

From: [Betty Whitaker, AMCP](#)
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Subject: AMCP Great Plains Affiliate Newsletter - April 2021
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[AMCP Great Plains Newsletter.](#)



Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Great Plains Affiliate Newsletter

April 2021

Message from the Secretary

I would like to take a little space in my last newsletter to the members of the Great Plains Affiliate (GPA) to reflect over the past two years. Shortly after the AMCP Annal Meeting in 2019 I was contacted by our now immediate past-president, Jim Baumann, about establishing a regional AMCP affiliate. He brought together a number of representatives from the states that make up the vast expanses of the geographical Great Plains to talk about creating a way for AMCP members to connect in between the national meetings; forming an affiliate chapter.

I have known Jim for more years than either of us would like to admit, starting during our days at the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. Over the passing years our professional paths have crossed regularly through my various careers in health-systems pharmacy, Medicare quality improvement and now managed care. Through those years Jim has been...well let's say an industry survivor, starting with Upjohn and through the various evolutions, mergers and acquisitions to now Pfizer. Throughout this journey Jim has always been a tireless advocate for pharmacist through his leadership roles in state professional associations, regional and national organizations. Looking back over the past two years from the planning stages through the first year of operation, this has been a rewarding experience. Not only have we made it through the first full year of operation but also a year complicated by a worldwide pandemic. These complications did not stifle Jim's enthusiasm to continue the work of the AMCP and the Great Plains Affiliate. So now as I move from the GPA leadership board, I want to thank Jim for his vision, leadership and his invitation to join him in this endeavor. I also want to encourage other AMCP members residing in the Great Plains region to answer when your organization calls for your assistance to make this organization stronger through your participation.

Sincerely,
Ken Mishler

Great Plains Affiliate Virtual Meeting During AMCP Annual Meeting

The AMCP Virtual Annual Meeting is just around the corner. The Great Plain Affiliate Chapter will be conducting a virtual chapter meeting on Thursday 15th at 9:00am EDS (8:00 CDT). Newly elected PGA leadership will be introduced. Please join the chapter leadership to for a briefing on past, current and future activities.

Virtual Education Program – Save the Date

The GPA is planning our next virtual education program. Put 6:00 PM, Tuesday May 4th on your calendar for a GPA chapter update and CE program. The topic will focus on the expanding role of managed care pharmacist in influenza prevention. The presenter will be Ameen Pirasteh, PharmD, the Antimicrobial Stewardship and Infectious Disease Pharmacist at Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida. This program is provided through an educational grant from Pharmacy Times Continuing Education (PTCE). Click on the link below to learn more and register for the event.

[The Expanding Therapy Landscape for Influenza Prevention and Treatment: Managed Care Considerations – 1444841 \(webcasts.com\)](#)

Pharmacy Student Virtual Mentors Needed

The current pandemic situation has impacted everyone and provided limited opportunities for managed care pharmacists and pharmacy students to interact through meetings and social events. In an effort to provide opportunities for students to learn more about what managed care pharmacy is all about the **AMCP Great Plains Affiliate Virtual Mentoring Program** is a new program that will allow pharmacy students in the following six states (IA, KS, MO, ND, NE, SD) to connect and interact with professionals working in managed care and the pharmaceutical industry. This program will be an opportunity for pharmacy students to ask questions, gain feedback, and develop new skills while networking with managed care professionals. The AMCP Great Plains Affiliate has created a sign-up sheet for members to volunteer to be a mentor for pharmacy students in the area or their respective state. Please take this opportunity to make a difference in the professional life of a pharmacy student, consider being a virtual mentor. [Click the following link](#) to become a mentor and give back to the pharmacy students in your state.

Interest in Government Affairs in Your State? Be a State Advocacy Leader

State Advocacy Leaders are on the front lines to develop a national grassroots network of AMCP members who monitor state legislation and advocate on behalf of AMCP at the state level. The State Advocacy Leaders also encourages AMCP members in their state to respond to AMCP Action Alerts and contact their elected officials on issues that impact the profession. Some of the activities this role is responsible for include:

- Develop “grasstops” relations with state legislators
- Participate in grassroots advocacy campaigns and report actions
- Encourage other AMCP members to engage in grassroots campaigns and report actions
Campaigns may take several different forms such as email, social medial and phone calls
- Occasionally present on AMCP advocacy issues
Affiliate meetings and days of education
Student chapters when possible

AMCP’s goal is to have at least one State Advocacy Leader in each state. If you have an interest in

working with AMCP's Government Affairs personnel [click on the link](#) for more information and to volunteer.

Need to send an e-mail to the Great Plains Affiliate?

The Great Plains AMCP Affiliate now has a monitored [email address](#) to facilitate communication between you and the Great Plains Leadership Team: Greatplainsamcp@gmail.org

Please feel free to share ideas, newsworthy items to share with other Great Plains members through our newsletter and ask questions of our leadership team. I would encourage you to tag this email address so it does not get sent to junk or spam mail. Look forward in hearing from you!

The Great Plains Affiliate (GPA) was formed in October of 2019 to serve the local members of AMCP in the states of Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, and North Dakota. The GPA will provide two-way communications with AMCP, will provide information and publications that promote the profession of managed care pharmacy, offer opportunities for live and virtual accredited continuing education (CE) and support the advocacy activities of AMCP.

Important Links:

- [AMCP GPA website](#)
- Join the Great Plains LinkedIn Site Group. SIGN UP NOW:
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12372019/>

Great Plains AMCP
www.amcp.org/great-plains-amcp

AMCP | 675 North Washington Street, Suite 220 | Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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