Presidential Update

The American Academy of Osteopathy Board of Trustees and Board of Governors and the administrative leadership in Indianapolis wish you a happy and pleasant summer. It has been my pleasure to serve you as President since convocation in March. Since then, I’ve had the privilege to speak on behalf of the AAO in many occasions, including the Texas Osteopathic Association’s House of Delegates, Oklahoma Osteopathic Association’s state convention, the Florida Academy of Osteopathy, and as your representative to the Council of Osteopathic Post-doctoral Training (COPT) and the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic Education (BOE).

In addition, the AOA has called upon me to be the representative at the most recent RUC (Relative Value Update Committee) of the AMA. It was my pleasure to meet many D.O.s that are active in the practice of osteopathic manipulative medicine in Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida during these meetings. It is encouraging to me personally to be an encouragement to them as they carry on the high calling of being an osteopathic physician and surgeon. Many of them have concerns regarding the healthcare medical industrial complex and the insurance regulatory industry. I share their concerns. The American Academy of Osteopathy in conjunction with the AOA is working to ensure that we are adequately represented and accurately portrayed to insurance companies and the federal government agencies.

To that end, the AOA called upon me to give testimony before the RUC in Chicago this spring regarding the codes for OMT. RUC determined that the AOA should re-survey the entire profession regarding the use of OMT, since it needed to be updated. The AOA Board of Trustees’ Boyd Buser is leading this effort with the assistance of your Academy. My testimony at RUC was well received and helped the AOA further the goal of adequate and accurate representation for D.O.s practicing osteopathic manipulative medicine.

This spring, I provided testimony to the COPT opposing the plan for COPT to eliminate one of the seven core competencies. The first core competency deals with the requirement that all osteopathic residents demonstrate competency in OPP and OMT. The COPT committee has been working for a few years trying to integrate the OPP and OMT into the other six core competencies. The AAO position is that we are not opposed to integration, but we are opposed to diminution of OPP and OMT and future amalgamation. To that end, I argued that we should keep all seven core competencies maintaining OPP and OMT as an important and separate core competency. At the COPT meeting all but one of the council members voted for six core competencies with integration. It was then taken to the Bureau of Osteopathic Education. There, I testified again, stating that under combined residency programs, a separate core competency regarding OPP and OMT is easy to administrate for the program director and maintains the unique osteopathic identity to the residency program. That argument won the day and the Bureau of Osteopathic Education recommended to the AOA Board of Trustees that D.O. residencies should have seven core competencies with integration of OPP and OMT into the program. Thus, your Academy was successful in defending the OPP and OMT portion of all osteopathic residencies, maintaining OPP and OMT in all osteopathic residencies within the profession. It now goes to the AOA Board of Trustees this July.

In a few weeks, we’ll be headed to Chicago to attend the AOA House of Delegates where there are several House resolutions that we are watching. One, regarding the use of the terms “osteopathy” and “osteopathic manipulation”, the other has to do with research funding for OMT and OMM and AOA’s core competency program that we discussed above. The Board of Trustees will be meeting prior to the AOA House of Delegates to go over the annual budget and programs for the coming year.

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2010 marks the “Year of the Osteopathic Spirit” and that spirit continues to be enlivened, enriched, and reinforced across the country. We have seen this displayed very nicely at the Florida Academy of Osteopathy and in the annual Cranial Academy meeting. At the Cranial Academy meeting Dr. R. Paul Lee’s program was titled “Matter and Spirit, the Study of Fluid, Fascia, and Function”. It was interesting to see the synergy happening across the profession regarding 2010 being the year in which we emphasize the spirit of osteopathy as it affects both the practitioner and the patient.

Previously, I talked about the core osteopathic principles that we all ascribe to; that being body unity, structure, and function are reciprocally interrelated. The body possesses homeostatic mechanisms and rational therapy is based upon the use and knowledge of the previous three principles. The osteopathic physician and surgeon also approaches the patient looking not for naming diseases but by identifying health and promoting health. This is the opposite of the allopathic training where the identification of the evil influences that are affecting the poor, suffering victim from the outside has to be identified and obliterated with a pill, potion, or scalpel. This allopathic approach to identifying disease and focusing on death and destruction is the opposite of the osteopathic approach to the patient cure. The osteopathic approach to the patient is embodied in the culture of life, not death. It is not emphasizing the culture of death. It is not emphasizing the name of the disease. It is not emphasizing and identifying the limitations of the physiology of the body, but identifying the possibilities and the existence of physiological mechanisms towards health that can be rallied, improved, and supported with good osteopathic procedures and healthcare delivery.

You, as a D.O. practice in this culture of life, this culture that identifies the needs and the existence of life within your patients’ body, mind, and spirit are the person who supports life. You are the physician that identifies the possibilities for health in forcing and reinforcing the homeostatic, structural, functional, and integrative and relationships that build up the body, one that is unified and whole. By giving that patient hope, by showing love in action, you are the one where grace acts upon nature. It is in your hands that you get to feel this life force, it is in your hands that you get to touch the patient and transform that patient into a more perfect, physiological whole.

This “year of the osteopathic spirit” is the incorporeal consciousness of us as osteopaths. The consciousness of a person is constantly molded and redeveloped by what one values and what one appreciates, what one thinks about, and what one envisions and idealizes their life to be. If one fills their mind, eyes, ears, and heart with scenes of disease, death, and destruction, one becomes more the purveyor to death. If one fills one’s life with demonstrable actions of life, one becomes more in union with life. This sense of one’s collective identity in viewing our attitudes, beliefs, and sensitivities are considered to be characteristic of us, the AAO. Our incorporeal consciousness is based upon a culture of life, body unity, structure function, interrelatedness, and looking for health as opposed to disease. Furthermore, we use rational therapy, not therapy based upon mere faith or supposition, but one that is based upon facts and reason.

It was interesting to find from the scientific literature at the Cranial Academy meeting, microscopic realities that have identified the physiological and structural changes associated with osteopathic manipulative medicine, specifically the subtle, indirect forms of OMT provided by cranial osteopaths. These electromagnetic changes and physiological changes that have been identified verify the truth of what Drs. Will Sutherland and A.T. Still have described as palpatory experiences, now revealed in scientific literature throughout the world. I suggest you contact the Cranial Academy for CDs and DVDs of this latest program that identifies the histological and physiological changes associated with the fascia and somatic dysfunction.

Until next time, keep touching, feeling and healing osteopathically.

In Your Service,

Richard A. Feely, D.O. FAAO
AAO President

AAO Executive Director Message

AAO President Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO; Michael Seffinger, DO and I attended the Cranial Academy Conference in Palm Springs from June 17-20, 2010. I staffed the AAO’s booth while Drs. Feely and Seffinger attended several Cranial Academy board and committee meetings as well as lectures and workshop. Several physicians expressed their concerns about not receiving The AAO Journal and Newsletter. The following email was sent to AAO members whose email addresses are listed with the Academy:

Dear Academy Member
In September 2009, the American Academy of Osteopathy moved to a new online database system, Aveutra Netforum, which allows members to update their information online. We use the same system to send the AAO
Journal, member newsletters and other alerts to our members to ensure that you are kept up to date on activities and events within the Academy.

