



## President's Message

“Nobody can really guarantee the future. The best we can do is size up the chances, calculate the risks involved, estimate our ability to deal with them and make our plans with confidence.”

Henry Ford II

Those folks who know me are aware that I like to start a meeting, board report etc. with a thought or quote of the day. I thought this was appropriate regarding our current state of the healthcare universe.

The National HFMA theme for FY 2018 is “Where Passion Meets Purpose” as chosen by Carol Friesen, our current National Chair of the HFMA Board of Directors. “It’s where the magic happens, where goals are achieved, and where the impossible becomes possible. Requires us to be present, innovative, and grateful – and to never forget “why” we do “what” we do.”

My local theme for the Az Chapter is “Rock and Roll.” I initially came up with this idea as I am an avid music memorabilia collector and enjoy listening to classic rock such as Van Halen, AC/DC and Def Leppard. Back in the day, when I did have hair, hair bands were a staple of my record collection. But, as I pondered the current healthcare climate, I believe we will all need to Rock and Roll in this space as well to survive. We are all aware that we, in healthcare, love acronyms. I will be aging myself, but I remember starting out in healthcare finance and being introduced to HCFA, DRGs, AHCCCS, PMPM, HMO, PPO and a myriad of others. Today we have the CMS, ACA, AHCA, BCRA, P4P, and Triple AIM among others. As I am preparing this message, congress is currently still up in the air about the “repeal and replace” healthcare proposals on the table. As various leaders around Arizona have commented, some of the plans on the table could potentially endanger approximately 400,000 AHCCCS/Medicaid enrollees. Gov. Doug Ducey has even said that Arizona would be penalized unfairly by being an “early expander”. It will be interesting to see how this all plays out. Wherever we end up, a new set of challenges will be on the horizon.

I am honored and excited to be your President for FY 2018. I have enjoyed being a part of the leadership team and look forward to a fabulous year. It wasn't that many years ago that Connie Perez suggested to Greg Wojtal, both who are Past Presidents, that he reach out to me about joining the board. Serving as a volunteer with HFMA has been a highlight of my professional career. As may be discussed in another section of this newsletter, we have created the role of Volunteer Coordinator. Mike Kennedy, a Past President, has graciously accepted this role. Please reach out to Mike if you would like to volunteer to be on a committee, assist with volunteering at conferences or any other activity. We will only be as successful as our volunteers allow.

Annual National Institute is an opportunity to celebrate the success of individual chapters over the past fiscal year. Arizona was awarded four chapter and two multi-chapter Yerger awards for special recognition. We also won a Silver Award for Education and Bronze Awards for both Certification and Membership. We also took home a Hottum Award for Educational Performance Improvement. Congratulations to all those involved in the

hard work that it took to achieve these honors! Past President Ryan Reiff and the Executive Team definitely set the bar even higher for this year!

We came oh-so-close to winning the Shelton Award, which recognizes a chapter's drive for continuous improvement over the course of five years. It would have been great to win this award, but our main goal for each year is to provide excellent educational and networking opportunities. Maybe FY 2018 will be the year! We are looking forward to our annual Fall Conference in October in Tucson and the Region 10/11 Western Symposium in January in Las Vegas. Bart Shea and his Program/Education committee are working on one-day events in various locations throughout the state such as a possible road show with The Hertel Report's State of the State meetings and partnering with AzHIMA and AzMGMA.

In closing, the current state of flux in the healthcare reimbursement space will have us navigating the "Hysteria" that will occur, to "Jump" through hoops and get us closer to "Back in Black!" It will take some good time "Rockin and Rollin" to move us all forward!

Trivia: Which 1980's rock band had a one-armed drummer and what is his name? The first non-Az HFMA Board Member and non-Past President who gets back to me with the correct answers will receive a \$25 gift card from me.