



Blackhawk Human Resource Association

March 2005
Newsletter



**Serve the
Professional,
Advance the
Profession**



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MEMBERSHIP OF



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Message from the President

BHRA hosted our annual “Breakfast with our Legislators” on Friday, February 11. The session was very well attended and a great opportunity to meet and speak with area legislators. We are pleased that the following area legislators participated in this year’s session: US Congressman Paul Ryan, State Senator Judy Robson, State Representative Chuck Benedict, State Representative Mike Sheridan, State Representative Debi Towns, and Katie Crawley representing US Senator Russ Feingold. The topics discussed included the proposed change in Wisconsin’s Minimum Wage, the Grow Wisconsin jobs initiative, the proposed revision of Social Security, and issues with the current Family Medical Leave Act requirements. Kelly Hendee, BHRA Legislative Chair, facilitated the interactive session. We are hopeful to continue our discussion of these issues with area legislators to bring about meaningful change to government regulations.

The Board is currently working on the details for a wage & benefit survey. We are seeking to collaborate with Forward Janesville and the Beloit Chamber of Commerce on this project. We are hoping to announce more details very soon. In addition, we are evaluating options for a summer fun day. Let us know if you have any suggestions. Stay tuned for more information.

The Annual Seminar is planned for March 31. The agenda has been sent out and we are receiving registrations. For more information, please visit the BHRA website at www.bhraonline.org or contact Lesa Crawford at lac@ssitech.com. Join us for this excellent professional development opportunity.

Our next meeting is the HR Games & Sponsor a Student Night on Tuesday, March 8, 2005. The meeting will be at the Best Western in Janesville, we will begin with a social period at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner & program to start at 6:00 p.m. Please consider sponsoring a student from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater to join us for a fun and informative evening.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events!

Brian Gohlke, SPHR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2004-2005

President:	Brian Gohlke, Director of HR, Blackhawk Technical College
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MEETING SCHEDULE FOR BHRA 2004/2005 SEASON

Meeting Date	Time	Location	Speaker	Topic
March 8th	Dinner	Alfresco	None	HR Games / Sponsor a Student Night
April 12th	Lunch	Rock County Job Center	Rick Paraino, The Resource Network	Creating Cultures of Excellence
May 10th	Dinner	Dominico's	Milton Perkins, MHRM, SPHR	The Value of Human Capital: Understanding Cultural Nuances

MARCH DINNER MEETING

HR Games & Sponsor-a-Student Night--- Join us on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at the Best Western (3900 Milton Ave, Janesville) for hors d'oeuvres and drinks at this fun and interactive event! This is a chance to test and showcase your HR knowledge, network and learn from your peers and current college students, and even see if you might be ready to sit for your PHR/SPHR certification. Sponsor a student for \$12, be paired up with them for the evening, give them some invaluable real-life HR insight, and learn something from them too. Prizes for the winning team! To RSVP, contact Amy Parkhurst at (608) 754-2710, ext. 1279 or parkham@freedomplastics.com

HR HAPPY HOUR- Won't you join us?

Come and join your HR friends for some informal networking time and unwind from that long day of problem solving! HR Happy Hour will normally be held on the last Thursday of each month. You don't need to sign up in advance. We will send a global email a few days before the gathering as a friendly reminder, and also to verify the location. To best accommodate all of our members, we will rotate between Janesville and Beloit locations. The next event will be held on **Thursday, March 31st** from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm. at a location to be announced in the Beloit area. For more information, contact Jackie Swanson or Jennifer Anderson.

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We're on the Web!
www.bhraonline.org

Wisconsin SHRM
www.wishrm.org

National SHRM
www.shrm.org

HR Certification
Institute
www.hrci.org

HR Voice
[http://www.shrm.org/gove
rment/hrvoice](http://www.shrm.org/governments/hrvoice)

BHRA ANNUAL SEMINAR

Don't forget to reserve Thursday, March 31st for the 2005 BHRA Seminar which is scheduled to be held at the Rock County Job Center. Options are available for attending the full day - \$60, AM Session only including lunch - \$40, or PM session only including lunch - \$40. Once again we will have 4 separate topical speakers, including a motivational speaker for the last session in the afternoon.

Something new this year- we have invited a variety of HR-related vendors to have informational materials available during the one-hour lunch period in a nearby room.

Contact Lesa Crawford at 608-373-2803 if additional questions arise.
Registration available on-line at <http://www.stayinvolved.com/splash/bhra.htm>.

FOUNDATION ARTICLE

Your Foundation at Work: Regional Scholarships

Did you know... The **SHRM Foundation** provides \$30,000 annually to fund the Regional Scholarship Program? The scholarships support SHRM members working full-time and pursuing HR degrees or professional certification. Each of the five SHRM regions receives \$6,000 to award to applicants in their part of the country. SHRM members, chapters and state councils may submit an application to SHRM by May 1 for consideration. Scholarship applications and complete details are available online at www.shrm.org/foundation under "Education Grants and Scholarships."

The SHRM Foundation: *Investing in Your Future as an HR Leader*

March Website Question of the Month

This month's Question of the month is...

What innovative Health / Wellness initiatives do you use to combat the high absenteeism many of us experience this time of year?

Log on to the website at <http://www.stayinvolved.com/splash/bhra.htm>, share your feedback, and see what the survey says...

Humor in the Workplace



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If you know a human resource professional that would be interested in joining our association, please spread the word! We can all benefit from each other's experience!

If you have anything you would like to submit to the BHRA Newsletter, please contact Shannon Moe at the Rock County Job Center at (608) 741-3567, or email s.moe@jobcenter.org.