We have heard concerns of members not receiving our emails since the switch to the Avectra system and we wanted to let you know that we are working closely with Avectra to solve this issue. Many email service providers and internet service providers have SPAM filters to keep out the unsolicited email. Due to the volume of members we have, Avectra uses a service called FreePatentsOnline.com to send our emails. This occasionally causes email service providers to interpret our emails as SPAM.

To ensure you continue to receive emails from the AAO, we ask that you work with your email provider to ensure that the SMTP server with the following domain name: odmail.avectra.com (IP address 64.211.220.1) is identified as a “safe sender” by your email provider.

Please contact the AAO if you continue to experience difficulty receiving the AAO Journal, member newsletters or alerts about upcoming courses from us.

Please be assured, as an Academy Member, you are very important to the AAO leadership and staff. We will continue to work on this issue until it comes to a satisfactory conclusion. The AAO staff sincerely appreciates your continued patience and support.

I have listed answers on other frequently asked questions regarding the new software system. First, go to http://www.academyofosteopathy.org

[ALERT -- if your email address is different than what is currently on file, you will duplicate your record. If unsure, please contact Membership Liaison Susan Lightle, at slightle@academyofosteopathy.org and she will confirm. Ms. Lightle will be able to change your email address without duplication.]

How do I login?
To login, you need to select the login option on the bottom of the menu on the left hand side of your screen. Enter in your primary email address and your existing AAO password. If you do not have an existing AAO password, you must use the password “Password1” to login for the first time. You will be prompted to reset your password once logged in.

I forgot my password, what do I do?
Select the login button on the left hand side of your screen. When you select the ‘forgot password’ option, you will be prompted to enter in your email address for which you are registered. The system will email you a link to create a new password.

How do I change my password?
Select the “my information” option on the menu on the left hand side of your screen. Your current information will appear on the screen. To change your current password, you may select the “change password” tab on the top of the screen. You will be required to enter in both your current password as well as your new password. Once complete, select the “change” button on the bottom of the screen.

How do I update my information?
Select the “my information” option on the menu on the left hand side of your screen. Your current information will appear on the screen. If this information is not correct, you may select the “edit information” tab on the top of the screen. Once you have updated the desired information, select the “save” button on the bottom of your screen.

How do I register?
At the bottom of the menu on the left hand side of your screen, you will see a “login” item. At the login screen, if you are not a current AAO member or vendor, you will need to register as a new user. Once on the login page, please select the “new visitor registration” option. The first step will be to enter your email address. Once the system verifies that you are a new registrant, you will be prompted to submit your information (name, address, etc.). Once complete, select the “create account” button on the bottom of the screen. Please note that registering as a user for the AAO website does not mean you have become a member of the AAO.

How do I register for a course?
Once you are logged in, select the “online store” option on the left hand side of your screen. At the top of your screen, you will see a drop down box titled “shop for”. Use the drop down box to select the “event” option and select the “go” button. Once you have determined the type of course for which you are qualified, you may select it by using the “select” button
that corresponds with your desired course. The details of that item will appear. To confirm your purchase, you must select the “add to cart” button on that page. Once in the cart, you may select the “check out” button on the bottom of the screen and fill out the requested billing information.

**How do I purchase a book?**

Once you are logged in, select the “online store” option on the left hand side of your screen. At the top of your screen, you will see a drop down box titled “shop for”. Use the drop down box to select the “merchandise” option and select the “go” button. Once you have determined the type of publication for which you are qualified, you may select it by using the “select” button that corresponds with your desired purchase. The details of that item will appear. To confirm your purchase, you must select the “add to cart” button on that page. Once in the cart, you may select the “check out” button on the bottom of the screen and fill out the requested billing information.

**How do I subscribe to the AAO Journal?**

Once you are logged in, select the “online store” option on the left hand side of your screen. At the top of your screen, you will see a drop down box titled “shop for”. Use the drop down box to select the “subscription” option and select the “go” button. Once you have determined the type of subscription for which you are qualified, you may select it by using the “select” button that corresponds with your desired purchase. The details of that item will appear. To confirm your purchase, you must select the “add to cart” button on that page. Once in the cart, you may select the “check out” button on the bottom of the screen and fill out the requested billing information. *(This is a member benefit; journals and newsletters are automatically sent to members electronically)*.

**How do I renew my membership?**

Once you are an AAO member, our new system makes renewing your membership very simple. Click on Login. Use “preferred” email address we have on record or you will create a “duplicate” of yourself in the database. If you have visited our updated website previously and already have a password, use that password. If not, your password will be Password1 (case sensitive). You will then be required to change your password. Click on “My Transactions” then click on “Pay open Orders”. Click in the box by your name and click “Next”. Enter all required information in the payment screen. Cardholder’s name and address must be associated with credit/debit card. Choose “Next” then click “Submit Payment”. Receipt will automatically be sent to your preferred email address.

**Why does my original AAO username/password not work?**

In order to provide the best security for you when registering for courses or purchasing items such as books or journal subscriptions, the AAO has converted to a new system that is separate from the current AAO website. We are actively working to ensure a smooth transition and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

**How do I make a donation?**

Once you are logged in, select the “online store” option on the left hand side of your screen. At the top of your screen, you will see a drop down box titled “shop for”. Use the drop down box to select the “donation” option and select the “go” button. Once you have determined the level of donation you wish to make, you may select it by using the “select” button that corresponds with your desired donation amount. The details of that item will appear and you will be prompted to enter in the exact amount you wish to contribute. To confirm your purchase, you must select the “add to cart” button on that page. Once in the cart, you may select the “check out” button on the bottom of the screen and fill out the requested billing information.

**Academy Leaders Convene**

President Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO will convene the members of the Academy’s Board of Trustees for their summer meeting on July 10-11. This agenda is an important one for the conduct of routine Academy business, including the adoption of an operating budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The Board members will spend one-half day continuing the discussion around the 2011-2014 AAO Strategic Plan; where the Academy is now and where it needs to get to. The Board members will be reviewing the AOA Board and House Resolutions that are relative to the Academy and its members. The Academy has submitted to the AOA Board and House in support of five resolutions: B-6 – Revisions to Basic Standards for “Plus One” Residency Training and Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (BOE, COPT, AAO); B-19 – New Basic Standards for Residency Training in Internal Medicine and Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (AAO, AOCI); AOA Support of Osteopathic Research (AAO); B-5 – Integrated Core Competencies (BOE, COPT); and H-323 – Osteopath + Osteopathy-Use of Terms (AAO).
The American Osteopathic Association’s Board of Trustees and House of Delegates will meet at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago on July 13-18. Dr. Feely, AAO President-elect **Michael A. Seffinger**, DO; Immediate Past President **George Pasquarello**, DO, FAAO and Executive Director Diana Finley will attend the Board of Trustees meeting on July 13-15 and testify at reference committees where the AOA Board addresses its own agenda items in addition to considering the House resolutions. This presents the Academy’s leadership with a wonderful opportunity to have an influence on the AOA Board’s position on these matters prior to their being debated by the full House of Delegates.

