Welcome to this issue of Badger Beat. In this issue we will be covering upcoming events, current issues, and other items of interest.

2016 Doctor Day

This is an event sponsored and coordinated by the Wisconsin Medical Society, partnering with other physician organizations and with specialty societies, including ACP-WI. We have an ambitious goal and hope to bring at least 300 physicians to the State Capitol on Feb. 10. The day is timed well for physicians to be able to see their legislators, as well as having input on the budget and other important health care issues.

Prior to the afternoon meetings, participants will hear from several high-level speakers and will take part in an issue briefing. Lunch will be provided before participants head to the Capitol for their meetings. The day will conclude with a reception in downtown Madison. A tentative schedule for Doctor Day 2016 can be found online.

Staff members from the participating physician organizations will take care of all the preparations - scheduling your legislative visits and providing information about key issues for discussion.

If you are interested in participating with our ACP Wisconsin Chapter in this event as a member of ACP, please contact me by email, belknapfcap@centurytel.net

Spring ACP Wisconsin Chapter Meeting

The initial offering of a Spring ACP Wisconsin Chapter CME meeting will be held at the Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort Hotel and Convention Center in Neenah on April 9, 2016. This will be a one-day meeting made up of a varied series of talks in the morning, a luncheon, and an SEP module in the afternoon. Information about this meeting will be available on the ACP Wisconsin Chapter website in January. I strongly encourage you to plan to join your Wisconsin ACP colleagues in Neenah on April 9.

ACP Internal Medicine Meeting 2016

The annual national ACP meeting takes place in 2016 in Washington, D.C. on May 3-7. Pre-courses are held on May 3-4, and the Scientific Program is on May 5-7. This meeting provides the opportunity to learn from high quality faculty from around the country and to earn MOC points and CME credits. New Fellows from the Wisconsin Chapter and other chapters will be
formally inducted at the convocation ceremony, and the two new Masters from our chapter, Drs. Kim Hetsko and Dick Dart, will also be recognized.

A highlight of the meeting for many of us who attend the meeting from Wisconsin is the Wisconsin Chapter Reception, which this year will be held at Brasserie Beck, which is a restaurant near the Convention Center meeting site. The reception is a chance to get together with colleagues from around the state, to renew old friendships and to meet new acquaintances, and to do this in a relaxed, welcoming environment. We always have a good turnout of practicing physicians and residents from Wisconsin, as well as a few who drop by who have roots in Wisconsin.

I hope that many of you will plan on attending the meeting. Please follow this link for further details: http://im2016.acponline.org/

ACP Leadership Day

I also invite you to consider attending Leadership Day. This is a two-day annual event in Washington, D.C. The first day consists of presentations educating attendees in the legislative and advocacy process. We are also informed on the particular legislative issues of priority to ACP and its members. On the second day we visit the offices of our legislators from Wisconsin and have the opportunity to educate and persuade them regarding our issues. This year Leadership Day will be held on May 3-4, which is just prior to the main portion of the ACP annual meeting and simultaneous with the pre-courses. Because of this juxtaposition of the events on the calendar and an anticipated increase in interest, there may be need to limit the number of attendees to Leadership Day. Please let me know if you have an interest in attending, belknapfACP@centurytel.net.

Chapter Awards

We are extremely interested in receiving nominations of highly deserving internists from around Wisconsin for our state chapter awards, of which there are several in various categories. These awards are presented at the George Magnin Awards Luncheon, which is part of our Chapter Meeting in September. Please take a look at the list of awards via the link below and the give serious thought to which internist(s) in your area is/are deserving of one of the awards and then make use of the form on the website to submit the nomination(s). The deadline for submitting the awards this year is March 23, 2016. Please click here to access the ACP-Wisconsin Chapter Awards Nomination Website.

Legislative Advocacy

The ACP Advocate is an e-newsletter edited by the College's Washington, D.C. Governmental Affairs Division, which has been created to provide ACP members with succinct news about public policy issues affecting internal medicine and patient care.

Please click here for the most recent issue of ACP Advocate.
As I do periodically, I am also including a link to the portion of the ACP website that summarizes ACP’s current advocacy initiatives: https://www.acponline.org/advocacy/advocacy_in_action/state_of_the_nations_health_care/assets/statehc15.htm

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the ACP or if you are interested in applying for advancement to Fellowship in the ACP. My email address is belknapfACP@centurytel.net.