

In This Issue

From the Governor1
 2007 Wisconsin Chapter Scientific Meeting & Optional Self-Evaluation Process2
 Learning Recertification Process2
 Non-members can join and get free registration3
 Wisconsin's New Master.....3
 New Fellows March at National Convention3
 Leadership Day on Capitol Hill.....4
 Council on Young Physicians4
 Associates' Column5
 Students' Column5
 Support Your Chapter5
 Recruit A Colleague.....5
 WI ACP Website.....mail panel



From the Governor

"I never promised you a rose garden"...words to an old favorite song, underscore the trials and tribulations interwoven with all the positive aspects of any significant commitment made.

Five days before starting Medical School, I signed a contract to accept a new job knowing that I didn't feel challenged enough in my current role and was an "older student" that hadn't been accepted into Med School. Later that same day, a late Friday afternoon, I got the call...my name was at the top of the list and did I still want to go to Medical School? Like a whirlwind, my life changed dramatically. I can still see myself sitting in that first orientation talk by the Dean; and recall thinking what an immense undertaking I embarked upon; and the feeling that "I" could be responsible for the lives of many. Having been raised on a poor farm with 13 siblings and currently a farmer with two small children, I knew so little about the life of a physician; but I felt uniquely privileged. I could not have known what actual difference my work would mean to so many.

Now, 27 years later, I can still "smell the roses" but have so often endured the thorns. I commuted over two hours per day from my farm to receive my education and residency training at a time when an 80 hour work week would have been bliss. Instead of going into Pathology,

I ended up in Internal Medicine, which my rural community needed desperately. I could not get a loan to set up solo practice; but the bank let my husband take out a 3rd mortgage on the farm. In solo practice, I soon realized that the hours of Residency weren't bad!

Through all the hardships, were the interwoven threads of hope and help to those whose lives I touched, saved, or guided. "My patients" are my favorites and are my reward. My students were "mine"-if ever we met up again. My community is mine and looks to me for leadership and help. I feel the compelling responsibility to uphold and propagate the highest standards of medical care and the Profession. It isn't getting any easier but I am content to know that what I am doing, matters.

For those of you who may feel disparaged at the currently collapsing health care system in this country, stop to reflect on the true mission. And may it tie you over during this transition. I firmly believe that Internal Medicine Physicians, with their expert knowledge of acute and chronic disease management, concentrated efforts in preventative medicine and quality health care practices will prove to be a solid foundation to which we can work to rebuild "Medicine" and gain rightful respect and compensation in the future.

**2007 WISCONSIN CHAPTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING
& Pre-Course SEP-Based Learning Session for Recertification**

**September 7-9, 2007
Wilderness Resort
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin**

Pre-Course:

Self Based Learning Session for Recertification Course:

ABIM Outpatient Internal Medicine Module 87-F

9:30 AM

Friday, September 7th

10:00 AM

8:30-9:15 AM Registration Onsite

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM Outpatient Internal Medicine
Module 87-F

11:40 AM

Lunch & Breaks Provided

Julie Mitchell, MD, MS

Monica M. Ziebert, MD, DDS

Friday, September 7th

1:30 PM

8:00 AM - Noon Optional: Bike Ride along the "400
Trail"

Meet in Lobby

Juanita J. Halls, MD, FACP

2:15 PM

2:45 PM

1:00 PM

Registration Opens

2:00--3:45 PM Wisconsin Chapter Council Meeting

4:35 PM

4:00 PM

Welcome

Sharon L. Haase, MD, FACP

Governor, ACP Wisconsin Chapter

5:40 PM

4:10 - 6:00 PM Associates Poster Presentations

Moderator: Rachel M. Hawker, MD

6:15 PM

6:15--6:45 PM Medical Student Reception

6:15 - 7:30 PM General Welcome Reception

*The ACP Council of Young Physicians will host an informal social event close by starting at 8 PM; details to be announced by A. Ken Musana, MD, FACP at the meeting.

