Greetings to all Academy Members

I hope this message finds you all well and anticipating a happy and prosperous New Year!

As I reflect on the Academy events of the past nine months I wish to express thanks to all; most importantly you, the member, for having trust and dedication to the Academy and the osteopathic profession. It is because of you that I serve, and I truly appreciate your support, both during my term as your president, but more importantly as an integral part of OUR profession. We often speak of the Academy mission to teach, research and advocate and I know each and every one of you has some personal experience in these matters.

My theme this year is to seek balance in what we do here at the Academy. As you know, this has been a year of transition with major changes taking place at the Indianapolis office. Through all of the changes, our members have shown their dedication by contributing in many ways. The Board of Trustees has consistently offered support and advice, as have those serving in other leadership roles. We have many individuals working extremely hard in our committees and this year we have had to adapt to the changes in our administration. The Academy completely upgraded our information technology hardware and software to increase our efficiency of conducting business and give us the opportunity to upgrade the AAO website, eventually to include more interactive capabilities.

I look forward to the next few months. We are anticipating another great convocation and I hope to see all of you there. My goal is to finish my term having added a little bit to the history and a little bit more to the future success of the Academy. We have made some great strides towards preparing for a dynamic future, please join me in providing continued support for all of our members.

See you in Little Rock!

Respectfully
Guy A. DeFeo, DO

Happy Holidays from the AAO
Thank You
What’s happening at the Pyramids...
The AAO welcomes its Newest Life Members!
Pack your bags for Little Rock
Online Convocation Registration Now Open!
Warm up your skills with two new courses!

Something for Everyone in Little Rock
Clean up your documentation with the eSOAP workshop at
Student Poster Competition at Convocation
Register for DO Day on Capitol Hill 2009
Supporting the AAO
On the Road with your AAO President
2009 Board/Committee calendar
Members in the News

Call for Comments on the AOA’s Agenda for the 111th
Component Society Relations
AACOM Assembly of Presidents Remarks
Training Researchers in Manual Medicine
Passing on the Tradition
MedPAC Recommendations on Physician Payment
New Way to Enroll in Medicare
Happy Holidays from the AAO

As the holiday season is coming to a close, we wanted to make you aware of January our office schedule. AAO will be closed on the following dates:

January 1st-2nd

In the event that you need assistance on one of these dates, please call and leave a message at 317-879-1881. We will respond on the next regular business day.

We are grateful to all those who have made our progress towards the AAO mission possible

Thank You

Thank you to all of the AAO volunteers for their work on behalf of the AAO during 2008. Volunteers are the heart of the AAO.

What’s happening at the Pyramids...

Hollis King, DO, FAAO and AAO Communications Director Jennifer Taylor continue to work on the preparation of two new publications for AAO. The Northup Lectures 1893-2008 is currently under review by Dr. King while Ms. Taylor continues to develop the initial draft of Greenman’s Works. Watch the newsletter for more information about when the publications will be available.

The December Osteopathic Approaches to Treat Cranial Nerve Dysfunction ala Barral Course was filled to capacity with 32 participants. Dr. Lossing served as the course faculty and his wife, Margret Lossing served as his table trainer. AAO would like to thank Dr. Michael Seffinger, Dr. Rebecca Giusti, Dr. Marcel Fraix, Dr. Jesus Sanchez, Kim Ho (fellow), and Carlos Mendez, OMM Department office coordinator, and Ms. Kathleen Brennan for their help to make this course successful.

Diana Finley, AAO Associate Director continues to spearhead the work on the 2009 Convocation as well as the upcoming CME courses. Be sure to check out the convocation articles for more information about the great program lined up for this year.

The AAO welcomes its Newest Life Members!

