

West Virginia Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

Summer 2004

J. Gregory Rosencrance, MD, FACP,
Governor, West Virginia Chapter



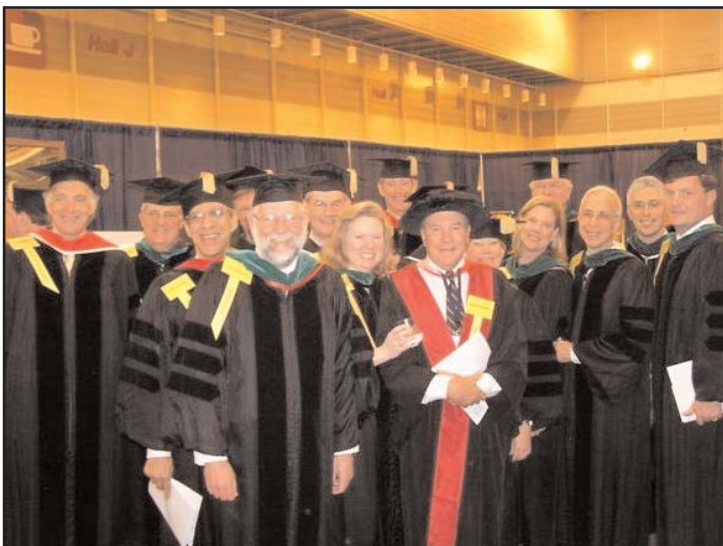
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

There has been a great deal of activity since our last news letter. It is with great sadness that I must report the passing of **Anthony G. DiBartolomeo**, M.D., F.A.C.P. He was the West Virginia Chapter 2000 Laurette recipient. We all will miss him a great deal.

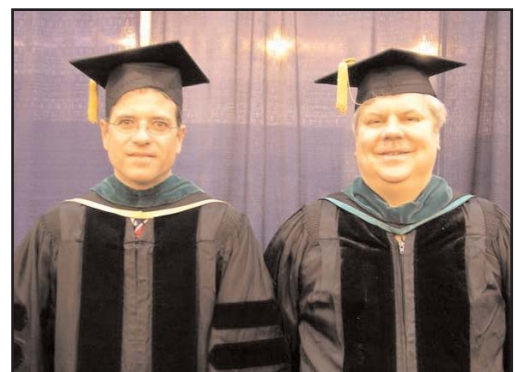
Dr. Johh Holloway and myself visited Capitol Hill on May 18th and 19th for Leadership Day. We met with Representative Capito and Senator Rockefeller. We also met with representatives from Senator Byrd and Representative Mollohan's offices. There were 217 attendees with 39 states in the District of Columbia.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the state meeting this year will be held at the **Stonewall Jackson Resort** on **October 7th -9th**. **Dr. Karen Clark** is program chair of this meeting and I am sure we will have a delightful, informative and collegial conference.

Mark Stephens, M.D., F.A.C.P. and **James Gaal** M.D., F.A.C.P were inducted as Fellows for the American College of Physicians at the Convocation Program during the ACP National Meeting in New Orleans. **Amer Malas** M.D., F.A.C.P. was also inducted but is not pictured.



Everyone smiles for the camera at Convocation



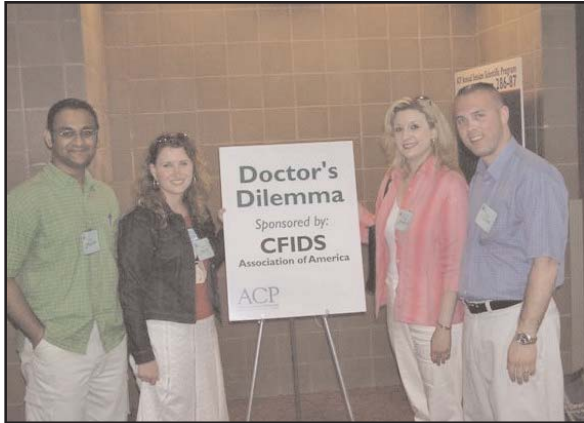
(L-R): Dr. Mark Stevens and Dr. James Gaal

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You will find in this newsletter several ACP projects that will benefit both you and your patients of belonging to the American College of Physicians. I hope you will take an opportunity to acquaint yourselves with these ACP resources.

Dr Rameez Sayyed and **Dr. Heather Hixenbaugh** presented at the National ACP poster presentation and represented our chapter well. The WVU Charleston Division team also represented our chapter well in the Medical Jeopardy competition.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the state meeting this fall at the Stonewall Jackson Resort October 7th -9th 2004.



WVU Charleston Division Medical Jeopardy Team
(L-R): Dr KJ Rehman, Dr. Teri Cook,
Dr. Melissa Lester and Dr. Brett Faulknier



ACP KEY CONTACT PROGRAM:

ACP depends on its' 2000 Key Congressional Contacts to communicate with their members of Congress on issues of importance to internists and their patients, and report back to ACP. Key Contacts do not necessarily have established relationships with their members of Congress. ACP gives them the tools necessary to develop and maintain relationships

The Key Contact Program has increased 33% and currently 2.9% of our 681 members of the West Virginia Chapter are members of the contact Program. We need at minimum 7 additional Key contacts for the West Virginia Chapter to meet the Board of Governors Goal for our State.

For more information on the ACP Key Contact Program, please contact **Kathy Heabel** at **800-338-2746**, or by email at **kheabel@acponline.org**

–VISIT OUR CHAPTER WEB SITE–

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

ACP KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES FOR ABIM SELF-EVALUATION PROCESS MODULES

As a benefit of membership, the American College of Physicians is pleased to provide access directly to the knowledge resources you trust most to assist you in the completion of the following General Internal Medicine ABIM Self-Evaluation Process (SEP) Modules.