Sunday, September 9th

Saturday, September 8th

8:00 AM

Clinical Updates in

* Internal Medicine

Christine S. Seibert, MD, FACP

* Endocrinology

Diane L. Elson, MD, FACP, FACE

* Infectious Disease

Michael O. Frank, MD, FACP

7:30 AM

8:00 AM

Town Hall Meeting

Womens' Caucus: Finding Health &
Balance in Your Professional Life

Panel discussion by esteemed woman physicians from throughout the state. **Moderator:** Monica M. Ziebert, MD

9:00 AM

Thieves' Market:

An interactive case discussion of challenging patient presentations, with the audience in the role of master internist. **Moderator:** George Mejicano, MD, FACP

10:00 AM

Break

Simultaneous Associates Session

8:00 AM

* Internal Medicine: A Message from

Frederick E. Turton, MD, FACP

* Fellowship/Practice Preparation

TBA

10:15 AM

Clinical Pearls:

Hematology,

Joseph J. Mazza MD, MACP

Gastroenterology -

* Internal Medicine Boards

Preparation - TBA

Break -- Visit Exhibits

Part I: Edwin Overholt Memorial
Clinical Vignettes

Moderator: Rachel M. Hawker, MD

Laureate Award Luncheon

Internal Medicine: Pursuing a
Brighter Future

Frederick E. Turton, MD, FACP, ACP
Regent

Middleton Memorial Lecture:
Revenge of the Rainforest

G. Richard Olds, MD, FACP

Break -- Visit Exhibits

Part II: Edwin Overholt Memorial
Clinical Vignettes

Moderator: Rachel M. Hawker, MD

Scott Sprtel Memorial Doctor's
Dilemma Competition

Announcement of Winners of the
Associates' Poster, Clinical Vignette,
and Medical Jeopardy Competition

George Magnin - Wisconsin Chapter
Award Ceremony & Banquet

Sharon L. Haase, MD, FACP

WI ACP Governor

Mark Reichelderfer, MD, FACP
-Rheumatology
Peter Valen, MD

11:45 AM Closing Remarks
Turn in Evaluations

Noon - 1:30 PM ACP State Council Meeting

We have reserved a block of rooms at the following rates until August 7, 2007. When making your reservation, be sure to mention that you will be attending the Wisconsin Chapter ACP meeting.

Single/Double for Thursday: \$90
Single/Double for Friday and Saturday: \$100
Wilderness Resort
511 E. Adams Street
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

*The rooms are available on a firstcome,
first-served basis, so make
your reservation as early as possible
by calling the hotel directly at 800-867-9453.*

Visit us on the Web and register at www.acponline.org/chapters/wi

Non Members can Join and Get Free Registration for the State Meeting!

The Wisconsin Chapter is excited to offer a full meeting registration refund to nonmembers who attend this meeting and apply for ACP Membership! Additionally, ACP headquarters is offering a substantial dues discount to those who participate in this promotion. Rather than paying the national rate of \$425, your 2007-2008 dues will be either \$255 or \$135, depending on your date of graduation from medical school. Your dues will be current through June 30, 2008.

If you are interested in this great offer, just pick up your membership application at the registration table during this meeting, and return it to the Wisconsin Chapter by September 21, 2007. Please note that while you must pay the meeting registration fee up-front, the chapter will reimburse you once we receive your application for membership. To learn more about the many benefits of ACP membership, please contact **Sharon Haase, MD, FACP**, the Wisconsin Chapter Governor at sharon.haase@umwf.wisc.edu or 920-887-9272. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

WISCONSIN'S NEW MASTER Kesavan Kutty, MD, FACP, FCCP, FRCP

Dr. Kesavan Kutty is Academic Chairman of Medicine at St. Joseph Regional Medical center of Milwaukee and Professor of Medicine & Associate Professor of Clinical family Practice at the Medical College of Wisconsin.