Michael S. Carnes, DO, FAAO
Douglas J. Jorgensen, DO
Joel A. Kase, DO
Janet M. Krettek, DO
Margaret K. Warner, DO
Michael J. Warner, DO

Life Membership shall be conferred upon any Active or Associate Member who has been in good standing for a minimum of five consecutive years and who has paid his or her lifetime dues in one payment of $2,500. Life members shall continue to hold all rights and privileges they held with their previous membership status. If you are interested in becoming an AAO life member, please contact Kelli Bowersox, Director of Donor and Member Relations at kbowersox@academyofosteopathy.org
Pack your bags for Little Rock

Have you made your plans to attend the 2009 AAO Convocation? The education committee is excited with this year's convocation theme: Basic Mechanisms of Osteopathy: Balancing the Neuroendocrine Immune System. Dr. Lisa DeStefano, Chair of the Convocation has brought together a group of dynamic presenters who will be doing more than 40 innovative presentations and hands-on workshops, guaranteed to enhance your personal and professional skills to face the 21st century challenges for the DO. The program's emphasis the role of the basic science as a key to balancing physiological function through the use of osteopathic manipulative treatments.

The Convocation and its associated events provide an opportunity for networking with your peers as well as viewing the latest trends in the industry and innovations in healthcare at the AAO tradeshow. The annual business meeting will provide members an opportunity to vote for their choices for representatives on the Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees as well as have a voice in the election of the AAO officers for 2009-2010. Dr. Michael L. Kuchera will be chairing the Evening with the FAAO's.

The President's Reception and Banquet will include the presentation of awards as well as installation of the 2009-2010 officers. The event will be culminated by Live Entertainment provided by the Carbon 14 Band. Besides the great education and fellowship at the convocation, attendees can sample southern hospitality, enjoy the warm climate of the sunny south, shop at the River Market, and you may choose to spend a few extra days seeing the nearby sites. Whether you are looking for a spa, a civil war site, golfing, hiking forested mountain trails, mining for diamonds, antiquing, listening to blues or folk music, you can find it in Arkansas. Did you know there is diamond mining in Arkansas? Crater of Diamonds State Park in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, is the only diamond-producing site in the world where the public can search for diamonds. And the policy there is "finder's keepers." The diamonds you find are yours to keep.

Looking for a day trip? You are only one hour away from the Ozarks National Forest, three hours from the entertainment in Branson, MO and five hours from Nashville, TN. If you are more inclined to explore outdoors, many are drawn to Arkansas for its abundant opportunities for outdoor adventures and its natural beauty, as seen in the state's waterfalls, tour caverns and wild caving experiences, forested mountain trails and scenic drives.

But there are numerous attractions that make the "Natural State" a must see vacation destination. Arkansas spas include the thermal waters of Hot Springs National Park. Across the state, delightful boutiques, specialty shops, antique stores and quilt shops offer opportunities for finding one-of-a-kind souvenirs and treasures.

Arkansas's varied geography and its location in the U.S. heartland have contributed to make the state's history an intriguing slice of America's story. Arkansas history museums, Civil War battlefields, National Park Service sites and special exhibits across the state relate the history of Arkansas's diverse cultures and history.

For those interested in a round of golf, the Natural State's offerings include world-class, scenic courses. And, in Arkansas, "an afternoon at the track" can have any of several meanings: thoroughbred horse racing, greyhound dog racing, or dirt track and drag racing. In eastern Arkansas, the Mississippi River shaped a land where Delta blues music thrived. Traditional Ozark Mountain folk music, dance and crafts are kept alive in north central Arkansas.

The state's wine country serves its best in the Arkansas River Valley, which is also home to Fort Smith, the "Wild West" town that bordered the Indian Territory until 1907. An oil boom that began in 1921 brought wealth and wild times to towns like El Dorado in southern Arkansas.

There is so much to see and do in Arkansas. We look forward to seeing you there in March.

Online Convocation Registration Now Open!

Want to register for the AAO Convocation in Little Rock without the hassles of a pen and paper? The AAO Convocation Registration form is now online! As part of our boost to improve the use of technology though the AAO, we are now utilizing an updated registration form. Sign up for convocation, select your workshop, and even purchase extra tickets for the President's banquet! To ensure your security when paying for registration, the AAO has partnered with PayPal. You will now receive an automatic email confirmation when you register for convocation online! So go ahead, register today, and we'll see YOU in Little Rock!