**Jane Carreiro**, DO will serve as the Academy’s delegate to the AOA House of Delegates for the July 16-18 meeting. Included in the 76 AAO members listed either as a delegate or alternate, five other Academy Officers/Trustees will be attending the House of Delegates as either delegates or alternates for their state organizations, including **Mark S. Cantieri**, DO, FAAO (Indiana), Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO (Illinois), **David Coffey**, DO, FAAO (Alabama), **George J. Pasquarello**, DO, FAAO (Rhode Island), and **Michael A. Seffinger**, DO (California).

For the 17th consecutive year, the Academy will sponsor osteopathic diagnosis and treatment education workshops at the House of Delegates meeting on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. OD&TE Committee Chairperson **Nate DeLisi**, DO has solicited volunteers from among Academy members who are delegates from their state societies. **Kenneth Nelson**, DO, FAAO will assist delegates in staffing the workshops. This is an excellent opportunity to promote the Academy and its issues with the profession’s political leadership. Dr. Nelson hopes each AAO member attending the House of Delegates will treat at least one colleague during this meeting. I know the osteopathic physicians and AAO staff will appreciate you taking the time.

**Education Committee Holds Summer Meeting**

**John G. Hohner**, DO, FAAO will convene the Education Committee at AAO headquarters on August 6-7. Highlights of the Committee’s agenda include: (1) needs assessment; (2) review and approval of the pre-registration brochure for the 2011 AAO Convocation; (3) reviewing and approving the marketing materials for the 2011 calendar of CME courses; (4) creating the course schedule for 2012 calendar year; (5) and consideration of new CME course proposals.

The Committee has received commitments from all 2010-2011 program chairpersons and will put the finishing touches on the 2011 calendar of CME courses at this meeting. The schedule for the next fiscal year includes the following:

- Oct. 7-9 – *Prolotherapy Weekend for All Levels and Experience* with Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO and George J. Pasquarello, DO, FAAO at UNECOM
- Oct. 24 – *OMT without an OMT Table* with Ann L. Habenicht, DO, FAAO in San Francisco
- Dec. 10-12 – *The Cranial Approaches of Beryl Arbuckle, DO* with Kenneth J. Lossing, DO at UMDNJSOM in New Jersey

**2011 Scheduled CME Events**

- Mar 12-15 – *New approach of osteo-articular manipulations” including the superior and inferior limbs* with Cabinet Jean-Pierre Barral, DO (France) at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO
- Mar 13-15 – Pre-Convocation Course: The Pediatric Gut and Neuroendocrine Immune System Development, Clinical implications, Diagnosis, Treatment
- June TBD – *Osteopathic Considerations in Sports Medicine* with Kurt Heinking, DO, FAAO at CCOM in Chicago, IL
Register today for the AOA’s 115th Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition

During OMED 2010 DOs will be able to earn up to 26 hours of Category 1-A CME credit for attending the didactic programs of the specialty colleges and the conference’s closing joint session. DOs are able to earn bonus hours of Category 1-A CME credit for attending special conference-wide programs and breakfast seminars. TOTAL POSSIBLE CATEGORY 1-A CME HOURS = 41.0.

The goals of the AOA’s CME program are the continued excellence of patient care and improving the health and well-being of the individual patient and the public. The purpose of the CME program is the growth of knowledge, the refinement of skills, and the deepening of understanding for the osteopathic profession.

Jane Carreiro, DO, Program Chair for the Academy’s program at the American Osteopathic Association’s Convention in Las Vegas has planned her program around the theme: “Working Together for our Patient’s Health”.

Dr. Carreiro is a 1988 graduate of the University Of New England College Of Osteopathic Medicine. She is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. She specializes in OMM; pain management; pediatric musculoskeletal, sports medicine and otitis media. Her research interests include osteopathic manipulation in otitis media and innervation patterns in the pelvis and sacral areas. Some of Dr. Carreiro’s publications include: Sensory Stimulation-Guided Sacroiliac Joint Radiofrequency Neuroanatomy: Technique Based on Neuroanatomy of the Dorsal Sacral Plexus; The Use of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment as Adjuvant Therapy; Guidelines for Training and Practice of Osteopathy and Osteopathic Medicine, World Health Organization 2007; An Osteopathic Approach to Children, which has been translated into German, French, and Italian and Pediatric Manual Medicine. Dr. Carreiro is a member of the AAO Board of Trustees, immediate past chairperson of the AAO Education Committee, and a member of the International Affairs Committee.

AAO Program Schedule

The following is the schedule of AAO events at the 2010 AOA Convention to be held October 23-27 in San Francisco.

Monday, October 25, 2010
8:00 – 9:30 AM AOA Keynote Speaker
9:30-9:45 AM Welcome and Introductions: Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO, President and Jane E. Carreiro, DO, Program Chairperson
9:45-10:30 AM Identifying addiction in the patient; Teodor Huzij, DO
10:30-11:30 AM Thomas L. Northup, DO Memorial Lecture: Low Frequency Oscillations in Human Physiology and Cranial Osteopathy; Kenneth E. Nelson, DO, FAAO
1:15-2:45 PM Integrated approach to the patient with fibromyalgia; Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO

Tuesday, October 26, 2010
10:30-12:00 PM Rapid OMT in the Hospital Setting; Brian E. Kaufman, DO
1:00-3:00 PM OMT in ENT; John G. Hohner, DO, FAAO
3:30-5:00 PM An Integrated Approach to Low Back Pain; Ann L. Habenicht, DO, FAAO

Wednesday, October 27, 2010
8:00-9:45 AM Learning from our international colleagues – A down under approach to neck pain; Michael Mulholland-Licht, DO
10:00-12:00 PM Learning from our international colleagues – Treating the geriatric patient: A European approach; Johannes Mayer, DO
1:00-2:30 PM The aging/older athlete; Paul Tortland, DO
3:00-5:00 PM Runner’s pelvis; Gunnar Brolinson, DO

The AAO leadership and Dr. Carreiro are very excited about this year’s program and urge you to take the time out of your practice and join them in San Francisco for the AOA’s Unity Conference. Registration and housing are now open for the AOA’s 115th Osteopathic Medical Conference & Exposition, which is taking place on October 24-28, 2010. You may download Official Hotel Information for OMED 2010 by clicking this link: Download the Hotel Information Sheet (PDF 160 KB) or Book Your Hotel Online -
Visit the site of our official housing partner ONPEAK to book your hotel reservations online.

**Online Registration**: Simply enter your Member number, Last Name and select the ‘Search’ button.

**By mail or fax**: Download the Registration Form (PDF 220 KB) Fax registration to: (301) 694-5124 or mail to AOA Convention Registration, PO Box 3918, Frederick, MD 21705-3918.

Make checks payable to: American Osteopathic Association. Advance registration material will be mailed out prior to the conference. Advance registration forms must be **RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2010**. Registrations received after this date will be processed and held onsite for pickup. For onsite registrations, $55.00 will be added to the advance registration fee.

