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Missouri Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

July 2014



Alan D. Forker, MD, MACP, ACP Governor

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Governor's Message

Greetings from early-mid-summer. I am creating this newsletter out of chaos—just moved from a house we lived in for 24 years to Tallgrass Creek retirement center in Overland Park, KS. Primarily motivated by deterioration of my wife, Susie's deteriorating CNS function, dementia. I am still working 60% time at Saint Luke's Hospital, both because I enjoy it and for an escape from the caregiving role. Thank your lucky stars for having a stable home and personal life.

The good news for our Missouri Chapter:

- the President of our national organization this year is our very own **Dr. David Fleming**, and he is doing a fabulous job. He follows a MO tradition—remember **Dr. Sara Walker** was President of ACP.
- our **Governor-Elect is Dr. Richard Burns**, who will become Governor after the annual meeting in Boston, April, 2015. Rich follows in the tradition of his father, Tom, who was a former Governor, Master, and Regent of ACP. Congratulations, Rich. I predict you will do an outstanding job.

Speaking of Boston in April, 2015, this is the 100th Anniversary year for ACP and you can expect some special events to occur. I strongly advise you to attend, especially if you have never attended a national ACP meeting. Plus, Boston is filled with history, music, art, and the Red Sox. Sure would be nice if they were in town that week. If you didn't know, Fenway Park is one of only two standing original major league ball parks (Wrigley Field in Chicago is the other one).

I missed the annual ACP meeting in Orlando, April, 2014, as it was secondary to my wife's sudden deterioration and hospitalization that week. I was informed by **Pat Mills**, our Executive Director, and **Dr. Burns** that our MO representation was good. The social part of these meetings, especially our MO Chapter reception, is always a highlight for me and hopefully everyone. Please join us in Boston.

I know that MOC was discussed in Orlando and continues to be a hot item for our membership. I can assure you that our physician leadership and staff in Philadelphia are working closely with ABIM to modify some of the more painful aspects. Stay tuned to www.acponline.org and www.missouriacp.org for ongoing updates.

Finally, our MO Chapter Meeting, September 11-14, 2014, is getting closer rapidly. I would advise checking our MO ACP website for the agenda and registration. Note that Thursday, September 11 has a focus on MOC recertification at a reasonable cost. Seriously consider joining us for those sessions, even if you couldn't make the entire Friday-Sunday agenda.

I wish you a relaxing, loving, and productive summer. And from the personal perspective of losing a wife to dementia, go right now and tell your spouse or significant other how much you love them, how much they mean to you. Change can happen quickly and unexpectedly—just ask me.

Alan Forker, MD, MACP
Governor, Missouri Chapter of the ACP

Strategic Planning

The Council of the Missouri Chapter has initiated a new strategic planning process this year. A committee led by **Brent Beasley, MD, FACP** conducted an analysis of chapter resources and listed a number of goals. This list of goals was given to the council for prioritization since we cannot do everything at once. The top two identified for immediate consideration were: increase membership and increase chapter meeting attendance. This process will help focus council activities as we make plans for the future.

MOC Activity

ACP has been meeting with ABIM on a regular basis to discuss the member feedback about the changes to ABIM board certification. The ACP website has a great deal of information online regarding recertification and Maintenance of Certification - http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification. For those needing MOC activity, the Missouri Chapter 2014 meeting will have three ABIM SEP modules presented September 11 from 2pm-7pm at Tan Tar A – www.missouriacp.org.

Missouri Chapter 2014 CME Meeting – Updates in Internal Medicine

Thursday, September 11, 2014

2:00 p.m. *ABIM SEP - Care for the Underserved*

Ernie-Paul Barrette, MD, FACP and Melvin Blanchard, MD, FACP

3:40 ABIM SEP - *Geriatrics 2013*

Fred Yap, MD

5:20 ABIM SEP - *Hospital Medicine 2013*

Brent W. Beasley, MD, FACP

Friday, September 12, 2014

8:00 a.m. *Missouri Tick Talk*

William E. Roland, MD, FACP

8:55 *Update in the Treatment of Pressure Ulcers*

David R. Thomas, MD, FACP, AGSF, GSAF

10:10 *Warts from Hell, and other Challenging Skin Conditions*

John DeSpain, MD

11:05 Chapter Business Meeting

1:00 p.m. *Joint Examination for the Internist*

Ann Warner MD, FACP

1:55 *Evolution of Patients with Abnormal Liver Enzymes*

Bruce R. Bacon, MD, FACP

3:05 *Pelvic Floor Disorders: Tips & Tricks for the Primary Care Physician*
Mary T. McLennan, MD

