

## Meet the new VHA General Manager



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new General Manager for VHA. I am originally from Moorhead, MN, graduated from Concordia College – Moorhead with a degree in Hospital Administration. My experience includes 16 years in Nursing Home Administration and 10 years in pharmacy management at the local and regional levels. My wife, Anita, and I have 5 kids who are all amazing. I am an avid hunter, especially pheasants out in western North Dakota, a golfer and an avid runner.

Now on with business. I am completing my first month at VHA and have had the opportunity to visit about 50 member clinics. By either accompanying drivers on their routes or riding with our Member Service Consultants visiting clinic and meeting members will continue to be a priority. By finding out your challenges on a daily basis will help assist VHA in finding solutions and | opportunities. In addition, my time has been immersed into the operations of VHA to find internal process improvements that will ultimately serve you best. I have been very impressed with everyone I have come in contact with both members and staff. Overall, it has been a great first month and it is exciting to envision VHA's future and to be a part of that.

Group purchasing will continue to be a major focus by securing the best possible pricing and wide range of products and services we can provide you. Your support is needed and will allow us to continue to pursue additional opportunities to manage the most profitable operations possible. I welcome your thoughts and ideas for VHA and any opportunity to talk to you in person. Feel free to email me at [jbenson@veterinaryha.org](mailto:jbenson@veterinaryha.org) or call me at 651.287.3338 (office) or 612.801.0437 (cell). I look forward to meeting everyone on my travels or at our upcoming events such as the Expo on October 20th and the Annual Meeting on November 10th. Until then, I wish everyone continued success.