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**Newport Pharmacist Eric Shoffner Honored for Outstanding Community Service**

**Washington, DC** – The Arkansas Pharmacists Association has selected Eric Shoffner as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Shoffner was presented with the award at the Annual Convention on Thursday, June 12. The award is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations and the American Pharmacists Association with support from Boehringer Ingelheim.

Shoffner has been a preceptor for 11 students and is said to challenge them daily with relevant projects in a real world pharmacy to aid in building their involvement and knowledge. His mentoring efforts have led to presentations to various civic groups as he sets an example for his students of a lifelong mission of service to others. He is viewed in the community of Newport as influential in the area of prescription drug abuse and what it does to his community. In 2013 he assembled a county-wide forum on drug abuse and organized a summit at Harris Hospital in Newport for police, prosecutors, physicians, pharmacists and public servants. Shoffner has served as a volunteer on the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Prescription Drug Take Back Campaign, an Arkansas Continuing Pharmacy Education speaker on drug abuse and member of the Arkansas Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, and a member of the Jackson County Medical Society, National Association of Chain Drug Stores, and National Community Pharmacists Association. He has served as a preceptor and mentor at both UAMS and Harding University Colleges of Pharmacy, and as an adult Bible class teacher.

Established in 1958, the Bowl of Hygeia Award recognizes pharmacists who possess outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities and encourages pharmacists to take active roles in the affairs of their respective communities. The award is presented annually by participating state pharmacist associations, including those in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition to service through their local, state and national pharmacy associations, award recipients have devoted their time, talent and resources to a wide variety of causes and community service.

The Bowl of Hygeia is the most widely recognized international symbol for the pharmacy profession and is considered one of the profession's most prestigious awards. The Bowl of Hygeia has been associated with the pharmacy profession since as early as 1796 when the symbol was used on a coin minted for the Parisian Society of Pharmacy. The bowl represents a medicinal potion and the snake represents healing. Healing through medicine is precisely why the pharmacy profession has adopted the Bowl of Hygeia symbol.

Information regarding contributing to the Bowl of Hygeia future is available by contacting the APhA Foundation at 202-429-7565 or [info@aphafoundation.org](mailto:info@aphafoundation.org).

**About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation**

The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., is a trusted source of research demonstrating how pharmacists can improve health care. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve people's health through pharmacists' patient care services. The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website [www.aphafoundation.org](http://www.aphafoundation.org). Follow the APhA Foundation on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest updates.

**About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations**

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among pharmacy leaders in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and provides education and advocacy to support pharmacists, patients, and communities working together to improve public health. NASPA was founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives (NCSPA). For more information, please visit the NASPA Web site [www.naspa.us](http://www.naspa.us).