



Arkansas ACP Chapter Staff

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Visit the Chapter website at
www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/ar



Governor's Commentary

It has been a busy first few months as Governor of our chapter! Last spring we inducted 5 Fellows and 3 Masters into the College [later in the newsletter] at Internal Medicine 2007 in San Diego. Also in April, we had a successful George Ackerman Reading Retreat at the Red Apple Inn , spearheaded by **Taylor Prewitt** and **Kendall Prewitt**. In October, **Dr. Sara Tariq** and her program planning committee put on a well-attended Fall Scientific Meeting at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock. **Dr. Joel Levine**, Chair of the ACP Board of Regents, served as our College Representative and led enlightening discussions about the future of healthcare delivery and the role of ACP.

I have been working hard with my colleagues at UAMS to strengthen our relationship to our future- the students and residents who will be coming into Internal Medicine, Med-Peds and the Internal Medicine Subspecialties in the coming decade. We have seen an increase in student membership in ACP under the capable leadership of **Dr. Tariq** and are maintaining our strong Associate membership. This past year 37 students, residents, and fellows developed posters which were displayed and judged at UAMS and then displayed for discussion at our fall meeting. **Dr. Allison Johnson** has done a superb job starting the poster competition and we will have a challenge keeping it strong and growing with her departure to Philadelphia this summer.

As I write this, we are in the middle of the primary election season... The future of healthcare in our great country has been an important point of discussion and will continue to be so. I hope that all of you have expressed your opinions with your elected representatives and will continue to do so with any candidates that cross your path! Please either get involved or stay involved!!!

I have had the great pleasure of getting to know and work with many of you over the 19 years I have been training, learning, teaching and practicing in Arkansas. I hope to have the opportunity to meet, greet and talk to the rest of you over the next 3+ years of my Governorship!

Please contact me if you have concerns or issues important to the ACP and to the practice of Internal Medicine in Arkansas.

Bob Hopkins
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March 1 deadline for NPI numbers

CMS has recently reported that 300,000 claims a day are still being submitted without a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number.

Beginning March 1 all Medicare Fee-for-Service 837-P and CMS-1500 claims must use an NPI. If these claims are submitted after March 1 without an NPI they will not be paid.

CMS is urging providers who have not already done so to begin submitting their Medicare claims using their NPI numbers and legacy identifiers. After these claims have been paid they should test the NPI number by sending a small batch of claims using only the NPI number. If these claims are successfully paid providers should begin using only the NPI number.

If you have not already obtained your NPI number you need to do so as soon as possible. Providers can apply for an NPI online [<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>].

[Adapted from ACP Internist 2/5/08]

Arkansas Chapter ACP Awards 2007-2008

Loveland Award: NEA Clinic Charitable Foundation

ACP Master: Taylor Prewitt, MD, MACP William Golden, MD, MACP Peter Kohler, MD, MACP

New Fellows: Curt Hedberg, MD, FACP Tom Cofer, MD, FACP Debra Simmons, MD, FACP
Nauman Yunus, MD, FACP Zaki Samman, MD, FACP Amy Fitzgerald, MD, FACP

Chapter Excellence: Arkansas Chapter [2007]

Abernathy/Laureate Award: Steve Woodruff, MD, FACP

Resident Case Presentation: Gina McNew, MD, ACP Associate

Resident Poster: [tie] Scott Hof, MD, ACP Associate Angelica Haynes, MD, ACP Assoc.

Postgraduate Fellow Poster: Keyur Vyas, MD, ACP Associate

Student Poster: Kendall Wagner

Kudos for Hard work- well done!! [alphabetical]

Bob Bradsher, MD for facilitating our chapter awards for 2007!

Mony Fraer, MD- for serving as chapter treasurer, to keep me 'fiscally sound'!

Ray Hall, MD-for setting a high standard as previous Governor of our chapter!

Allison Johnson, MD for starting the resident poster competition in 2007, and doubling participation into 2008 [37 posters!!]

Rebecca Martin, MD for -once again- facilitating superb resident presentations!

Nicole Parker- for taking on the chapter administrator role and facilitating a first-rate fall meeting!

Taylor Prewitt, MD-for -again- running a great Ackerman Reading Retreat!

Todd Stewart, MD- for participation in the effort to develop a regional health information exchange! And for publication of his first novel!!

Sara Tariq, MD [Chair], **Mony Fraer**, MD, **Debra Simmons**, MD the program committee that facilitated a great fall meeting!

2008 Arkansas Chapter ACP Calendar

- March 29 Arkansas ACP Governor's Council Meeting
Brave New Restaurant, Little Rock, AR
- April 5-6 George Ackerman Reading Retreat 10 hours CME! Red Apple Inn, Heber Springs, AR
Contact: Taylor Prewitt, MD
- May 13-14 ACP Leadership Day, Washington, DC
Meet with legislators re: issues important to IM
Contact: Bob Hopkins, MD
- May 15-17 Internal Medicine 2008, Washington, DC
Premier IM scientific meeting/CME in the world!!
www.acponline.org to register
- October 9 Arkansas ACP Governor's Council Meeting
Springdale, AR [Location TBA]
- October 10-11 Arkansas ACP Fall Scientific Meeting est. 12 hr. CME!
Embassy Suites NW Arkansas Convention Center, [registration information forthcoming]

ACP Awards and Masterships: Nominate your Heroes, Mentors, and Colleagues

The Awards Committee of the American College of Physicians invites your help in recognizing the accomplishments of distinguished individuals and organizations through the College's awards and Masterships. Nominations are now open for the 2008-09 awards cycle, which will end with the College's bestowing eighteen awards and approximately 40 Masterships during the Convocation ceremony at Internal Medicine 2009. These awards recognize outstanding contributions in the practice of medicine, teaching, research, public service, leadership, and medical volunteerism.

