Colleagues,

I am excited to be writing my first Governor’s newsletter. The Centennial of the American College of Physicians was celebrated in fine form at our Annual Meeting in Boston. The registered attendance was over 8,500; the largest ACP meeting ever! Thirty Nevadans attended and I had the pleasure of meeting some of them at our Chapter Reception that we co-hosted with our neighbors from Utah, New Mexico and Colorado. Students and Residents presented excellent posters and our Doctor’s Dilemma team from the University of Nevada School of Medicine, Las Vegas Department of Medicine performed admirably.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor as Governor, Warren Evins, MD, PhD who has guided me through the Governor-elect year and has left in my care a chapter that is dynamic, energized and financially solid. I look forward to continuing to work with Warren in his role as Immediate Past President and member of the Governor’s Council. I would also like to thank our outgoing Chapter Executive Director, Susan Lynch, for her years of service and our outgoing Treasurer, Dr. Mitchell Forman, DO, MACP.

We have a new Chapter Executive Director, Jeanne Tremaine. Jeanne and I have worked together for several years at UNSOM where she is the Associate Director of the Office of Continuing Medical Education. In that role she has incredible experience in conference planning and logistics, relationships with potential sponsors, accreditation and is one of the most organized people I have ever met. We are lucky that she has taken on this role in addition to her other responsibilities. Jeanne can be contacted at jeannetremaine4@gmail.com.

My day job is as Associate Dean for Statewide Initiatives. In that role I have oversight of the State Office of Rural Health and the Area Health Education Center (AHEC). I am the Director of Project ECHO-Nevada, a telehealth program modeled after a program in New Mexico and which links specialists to primary care providers in rural and underserved Nevada to assist in co-management of patients with common, complex disorders. I am also leading the creation of the first Physician Assistant Program in northern Nevada slated to matriculate its first class in mid-2017. I also am maintaining an active endocrine practice at the School of Medicine. I can be reached at evan.klass@gmail.com.

I look forward to hearing from you, meeting you and serving as your Governor for the next four years.

June, 2015

Membership

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage those of you who have been members of ACP to consider applying for fellowship. Being recognized as a fellow is a reward for your years of practice, teaching, learning and leadership. Apply, you deserve it!

Our Chapter needs you and it needs your colleagues who are not members. There are 1733 Internists in Nevada of whom 537 are members. 25% of general Internists and 23% of medical sub-specialists are members. We need to do better. A.C.P. is our advocacy organization and it serves that purpose for generalists, hospitalists and sub-specialists. ACP led the way in opposing the imposition of burdensome and non-evidence based Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements promulgated by the American Board of Internal Medicine. A.C.P. was a leader in finally putting the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) for physician compensation behind us. And, of course, ACP provides so many opportunities for life-long learning including Annals of Internal Medicine, MKSAP, High Value Care curriculum and others. We all started life as Internists; the core values of Internal Medicine molded us as physicians, no matter where our training took us. As evidenced by the amazing participation at the annual meeting that common pathway remains potent.

I would like to congratulate new Fellows of the A.C.P. from Nevada: Ali Kia, MD, FACP and Nadeem Tariq, MD, FACP.

Chapter Committees

I would ask that you consider becoming active in Chapter committees. These include Finance, Membership, Awards, Communications, Chapter Annual Meeting Planning, Early Career Physicians, Women in Medicine, Resolutions, and Health Policy. Please let me know where your interests lay. I would love this newsletter to be an opportunity to announce and celebrate accomplishments of our members. Please let Jeanne or I know of honors or awards or accepted publications. Finally, please send me your ideas for making our chapter stronger, for creating new programs, new social events or opportunities for ACP to co-sponsor programs with other societies.