Click here to be taken directly to the Convocation Registration Form. Click here to view the Convocation program.
Warm up your skills with two new courses!

The American Academy of Osteopathy® is offering two upcoming courses to help take the chill out of winter and provide category 1-A CME credits. Join the AAO at Dr. Fulford’s Basic Percussion: A systematic Approach to the Whole Body course in Arizona in February and Evidence-Based Manual Medicine: A Problem Oriented Approach in Pomona, CA in May. With all-star teaching faculty, your osteopathic skills will be warmed up with osteopathic hands-on training.

For more information, please contact Diana Finley, Director of Education at dfinley@academyofosteopahy.org. Don’t let this hot opportunity pass you by. Register early to receive the early bird rates!

Dr. Fulford’s Basic Percussion: A systematic Approach to the Whole Body

Dr. Fulford's Basic Percussion: A systematic Approach to the Whole Body is a level III course is based on the life work of Robert C. Fulford, DO in osteopathy, life energy, vibration, and the use of the percussion vibrator. This basic course explores these concepts using material that Dr. Fulford developed during his lifetime. In-depth application of the energy concepts as Dr. Fulford used in his practices are included.

At the end of this session, participants should:
• Design a treatment plan using the basic concepts taught in the course.
• Utilize the percussion vibrator on any area of the body for any age patient.
• Apply the basic concepts taught to make treatments easier, more effective, and quicker.

This course anticipates being approved for up to 15 Category 1-A AOA CME hours pending approval by the AOA CCME.

Course Faculty Rajiv Yadava, DO

Rajiv Yadava, DO is a 1990 graduate of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (CCOM). He completed his postdoctoral training at Metropolitan Medical Center in St. Louis, MO. He completed an OMM teaching fellowship at CCOM and assisted Dr. Fulford teaching multiple courses from 1989 until is passing in 1997. Dr. Yadava earned his certification in NMM/OMM from the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine. Dr. Yadava states, "It is an honor for me to fulfill Dr. Fulford's personal request to continue teaching his course after his passing. It was a privilege to participate in the training of many in our profession with Dr. Fulford. The teaching of this course is a service to him, but small in comparison to the patience he had with me in my career. The intent of this course is to give the participant Dr. Fulford's technique of percussion and a glimpse of his philosophy of diagnosis and treatment as he taught it."

Evidence-Based Manual Medicine: A Problem Oriented Approach

This is a level I didactic and hands-on laboratory course designed for the practicing clinician, educator or health professional students, who use, plan to use, or would like to better understand, the evidence-based manual medicine approach to patients with common musculoskeletal problems.

The goals and objectives are:
• Access the scientific literature in support of a manual approach to common clinical problems.
• Apply knowledge of epidemiology, functional anatomy, biomechanics, pathophysiology and differential diagnoses, as supported by basic science and clinical research studies and expert panel recommendations, to guide a manual medicine approach to patients with 3 common clinical problems: low back pain, neck pain, and cervicogenic headache.
• Perform reliable and valid osteopathic diagnostic and manual treatment procedures specifically applicable to these patient populations.
• Learn the indications and contraindications for manual treatment for each clinical condition.

This course anticipates being approved for up to 20 Category 1-A AOA CME hours pending approval by the AOA CCME.

Continued on page 5
Warm up your Skills Continues

Course Faculty: Michael A. Seffinger, DO & Ray J. Hruby, DO, FAAO

Michael A. Seffinger, DO is a 1988 graduate of MSUCOM. He is board certified in Family Medicine and Neuromusculoskeletal and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and received a certificate of competency from the Cranial Academy. He is a tenured associate professor at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, CA. Since 1995 he has taught evidence-based osteopathic manipulative medicine hands-on seminars at the American Academy of Family Physicians annual scientific assembly which led to the publication of the book Evidence-Based Manual Medicine: A Problem Oriented Approach in 2007.

Ray J. Hruby, DO, FAAO graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, Iowa in 1973. From 1985 to 1990, Dr. Hruby was in private practice in San Diego, California. In 1990, he became an Associate Professor in the Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practice at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine. In 1995, he became the Chair of the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 1999, he accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at Western University College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, California. Dr. Hruby is certified in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and in Osteopathic Family Practice and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Osteopathy. He has taught osteopathic principles and techniques internationally for many years. He co-authored Manual Medicine: An Evidence Based Approach.

