



Member Newsletter

March/April 2010

Northeast Arkansas SHRM Chapter – P.O. Box 16476, Jonesboro, AR 72403

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Hot off the Press

The member meeting for April, 2010 has been cancelled due to the ARSHRM State Conference April 14th – 16th



Letter from the President

By Allen Devereux

Dear NEASHRM members:

The first quarter of the year has already come to a close. When 2009 was coming to a close, we all shifted some of our focus forward to 2010 and what the upcoming year would bring for our organizations and our field. There was a promise of challenges on the legal front as regulation changes were being discussed to tighten areas that contributed to the economic crisis. That challenge is still present as topics like Health Care Reform reach their climax. There was record breaking unemployment as well as the daily whirlwind of challenges that come in HR and management. Those challenges still remain in this first half of 2010. But there was also hope. Hope of an uptick in the economy and we have begun to see some evidence of that as some of the lead economic indicators rise (modest increases in stocks, retail sales, and a few other areas). There is hope that this slow, steady rise will continue.

We all know it will not be an immediate or instant recovery. But what department or group is better positioned to add value during this recovery effort? The resilience and efforts of the people that make up a company will be what ultimately determines how well that company recovers. Leveraging ideas that will reduce threats and capitalize on opportunities will be critical to a company's improvement efforts. Again, I say what department is better suited or positioned to help in the area of leading and managing people than Human Resources?

NEASHRM will continue its commitment to offer you, the HR professional, resources that can better equip you to help your companies and your people face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. The Mac Fulfer seminar that we had this month was one of those tools that can help managers better understand and communicate with their people; and more than 108 professionals in our community responded by attending this event. The upcoming ARSHRM State Conference in Fort Smith also promises topics and dynamic speakers to help equip the members who attend.

I would like to finish this newsletter article with a quote and a request:

"The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew." – Abraham Lincoln

The occasion is still piled high with difficulty, and my request is that you please let the NEASHRM Board know if programs, website and other tools are helping you and your organizations think and act anew to continue to overcome these challenges. If there is a way we can better serve you the local professional and advance the profession, please email us at neashrm@gmail.com. Thank you!

2010 Chapter Meetings

April – No Meeting

State Conference in Fort Smith
4/14 – 4/16

May 11th

Meeting – 3:30p – 5:00p
Workforce Training Ctr (Krueger Dr)
Presentation & Tour of WTC

June 8th

Meeting – 3:30p – 5:00p
Delta Center (Krueger Dr)
Employee Issues in the
Internet Age

July 13th

Meeting – 3:30p – 5:00p
Delta Center (Krueger Dr)
Diversity Topic

August 10th

Supervisor Conference
Time and Location TBD
Front Line Supervisor Seminar

September 14th

Meeting – 3:30p – 5:00p
Delta Center (Krueger Dr)
Putting a Smile on your
CFO's Face

October 12th

Seminar/Special Event
Time and Location TBD
Mock Trial

November 9th

Meeting – 3:30p – 5:00p
Delta Center (Krueger Dr)
HR Roundtable

December 14th

SHRM Recognition Social
Delta Center (Krueger Dr)

On behalf of NEASHRM,
we would like to thank
Charles Appleby
and the
Delta Center for allowing
us to use their facilities for
our meetings.

SHRM Foundation

By **Melissa Coles**

The SHRM Foundation is the 501(c) (3) non-profit affiliate of SHRM. A leading funder of HR research grants, the Foundation produces publications and educational resources to advance the HR profession.

Our work is made possible by your generous tax-deductible donations. This year we will be offering a different fund raiser at each meeting beginning in March, so make sure you have a few dollars on you, you never know what we might be drawing for!

For more information on the SHRM Foundation, please contact:

Melissa Coles

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2010 Conferences



**Start Your Engines for the
2010 Arkansas State
Human Resource
Conference and Expo
April 14th - 16th
in Ft. Smith, Arkansas**

62nd SHRM Annual
Conference &
Exposition



**June 27 – 30th, 2010
Former Vice President Al Gore
is the Featured Speaker**

**September 29-30, 2010
Embassy Suites
Little Rock, Arkansas**



Volunteers Needed

By Lori Smith

If you lose your job SHRM and NEASHRM want to help. Both NEASHRM and SHRM have resources available to waive your fees if you find yourself unemployed. For more information, contact your VP of Membership, Melinda West at melinda.west@staffmark.com

The Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce is holding their annual Business Expo event on April 22nd. This is a great opportunity for us to make new contacts that are either potential: NEASHRM members, attendees at our seminars or seminar sponsors. Last year, we had a booth at this event. However, the people we want to meet often don't have time to go around and visit each booth. So instead, we are looking for volunteers to go around to the different booths and visit with business owners, human resource staff and managers.

If you would be interested in working either a 1 or 2 hour shift at Business Expo, please let us know by sending an email to neashrm@gmail.com. We will have a 1 page brochure prepared for you to hand to interested people that describes who we are and what we offer. We know many of you attend this event already as a representative of your own company. If that is the case, we just need you to wear "two hats" while you are there. AS HR professionals, you are already great at that!

Needing to post a job but you don't have money in your budget to spend funds on advertising?

NO WORRIES!!!

All jobs posted by our members on the NEASHRM website are **FREE!!!!**

To take advantage of this free posting opportunity, please send an email with a brief description of the position to:
neashrm@gmail.com

Healthcare Reform

Interested in learning more about Healthcare Reform? The SHRM website has a special section dedicated to resources for Healthcare Reform. For useful tools such as articles, videos and webcasts please visit the Healthcare Reform resource page at:
<http://www.shrm.org/hrdisciplines/benefits/Articles/Pages/HealthCareReform.aspx>

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit.
~ Aristotle ~

2010 Chapter Officers

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Thank you to everyone who attended our seminar in March presented by Mac Fulfer.

We would also like to extend a thank you to ASU and Farm Credit Midsouth for sponsoring our seminar.

If your company/organization is interested in sponsoring a seminar in the future, please contact Misty Carr, our President-Elect at misty.carr@danahertool.com