A recognized "Teaching Scholar" at MCW, Dr. Kutty has received many distinguished teaching awards. His subspecialty training and practice is in pulmonary and sleep disorders. He has previously directed the Milwaukee Veteran's hospital respiratory care and TB units, and directed the Transitional Year Internship Residency program at St. Joseph's Hospital. Dr. Kutty is a widely published and accomplished researcher, in addition to his service and leadership in numerous professional societies and organizations.

Dr. Kutty has been very active in the American College of Physicians, and part of the State Council since 1990. He has been recognized by his peers with distinctive chapter awards, to include the "Distinguished Internist of the Year," and "Laureate Award." Dr. Kutty is the immediate past Governor of the Wisconsin Chapter.

New Fellows March

Thirteen Wisconsin candidates selected for Fellowship, along with Governor Sharon Haase, marched in the recent National Convocation in San Diego. They included: Drs. **Steven Blaha** (Oshkosh), **Asriani Chiu** (Milwaukee), **Noel Deep** (Antigo), **Sheila Jhansale** (Shorewood), **Vishal Ratkalkar** (Brookfield), **Aysha Schaper** (Brookfield), **Kanak Shah** (Milwaukee), **Soryal Soryal** (Brookfield), **Shelley Watters** (Pewaukee), **James Wishau** (Lake Mills), **Safwan Jaradeh** (Milwaukee), **Christopher Sobczak** (Wauwatosa), **Qasim Raza** (Marshfield).

Other Wisconsin physicians recently receiving their Fellowship include: Drs. **Mark Capriolo** (Wausau), **Terri Hahn** (Stevens Point), **Virginia Harrington** (West Allis), **Jasna Jevtic** (Milwaukee), **Mark Kaufman** (Madison), **Richard Raynertson** (LaCrosse), **Christine Seibert** (Madison) and **A. "Ken" Musana** (Marshfield).



LEADERSHIP DAY ON CAPITOL HILL

About 300 College members from at least 42 states and the District of Columbia took to Capitol Hill last week to talk with lawmakers about pressing health care policy issues as part of ACP's annual Leadership Day. Four Wisconsin ACP State Council members attended Leadership Day including Dr. **Tony Otters** (Milwaukee), Dr. **Ken Musana** (Marshfield), Dr. **Matt Crowe** (Madison) and Dr. **Harrison Robinson** (Stoughton).

The day was quite busy but extremely productive. By the end of the day, the Wisconsin Chapter attendees had met with both Wisconsin Senators (and/or their staff) and all but one of Wisconsin's Representatives (and/or their staff). The legislators and their staff seemed quite interested in the issues ACP was advancing. Several issues were discussed, but 3 issues were considered priority issues for ACP this year.

This first issue pertains to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) funding. SCHIP funding is set to expire this year. The Wisconsin legislators seem united in their effort to renew SCHIP funding. There are some areas of disagreement. Many would like to increase funding for SCHIP so that all currently eligible individuals could get coverage. The program has been somewhat under funded in the past. There is also a push to increase eligibility to those individuals up to 300% (currently at 200%) of the federal poverty level. On the other side, there are those that would like to see coverage for adults removed from SCHIP funding since this program was instituted to increase health insurance coverage for children. If adult coverage was eliminated, Wisconsin's Badger Care program would be adversely affected since a major source of funding for this program is SCHIP funds.

This second issue pertains to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula used to calculate Medicare physician payment each year. The SGR was initially instituted to help slow the rising health care costs to Medicare in this country. Unfortunately the SGR has not performed as expected and has led to ever increasing potential negative adjustments to Medicare physician payments. The legislators have had to pass corrections to the SGR the past several years to avoid significant cuts in physician reimbursement. This year the SGR will result in a 10% cut in Medicare physician reimbursement if no action is taken. There is a potential for a 40% decrease in Medicare physician payment over the next few years if nothing is done to fix this problem.