4:00 *U.S. Preventive Services Task Force Update: Lung Cancer Screening*
Michael LeFevre, MD, MSPH

4:50 *Targeting HbA1c in Diabetes: One Size Does Not Fit All*
Stephen Brietzke, MD, FACP, FACE

Saturday, September 13, 2014

8:00 a.m. *Hepatitis C 2014 and Beyond*
Donna E. Sweet, MD, AAHIVS, MACP

8:55 *Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder through the Lifespan: Transitioning from the hyperactive, inattentive child to the disorganized adult*
Annemarie K. Loth, MD

10:10 *Preventing Heart Disease with Diet and Lifestyle. State of the Art 2014 (What's Up with These New CV Prevention Guidelines?!)*
James H. O'Keefe, MD

11:05 *The Ethics of Advance Directives*
William B. Bondeson, Ph.D.

1:00 p.m. Poster Contest

3:00 *High Value Care, a Closer Look*
David A. Fleming, MD, MA, FACP

3:50 Doctor's Dilemma

5:30 Reception in poster area

Sunday, September 14, 2014

8:00 a.m. *Athletes and Heart Disease*
Alan D. Forker, MD, MACP

9:00 *Value-Based Work-up of Coronary Heart Disease: Evolving Practice of Nuclear Cardiology*
Timothy M. Bateman, MD

10:10 *Movement Disorders (Tremors, Parkinson's, etc) – approach to diagnosis*
Pratap Chand, MD, FRCP

11:05 *Biologics: The Good the Bad and the Ugly*
Anne Winkler, MD, PhD, MACP, FACR

Reflections of a First-time Capitol Hill Advocate

By **Richard Burns, MD, FACP; Governor-Elect**

When our current Governor **Dr. Alan Forker** asked me to write about my advocacy experience in Washington D.C. this past May, my first thought came to my feet. I was in our nation's capital as part of ACP's annual 'Leadership Day'; this grassroots event puts ACP physicians face-to-face with Congress and staffers, in an effort to highlight legislation of profound importance to both internists and patients. The day prior to scheduled congressional appointments there is an excellent workshop reviewing information for newbie attendees. One of the tips provided was to wear comfortable shoes. This simple advice was also included in an electronic handout, so I can't say I hadn't been adequately warned. Even my wife made the observation "no one looks at your feet anyway". Ignoring common sense, I packed away my nicest black loafers, believing this would give me the 'power look' needed to impress my audience and make a difference. My choice seemed to be a good one as I walked the voluminous house office buildings in style, and had finished half of my scheduled appointments when the blisters developed. I did all I could with the tools at hand (paper towels and toilet paper), when by accident I limped by a door marked 'Health Clinic'. A moment later I was armed with Band Aids and able to stave off potential podiatric disaster for the remainder of the day.

Blisters and all, I will remember my first ACP Leadership Day in the best of terms. I would not have guessed speaking with Missouri legislators could be so engaging, especially when the topics included repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate, extension of higher Medicaid reimbursement rates, and reforming our country's liability law. However, that is exactly what happened. Part of that was due to the excellent preparation I received at the advocacy workshop, but another part was just the thrill of being in Washington D.C.: There is a palpable level of excitement that is hard to find anywhere else. I would be remiss if I didn't admit to a certain degree of anxiety when walking into Representative Billy Long's office at 9:30 AM for my first scheduled appointment. That apprehension eased quickly with subsequent visits, and by keeping in mind the reason I was there: To share real stories involving real doctors and patients. I wasn't just another paid lobbyist that stalks Capitol Hill, but someone that had seen or felt the impact of a shrinking primary care workforce, or a needless malpractice suit, or woefully inadequate Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates. I didn't need to be a policy wonk to expound on any of these topics. For more information on what I left behind for Congress to read, here is the [link](#). Each two-page handout summarizes one of the ACP's top legislative priorities, and makes a specific request of Congress. If asked to do Leadership Day again, I would do so without hesitation. However, next time I'll bring a different pair of shoes.

The ACP Advocate Blog

SGR has been patched, but not fixed. Learn more about daily details by reading Bob Doherty's award winning blog covering healthcare in Washington D.C. Go to the bottom right of the ACP [homepage](#) and look for a link to The ACP Advocate Blog.

Health Insurance Marketplace Enrollment

Your patients may receive assistance with the Health Insurance Marketplace by calling 573-817-8338 or by sending an [email](#).