Something for Everyone in Little Rock

Reason #10 to go to AAO Convocation in Little Rock: The Big Dam Bridge

Big Dam Bridge is the longest bridge in the United States that was built for pedestrian traffic. It's also the only bridge built into a dam (as opposed to on top of a dam). It's a popular spot for walkers and cyclists in the state. The bridge is 4,226 long and connects about 15 miles of trails in the cities of Little Rock and North Little Rock. During the evening, the bridge is home to a LED lighting that contains 160 LED light fixtures on the piers, 16 LED light fixtures on the towers and 63 light fixtures on the walkway. It is programmed with several different lighting displays.

Click here for more information about the Big Dam Bridge

Reason #9: Little Rock Zoo

The Little Rock Zoo just completed more than 5 million in renovations from the 2004 Bond project including the transformation of the old lion house into Café Africa, the construction of a new interactive lorikeet exhibit called “lorikeet landing,” renovations to the bear moat, primate house, and other areas of the Zoo along with the construction of a new entry plaza, gift shop, and cover for the Over-the-Jumps Carousel. Be sure to plan a visit to the Little Rock Zoo during your time at the AAO Convocation.

Click here for more information about the Little Rock Zoo

Reason #8: Little Rock Central Highschool

Reason #7: Heifer International

Reason #6: MacArthur Park.

Reason #5: The River Market

Reason #4: William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum

Reason #3: Arkansas Arts Center

Reason #2: Fantastic networking with your peers

Reason #1: Great educational opportunity
Clean up your documentation with the eSOAP workshop at Convocation

Interested in learning how eSOAP note can revitalize your use of the SOAP note format when gathering clinical data for practice and research? Sign up for the eSOAP Note Workshop at the AAO Convocation presented by Bryan Larsen, PhD and Charles J. Smutny, III, DO, FAAO.

This workshop will familiarize physicians with the electronic SOAP note (eSOAP) which was created under the auspices of the AAO as an updated and expanded reincarnation of the paper SOAP note. The content and functionality of this fully-integrated clinical data collection instrument suitable for use as clinic chart, or OMM research tool will be demonstrated as well as its ability to integrate with the National Osteopathic Database will also be presented. After participation in this lecture, attendees will have an appreciation for the comprehensive content of the eSOAP program and its relationship to overarching goals of the osteopathic profession.

Dr. Larsen has more than three decades of research experience in basic and clinical sciences and has served as the Dean for University Research and Biomedical Graduate Studies at Des Moines University for the past 11 years. Recently, Dr. Larsen was named the Executive Director of the Iowa Center for Translational and Clinical Research which marshals the research infrastructures of two universities an allied health college and one of the largest hospital systems in the State of Iowa into a cohesive research enterprise to advance clinical research for the benefit of the community.

Dr. Smutny graduated from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1994 and completed his OMM residency at St. Barnabas Hospital in 1997. Dr. Smutny is certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine. He is the Director of Neuromuscular Medicine Rehabilitation at South Shore Neurologic Associates. Dr. Smutny has been published in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA) and is a contributing author of the book, An Osteopathic Approach to Diagnosis and Treatment by Drs. Stan Schiowitz and Eileen DiGiovanna.

Student Poster Competition at Convocation

It is almost time for the student poster competition at the AAO Convocation! Encourage your students to submit their "research design" type poster or clinical or basic science poster! Submission can be sent to the Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research Committee, c/o American Academy of Osteopathy, 3500 DePauw Blvd, Suite 1080, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268.

Register for DO Day on Capitol Hill 2009

Registration has opened for DO Day on Capitol Hill 2009. DO Day on Capitol Hill is the osteopathic profession’s premier advocacy event. For veteran and first time advocates alike, DO Day provides you with your first opportunity to come to Washington, DC and lobby a new Congress and Administration on key health care issues.

