

New Hampshire Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

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Governor, New Hampshire Chapter

GOVERNOR'S CORNER...



CONGRATULATIONS TO DANA MERRITHEW, GOVERNOR-ELECT-DESIGNEE. Dr. Merrithew is a graduate of Boston University Medical School and has been an ACP member since 1981 and a Fellow since 1990. He lives in Rumney with his family, where he is in private practice in Long-term Care. He is the part-time Physician Administrator for the New Hampshire Board of Medicine, having previously been on that Board and its Medical Review Subcommittee. He becomes Governor Elect in April '05, and takes over as Governor in '06.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **NEW FELLOWS**: **Dr. Harry Ward** of Nashua and **Dr. Matthew Gultinan** of Keene. Other Fellowship applications are awaiting final approval.

IMG

The IMG (INTERNAL MEDICINE INTEREST GROUP) is off to a great start. This past fall, we hosted a dinner at Jesse's in Lebanon which was attended by about 40 medical students, 10 DHMC/DMS faculty, and 7 community physicians, most being members of the New Hampshire Council. Subsequent IMG meetings, each attended by about 40 students, have included discussion leaders who spoke about community practice of IM and the subspecialty of Infections Disease. The student leadership consists of Pedro Teixeira as President, **Andrea Russo** as Vice President, Sophie Califano as Secretary, and **Chuck McGraw** as Treasurer. The ACP Council continues to support "take-out" meals for their meetings and other special projects.

The **CHAPTER EXCELLENCE AWARD** has been awarded to the New Hampshire Chapter. Current membership statistics include 3 Masters, 271 Members, 92 Fellows, 21 Associates, and 57 Students.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SCIENTIFIC MEETING

The **2004 SCIENTIFIC MEETING** was a great success. It was co-sponsored by the Vermont Chapter and was held at the Trapp Family Lodge on Oct. 30, 2004. The setting was magnificent and the program was evaluated with very high grades. Topics included the Revitalization of Internal Medicine, an Update in Dermatology, along with discussions involving Infectious Diseases, Rheumatology, Pain Management, and Geriatrics. In addition, there was the Associate and Medical Student Clinical and Research Abstract Forum as well as the traditional College Update and Town Meeting.

The **2005 SCIENTIFIC MEETING** will be held at the COURTYARD MARRIOTT, (Grapone Conference Center) in Concord on FRIDAY, OCT. 16th. We are beginning to set up the program for this meeting, and we are open to suggestions for topics and speakers. Feel free to contact Bob Englund Robert.J.Englund@Hitchcock.org with your ideas. We are strengthening our relationship with the faculty at the Department of Medicine at Lebanon and the Associates. We will be inviting speakers from Lebanon and perhaps an expanded Associates program. Mark your calendar.

SAVE DOLLARS ON YOUR ACP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

- Recruit one of your colleagues between October 1, 2004 and March 1, 2005 and you will receive a \$100 credit toward your 2005-2006 national annual dues.
- Recruit two of your colleagues between October 1, 2004 and March 1, 2005 and you will receive an additional \$100 credit toward your 2005-2006 national annual dues.
- Recruit three of your colleagues between October 1, 2004 and March 1, 2005 and your 2005-2006 national annual dues will be paid in full.
- Win an expense-paid trip to Annual Session 2006! For every Member recruited within the promotional period, you will receive an entry into a grand prize drawing for an expense-paid trip to Annual Session 2006 that includes registration, airfare, and four days of hotel accommodations. So, the more Members you recruit, the greater your chances are at winning the grand prize.

For details, go to <http://www.acponline.org/cgi-bin/e-card.pl>, where you can easily send a recruitment e-mail to a colleague today, or download and print a Membership application to personally deliver. You may also request a Membership Inquiry Kit from Customer Service by calling **800-523-1546, ext. 2600**.



2005 ANNUAL SESSION

Plan now to come to San Francisco for the Annual Session which will be held from April 14th through the 16th. The meeting will be preceded by a number of pre-session courses, including topics of Neurology for the Internist, Critical Care Medicine, Advances in Drug Therapy, Diagnosis and Treatment of Common Bone and Joint problems, and a Recertification course. After our long and cold winter, the prospect of an Annual Session in a location such as San Francisco always brings out a number of New Hampshire participants. We had more than 30 New Hampshire representatives to New Orleans last year and more than 40 to San Diego in '03. You have undoubtedly received mailings, but if there are any questions, check the website www.acponline.org for details and a registration form. All New Hampshire physicians who attend this meeting will be invited to the reception co-sponsored by Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont Chapters along with the UVM Alumni Association on Friday evening, April 15th.

LEADERSHIP DAY

Again, the New Hampshire chapter will be sending representatives to Leadership Day, which is actually a two-day event in **Washington DC** on **May 17th and 18th**. Our group of about four New Hampshire physicians sets up appointments with our two Senators and Representatives and will meet with them for discussion about policy issues such as universal access to health care, Medicare reform, etc. Participants are sent background material to review before the meeting and we will participate in several sessions which prepare us for the meetings. If you are interested in participating this year or in the future, let us know.

COLLEGE CREATES NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP CLASS FOR ALLIED PROFESSIONALS

For the first time, ACP has established a new class of membership that will be offered to certain non-physician health care professionals.

An invitation to become an ACP Affiliate has gone out to fellow members of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA), the only national organization that represents physician assistants in all medical and surgical specialties.

The creation of the new affiliate class was approved by the Board of Regents at its meeting in July. Having physician assistants as affiliate College members "is a milestone," said ACP Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer John Tooker, FACP, MBA, in a College press release. It is the first time in ACP's 89-year history that the College is offering membership to non-physicians.

The new ACP Affiliate members will have online access to Annals of Internal Medicine, as well as to ACP Journal Club. They also will have access to PIER (Physicians' Information and Education Resource), the College's point-of-care decision support tool.

Other benefits of affiliate membership will include access to ACP Online, as well as to ACP's Practice Management Center; discounts on College programs, publications and services; and continuing medical education programs at member prices.

For more information visit http://www.acponline.org/college/pressroom/phys_assis.htm.

HEALTH LITERACY WORKSHOP

The ACP Foundation will host a workshop focusing on health literacy at Annual Session 2005. The workshop, titled Health Literacy: Improving Patients' Ability to Take Care of Themselves, is co-sponsored by the Institute of Medicine and will take place on Friday, April 15, 2005 from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. The workshop will focus on the affect of low patient health literacy on patients' ability to manage their medical conditions. Specifically, the workshop will address:

- how physicians can identify the 1 in 3 elderly patients who have trouble understanding how to take care of themselves
- how patients' health literacy effects their self-care of chronic illness, including their ability to take medication correctly and how physicians can improve communication with patients about what they need to know to take care of themselves
- changes physicians can make in their offices to help patients with low health literacy

If you have any questions regarding this workshop, please don't hesitate to contact Jonathan Uhl at (877)208-4189 or by email at: juhl@acponline.org.

Thank you in advance for supporting our efforts in this very important initiative.

—VISIT OUR CHAPTER WEB SITE—

<http://www.acponline.org/chapters/nh>