



# East Texas ACE Forum November 2018 Newsletter



## A Message from Our President

Dear Healthcare Executives,

As I near the end of my term as President of the East Texas ACE Forum, I reflect on my experiences on the board. I have had an incredible opportunity to work with some of the finest people in the state and certainly some of the best healthcare executives; what a wonderful experience with an even more awesome organization!

The opportunity to provide, even if in just some small way, service to the board and the ability to work and connect with our fellow board members has provided me insights to the value of this organization and the wonderful leaders for this amazing chapter. But as with all things, we serve our term and then we move on.

Many of you have served on boards before so this information I am about to share is not anything new. To serve on a board, you must understand what your role is...and is not. This should be your first order of business to know what you are responsible to do. As a board member, you are acting on behalf of those who hold membership within the chapter and you are asked to run the day-to-day affairs of the organization. As a board member, you are directly accountable to the chapter members. Board members must act in good faith in what they honestly feel is in the best interest of the chapter, and for no other purpose. As a board member, you must act with skill and care and continually move, promote, and push the needs of the membership forward.

Errol Biggs, in his 2011 text, **Healthcare Governance: A guide for effective boards**, summed up the very essence of why boards struggle with their duties. He states: "Although an ideal board functions as a team for the good of the organization, the very nature of a board may preclude the development of teamwork:

- **Directors are not full time.** Most independent directors have full-time jobs elsewhere, and their primary focus rests with that job, not the board.
- **There is only periodic interaction.** Board members meet together for relatively short periods of time, separated by weeks or months. This makes it difficult to build continuity or develop as a team.



**Don't forget to register for our upcoming Face-to-Face (3.0 Hours) Education event!**

**See details below**

## A Message from Our Regent



Recently I engaged in a meeting with my Medical Staff in regards to changes to Board Certification. As many of you are aware, our various Medical Staffs are wrestling with how to deal with changes from their various professional organizations for their Board Certifications. As the discussions occurred, I mentioned that as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives I was board certified in healthcare management. Several physicians turned to me and stated they were unaware of such a credential and they were glad their administrator was board certified. This led me to the realization that we as healthcare administrators do not discuss our board certification and promote this to our up and coming leaders. I want to challenge all of us to continue to promote to our next generation of leaders the FACHE credential. As a next generation leader please continue to work towards your Fellow credential. Our local ACE chapters have led many efforts to assist you in receiving needed educational opportunities as well as study opportunities for our Board examination. Please take advantage of these opportunities. Additionally, we should all take appropriate opportunities to discuss your own FACHE credential to your facility and medical staff. I was pleasantly surprised as to the reaction I received from my physicians and I think you may be as well.

As we close this year, I want to thank each of you

- **Meeting time is limited.** Boards have a limited amount of time to spend on board activities or on any one issue. Because they are not in the organization's day-to-day information loop, board members may approach their work with limited knowledge or understanding of the nuances of particular issues."

So needless to say, the most important task is also a difficult task, but one that can have tremendous impact on the organization you serve. Although your gift of service is precious, I would encourage that before you make a decision for a board position, make sure you have the time to commit. Your time and service is very valuable to the East Texas chapter.

You will note in our new sletter that we are calling for new members for the oncoming board who will assume their duties in 2019. Our bylaws require us to solicit our membership to nominate others or themselves for board membership, I encourage you to volunteer for this wonderful responsibility. We will have a number of vacancies to fill and I know you will learn much, have an opportunity for growth and development as a board member, and continue the development of a professional group that is second to none, ACHE.

I encourage you to consider board membership over the next few days and submit your interest to us as we prepare the Nominations Committee and the outgoing board for the vote. Please simply send the name(s) of your nominee and his/her resume to our executive director, John Whittemore, at [info@acheetx.org](mailto:info@acheetx.org). (If you are nominating someone else, please make sure she/he is willing to serve in this important role.) I look forward to seeing your name on the list of candidates!

Lastly, we will be having an event to be held in Texarkana, TX at CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital on November 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be a great opportunity to earn some face to face Educational credits, and to experience the hospitality of this great town. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

*Erich*

**Erich Koch, CPA-ND, FHFMA, FACHE  
East Texas ACHE Forum, President**



for your continued great work in healthcare administration and of your support for ACHE and for our local chapters. I continue to be so impressed with what we accomplish each year as a professional organization and I hope to see you soon!!

