

Alabama Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

ACP
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

Winter 2003

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Governor, Alabama Chapter



ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2004

It is not too early to mark your calendar for the state meeting next summer. We are back on the first weekend in **June (4th and 5th)** at the **Perdido Beach Resort**. Because of the date last summer, attendance was off a tad, but we still had a pretty good turnout, with 107 in attendance. The program, put together by Craig Hoesley, included presentations on adult immunization, dangers of radiological screening, the hospitalist movement, hypertension in the elderly, stroke prevention and helping patients with terminal illness.

Craig is putting the final touches on the meeting for next summer. You will get the details early next year.

LITERATURE AND MEDICINE RETREAT

Alabama ACP Literature and Medicine Retreat will again be held at the Legends at Capitol Hill in Prattville the weekend of January 23rd. Each year meeting attendees are assigned a selection of readings including a novel, poetry selection, a play and a collection of short stories. At the weekend retreat, these literary selections are discussed with some guidance provided by an English professor. This year's selections are *Wise Blood* by Flannery O'Connor, *Selected Stories* by Alice Munro, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* by Eugene O'Neil, and *Selected Poems* by Emily Dickinson. Saturday evening the group will watch John Huston's movie, "Wise Blood" and during the weekend there will be an opportunity to view a filmed stage production of a previous year's selection, "A Delicate Balance", by Edward Albee directed by Tony Richardson and starring Lee Remick, Joseph Cotton, Kate Reid, Paul Scofield and Katherine Hepburn.

This retreat has now been held annually for over a decade. Those of us who regularly attend would not miss it for anything. Registration is \$125 per person and covers the meeting itself and lunch on Saturday. If you would like to attend, just complete the registration form in this newsletter and send it to John Bass. If you would like to know more about this event, give me a call at 205-801-8100.

ACP ANNUAL SESSION

ACP Annual Session will be held from **April 22-24, 2004** in **New Orleans**. You can register and obtain hotel information online by going to the ACP home page - **www.acponline.org**. Life members and medical students are not charged a registration fee. Residents pay \$195. All of other members pay \$495 until February 12, 2004. You may also wish to come early and take advantage of the Pre-Session courses offered on April 20 and 21. The Annual Session coincides with the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival so if you plan to go, make your reservations early.



LEADERSHIP DAY 2004

The College's Annual Leadership Day will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2004. This one-day event is part of the College's effort to promote interests of internists and their patients with Congress. The program includes advocacy training and a chance to meet with our members of Congress and an update on the College's priority legislative issues. It is a great opportunity to see how Washington works.

Any Alabama Chapter member wishing to participate should contact me. To learn more now about the College's advocacy initiatives logon to:

www.acponline.org.

PHIL HEMSTREET TO HEAD COUNCIL OF ASSOCIATES

Congratulations to Phil Hemstreet, MD, who has been elected Chairman of the Council of Associates (COA). Council represents residents and fellows at the College. Issues of concern to the COA include fellowship application reform, the ACGME Resident Work Hour Guidelines and promotion of Internal Medicine careers among medical students. Phil is currently a Cardiology fellow at Texas Heart Institute and plans to return and practice in Alabama. He can be contacted at Bamaheartdoc@yahoo.com.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW FELLOWS

The following Alabama Chapter members were elected to fellowship this year:

Mohamad Eloubeidi, MD	Birmingham
Eric Gershman, MD	Mobile
Jean Glossa, MD	Mobile
Robert McBryde, MD	Montgomery
John Morrow, Jr., MD	Mobile
John Nwogu, MBBS	Anniston

Remember there are four Pathways for advancement to fellowship. In addition to the basic requirements of board certification, two years of ACP membership and professional activities, members can choose one or combine parts of two pathways.

Pathway 1: Skill in written medical communication.

Pathway 2: Scholarly activity such as continuing certification activities, teaching, MKSAP for score, subspecialty certification, recertification, and community activities.

Pathway 3: Active membership for 10 years with participation in ACP programs.

Pathway 4: Distinguished professional activity in teaching, patient care or professional service over many years.

If you would like to advance to fellowship or would like to recommend someone for advancement, please get in touch with me at **205-801-8270** or e-mail jbonner@uab.edu.

PINK FOLMAR NEW PRESIDENT ALABAMA ACP HEALTH SERVICES

Alabama ACP Health Services is a non-profit organization associated with the Alabama ACP Chapter. The AACPHS seeks to promote the interests of practicing internists on issues of health policy at both the State and national level. Since its inception, this organization has been headed by **Dick Esham** who has been a staunch advocate for internal medicine throughout his career. Dick has now stepped aside to be replaced by **Pink Folmar** who will be president. **Ross Vaughn** will be vice president. Health Services is interested in healthcare delivery, the insurance industry, continuing medical education, technology, physician work force, public health, and federal and state legislation impacting the practice of internal medicine. Health Services maintains an active group of key contacts who receive e-mails and written alerts from the Washington office and respond accordingly with timely phone calls and letters to our Congressmen in Washington. If you would like to become a key contact or have issues you would like to bring to the attention of Health Services, please contact **Pink Folmar** at pfolmar@simon-williamson.com or **Ross Vaughn** at rbvaughnmd@comcast.net.



E-MAIL

Chapter Office requests your e-mail address. We would like to communicate electronically as much as possible. Chapter leadership needs input from membership and often there are announcements, particularly on legislative matters, that should be communicated quickly. Your e-mail address will not be shared with other individuals or organizations and will be used only for Chapter business. Since ISPs change frequently, please send an e-mail to us - **cmbrown@uab.edu**.

REGISTRATION FOR THE LITERATURE AND MEDICINE RETREAT

**JANUARY 23, 2004 - JANUARY 25, 2004
THE LEGENDS AT CAPITOL HILL
PRATTVILLE, ALABAMA**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ (Office) _____ (Home)

Enclosed is my registration fee in the amount of _____ \$125/person
_____ \$250/couple

Please make check payable to: **Alabama Chapter ACP**

Mail to:
John B. Bass, Jr., M.D., MACP
2451 Fillingim Street
Attention: Linda Valentine
Mastin Building, Suite 400A
Mobile, AL 36617
Ph: 251-471-7900

Room reservations should be made directly with
The Legends at Capitol Hill in Prattville, Alabama (334)290-1235



INTERNET PATIENT EDUCATION

More and more patients are searching the Internet for health information, and the sources that they find are not always the most reliable. For the past year, the American College of Physicians Foundation has been working with ACP members in Iowa and Georgia as well as the National Library of Medicine to develop a pilot project of providing ACP members with tools for referring their patients to the Internet for medical information. Participating physicians report feeling most comfortable with the accuracy and appropriateness of the information on Medline Plus.

I recommend visiting **www.medlineplus.gov**. You might find it helpful to refer your patients to this site which features accurate information on hundreds of health topics including symptoms and diagnoses, treatment, current news stories, research studies, clinical trials, helpful graphics, and even video tutorials. The entire site is also available in Spanish.