The legislators we talked to were generally supportive of our concerns regarding the SGR, and in particular, its potential effect on primary care physicians. It is the position of the ACP that the SGR should be replaced by a more equitable and predictable physician payment for quality improvement. Given the current political climate, it is unlikely a permanent fix to the SGR will occur before the 2008 election. Another correction to the SGR is an action that the legislators will likely take instead.

Since almost nothing is expected to occur in 2008 prior to the election, ACP is pressing for a two year correction (including small increases in physician payment to cover the increased cost of providing services) with the hope that the SGR could then be permanently fixed in 2009.

The third issue was our support of the concept of the Patient-Centered Medical Home. Physicians are generally not being compensated for the preventative services and chronic disease management we provide. The ACP feels a restructuring is needed in physician reimbursement to emphasize care coordination and prevention. Health Information Technology funding is also being advocated for as part of this concept in an effort to decrease errors, improve quality, and improve the efficiency of the care we provide our patients.

These issues do not sound like much; however, congress is currently operating under a pay-as-you-go environment. The proposed increases in SCHIP funding and the SGR correction alone will require that billions of dollars be cut from other programs. It will again be imperative that ACP members be vocal in support of these issues. It is not too early to start contacting your legislators to have your voice be heard. Other health care related issues will likely be introduced, but given the upcoming election, it is unclear whether any have a chance of being enacted this year.

Next year the annual Leadership Day will be held in conjunction with the Internal Medicine 2008 meeting. It is the hope that a record number of participants will descend upon Capitol Hill next year. Our goal is to educate our legislators and get their support on key issues the ACP feels are necessary to advance health care reform in this country. Those interested are encouraged to participate. The only way to have an impact on the direction health care reform takes in this country is to make sure your voice is heard.

Tony Otters, MD, FACP

COUNCIL OF YOUNG PHYSICIANS

Active goals:

*Targeting membership among physicians less than 40 years old, or within the first 5 years of one's medical career, from a broad cross-section of professionals from within Wisconsin,

*Disseminate information regarding the invaluable ACP resources, Publications, Guides and MKSAP products, etc.,

*Hold an informal social gathering at the 2007 State Meeting, to help foster a collegial network,

*Seek feedback from the Young Physicians about how the Chapter can be of service to them,

*Create a "CYP link" on the Chapter website,

*Develop a specific activity, geared toward the young physicians at the 2008 Chapter Meeting.

If you want to learn more the CYP in your chapter, or want to become more involved in ACP activities, contact Committee Chairman: Dr. **John David** (Portage) at jedtjd@hotmail.com. Get involved!

ASSOCIATES' COMMITTEE NEWS

In its first year of existence, the Associates' Committee got off to an encouraging start. The committee has recruited resident and program director members from each of the training programs in the state which will provide a new level of collaboration between Wisconsin's academic centers. The primary focus of the committee is development of programs and opportunities important to Associates. The Wisconsin ACP Council has pledged generous financial support for Associates' activities in the coming year, and the committee plans to use these funds to continue the sponsorship of resident presentations and attendance at the State Scientific Meeting and Annual Session. In addition, this year's state meeting will have the first annual concurrent Associates' Program with content critical to young physicians' development, including a case report writing workshop and practice preparation seminar. We are excited about these new developments and are confident that Associate membership and activity within the Chapter will continue to rise.

Dr. Kurt Pfeifer, Milwaukee

kpfeifer@mcw.edu

STUDENTS' NEWS

The student chapters at the University of Wisconsin Medical School and the Medical College of Wisconsin have had an active year with numerous activities at the medical schools focused on introducing first and second year students to the field of internal medicine. Activities in Madison have included panel discussions on a variety of topics such as "What is Internal Medicine", "How should I Practice Medicine?", "Preparing for Third Year Clerkship", as well as social events with Internal Medicine Faculty and residents. Some of the activities in Milwaukee have been panel discussions on "What is an Internist?", "Application of Basic Sciences", a clinical skills workshop, and a Student-Doctor Networking Reception.