Please be sure to **REGISTER AS AN ACADEMY MEMBER** since the AAO’s only revenue from the Convention accrues from attendees who check the AAO on their registration forms. Invite your AAO non-member colleagues to register for the Convention and remind them that they do NOT have to be an AAO member to REGISTER as an AAO MEMBER. **HOW TO SELECT THE APPROPRIATE REGISTRATION CATEGORY** - Check APPROPRIATE categories on the registration form – Register in Section 1 OR Section 2. The “Practice Group Categories” (Section 1) are for those who choose to register in a specialty category. If you desire to register with more than one participating practice affiliated organization, you may do so. Please indicate your PRIMARY CHOICE. You will receive an affiliate ribbon for each choice, and your name will appear on the attendance roster of each practice organization selected. The “AOA Categories” (Section 2) are for those who register without a practice designation. Regardless of the registration category selected, registrants are entitled to attend ANY of the didactic sessions planned by ANY of the participating organizations. Although membership in a participating affiliated organization is not a requirement to register for the practice group, AOA membership is a requirement for registration in ANY of the practice categories listed.

### OMT Guidelines Added to National Guideline Clearinghouse


### AOA President Writes to Osteopathic Physicians

**Friday, June 25, 2010**

**My Letter to the Osteopathic Family on the Medicare Physician Payment Formula**

Dear Osteopathic Family:

As most of you are well aware, physicians participating in the Medicare program had their payments cut 21% on June 1. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), after holding claims for several business days, instructed their intermediaries to pay claims reflecting this cut on June 18. This cut and the continued use of the sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula are having a devastating impact upon beneficiaries’ access to health care and your practice. On June 24, Congress once again intervened and reversed this cut through November 30, 2010. This means that physicians and their patients have a total of 158 days until the next cut is implemented – not exactly stability.

Earlier this year, Congress approved, and the President enacted, comprehensive health care reforms that will expand access to affordable health coverage; increase access to physicians – especially primary care physicians; transform our delivery system to promote quality and efficiency; and lower the cost of health care. The AOA supported each of these goals. However, we are both concerned and confused as to why Congress has failed to act on one element of health care reform that is widely acknowledged to be an enormous problem with an identified solution. Reform of the Medicare physician payment formula is health care reform and is sound economic policy. It is a reform that preserves access to health care for millions of our nation’s seniors, the disabled, and military families. Additionally, long-term reforms are essential to preserving millions of jobs in the health care sector, advancing quality improvement, and achieving our goal of transforming our health care system through health information technology.
The AOA recently commissioned an independent poll of our members to determine the true impact current and proposed payment policies have upon their practices. When physicians who have at least some say in what kind of insurance they accept in their practices were asked about the pending 21% cut in Medicare payments, only 42% said they would definitely or probably continue seeing their current Medicare patients if the cut were to occur. Thirty-three percent were undecided as to whether they would continue to see their current Medicare patients, and 24% said they probably or definitely would not continue seeing Medicare patients. Additionally, only 30% of physicians currently accepting new Medicare patients said they would continue to do so if the cut were to be implemented (32% said they might, and 37% said they probably or definitely would not). When we asked these same physicians about their participation in the Medicare program if meaningful and long-term payment reforms were enacted, 94% said they would continue seeing their current Medicare patients and 92% indicated they would continue to accept new Medicare patients. These numbers should be a “wake up” call to policymakers, but they seem to be falling on deaf ears. Since 2002, the flawed SGR formula has plagued the Medicare program. Congress has acted 10 times to prevent cuts from being implemented, including three times in 2010 alone. Each of these actions and their results are outlined in a chart included with this letter.

Despite its willingness to prevent cuts from being implemented, Congress has displayed on a bipartisan and bicameral basis that they are incapable of enacting meaningful, long-term reforms. In short, we are now at a point where the AOA has serious doubts that Congress is capable of ever fulfilling its responsibilities to the Medicare program, Medicare beneficiaries, TRICARE, or physicians with respect to payment issues. While the AOA remains confident that Congress and the Administration will take the necessary steps to prevent further implementation of the current 21% cut or similar future cuts, we do not believe that you or your patients can reasonably expect any type of meaningful payment reform in the near future. We believe that short-term, stopgap measures are the only achievable policies that Congress is capable of approving over the next few years. Based on this belief, we no longer view the Medicare program as a predictable and equitable payer of physician services.

A commitment to providing high quality health care to patients should remain your top priority. The AOA does not promote, nor do we support, physicians abandoning patients regardless of the underlying circumstances. Patients place great trust in you as a physician, and you should honor that trust by ensuring that your patients have the care they need in a timely manner. However, we also recognize that physicians must be compensated equitably for the services they provide and that the current Medicare formula is falling short of this objective.

To this end, we feel it is important that the AOA provide all osteopathic physicians with unbiased, yet factual, information on your options as a practicing physician. The following information is designed to clearly articulate options available to you with respect to your participation in the Medicare program. Prior to taking any action with respect to the Medicare program, we urge all members to carefully evaluate their current practices to determine the impact of any change in participation status. Additionally, we urge you to familiarize yourself with applicable state laws related to participation in Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and other public programs. The AOA is not advising our members to take a specific action regarding participation in the Medicare program nor offering legal advice regarding these issues. Participation decisions involve binding legal documents, and all members are strongly encouraged to consult with their own legal advisors and consultants prior to making a decision on these matters. Our goal is to provide you with the necessary information, thus enabling you to make an informed decision.

1. Medicare Participating Physician
Physicians may sign a participation agreement (PAR) and accept Medicare’s allowed charge as payment in full for all of their Medicare patients. Participating physicians agree to accept assignment on all Medicare claims, which means that they must accept Medicare’s approved amount, which is the 80% that Medicare pays plus the 20% patient copayment, as payment in full for all covered services for the duration of the calendar year. The patient or the patient’s secondary insurer is still responsible for the 20% copayment, but the physician cannot bill the patient for amounts in excess of the Medicare allowance. While participating physicians must accept assignment on all Medicare claims, Medicare participation agreements do not require physicians to accept every Medicare patient who seeks treatment from them or their practice.

2. Medicare Non-Participating Physician
Physicians may elect to be a non-participating (Non-PAR) physician, which permits them to make assignment decisions on a case-by-case basis and to bill patients for more than the Medicare allowance for unassigned claims. Non-participating physicians agree to accept 95 percent of the Medicare approved amounts for services provided. Non-participating
physicians may charge more than the Medicare approved amount, but are limited to 15 percent of the Medicare approved amount for participating physicians. Since approved amounts for non-participating physicians are 95 percent of the rates for participating physicians, the 15 percent limiting charge is effectively 9.25 percent above the participating approved amount for services provided. Given the projected 21.2 percent cut in Medicare physician payments, many physicians may consider balance billing an extra 9 percent as one means of helping close the gap between 2009 and the new 2010 payment amounts.

3. **Private Contracting**

Physicians may become a private contracting physician, agreeing to bill patients directly and forego any payments from Medicare to their patients or themselves. Provisions in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 afford physicians and their Medicare patients the freedom to privately contract for health care services outside the Medicare program. However, private contracting decisions may not be made on a patient-by-patient basis. To become a “private contracting physician,” a physician must first opt out of the Medicare program. Once a physician has opted out of Medicare, they cannot submit claims to Medicare for services provided to any Medicare patients for a two-year period. To privately contract with a Medicare beneficiary, a physician must enter into a private contract that meets specific requirements. In addition to the private contract, the physician must also file an affidavit that meets certain requirements. There is a 90-day period after the effective date of the first opt-out affidavit during which physicians may revoke the opt-out and return to Medicare as if they had never opted out of the Medicare program.

