



BLFIRE18 • NOVEMBER 10, 2025 • ATTEND • DONATE • SPONSOR

April 21, 2025 • No. 24

for the Bellwether Community

REMEMBER

What's happening with the Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Hall of Fame™

The Board of Directors (BOD) and Advisory Council (AC) are working on these key projects:

- Last edition, we announced the 18th annual Bellwether League Foundation Induction & Recognition Event (**BLFIRE18**) at a new date (**Monday, November 10, 2025**) and location (**Wayne State University in Detroit**). As promised in this edition, we explain why we're tapping the brakes slightly and swerving from historical tradition. During a discussion with Stanford Medicine's Amanda Chawla, FACHE, CMRP, Ammer Honoree Class of 2024 and current AHRMM Board Chair, BLF Chairman Barbara Strain, Bellwether Class of 2021, and BLF Co-Founder Rick Barlow shared the history of the organization's Fall event and that since inception BLF historically scheduled it during the start of National Healthcare Supply Chain Management Week as a long-standing tribute to the profession. Chawla astutely replied that such a decision requires supply chain executives to leave their organizations and travel to the event, so why would we take them away from their colleagues who want to recognize and honor them during their special week? Cue up the sound bite of the scratching vinyl record on the turntable: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQrCNnSnsiM>. Now you know why we made the change. We listen.
- Register for BLFIRE18 using the gold button on the front page of the website. Please donate using another designated gold button on that page as well!
- Because BLFIRE18 happens on the eve of Veterans Day, we'd like to salute our veterans one more time by asking those with military experience to share the following with us directly:
 - Branch served:
 - Years served:
 - Highest rank at honorable discharge/retirement:
 - How/what does military experience contribute to the healthcare supply chain?
 - How did your military experience contribute to your career in healthcare supply chain?

We will recognize our veterans in attendance at BLFIRE18 and in the digital pages of *Leaders & Luminaries* Edition 8 so please email your responses to Rick Barlow at rickdanabarlow@bellwetherleague.org.

- The Nominating Committee and the Pioneer Subcommittee have been diligently working to assess nominations for the Bellwether, Ammer Honoree and Future Famer Classes of 2025. Look for the fruits of their labors to be released starting next month with the announcement of the Future Famer Class of 2025, followed by the Ammer Honoree Class of 2025 in late June and the Bellwether Class of 2025 in late July. We invite the Bellwether Community to start nominating candidates for the 2026 classes! It's never too early, and the deadline seems to arrive quickly!
- BLF offers heartfelt congratulations to Randy Bradley, Ph.D., our inaugural Ammer Honoree in 2020, for graduating from his vaunted position as Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management and Information Systems at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, to becoming the Dean of the Jack C. Massey College of Business at Belmont University, Nashville, TN, beginning this fall for the 2025-2026 school year. For more information, click here: <https://www.belmont.edu/stories/articles/2025/andy-v-bradley-massey-dean.html>. Be sure to click on BLF's video page for watch Dr. Bradley's captivating keynote last year at BLFIRE17 at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (starting at about the 18-minute mark): <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/sliders/videos.php>. If you'd like some entrepreneurial insights into Jack Massey, check out Rick Barlow's September 2024 Vintage Voice column here: <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/pdf/vv-explore-embrace-ahrmmpreneurial-spirit-september-2024-final.pdf>.
- You may have spotted on BLF's LinkedIn page photographic evidence of various Bellwether Community members in action appearing at conferences and trade shows. We're making a concerted effort to promote such participation that not only highlights BLF and the professionals seen but also the organizations at which they appear – whether leading, speaking or simply attending. In this industry, it's all about participation. If you are attending or otherwise participating in any event, send us a photo and we'll share it with everyone. It will demonstrate your support for the profession and industry as well as your association with BLF.
- To date, the following 13 Sustaining Sponsors have renewed with us for another year. They are Founding+ Vizient; Founding Premier; Platinum+ GHX; Platinums Northwestern and Wingfoot Media; Gold LogicSource; Silvers Capstone Health Alliance, Mayo Clinic and St. Onge Co.; Bronze+s Allina Health and BJC HealthCare; and Bronzes Atrium Health and Texas Health Resources. Those designated at the "+" level also donated \$1,000 each to BLF's scholarship fund for 2025. We thank them for their continued generosity and their appreciation of supply chain educational efforts. If you would like to "uplevel" your organization or to donate to or sponsor the Collegiate Capstone Project and/or scholarship fund, email BLF HQ at rickdanabarlow@bellwetherleague.org.
- If you would like to volunteer to participate in our **"BLF Goes Back to School"** panel discussions, sharing relevant and useful information about provider-based healthcare supply chain management with



Randy V. Bradley, Ph.D., Ammer Honoree of 2020

attending students, email BLF HQ. If you would like to license BLF's **Supply Chain Maturity Assessment Tool (SCMAT)**, which enables healthcare provider organizations to self-evaluate the development and growth of their supply chain operations, email BLF HQ and include "SCMAT" in the subject line.

- **Opening:** We continue to accept applications BLF's 2025 educational scholarships. Click <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/scholarships.php> for access to applications for the **Jamie C. Kowalski Scholarship**; the **Lillian R. Matiska Scholarship** and the **Robert A. Simpson Scholarship**. Please promote this opportunity among your student interns and fellow professionals. College students earning a degree or certificate in supply chain and supply chain professionals earning certification and additional training and development are eligible. **Deadline: July 1, 2025.**
- **Learning:** Visit BLF's "Leaders & Luminaries" page (<https://www.bellwetherleague.org/leaders-luminaries.php>) for all the printed and audio-visual content developed and produced by BLF. In fact, as the current television season prepares to conclude and head into reruns, tune into BLF for something absolutely fresh and new. Check out Fireside Chat – Episode 2, "Comparing Healthcare Capabilities to Outside Industries." It's live now!
- **Sharing:** Visit BLF's LinkedIn page at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bellwether-league/>. Connect with others to learn about BLF and share insights with industry thought leaders, pioneers, mentors, innovators, influencers and executives! Ryan Burke, BLF Marketing Committee Chair, plugs you in.
- **Spreading the word:** If you've earned the privilege to be called a Bellwether Honoree, Ammer Honoree or Future Famer you should be sharing and showing that honor to the world. *Wear your lapel pin.* Tell everyone! Include your status symbol in your bio, CV, email and letter signature lines and PowerPoint presentations. Spread. The. Word!
- **PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO BELLWETHER LEAGUE FOUNDATION IN 2025 OR BECOMING A SUSTAINING SPONSOR!** Your donation or sustaining sponsorship helps to educate, honor, inform and research healthcare supply chain performance excellence. *BLF is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, so donations are tax-deductible.*

Promote your healthcare supply chain thought leadership and vision

Become a Sustaining, Event or Program Sponsor or donate! Opportunities include:

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| • Bellwether Leadership Symposium | • Beacon Awards (e.g., crystal lighthouses) |
| • <i>Leaders & Luminaries</i> multimedia content | • BLFIRE Videography |
| • Hall of Fame VIP Reception | • BLFIRE Event Program |
| • Hall of Fame Photography Session | • Collegiate Capstone Projects |
| • REMEMBER e-newsletter | • Philanthropic grants and dedicated scholarships |

Join our team to honor exceptional people doing extraordinary things, and also to recognize and grow your customer base.

Visit www.bellwetherleague.org and contact Bellwether League Foundation headquarters via telephone at (847) 466-7425 or email at rickdanabarlow@bellwetherleague.org.