ACP is again sponsoring one-week mini-internships for students completing their first year of medical school. The goal of the program is to provide students who have completed their first year of medical school an experience working with generalists and specialists in Internal Medicine in Wisconsin. The objectives of the program are: to make students aware of the rewards of Internal Medicine and its significant contribution to health care, allow students the opportunity to work closely with an Internist, and encourage students to consider a career in Internal Medicine. We are matching over 20 students from the two medical schools for this coming summer.

This program was very popular with the students last year

with overwhelming positive feedback. Some comments from the students included: "My experience was great. I got to sit in with interviews of patients with a myriad of problems. I think that ACP is doing a great thing with this externship program. Prior to this internship, I was uncertain of the role of internal medicine in the clinic setting. After spending a week with Dr...., I learned so much about internal medicine and am now considering it as a possible career path." "I thoroughly enjoyed my internship experience. I truly think I learned more clinical stuff in this 1 week than I did all year during PDS or GPP - it was an excellent experience & I would highly recommend it to future rising MZs. "I have a much better understanding of Internal Medicine as a specialty and how it fits into the entire health system." "I believe that the program was very helpful in providing insight into a career in Internal Medicine", "My experience was extremely helpful in furthering my interest in cardiology."

INTERESTED IN MENTORING STUDENTS? Contact Dr. **Juanita Halls**, Madison, at: jjh@medicine.wisc.edu

Support Your Chapter through Chapter Dues

Chapter dues are the backbone of local activities and vital to the success of our chapter. While we are provided some financial support from the national office, the chapter dues collected provide the majority of financial support for local activities. Educational meetings, mentoring programs for medical students, local Associates' research competitions, advocacy with state legislators and participation by chapter leaders in Leadership Day on Capitol Hill are just some of the activities supported by your chapter dues. Many of these activities are orchestrated by unpaid volunteer leaders in our chapter. Your chapter dues help support the cost of local staff and provide funding for new and existing chapter initiatives. When you receive your dues notice, please remember to include the chapter dues in your payment. You will be contributing to the success of many grass roots activities happening right here at home.



Help strengthen the voice of internal medicine - recommend ACP Membership to your colleagues!

The need for a strong voice to speak on behalf of medicine and, in particular, internal medicine has never been greater than it is today. It is critically important that we unify to address the specific needs of our medical specialty. There are advocacy efforts to champion, practice management issues to simplify, and a

Continued on mail panel

Recruit A Colleague, from page 5

time-honored profession to foster. We must work together. To thank you for your time and effort, we have established the following recruitment program:

If you recruit one of your colleagues between March 2, 2007 and March 1, 2008, you will receive a \$100 credit toward your 2008-09 national annual dues.

If you recruit two of your colleagues between March 2, 2007 and March 1, 2008, you will receive an additional \$100 credit toward your 2008-09 national annual dues.

If you recruit three of your colleagues between March 2, 2007 and March 1, 2008, your 2008-09 national annual dues will be paid in full*.

But wait, there's more. For every Member recruited within the promotional period, you will receive an entry into a grand prize drawing for a trip to Internal Medicine 2009 in Philadelphia, PA that includes registration, airfare (up to \$500), and four days of hotel accommodations. So, the more Members you recruit, the greater your chances are at winning the grand prize.

To be considered a "recruited" Member, your colleague must:

Be a nonmember who is eligible for the "full" ACP Member category and pay \$99 or more in dues.

Submit a Membership application, along with his or her national annual dues payment, between March 2, 2007 and March 1, 2008.

Write your name in the recruiter box on the top of the Membership application**.

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 at 800-523-1546, ext. 2600, (M-F 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. ET).

It is the collective effort that makes a difference. Call on the support of your colleagues today.

Visit your Wisconsin ACP Chapter on the web

www.acponline.org/chapters/wi

Check out what ACP activities are going on locally, get answers to your questions or offer feedback, suggest topics or feel free to contact **Kelly Lang**, ACP State Coordinator at lang@svinicki.com or Governor **Sharon Haase** at sharon.haase@uwmf.wisc.edu