A physician who has not been excluded under Sections 1128, 1156 or 1892 of the Social Security Act (SSA) may order, certify the need for, or refer a beneficiary for Medicare covered items and services, provided the physician is not paid, directly or indirectly, for such services (except for emergency and urgent care services). For example, if a physician who has opted out of Medicare refers a beneficiary for medically necessary services, such as laboratory, DMEPOS, or inpatient hospitalization, those services would be covered by Medicare.

Physicians who have opted out of Medicare under the Medicare private contract provisions may furnish emergency care services or urgent care services to a Medicare beneficiary with whom the physician has previously entered into a private contract as long as the physician and beneficiary entered into the private contract before the onset of the emergency medical conditions or urgent medical condition. These services would be furnished under the terms of the private contract.

Physicians who have opted out of Medicare under the Medicare private contract provisions may continue to furnish emergency (or urgent care services) to a Medicare beneficiary with whom the physician has not previously entered into a private contract, provided the physician submits a claim to Medicare in accordance with both 42 C.F.R. part 424 (relating to conditions for Medicare payment) and Medicare instructions (including but not limited to complying with proper coding of emergency or urgent care services furnished by physicians and practitioners who have opted out of Medicare) and collects no more than the Medicare limiting charge, in the case of a physician (or the deductible and coinsurance, in the case of a practitioner). A physician who has been excluded from Medicare must comply with Medicare regulations relating to scope and effect of the exclusion (42 C.F.R. § 1001.1901) when the physician furnishes emergency services to beneficiaries, and the physician may not bill and be paid for urgent care services.

In closing, I urge each of you to continue to voice your concerns with current Medicare payment policies to your elected officials. The AOA has numerous vehicles by which you can communicate with your Representatives and Senators on this issue. You may use the AOA’s Legislative Hotline – (877) 262-9400 to call your elected officials or you can send a letter via the AOA’s Advocacy Website – [www.capwiz.com/aoa-aoia](http://www.capwiz.com/aoa-aoia).

The AOA, through our Department of Government Relations, continues to advocate for fair and equitable payment policies on your behalf. I assure you that we are deploying all available resources to protect your ability to provide quality health care to your patients. Again, I urge you to join our advocacy efforts by expressing your concerns to your elected officials today.

Fraternally,

Larry A. Wickless, DO  
President, American Osteopathic Association
The Academy’s Postdoctoral Standards and Evaluation Committee (PSE) continues to be very active in its role of program monitoring, inspection and development of all Academy related Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (NMM) residency training programs, as well as keeping the AAO’s Board of Trustees apprised of all PSE activities. The 26 committee members are committed to quality Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education (OGME) programming and meet five times each year in order to obtain our goals.

The committee currently monitors and inspects eight NMM/OMM two-year residency programs; 17 NMM Plus-One residency programs; and seven Integrated Family Practice and NMM residency programs with a total of 67 residents. As chair of the PSE, I have been honored to be appointed for two years to the American Osteopathic Associations’ Postdoctoral Training and Review Committee (PTRC), the governing body to whom we report all findings and has the power of final determination of our committee recommendations.

During the past academic year, PSE members have inspected three residency programs with timely reports to the PTRC and look forward to inspecting another two programs this month.

The committee has complied with the AOA’s Council on Osteopathic Postgraduate Training (COPT) mandates to revise all basic documents in the “uniform standard format” with the NMM/OMM and NMM Plus-One documents approved with new document revisions beginning July 2010. These and all AOA basic standards documents can be found at the AOA’s fast-links website at: http://www.do-online.org/index.cfm?PageID=ir_main&au=R&SubPageID=acc_postdocstdspeclistnew. Our final document for the Integrated FP/NMM Residency is due by July 2011 and we will work closely with the ACOFP’s Committee on Education and Evaluation (CEE) to meet that deadline.

This year’s Residency Program Director’s workshop was delivered by David C. Mason, DO; Michael P. Rowane, DO, FAAO and Hugh M. Ettlinger, DO, FAAO followed by a presentation by Dr. Ettlinger entitled, “Introduction to NMM Residency Training” targeting osteopathic medical students interested in learning more about Academy- sponsored graduate medical education training programs. All residency program directors were encouraged to attend and give interested applicants “face to face” time with directors.

Lori A. Dillard, DO was again instrumental in developing and organizing this year’s annual residency in-service exam with assistance from PSE members and the two-hour written and four-hour hands-on practical examinations were given to 51 NMM residents-in-training during the convocation in Colorado Springs.

Along with Academy staff, I participated in the PTRC’s first annual “Specialty College Workshop”. This half-day program focused on improving communication between the AOA and specialty college committees on postgraduate education.

PSE has recommended to the PTRC 15 physicians as “residency complete” which allows those individuals that have already taken the AOBNMM and passed to move from “board eligible” to “board certified” status. Unfortunately, there remain five physicians who have not been recommended as “residency complete” typically due to failing to complete their residency paperwork or scholarly activity. Clearing up this list continues to be of the highest priority for the committee and for the Academy’s Board of Trustees.

Additionally, the PSE is happy to have been able to recommend for approval two new residency programs, one NMM Plus-One and in conjunction with the ACOFP’s CEE one Integrated FP/NMM. Both programs will be located in South Miami, Florida out of Larkin Community Hospital. Finally, through collaboration with the American College of Osteopathic Internists’ Committee on Education and Evaluation (ACOI CEE), we have been able to put forward and get AOA approval for an entirely new residency training opportunity, the Integrated IM/NMM Residency four-year program. Although there have been no applications for training programs from institutions, this new document goes into effect July 2010 and new residency applications will be considered by both specialty colleges.
Golden Ram Campaign Grows

A request for contributions was sent to each AAO member, along with the annual dues statement, and has begun to generate substantial contributions for its fund-raising campaign. AAO members have an opportunity to make their contribution to the campaign along with their remittance of annual membership dues. The Academy’s leadership encourages all AAO members to support this annual fund. As of June 30, 2010, 40 donors have already contributed a total of $7,803. Beginning July 1, 2010, you have the option of making a recurring monthly donation of $25 or more. The AAO leadership hopes this available system will ease your ability to continue donating to the AAO. For additional information, please contact Kelli Bowersox, Education, Marketing and Donor Relations Liaison at 317-879-1881 to set up your rolling donation today.

