Governor’s Greetings
Bill Shiffermiller, MD, FACP

Greetings everyone. I have a few winter comments. I hope this weather is stimulating everyone to look towards Orlando for the annual meeting the 10th thru the 12th of April! It remains the best educational value of the year.

The ACP now has a new educational application called ACP smart medicine for your computer and mobile devices. It’s a point-of-care application with over 500 Modules and 300 drug tables with content gleaned from the Annals of Internal Medicine, JournalWise and ACP clinical practice guidelines. The application is free and can provide CME credits with utilization. Instructions to download the application as well as descriptions of the app can be found at http://www.acponline.org/clinical_information/smart_medicine/

Descriptions of the requirements for Maintenance of Certification (MOC) for specific individual situations can be found at http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/recertification/. We may have disagreements with some requirements promulgated by the American Board of Internal Medicine but ACP has input and has been getting feedback from our membership to make this a valuable and reasonable process!

2014 resolutions are available at http://www.acponline.org/acl_news/spring2014_res.htm?hp and available for comment by members. I encourage review of them and if you don’t wish to comment directly but would like to have input please email me at wshiffe@nmhs.org and I will represent your views at the annual Board of Governors’ meeting. The Council will also have an opportunity prior to the Spring meeting to review the resolutions.

I wanted to mention that we received the Chapter Excellence Award again this year mostly due to the excellent work of Executive Director, Kris Rahm.

Hang in there...Spring is just around the corner.
Mark Your Calendars
2014 Annual Scientific Meeting
CenturyLink Conference Center
Omaha, NE
October 23 - 24

2013 Meeting Highlights
The Nebraska American College of Physicians is pleased to announce its 2013 Award Winners

**Early Career Physician of the Year**

**Micah Beachy**

Micah Beachy, DO, FACP attended Des Moines University for his medical education and completed his Internal Medicine residency at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Beachy then joined the staff at UNMC as an academic hospitalist in 2008. He has stayed active in resident education, specifically on the wards. Recently, he accepted the role of medical director for 2 different telemetry floors. His research includes transfers of care, cost conscious care, and perioperative medicine. Dr. Beachy’s extracurricular activity includes active involvement in ACP and SHM. He has served as the chair for the Nebraska council of early career physicians since 2009 and this past April was selected as a representative to the national council. He also helped organize the Nebraska regional ACP meeting in 2010 and 2011 as well as the first SWAN (South Dakota, Wyoming, Alaska, Nebraska) regional meeting in 2011. Micah has also served as a medic for his church and is currently helping organize an STD clinic for an underserved area in Omaha. Dr. Beachy is a native of Hutchinson, KS. He and his wife, Shanna, have been married 14 years and have 3 children.

**LeeRoy Meyer Dedicated Teacher Award**

**Chad Vokoun**

Chad Vokoun, MD, FACP attended the University of Nebraska Kearney and received his bachelor’s degree in biology. Dr. Vokoun completed all of his medical training at UNMC and served as Chief Resident at the Omaha VA Medical Center in 2003-2004. He is currently an Associate Program Director at UNMC for the Internal Medicine training program. His clinical interests include hospital medicine and perioperative care. Dr. Vokoun is active nationally in APDIM and is involved in content creation and evaluation with the USMLE. His educational interests include resident and student teaching and assessment, transitions of care and perioperative medicine. Dr. Vokoun enjoys outdoor activities, cooking and sports of all kind. He is married to Dr. Allison Cushman-Vokoun, M.D., PhD. Who is a faculty member at UNMC in Pathology. They have a newly adopted son, Jamison.

**Advocacy Award**

**Rich Seitz**

Rich Seitz, MD, FACP, was born and raised outside of Chicago. He graduated from Marquette University and spent 4 1/2 years as a Jesuit. He moved to Nebraska in 1989 and attended University of Nebraska College of Medicine, graduating in 1997. He did his internal medicine residency at UNMC finishing in 2000. Since 2000 he has been in a “traditional” internal medicine practice in Fremont, NE with 3 other partners. For 8 years, Dr. Seitz has also a second job as a hospitalist at St Elizabeth Regional Medical Center in Lincoln. He serves on various committees at Fremont Area Medical Center including peer review, the Leadership Committee for EMR implementation, the Physician Advisory Committee for EMR implementation, the board of the local Health Information Exchange and the Vice-Chairman of the clinically integrated network and possible ACO. He serves as the membership chair for the Nebraska chapter of the ACP and is in charge of starting a hospitalist program at the Fremont hospital. Dr. Seitz lives in Fremont with my wife Carole and have been married 22 years.
Volunteer and Community Service Award

Ron Asher

Ron Asher, MD, FACP, is a graduate of UNMC. His medical residency was in Internal Medicine and he became board certified in 1976. He became board certified in Critical Care Medicine in 1991. His medical practice began in 1976 in North Platte. The practice has now evolved to focus on chronic kidney disease and dialysis. Satellite clinics and dialysis management are in Valentine and McCook. He was a member of the North Platte School Board for 16 years as well as serving on the Board of Parish Education for Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. He has been an NMA delegate for many years, served on the board of directors as well as president of the NMA. He now is a delegate to the AMA for Nebraska. He was a chairman on the American Cancer Society Service and Rehab committee and has served on other medical related service organizations. He helped establish the North Platte hospice program, dialysis center, cardiac and pulmonary rehab including status as volunteer medical director. Other activities include youth coaching, church choir and work with the Salvation Army.

Walter J. O’Donahue, Jr. Award

Peter T. Silberstein

Peter Silberstein, MD, FACP, is Division Chief of Hematology and Oncology and Professor of Medicine at Creighton Medical School/Alegent and Chief of Oncology at the Veterans Administration Hospital. He is past President of AVAHO (Association of VA Hematology/Oncology). He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Amherst College and Phi Beta Kappa.

He completed medical school at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Iowa and his Hematology and Oncology Fellowship at the University of Minnesota. Board certifications include Internal Medicine (1982) and Medical Oncology and Hematology. Honors include Alpha Omega Alpha, 1979, the Dr. Louis A. Sklarow Award 1979, Sigma Xi 1975, Phi Beta Kappa, Best Doctor in America 2005-2013. He is the faculty for Creighton’s innovative Partners in Cancer program for first and second year medical students who become a patient navigator for one cancer patient. He has been awarded the Creighton School of Medicine Dedicated Teaching Award and Distinguished Service Award and has three times received the James F. Sullivan Award for excellence in Education of Medical Residents. He has mentored numerous medical students and residents to present at national meetings and publish their findings.

Laureate

Marvin J. Bittner

Dr. Bittner earned his medical degree at Harvard Medical School, completed his internal medicine residency at the University of Michigan, and completed his infectious diseases fellowship at the University of Minnesota. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, and a Fellow of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America. He earned a Master of Science degree in epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health’s Program in Clinical Effectiveness. For over 25 years, Dr. Bittner has practiced at the travel clinic staffed by Creighton infectious diseases specialists, and he earned the Certificate of Knowledge in Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers’ Health from the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. He has traveled over a dozen times to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua with medical students providing services for impoverished communities. He has garnered a half-dozen teaching award nominations and was honored as one of the Best Doctors in America. He is President of the Metro Omaha Medical Society and a member of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Medical Association. His scholarly publications involve clinical infectious diseases, especially infection prevention.
Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska & South Dakota ACP IM 2014 Reception

Date: Friday, April 11th  
Time: 6:30-8:30 pm
Location: Tommy Bahama Restaurant, 9101 International Dr., #1200, Orlando, FL

Please RSVP to lauriejbraun@me.com by April 1st.
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