alzheimer's/Dementia
 Assisted Living
 Consulting
 CCRC
 Geriatric center/ Senior center
 Home health
 Hospice
 ICF/MR/DD
 Independent Living/Senior Housing
 Long-Term Acute Care Hospital (LTACH)
 Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) (check all that apply)
 Complex medical/subacute
 Neurological/Head Trauma
 Pediatric
 Rehabilitation
 Ventilator or Pulmonary
 Wound care
 Other _____
 University/Academia

Facility Size:

- Up to 10 beds
 11-25 beds
 26-50 beds
 51-100 beds
 101-200 beds
 200 or greater beds

Is your organization:

- Management group
 Hospital-based
 Independent Ownership
 Community Ownership
 Corporately Owned
 National Corporation
 Regional Corporation
 Local Corporation
 Integrated delivery system
 Other _____

of clients your organization cares for daily: _____

Communications Options (required)

- On occasion, ACHCA may make its mailing list available to organizations whose products or messages we feel may be of interest to our members. Do you wish to be included in such mailings?
 Opt-in _____ Opt-out _____
- Third party fax communications: Opt-in _____
- Automatic access to members-only Peer2Peer: Opt-in _____

ACHCA will not make your phone number available to vendors or suppliers of services.

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New Member Application
12-Month Membership Period
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National Dues & Optional Donations:

Membership Category	Description	National Dues (includes chapter dues of \$25)
Full	Administrators or those with substantial interest in health/residential care administration	\$291
Associate	Allied health professionals and individual providers of healthcare products/services	\$192
Bridge	One-year transitional membership for those who have completed education/AIT program	\$141
Business Affiliate	<i>Please contact candrews@achca.org</i>	
Senior Retired	Full members of 15+ years who have retired from healthcare administration and are 65+ years of age	\$164
Student/Administrator-in-Training*	Enrolled in health-related academic or pre-licensure training program and NOT employed as an LTC administrator	\$69

A. Dues

- \$ _____ Dues from above (Primary Chapter Dues are included)
- \$ _____ 2nd Chapter Dues @ \$25.00 per additional chapter; Name of chapter: _____
- \$ _____ (Optional) one-year membership in the Academy of Long Term Care Leadership and Development @ \$50**
- \$ _____ (Optional) life membership in the Academy @ \$500**
- \$ \$25.00 Application fee (\$25.00 Application fee applies to initial applications and lapsed renewals of 12 months or greater; Application fee is waived for Student/AIT Members)
- \$ _____ **Total Dues**

B. Optional, Tax Deductible Donations

- \$ _____ Unrestricted donation/Fund Drive donation
- \$ _____ The Academy of Long Term Care Leadership and Development**
- \$ _____ Richard L. Thorpe Fellowship**
- \$ _____ Sister Joan Cassidy & Michael Cuseo Cultural Diversity Endowment Fund**
- \$ _____ W. Phillip McConnell Student Scholarship Fund**
- \$ _____ **Total Optional Donations**

C. Total Payment:

- \$ _____ A. Dues
- \$ _____ B. Optional Donations
- \$ _____ **C. Total Remitted**

*Applicant must submit proof of academic enrollment or trainee status

** For more information on The Academy of Long Term Care Leadership and Development and ACHCA scholarships, visit www.achca.org

_____ I have enclosed a check payable to ACHCA. Check # _____

_____ Please charge my: ___ American Express ___ MasterCard ___ Visa

Account Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name of Cardholder: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

FAX 2-page application with credit card payment to 866-874-1585
Mail application & check payment to ACHCA Membership, PO Box 75060, Baltimore, MD 21275-5060
Questions? Contact: membership@achca.org or 202-536-5120