President’s Club- $2,500 or More
Daniel J. Kary, DO, FAAO

T.L. Northup Club- $500 to $999
Gretta A. Gross, DO
Monica M. Rogalski, DO
Jeanne R. Roll, MD

Louisa Burns Club - $250 to $499
Dennis A. Burke, DO
Edward R. Douglas, DO
Sharon Gustowski, DO, MPH
David B. Hagie, DO
Stefan L.J. Hagopian, DO, FAAO

Vicki Dyson Club - $100 to $249
Charles A. Beck, DO
Daniel F. Bensky, DO
Thomas R. Byrnes, DO
Elizabeth C. Clark, DO
Kevin C. Considine, DO
Lori A. Dillard, DO
Lyudmila Edshutey, DO
Melvin R. Friedman, DO
Jerel H. Glassman, DO
Richard N. Halstead, DO
Christie A. James, DO
Michael Z. Kuschelevski, MD
Kenneth J. Lossing, DO
Candace Nowak, DO
Mark E. Rosen, DO
Eric L. Schneider, DO
Jean Ann Swift, DO

Supporter - up to $99
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J. Wayne Dillard, DO
Kelly Evans, DO
Jeffrey Greenfield, DO
Yumiko Kabasawa, (Japan)
Mary E. Malcolm, DO
Masami Matarai, (Japan)
Ian Schofield, DO (UK)
Daniel A. Shadoan, DO
Mary M. Smith, DO
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Beth N. Thompson, DO
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Jeanne Marie Wahl, DO

Touro University Nevada

Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine (TUNCOM) is seeking an osteopathic physician (D.O.) for a full-time faculty position in the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Responsibilities include teaching, patient care and program development. In addition, there are opportunities for conducting research.

Qualifications:
Graduate of an AOA-approved osteopathic medical college
Satisfactory completion of an AOA-approved internship
Certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine or American Osteopathic Board of Neuramuskuloskeletal Medicine.
The applicant must also be licensable in the State of Nevada.

TUNCOM offers a competitive salary and benefits package. Touro University Nevada is an EEO.

In addition, Southern Nevada has year-round sunshine with excellent weather, close proximity to Zion, Bryce and Grand Canyon National Parks, world-class food and entertainment in Henderson and neighboring Las Vegas, and convenient access to an international airport.

Information regarding this position may be obtained by contacting:
Paul R. Rennie, DO, FAAO
Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine
Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine
874 American Pacific Drive, Henderson, NV 89014
(702) 777-1813
paul.rennie@tun.touro.edu

Application Closing Date: Open until filled.

Dallas Osteopathic Study Group

presents

Ligamentous Articular Strain Techniques
Basic Course

August 14-15, 2010
Dallas, Texas

16 OMM hrs Category 1-A from the American Osteopathic Association anticipated.

Course limited to 40.

For course information, please contact
Conrad A. Speece, D.O.
214-321-2673 or cjスペースee@yahoo.com
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The American Academy of Osteopathy® is proud and honored to continue the service to the osteopathic medical profession by providing a new publication celebrating and preserving the published works of osteopathic physicians who have influenced and advanced the practice of osteopathic manual medicine. The Collected Works of Philip E. Greenman, DO, FAAO presents a body of research and practice that is still having impact today on teaching in colleges of osteopathic medicine and the planning of osteopathic clinical research. Dr. Greenman’s contributions span topics from osteopathy in the cranial field, osteopathic medical education, lift therapy, structural diagnosis, to exercise therapy and manipulation under anesthesia.

Hollis H. King, DO, PhD, FAAO, Editor

“What I do know is that when I put my hands on a patient as part of a comprehensive physical exam, I begin to evolve a line of questioning that isn’t entirely conscious. I pick up information in my hands that guide the questions I next need to ask.”
- Philip E. Greenman, DO, FAAO

Book Order Form

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All orders must be prepaid

Type of payment:  Check/Money Order  Visa  MasterCard         Discover

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I hereby agree to charge the above card for the total book order.

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RETURN POLICY

A restocking fee of $5.00 per book will be charged for all returns. Returns will be allowed within 30 days of the date of the invoice if pre-authorized. After 30 days, if approved for return, a credit will be issued for a future purchase. No damage to product per our policy. (No barcode stickers on book.) The item has not been removed from its shrink wrap. Shipping is not refunded. Item must be returned at your cost.
OMT Without an OMT Table

October 24, 2010 in San Francisco, CA

Course Description: Many physicians work in an outpatient setting with high tables or carts on which to examine and treat the patient. This presents a challenge: how can the patient be effectively treated with OMT? This course is designed to offer solutions for treating patients in an outpatient setting without an OMT table. The course is designed for primary care, urgent care and emergency medicine physicians who want to treat their patients with OMT but have been frustrated by the office equipment. Participants will treat on chairs and inadequate height tables. OMT utilizing high velocity/low amplitude facilitated positional release, Still, muscle energy, and myofascial release techniques will be included. Common patient complaints will be addressed.

Learning Objectives:
1. To perform quick and efficient OMT for common outpatient complaints.
2. To demonstrate ability to treat utilizing appropriate height tables and carts.
3. To demonstrate ability to treat utilizing chairs.

Prerequisites: The participant should have a basic understanding of functional anatomy.

CME: The program anticipates being approved for 8 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credit pending approval by the AOA CCME.

Program Time Table:
Sunday, October 24, 2010.................8:00 am - 5:00 pm (lunch on your own)

Registration Form
OMT Without an OMT Table
October 24, 2010

Name: _____________________________________________
Nickname for Badge: _______________________________________
Street Address: ____________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip: ____________
Phone: ___________________ Fax: ______________________
Email: ______________________

Registration Rates
OMT Without an OMT Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>$225.00</th>
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<td>Credit Card #:</td>
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Register online at www.academyofosteopathy.org

July AAO Newsletter 2010
Prolotherapy Weekend

October 7-9, 2010 at UNECOM

Course Outline:
Thursday, Oct 7: This is required for those physicians who have not taken a prior course in prolotherapy. It will include an introduction to prolotherapy, wound healing, degenerative postural cascade, coding and billing.
Friday and Saturday, Oct 8-9: Participants will be divided into two groups, beginners and advanced. These two groups will alternate between lectures and anatomy and injection technique while the other group will be in the anatomy lab performing injections under supervision and reviewing prossections.

Presenting:
Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO, Program Chair
George J. Pasquarello, DO, FAAO

Prerequisites
Functional Anatomy; (1) Level I course or equivalent

CME
The program anticipates being approved for 20 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credit pending approval by the AOA CCME.

Program Time Table
Thursday, October 7 ............................. 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Friday, October 8 .................................... 8:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday, October 9 ................................ 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

Thursday includes a 30 minute break; Friday & Saturday include (2) 15 minute breaks and a (1) hour lunch

Who May Attend Policy
The primary educational objective for AAO is to provide programs aimed to improve understanding of philosophy and diagnostic/manipulative skills for AAO members, DOs who are not AAO members, individuals who are licensed for the unlimited scope and practice of medicine, and for those in programs leading to such license.

Registration Form
Prolotherapy Weekend, October 7-9, 2010

Name: _____________________________________________
Nickname for Badge: ________________________________
Street Address: _____________________________________
___________________________________________________
City: _____________________    State: _____   Zip: ________
Office Phone: _________________    Fax: ________________
E-Mail: ____________________________________________

By releasing your Fax/Email you have given the AAO permission to send marketing information regarding courses via fax or email.

AOA#: __________    College/Yr Grad: ________________
❒ I require a vegetarian meal
(AAO makes every attempt to provide snacks/meals that will meet participant’s needs, but, we cannot guarantee to satisfy all requests.)