As always, if I can help you in any way in my role as Regent, please call on me. Thank you for a great year and for all of your continued great work!!!

*Ken*

**Edwin K. "Ken" Hutchenrider Jr., FACHE  
Regent for Texas - Northern**

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## Member Spotlight



**Gurinder Singh** was raised and graduated from secondary school in Jersey Village, Texas. He attained a pharmacy technician certification at LoneStar Community College in 2011. He graduated from the University of Houston in 2014 with Bachelor of Science degree majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry--being the first in his family to attend and graduate from college. During his time in college, Singh maintained a part-time position at Kindred Hospital (Houston) since 2012, where he is still employed. This experience, combined with his personal desire to continue a career in healthcare, led him to pursue a career in healthcare administration and graduate with a master's degree in healthcare administration from Texas A&M in 2018.

For community and professional involvement, he interned at Houston Methodist (Katy, TX) over the summer of 2017 to support an expansion opportunity for a new service line. He aided victims affected by Hurricane Harvey flood through the Houston Sikh community. As a student, Singh resumed to be an active member of IHI, ACHE, HFMA, and MGMA, which offered him a great asset and knowledge about healthcare while volunteering at several events.

Singh's long-term goals entail wanting to open a medical facility and lead a healthcare organization to provide quality health care outcomes at a community level. To achieve his goal, Singh would like to utilize his master's degree and leadership experience to grow and continue gaining knowledge in operations of healthcare management and financial business development. During his free time, he enjoys checking restaurants off his bucket list, playing basketball, and spending quality time with his family and friends. He is passionate about working to bring about positive changes in both our local and surrounding communities to become a supporting member of the next generation of healthcare leaders.



## Last Call

### East Texas ACHE Forum - Fourth Quarter Education Event

Offering Up To 3.0 Face-to-Face Credits (1.5 per panel)

**Date:** Thursday, November 8

**Time:** 3pm-6:30pm

**Location:** CHRISTUS St. Michael, North Conference Center, Texarkana, TX

[To Register or to see the Speakers' Bios - Click Here](#)

#### Panel 1: Managing for Morale



#### Moderator:



**Katy Nustad, FACHE**  
Administrative Officer  
Longview Community Based Outpatient Clinic

#### Panelists:



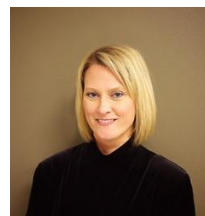
**Patricia A. Boeckmann, FACHE**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Titus Regional Medical Center



**Heather McKnight**  
Director of Nursing  
Texas A&M-Texarkana



**William Micah Johnson**  
Administrator/Chief Nursing Officer  
CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital-Atlanta



**Sheree Kennedy, MS, OTR**  
Director, Rehabilitation  
CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehabilitation Hospital

#### Panel 2: Civility and Respect

#### Moderator:





**Patrick Flannery, FACHE, MBA, OTR**  
Administrator  
CHRISTUS St. Michael Rehabilitation Hospital

**Panelists:**



**Christi Baggett**  
Vice President of Operations  
Hospice of East Texas



**Novella C. Medlock, MS, BGS, CPXP**  
Director of Patient Relations  
CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System



**Courtney Shoalmire, MSN, RN**  
Dean of Health Sciences  
Texarkana College



**Louise Thornell, PhD**  
Vice President and Chief  
Nursing Officer  
CHRISTUS St. Michael Health System

*Thanks to CHRISTUS St. Michael for hosting this event!*

[To Register Or to see the Speakers Bios - Click Here](#)

**Watch your emails  
for more upcoming  
East Texas ACHE Forum events**

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**Other Events of Interest:**

**The Future of Rural Texas: A Texas Tribune Symposium**

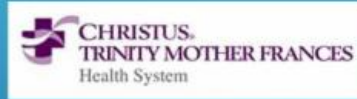
Dates: November 12-13  
Times: 6pm - 4:30pm  
Location: Texas A&M University, College Station

**Fall After Hours Networking Event**

Hosted by ACHE of North Texas

Date: November 29  
Times: 6-8pm  
Location: Waterproof Lounge, Statler Hotel, Downtown Dallas

## East Texas ACHE Forum Thanks our Sponsors:



East Texas ACHE Forum | [info@acheetx.org](mailto:info@acheetx.org)