

W-ONE Nurse Leader of the Year Award



Tim Gengler, MSN, RN, CNA

The Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives (W-ONE) has selected Timothy Gengler, MSN, RN, CNA, vice president nursing / chief nursing officer for Aspirus Wausau Hospital, for its 2007 Nurse Leader of the Year Award.

Tim has been a member of the W-ONE since 1986 and a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) since 1999. He is currently leading the Task Force for the W-ONE Strategic Plan, is current Marketing Committee Chair, is serving on the AONE Nominating Committee, and represents W-ONE on the SWIFT Steering Committee.

Tim is constantly promoting the nursing profession by being actively involved in community boards and organizations. He has collaborated with the Marathon County Chamber to discuss strategies to increase nurse access for the area. He has been active in the development and planning of the generic BSN degree program for the University of Wisconsin – Marathon County and University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, as well as the generic 1+2+1 BSN degree program for the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh/North Central Technical College. Tim also led an initiative to provide adjunct faculty to the North Central Technical College nursing program to increase the number of clinical sessions.

Tim has also facilitated or led numerous nursing initiatives. Of his many accomplishments, he was instrumental in getting the first critical access hospital designation in Wisconsin. In 2002, he executed the first assisted living facility in Wisconsin using tax credit dollars. Tim has provided essential leadership in preparing staff to achieve magnet hospital designation and continues to provide leadership to keep magnetism alive.

"Interacting with Tim just simply makes you feel good. He is with you in the moment and cares very much about the issues you share with him may they be personal or business. He avails himself to all staff without regard to position and reaches out to even the children of the patients we care for."

ACHE Young Healthcare Executive Award



Steve Osswald

Steve Osswald is the business manager for the Consultant Care Division (medical and surgical subspecialties) at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee. He is responsible for administrative and financial management of a 560 full-time-employee division.

Steve has been very active in the Wisconsin Chapter of ACHE, serving on the Program Committee and initiating the Regional Networking and Education program that will provide cost-effective and convenient networking and educational programs throughout the state.

Steve received his bachelor of science degree in physical therapy from the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse, and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Colorado – Boulder. Steve has recently been elected to the Wisconsin Chapter of ACHE Board of Directors.



PO Box 259038, Madison, WI 53725-9038
608-274-1820 / Fax 608-274-8554 / www.wha.org

Wisconsin Hospital Association



2007 awards

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Trustee Awards

Established in 1987, the Trustee Award is designed to honor health care board members who have shown long-standing commitment to the governance of the organization with which they are affiliated.



Stuart R. Carlson

This year's first winner, Stuart R. Carlson, has been a board of trustees member for Aspirus Wausau Hospital, and Aspirus Inc., for 10 years, in a variety of leadership positions including board chairman. Stuart has been an active volunteer in the Wausau community serving on the North Central Health Protection Plan Board, Wausau Club Board, Wausau Chamber of Commerce Board, and past president of the Marathon County United Way.

Under Stuart's leadership, the cardiac program at Aspirus Wausau Hospital expanded, becoming the Wausau Heart Institute, which has been nationally recognized among the best heart care programs in the nation. He played a vital role in the economic development of the Wausau area through his support of Aspirus' unique partnership with Wisconsin Physicians Services (WPS) Insurance Corporation, which created nearly 1,000 new jobs in the Wausau area. Stuart provided guidance and insight in approving the development of Aspirus Weston YMCA and Aspirus Clinics in Weston, Marathon, Merrill, and Wisconsin Rapids. He also provided invaluable input into the development of Aspirus' regional ambulatory strategy through his experience and understanding of the regional markets.

"Mr. Carlson demonstrates all the attributes of a true leader – he values people, is respectful (and in turn is well respected), he is patient, highly ethical and trustworthy, has a vision that he clearly articulates, and has a passion for what Aspirus stands for."



R. Calvin Wise

This year's second trustee award winner is R. Calvin Wise, a board of trustees member for the Richland Hospital, Inc. He has been on the board of directors for 20 years, and was the president from 1991 until his retirement on April 30, 2007.

Cal has been instrumental in growing the Richland Hospital. Under Cal's leadership, the hospital has undertaken numerous expansion and renovation projects, including a 40,000 square foot medical office building occupied under a long-term lease with the community's independent physician group. His fundraising for this project laid the groundwork for a very effective foundation program.

Cal is dedicated to the advancement of the hospital and has revised the executive board's bylaws to include term limits and encourage new members. He has also been instrumental in the recruitment of physicians and a new CEO.

"He is 100% committed to our success – no hidden agendas, no unproductive Board politics."



Distinguished Service and Lifetime Achievement Awards



George Johnson

WHA proudly presents George Johnson with both the 2007 Distinguished Service & Lifetime Achievement Awards. George is scheduled to retire this year after 38 years in leadership roles in Reedsburg and the southern Wisconsin area. He has

been president of Reedsburg Area Medical Center since 1980.

George's commitment to his community and his determination to improve health care has lead him to leadership roles in civic organizations such as the Lions Club. He helped to create and develop the Reedsburg Area Medical Center Foundation, which allows people to make tax-deductible donations to financially support the organization. He is also active in the church and has been on the board, church council and is serving as the congregation president.

George has been actively involved in the Wisconsin Hospital Association as a member the Board from 1990-2000, and serving as board chair in 1999. He was chair of the WHA Council on Rural Health from 1991-1997. He helped form the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, a 30-rural-hospital based group, and helped create Home Health United in Sauk County, which has expanded to several other counties and has grown to be the second largest agency in the state. In 2003, George also served as an alternate to the American Hospital Association Board.

"He has established a living legacy of quality of care. Reedsburg has excellent health facilities started by teams of leaders who have committed to excellence in care for the individual patient. His leadership and vision have impacted the quality of life for thousands of people."



Joseph Neidenbach

The Wisconsin Hospital Association is pleased to present a special Lifetime Achievement Award to Joseph Neidenbach, administrator and executive vice president of St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay.

This award is presented to Joe upon his retirement after 25 years in health care in Wisconsin. Joe was a founding member of Prevea Health Services Inc., the primary and specialty health care organization of physicians and hospitals that is a prater to both St. Vincent and St. Mary's hospitals. He worked to establish the regional reputation of St. Vincent Hospital as a center for excellence in northeast Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Joe has been actively involved with the Wisconsin Hospital Association, serving on the board of directors, including his role as chair in 1986. He served many years on the WHA Foundation Board and was chair in 2006; and he was an active member of many councils, including the Public Policy Council and Council on Finance and Payment.



Glen Grady

The Wisconsin Hospital Association is pleased to present a special Lifetime Achievement Award to Glen Grady, administrator and CEO of Memorial Medical Center in Neillsville.

Glen is scheduled to retirement after almost 30 years in health care in Wisconsin. Glen has taken Memorial Medical Center into the future by bringing in a new computer system, making building improvements, clinic remodeling, and the implementation of a home health program.

Glen has been actively involved with the Wisconsin Hospital Association, serving on the Board from 1994-1999. He has served on many councils, including the Council on Rural Health, Council on Public Policy, and the Council on Finance and Payment. He has been a WHA Financial Solutions board member since 2000 and is the current chair.

Glen has served on the State of Wisconsin – Board of Health Care Information and the Health Care Finance Administration. He is a Wisconsin Health Cooperative board member, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative board member, HMO of Wisconsin board member, Greater Marshfield Community Health Plan Policy board member, Wisconsin Health Care Association board member, Wisconsin Society of CPA's board member and Clark Co. Health Systems Forum member.

"He has built a solid foundation on which we will continue his example of strong leadership."