Registration Rates
$1,200 (if book has been previously purchased)
$1,510 to include course syllabus:

AAO accepts Check, Visa, Mastercard, or Discover

Make checks payable to “American Academy of Osteopathy”

Credit Card # ______________________________________
Cardholder’s Name _________________________________
Date of Expiration _________________ CW2#_____________

I hereby authorize the American Academy of Osteopathy® to charge the above credit card for the full course registration amount.

Signature _________________________________________

Travel Arrangements
Globally Yours Travel
Tina Callahan at (800) 274-5975

* A rental car is recommended since the campus is located about 15-20 minutes from most hotels and restaurants.

Cancellation and Refund Policy.
The American Academy of Osteopathy® reserves the right to cancel an educational program if insufficient physicians pre-register. Sufficient registrations must be received 30 days prior to the opening of the course. If you are considering registering for a course less than 30 days prior to the opening, contact the Academy office before making travel plans. In the event of course cancellation by the Academy due to lack of registration, all registration money will be refunded. Cancellation from participants received in writing up to 30 days prior to the course opening are subject to withholding of a 20-percent administrative fee or they may transfer 80-percent of their tuition to another educational program to be held within the next 12 months. Cancellations received in writing under 30 days prior to the course opening can transfer 80-percent of their course registration fee to another course to be held within the next 12 months. Any registrant who fails to appear for an AAO program can transfer up to 50-percent of their registration fee to another AAO educational program to be held within the next 12 months if a written and signed explanation is received at the AAO office within 10 days of the scheduled course. All other cancellations will receive no refund or transfer of registration fees.

Course Location:
University of New England, Biddeford Campus
11 Hills Beach Road
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207) 283-0171
http://www.une.edu

Registration Form
Prolotherapy Weekend, October 7-9, 2010

Name: _____________________________________________
Nickname for Badge: ________________________________
Street Address: _____________________________________
___________________________________________________
City: _____________________    State: _____   Zip: ________
Office Phone: _________________    Fax: ________________
E-Mail: ____________________________________________

By releasing your Fax/Email you have given the AAO permission to send marketing information regarding courses via fax or email.

AOA#: __________    College/Yr Grad: ________________
❒ I require a vegetarian meal
(AAO makes every attempt to provide snacks/meals that will meet participant’s needs, but, we cannot guarantee to satisfy all requests.)

Registration Rates
$1,200 (if book has been previously purchased)
$1,510 to include course syllabus:

AAO accepts Check, Visa, Mastercard, or Discover

Make checks payable to “American Academy of Osteopathy”

Credit Card # ______________________________________
Cardholder’s Name _________________________________
Date of Expiration _________________ CW2#_____________

I hereby authorize the American Academy of Osteopathy® to charge the above credit card for the full course registration amount.

Signature _________________________________________

14 July AAO Newsletter 2010
The Cranial Approach of Beryl Arbuckle, DO
December 10-12, 2010 at UMDNJSOM

Course Description:
This course traces the cranial approaches of early Drs. William G. Sutherland, Beryl Arbuckle, and Robert Fulford.

Dr. Arbuckle was one of Dr. Sutherland’s earliest students, studying with him before he taught using primary respiration as a therapeutic force. This style was described in the 1939 edition of “The Cranial Bowl”. Diagnosis was performed by palpating the position of the cranial bones, and motion testing. Since Dr. Arbuckle treated mainly children, the treatment approach she used was mostly direct technique. Dr. Arbuckle was able to attend hundreds of autopsies, mostly on pediatric neurological cases. She observed that the dura had regularly arranged fibers which she called “stress fibers”. These stress fibers were thought to be normal fibers that reflected embryological development, but could also transmit abnormal amounts of tension. Interestingly enough, nearly half a world away, Eric Blecshmidt described almost exactly the same phenomenon, which he called dural girdles. Dr. Arbuckle also noticed that the skull was reinforced in certain places, which she called buttresses. The stress bands and buttresses are used in both diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Fulford was a student of both Drs. Sutherland and Arbuckle. His cranial approach was a reflection of his training. Dr. Lossing was fortunate to be able to study with Dr. Fulford over a nine year period, and through years of practice has been able to recreate many of the diagnostic and treatment approaches.

Course Objectives: Explore the embryology of the head, motion test the SBS, motion test the cranial base, motion test the face, motion test the buttresses, motion test the cranial/cervical junction, motion test the sacrum, unlock the boney skull, unlock the membranes, work with stress bands, and explore the significance of thoracic respiration.

CME: The program anticipates being approved for 24 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credit pending approval by the AOA CCME.

Program Time Table:
Friday, December 10, 2010......................... 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday, December 11, 2010...................... 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 12, 2010....................... 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Course Location:
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine
One Medical Center Drive
Stratford, New Jersey 08084-1501
http://som.umdnj.edu/

Program Chair: Kenneth J. Lossing, DO
Dr. Lossing is a 1994 graduate of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Lossing completed an internship and residency program at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He studied under the French Osteopath, Jean-Pierre Barral, DO and has become an internationally known speaker on Visceral Manipulation. Dr. Lossing is a member of the AAO’s Board of Trustees.

Travel Arrangements:
Globally Yours Travel
Tina Callahan
(800) 274-5975

Registration Form
The Cranial Approach of Beryl Arbuckle, DO
December 10-12, 2010

Name: _______________________________________
Nickname for Badge: ___________________________
Street Address: _________________________________
City: __________________ State: ______ Zip: ________
Phone: __________________ Fax: __________________
Email: _________________________________________

By releasing your Fax/Email you have given the AAO permission to send marketing information regarding courses via fax or email.

AOA #: __________________

☐ I require a vegetarian meal

(AAO makes every attempt to provide snacks/meals that will meet participant’s needs, but, we cannot guarantee to satisfy all requests.)

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LOOKING FOR A CERTIFIED DO to be an associate in a busy (fee for service) practice in the northern Virginia area. Certification in Family Practice is helpful. Please contact DrBlood@MyBodyDoctor.com.
AOA Calendar of Events

2010

July 10-11: Board of Trustees Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana
July 12-18: AOA Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees & House of Delegates, Chicago, Illinois
Aug 6-7: Education Committee Meeting, Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana
Aug 6-7: UAAO Council Summer Meeting, Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana
August 11: PS&E Committee Meeting at 7:30 pm (EST) via teleconference
October 7-9: Prolotherapy Weekend at UNECOM, Biddeford, Maine
October 23: One Day Pre-Convention coding workshop, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
October 24-28: AOA OMED, San Francisco, California
October 24: PS&E Committee Meeting, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
October 24: Fellowship Committee, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
October 24: Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research Committee, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
October 24: Education Committee, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
October 25: Strategic Planning and/or Board of Trustees, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
November 20-21: AOBNNMExams, Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana
December 10-12: The Cranial Approach of Beryl Arbuckle, DO at UMDNJ SOM in Stratford, New Jersey

2011

February 9: PS&E Committee Meeting, AOA Convention, San Francisco, California
March 15: Education Committee Meeting, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
March 15: Postdoctoral Seandards and Evaluation Committee, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
March 15: Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research Committee, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
March 16: Board of Governors, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
March 16 and 19: Board of Trustees, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
March 16: Investment Committee, AAO Convocation, Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado
June 8: PS&E Committee Meeting, Teleconference
July 9-10: Board of Trustees

Component Society Calendar of Events

December 3-5, 2010: “29th Annual Winter Update”, 20 hours category 1-A CME credit anticipated, pending approval by AOA CME, Marriott Hotel, Indianapolis, IN, Sponsor: Indiana Osteopathic Association, Contact: IOA 317-926-3009 or 800-942-0501 or info@osteo.org

AOBNM MM Certifies Physicians

Chairperson Melicien A. Tettambel, DO, FAAO is pleased to report that the following physicians have been recertified in 2010 by the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine: Peter J. Adler-Michaelson, DO, PhD; Todd A. Bezilla, DO; Juanita M. Brown, DO; Michael S. Carnes, DO, FAAO; Jennifer L. Highland, DO; Christopher M. LaFontano, DO; Emmy Lawrason, DO; Marianne Longacre, DO; Barry Drew Malina, DO; Susan Milani, DO; William F. Morris, DO; and Keelyn Wu, DO.

