To: Member Hospital CEOs

From: Laura J. Redoutey, FACHE   *Laura*
           President

Date: June 30, 2008

Subject: Awards for NHA Annual Convention

It is time again to submit nominations for the awards given at the NHA Annual Convention. This year in addition to the traditional Caring Kind Award, Excellence in Service and Trustee of the Year awards, the NHA Nominating Committee instituted a new award, the **Meritorious Service Award**, for the purpose of the association to recognize the long-term contributions of members to the association and their individual hospitals. This award is presented in addition to the NHA's highest award of honor, the Excellence in Service Award. The Class V graduates of the NHA Leadership Institute will also be recognized, as well as the Quest for Excellence awards. In addition, there will be a presentation entitled "The Richest Man in Town" by V.J. Smith.

It is my pleasure to request your nominations for these awards to be presented at the NHA Annual Convention on Friday, October 31, 2008, at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel and Convention Center in Lincoln. The Caring Kind Luncheon is always one of the most anticipated events of the year as we recognize outstanding achievement in the award categories.

Caring Kind

Each NHA member hospital may select one recipient to receive the Caring Kind Award and the criteria are up to you. Past recipients have included hospital employees, trustees and volunteers from a wide variety of positions, but they all exemplify the teamwork, dedication and spirit that create a positive work environment and enhance patient care.

The honored employee will join me on the stage at the event to accept their award and have a picture taken. Please register family, friends and co-workers who plan to attend the luncheon through the NHA 2007 Convention Registration Book, which will be distributed in September and available on the NHA Web site at www.nhanet.org.

Excellence in Service

There are many hospital executives who benefit their communities through their commitment to health care excellence. The Nebraska Hospital Association has created the Excellence in Service award to recognize one hospital executive who has demonstrated outstanding administrative skills, professional performance, health care organization involvement and leadership.

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A review committee will select the Excellence in Service recipient from the submitted nominations. Thank you for taking time to recognize someone who promotes excellence in health care and in your community.

Meritorious Service Award

The NHA Nominating Committee has initiated the Meritorious Service Award to recognize the long-term contributions of members to the association and their individual hospitals. This award recognizes longevity and breadth of service of an individual, not only to their facility, but to health care in the state. Nominees must be currently employed by a NHA member hospital or have retired from a NHA member hospital within one calendar year or less.

Trustee of the Year

This award recognizes outstanding leadership and hospital governance by a trustee. The recipient encourages commitment to excellence in health care and collaborates with community leaders to build support for their hospital. See the nomination form for more detailed criteria for this prestigious award. A review committee will select the Trustee of the Year recipient from the submitted nominations.

Nominations

Once you have completed the enclosed nomination forms for the Caring Kind Award, Excellence in Service Award, Meritorious Service Award, and Trustee of the Year Award, please return the forms by **August 15, 2008**, by either mail or fax to:

> Heather Bullock
> Marketing and Events Coordinator
> Nebraska Hospital Association
> 3255 Salt Creek Circle, Suite 100
> Lincoln, NE 68504
> Fax: (402) 742-8191

If you have questions about the Caring Kind Awards Luncheon, please contact Heather Bullock at 402/742-8148 or hbullock@nhanet.org. I look forward to seeing you at convention!

Enclosures