Provided here is a specific collection of ACP knowledge resources, indexed according to the ABIM SEP questions. Simply select a module, then a question within that module, and you'll be connected instantly to ACP knowledge that will directly help you answer the question.

If you are a member of ACP, get started now. Please note that you will need to log in with your ACP username/password. If you are not currently an ACP member, please consider joining ACP.



The following ABIM SEP Modules are included:

1. Internal Medicine Module 00-A
2. Internal Medicine Module 00-B
3. Internal Medicine Module 00-C
4. Outpatient Module 87-F
5. Inpatient Module 88-G

ACP Knowledge Resources

The ACP knowledge resources utilized in this application include:

- MKSAP (currently including only content from the 12th Edition as well as the Prep for Boards product, though 12th Edition Update and 13th Edition will be included shortly) - MKSAP catalog - self-assessment program that includes syllabus and self-assessment questions with full critiques
- PIER - pier.acponline.org - online "point-of-care" clinical decision support resource available free to ACP members
- Annals of Internal Medicine - www.annals.org - online access to current and past issues of the premier journal of Internal Medicine
- ACP Books - content from 14 ACP books and 2 books distributed by ACP

SUPPORTING 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. However, the increase in activities at the local level has created the need for additional staff support to help manage the day to day operation of the 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.

INFORMATION RX: ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PRESCRIPTIONS A PHYSICIAN CAN MAKE

Signing up for the Information Rx Program is both free and easy. Physicians can sign up to receive MedlinePlus prescription pads, office posters and bookmarks that they can give patients at the Foundation's website, foundation.acponline.org

The ACP Foundation launched its new initiative, the Information Rx Project, at Annual Session 2004. The Information Rx Project is a free member benefit that utilizes several tools to direct patients to a reliable, evidence-based, and commercial-free website, MedlinePlus (www.MedlinePlus.gov). Using Information Rx pads, physicians prescribe information for their patients pertaining to a specific condition or medical concept. Once at MedlinePlus, patients are able to get accurate and evidence-based information that takes into account the lower health literacy levels of many patients.

Most physicians agree on the importance of patients to be more informed and more involved in their health-care decision making process. At a press conference held at Annual Session, Jacqueline W. Fincher, FACP, a general internist from Thomson, Ga., who coordinated a pilot version of the program among members of the College's Georgia chapter, applauded the benefits of the program.

"It is so much better for physicians to give patients information," Dr. Fincher said, "than to have them use sites their friends stumble upon on the Internet." During the pilot program, she explained, 42% of physicians surveyed who had directed patients to the MedlinePlus site said the information improved their physician-patient relationship.

The Information Rx Project seeks to address these issues by providing physicians with the tools to prescribe accurate, commercial-free, and evidence-based information from the internet. MedlinePlus is a patient oriented website available in English and in Spanish developed by the National Library of Medicine. It contains over 650 topics on health conditions, diseases, and wellness, as well as up to date information on drugs and clinical trials all written at a level that is easy for most patients to understand. The site also contains over 150 interactive tutorials for those patients who may have difficulty with the written material.

To sign up for your free Information Rx materials, please visit the ACP Foundation's website foundation.acponline.org.

LEADERSHIP DAY

The College's 12th annual Leadership Day on Capitol Hill took place May 18-19th in Washington, DC. 217 members participated from 41 states, the District of Columbia, and the Air Force. Attendees heard first-hand from members of Congress, legislative staff, and administration officials about how they view the issues of greatest concern to internists. Among the many notable speakers: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator, Mark McClellan, MD, PhD spoke about the future of healthcare in America, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) discussed the HealthCARE Act and access to care, and Rep. Health Wilson (R-NM) provided an update on Medicaid issues. Attendees were also treated to an awards dinner that honored the College's most outstanding Key Contacts of the year and featured keynote speaker Charlie Cook, editor of *The Cook Report*.

Leadership Day participants received an overwhelmingly positive response to the College's request for members of Congress to sign onto House and Senate letters asking CMS to fix the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula. The final SGR letters were sent to CMS days after Leadership Day with the signatures of 240 Representatives and 73 Senators - a net gain of 96 representatives and 32 senators. This is just one example of the positive impact Leadership Day had. We look forward to participating next year and working locally to maintain the momentum on ACP issues.

Registration Form

**American College of Physicians
West Virginia Chapter Scientific Meeting
October 7-8, 2004**

This form may be photocopied.

ACP # (found on mailing label) _____

Name _____ MDDO

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Please check here to indicate a permanent change to your preferred address for all College mailings.

Registration Fees:

Check one category that best applies. Registration fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, all scientific sessions and materials, and a CME certificate.

ACP Categories		Nonmember Categories	
<input type="checkbox"/> Master <input type="checkbox"/> Fellow <input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Nonmember Physician	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate (resident members)	No Fee	<input type="checkbox"/> Allied Health Professional	No Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Student Member	No Fee	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident	No Fee
		<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Student	No Fee

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make your check payable to **West Virginia Chapter** and mail to:

Attention: Karen Frazier
West Virginia University
Department of Medicine
3110 MacCorkle Avenue, SE
Charleston, West Virginia 25304

Questions? Please call Karen at 304-347-1315.

We encourage participation by all individuals. Check here if you are disabled and require assistance. Advance notification is essential in order for us to serve you better. Please notify the West Virginia Chapter at the above address in writing at least 30 days before your course. We'll be glad to help.