Dr. Tettambel is also pleased to report that the following physicians successfully became certified in NMM/OMM in November 2009: MAJ. Brian B. Cushing, DO; Joshua Dalton, DO; Joshua F. Krembs, DO; Gail E. Lamb, DO; Christine Ann Mitchell, DO; Joy L. Palmer, DO; Melissa Pearce, DO; Jean S. Rettos, DO; Turner Slichio, DO; Thomas B. Stason, DO; Troy M. Taduran, DO; Ben Taylor, DO; and Daniel C. Umberger, DO.

Congratulations to all!
OMT Shortens Hospital Stay
Osteopathic Research Center in Fort Worth sends News Release on “Hands-on” Manipulative Treatment Shortens Hospital Stay and Decreases Mortality in Older Adults Hospitalized with Pneumonia. Read the complete release at http://www.hsc.unt.edu/orc/MOPSE%20OMPC%20Press%20Release%20April%202010%202010.pdf

The Osteopathic Research Center is the premier research center focusing on the clinical efficacy and mechanisms of action of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT). The ORC also conducts health services and policy research by performing systematic reviews of the literature, conducting population based surveys, and analyzing national health care databases to determine the unique practice characteristics of osteopathic physicians and to provide scientific evidence to support osteopathic medicine.

The ORC operates a fast-paced clinical research enterprise with numerous NIH-funded studies, including the OSTEOPATHic Health outcomes In Chronic low back pain Trial (OSTEOPATHIC Trial), which is projected to be the largest clinical trial involving OMT. Cutting-edge basic science research is assessing the response to OMT techniques (such as lymphatic pump) at the molecular and cellular level. The ORC’s health services and policy research is providing the evidence to develop clinical practice guidelines for OMT in conditions such as low back pain.

Faculty at the ORC have been recognized for their research accomplishments through national awards, invitations to present at national and international conferences, and by serving in consultative roles with such organizations as the World Health Organization.

Are you an Osteopathic Physician who is interested in conducting clinical research? Contact Cathleen Kearns to learn more about ORC’s practice-based research network (CONCORD-PBRN) at CONCORD-PBRN@unthsc.edu.

Honorary Life Member Extends Appreciation

The AAO Board of Governors bestowed Honorary Life Membership on David C. Conner, DO at the March 2010 Convocation in Colorado Springs. Dr. Conner writes, “I am greatly honored to receive the Honorary Life Membership Award in the American Academy of Osteopathy. I enjoyed being a member of the UAAO while I was a student at KCOA (now KCOM/ATSU), and have been an Active Member of the AAO since I graduated. I have enjoyed attending AAO programs, as well as many AAO Convocations.

Please express my thanks to the Board of the American Academy of Osteopathy for this special honor. I look forward to seeing you again at future Academy meetings.”

Sincerely,
David C. Conner, DO

Dr. Conner is a 1965 graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery in Kirksville, MO (currently A. T. Still University) and served a rotating internship at the Dallas Osteopathic Hospital immediate following graduation. He has received the Distinguished Service Award, Distinguished Patron Award and Diplomate Award from the ATSU. He was named Physician of the Year in 1997 by the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association. Dr. Conner served 10 years in the U. S. Army Reserves Medical Corp and is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians as well as the American Osteopathic Board of Special Proficiency in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. He holds licenses in both Missouri and Tennessee.

Congratulations, Dr. Conner!
Exercise Prescription – Greenman’s Method
DVD Series

The American Academy of Osteopathy hosted Dr. Greenman’s final appearance at an Exercise Prescription course in January 2010. With the permission of course instructors, Brad Sandler, DO and Philip Greenman, DO, FAAO, the course was recorded and now is available in a 3-day, 10-disc DVD series which includes both lectures and OMT hands-on lab sessions. Don’t miss this opportunity to own this historic DVD series. Complete the order form today!!

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Optimizing Outcomes:
A Roadmap to Financial Success in Today’s Changing Reimbursement Environment

October 23, 2010 in San Francisco, CA

Program Chair: Douglas J. Jorgensen, DO, CPC
Dr. Jorgensen is a board certified, osteopathic physician in central Maine practicing pain management and osteopathic manipulative medicine, certified in NMM/OMM and re-certified in FP/OMT. In addition to his practice, he is a certified professional coder through the American Academy of Professional Coders in Salt Lake City, Utah. As a consultant and speaker, he lectures nationally on billing and coding issues as well as authoring numerous peer reviewed articles, two books and several academic chapters in varying topics from osteopathic medicine, pain management and medical economics. A graduate of Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, Missouri and the Maine-Dartmouth Family Practice Residency in Augusta, Maine, he is currently president of the Payor-Payee Relations Committee for the Maine Osteopathic Association. He is the immediate past president of the Maine Osteopathic Association and is on clinical faculty at Dartmouth Medical School and the University of New England. Dr. Jorgensen is a lifetime member of the AAO and serves on the Academy’s Board of Governors.

Program Time Table:
Saturday, October 23, 2010.............8:00 am - 5:30 pm
(lunch on your own)

Course Location:
Marriott San Francisco
55 4th Street
San Francisco, CA

Please Note: The AOA Convention will run from October 24-28, 2010 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, CA. Visit www.omedconference.org/ for registration and lodging options.

Program Topics:
•Changing Reimbursement Environment
•The Business of Medicine: Billing and Coding Part 1
•Private audits
•Optimizing Chronic Disease Care (Means, Money and Proof)
•Protecting your practice via Compliance Adherence
•Health Information Technology and You
•Pay for Performance
•ICD and CPT Update
•Entity Structuring
•Are you optimizing or just getting by in your practice?
•Why volume alone will fail in contemporary medicine
•The Business of Medicine
•Saving the US healthcare system one practice at a time
•Preventive care vs. sick care
•Optimize payment by getting paid for your fee schedule
•Epidemiology of your practice
•Adverting risk by comparative analytics
•Identifying potential outliers
•One on One Q&A

For a complete schedule please contact Kelli Bowersox, Education Coordinator at kbowersox@academyofosteopathy.org

Registration Form

Optimizing Outcomes: A Roadmap to Financial Success in Today’s Changing Reimbursement Environment
October 23, 2010

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