The updated Awards and Mastership Booklet contains criteria for the College's honors plus instructions for writing nominating and supporting letters. Please note that a minimum of five detailed supporting letters and a curriculum vitae (or equivalent) with full bibliography are required for nominations to be considered. The deadline for materials is July 1, 2008. In keeping with ACP's Diversity Policy, the Awards Committee requests that nominators consider a wide array of outstanding candidates including women, underserved minorities, other ethnic groups, and international members and colleagues.

Please note that only ACP Fellows may be nominated for Mastership, and that Masterships as well as awards are competitive—that is, the most outstanding are selected by comparison. Both Mastership and awards nominations should be handled confidentially, and individuals should not self-nominate.

For questions and for information about the status of nominations submitted previously, please contact the staff liaison to the Awards Committee, **Martha Cornog**, at mcornog@acponline.org, 800-523-1546, ext. 2696, or direct at 215-351-2696. For printed copies of the Awards and Masterships Booklet, please contact **Meghann Williams**, Coordinator, Awards-Convocation and Diversity, at mewilliams@acponline.org, ext. 2714, or direct at 215-351-2714.



Participate in ACP's Recruit-a-Colleague Program

The American College of Physicians and the Arkansas Chapter encourages its 124,000 members to help strengthen the voice of internal medicine by recommending ACP Membership to colleagues. By becoming ACP Members, your colleagues will enrich their clinical knowledge and skills and have access to the wide variety of professional assistance that you enjoy as part of your membership.

To thank you for your dedication to our organization, ACP offers dues incentives to members who recruit new Members through the Recruit-a-Colleague program. In addition, successful recruiters are entered to win a trip to Internal Medicine 2009 in Philadelphia, PA, that includes registration, airfare (up to \$500), and hotel accommodations. To learn more about the Recruit-a-Colleague program, please visit www.acponline.org/recruitacolleague.

Interested in developing your leadership skills?

ACP has developed a series of sessions leading to a certificate in leadership which will be launched at Internal Medicine 2008. The initial session will be held prior to Leadership day in Washington on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. The course director for the opening session will be **Eric Wallace**, MD, FACP from the Oklahoma Chapter and include an esteemed faculty and leaders with a variety of experiences in the ACP. Course objectives include identifying core competencies and developing communication, team-building, and negotiation skills. Learning will be enhanced by facilitated small group discussions. Register today at http://www.acponline.org/cme/as/2008/emer_lead.htm, call 800-532-1546, ext. 2600, or mail in the Early Bird or Advance Program registration form. (If you register online, be sure to click on the icon in the lower right for member pricing.) Other sessions with leadership themes will be held during Internal Medicine 2008

Chapter Dues

Your chapter dues help to support a variety of efforts in our state- they help support our state meetings: the George Ackerman Reading Retreat held each April and our state Annual Scientific meeting held in October- both of which are superb settings to earn CME and to meet with Internists from around Arkansas and around the nation. They also allow us to help support the student chapter and associates chapter. Dues also allow us to send members to Leadership Day in Washington each spring and to have a reception at ACP's Internal Medicine annual meeting with our Internist colleagues from Missouri and Oklahoma. I am currently working to organize an associate group of postgraduate fellows and a young-physician council and would like to try to meet with member and nonmember internists in the various regions of our state over the next several months. Our annual dues for the state chapter have been \$30 for the past several years and will rise to \$40 for 2008-09. I do not anticipate a further increase for some time afterward. Membership in the Arkansas Chapter remains a bargain- our dues remain less than the national average of other ACP chapters! Beginning with the 2008 dues statement, state chapter dues will be included in the national dues statement as an aggregate amount. This was done to provide chapters with a more secure and predictable source of revenue, so that in partnership with the College's national organization we can achieve essential health care system returns and continue to develop and distribute world-class medical education programs. I hope all of you will continue to support ACP and the Arkansas Chapter financially and with your participation!!

Photo Gallery



Dr. Robert Abernathy, Dr. George Ackerman and Abernathy Award Winner, Dr. Steve Woodruff of NEA Clinic in Jonesboro

New Arkansas ACP Fellows at Convocation: Dr. Zaki Samman, Dr. Nauman Yumus, Dr. Curt Hedberg, Dr. Debra Simmons and Dr. Tom Cofer



New ACP Master Dr. Taylor Prewitt with Mary, Lindsey and Kendall Prewitt after Convocation

Arkansas ACP Governor's Council

Lawson Glover, MD, Little Rock

Steve Johnson, MD, Fayetteville

Mony Fraer, MD, Little Rock

Omar Atiq, MD, Pine Bluff

Clark Fincher, MD, Searcy

Ray Hall, MD, Jonesboro

Steve Woodruff, MD, Jonesboro

Bob Bradsher, MD, Little Rock

Sara Tariq, MD, Little Rock

William Golden, MD, Little Rock

Curt Hedberg, MD, Rogers