



Governor's Corner

Introduction

As the incoming Governor of the Air Force Chapter of the American College of Physicians, please allow me to introduce myself. Many of the members already know me as a previous Internal Medicine Consultant, but in the spirit of Full Disclosure I am one of the few who did not train in the Air Force. I attended the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, graduating in 1975, completed a rotating internship (as they were called back then), Internal Medicine and Cardiology Fellowship in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Clearly a slow learner, I spent eleven years in private practice in Philly and decided I needed a change. I initially entered active duty with the US Public Health Service being assigned to the Coast Guard in the equivalent of their Atlantic MAJCOM (they just call it something else). I had some prior Air Force Reserve time so I decided to transfer to the Air Force active duty, served as Chief of the Medical Staff in a couple of facilities, Squadron Commander, Chief Flight Surgeon at Dover and Chief of Internal Medicine at Malcolm Grow. You know about my time as Internal Medicine Consultant, then went to the Uniformed Services University in the Department of Medicine and presently serve as the Special Assistant for Biologic Defense in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense.

I am very privileged to also serve as the Chapter Governor and most grateful to **General Roudebush** for his confidence in my abilities to lead this organization. I am equally thankful for the opportunity to work with all of you, the Internal Medicine specialists in the Air Force Medical Service and ask for your help in representing you to the ACP and the Air Force Senior Leadership. Please email me at vincent.carr@osd.mil or call on my cell (301) 807-8613 and tell me how I may help.

I would like to take this opportunity, in my first newsletter, to publicly thank **Colonel Kimberly May** as she retires as the Air Force Chapter Governor (not to mention congratulating her in her retirement from active duty). In the past four years **Colonel May** faced some of the most significant challenges the Society of Air Force Physicians faced with her unanticipated selection to attend the National War College which monopolized a great deal of her time, the financial difficulties the Society faced and yet we continue as a renewed and viable chapter of the ACP. Clearly, she faced some of the toughest times we have known.

Colonel May was honored by the ACP at the Governor's Meeting at Internal Medicine 2008 in Washington, DC this May and we wish her all the best in her new life.

Fellowship Congratulations

Congratulations to **LtCol Patrick Monahan** who received his Fellowship designation at the 2008 Convocation in Washington DC. I am sure everyone knows **Pat** as the current (soon to be past) Internal Medicine Consultant. He has worked hard in keeping the care and feeding of the Medicine specialists at the top of the priorities with the senior leadership. Congratulations **Pat**, you have earned your recognition.

Speaking of which, we have a number of members who are eligible for this honor and as the Governor I

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would be proud to help you achieve your Fellowship status. The basic requirements are; a) Certification in internal medicine or neurology, b) Professional activity in internal medicine, a combined internal medicine specialty, the subspecialties of internal medicine, or neurology, c) Experience in practice or in an academic position for two years since the completion of training, d) An active medical license in good standing (if in clinical practice), e) ACP membership in good standing for two years with ACP activities, f) Continuing professional development and scholarly activities, including continuing medical education as a student or teacher, & g) Teaching (institutional and community-based), hospital committee work, and/or volunteer and community service, especially in the voluntary provision of medical care.

While these may appear a bit time-consuming I am committed to helping anyone interested, and I suspect you will find the application much easier than the requirements appear.

The Good, The Bad, and The Paperwork

By now, everyone probably knows the story about the Society of Air Force Physicians. The Good is that we had a superlative organization that had great support from the members, the general internists and the sub-specialists, the Associates, the Alumni and the Medical Students. The Bad is that the Society had some financial difficulties and had to be disbanded as the Society. Now the Paperwork. We are reconstituting ourselves as a "traditional" Chapter of the ACP. Traditional, as in the Officer structure, etc. This will require rewriting the bylaws under which we will operate. I have invited a number of members to participate in this endeavor and after we have accomplished this, I will send them out to our membership. However, in anticipation of the bylaws being finalized, and before a Nominating Committee can be formed, I would like to invite anyone who wishes to be considered for Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Education Liaison (ACEL) or one of the Councilors to send me an email at vincent.carr@osd.mil.

Chapter Scientific Session

This year, again, we are holding the Scientific Session as a combined Army/Air Force Chapter Meeting. It will be held November 19-23 at The Hyatt, Bethesda, Maryland. As in past years, we anticipate adequate central funding and **Pat Monahan** has been working to secure this year's funding. **Major Jeff LaRochelle** is the AF Program Director and has been working diligently on organizing the program. As we have been discussing with our Army peers, the intention is to alternate between San Antonio and Washington DC with Army hosting in Texas and Air Force hosting in DC. They have been bending-over backwards to help us in our transition and we owe them our sincere thanks for their tremendous help.

Associates: There will be the Poster and Presentation Competition and now is the time to get with your Program Director and work out the details of your entry. I anticipate we will have the Grollman Award for the Outstanding Resident Presentation and the Sanford Award for the Fellow Presentation. Also, there will be the ever-infamous Doctor's Dilemma (we had to change the name from Jeopardy) and Thieves Market.

Program Directors: I anticipate we will have all our traditional awards and speakers and with that in mind, I ask for nominations and talk to Jeff jlarochelle@usuhs.mil about the program.

The Finale

Lots of stuff happened at the Internal Medicine 2008 and I will be organizing another Newsletter to talk about those things, but I wanted to get this out as a start.

Just as a lot occurred in DC, next years Internal Medicine 2009 will be held 23-25 April 2009 in Philadelphia. If I can talk anyone into going, it is a great place in April with restaurants that are world-class. I promise to give tours of the local artery-clogging palaces off the tourist tracks (read the original, deadly Philly cheese-steaks).

My sincere thanks to everyone for the great things you are doing. No doubt that it is difficult with the funding and staffing at the current levels. I am sure it is equally difficult to feel that anyone is listening. I have had many conversations with **Col Pock** and others senior leaders. They are very much listening and recognize how

difficult the practice of medicine can be and are actively pursuing ways to improve staffing, maintain our commitment to graduate education and accomplish the mission.

**Respectfully,
Vince Carr**

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.

Save the Date!

2008 Army/Air Force Chapter Meeting

November 19-23, 2008

Hyatt Bethesda

Bethesda, Maryland

For More Information

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