Each year hundreds of your colleagues come to Washington and make their voices heard. Are you planning to be one of them? Join us on March 5th and impact health policy at its source. Register now at http://www.do-online.org/doday.
Supporting the AAO

Congratulations and thank you to all the generous donors who have contributed to the AAO’s annual fund over the past month. They have helped the AAO reach 29.9% of its $150,000 goal for the 2008-2009 campaign goal. As of December 11, 2008, 178 donors have contributed a total of $44,912.27. The campaign is running behind last year’s record since on December 11, 2007 the data shows 201 donors contributing $53,978.46. This year, the Golden Ram campaign has a goal of $150,000 to improve the use of informational technology though the AAO. This will truly enhance the AAO as it streamlines the way we are able to serve members from registration for educational courses to the development of webinar/online courses that allow you to earn CME credit from the comfort of your own home or office.

If you have not already made your contribution, we encourage you to do so. Do not forget that by donating to the AAO before December 31, 2009 you can claim your donation on your taxes!

The Golden Ram Society is a vehicle to enable members and friends of the AAO to provide an annual tax-deductible contribution to support the work of the AAO. Members of the Golden Ram Society are recognized both for their annual contributions as well as for their lifetime contributions to the Society. If you would like to donate, contact Kelli Bowersox at (317) 879-1881 or kbowersox@academyofosteopathy.org.

The Golden Ram Society is a vehicle to enable members and friends of the AAO to provide an annual tax-deductible contribution to support the work of the AAO. Members of the Gold Ram Society are recognized both for their annual contributions as well as for their lifetime contributions to the Society. If you would like to donate, contact Kelli Bowersox at (317) 879-1881 or kbowersox@academyofosteopathy.org.


The President’s Club - $2,500 or more
Guy A. DeFeo, DO
George J. Pasquarrello, DO, FAAO
Damon M. Whitfield, DO

A.T. Still Club – $1,000 – $2,499
Robert N. Agnello, DO
& Kerry S. Agnello, DO
John Balmer, DO & Patricia Balmer, RN
Stephen D. Blood, DO, FAAO
David R. Boesler, DO
Lisa Ann DeStefano, DO
Jonathan E. Fenton, DO
John C. Glover, DO, FAAO & Charlene James, DO
Ann L. Habenicht, DO, FAAO
David B. Hagie, DO
John G. Hohner, DO
Hollis Heaton King, DO, PhD, FAAO
Robert E. McAlister, MD
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Harriet O’Connor, CFRE, CAE
Gary Ostrow, DO
Karen M. Steele, DO, FAAO
Quoc L. Vo, DO

T.L. Northup Club – $500 - $999
Brooks M. Blake, DO, PA
Stephen Braun, DO
Barbara J. Briner, DO
Viola M. Frymann, DO, FAAO
Philip Greenman, DO, FAAO
Pamela L. Grimaldi, DO
Paula M. Grimaldi, DO
Gretta A. Gross, DO
John M. Jones, III, DO
T. Reid Kavieff, DO
Kim Sing Lo, DO
Monica M. Rogalski, DO
Edward G. Stiles, DO, FAAO
Michael J. Warner, D & Margaret Warner, DO
Donald E. Woods, DO, FAAO
Jeffrey W. Ziegler, DO
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Joel Berenbeim, DO
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John P. Goodridge, DO, FAAO
James H. Gronemeyer, DO
G. Bradley Klock, DO, FAAO
John A. Littleford, DO
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Sonia Rivera-Martinez, DO
Jeanne R. Roll, MD
Stanley Schiowitz, DO, FAAO
Margaret A. Sorrel, DO
David E. Teitelbaum, DO
Adrian L. Woolley, DO
Vicki Dyson Club – $100 - $249
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Kenneth Adams, DO
Richard H. Armond, DO
David W. Asher, DO
Andrew H. Berry, DO
Laurence E. Bouchard, DO
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Rachel Brooks, MD
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Stuart J. Friedman, DO
David B. Fuller, DO
Maria T. Gentile, DO
Stacey Bushnell Gill, DO
Jerel Glassman, DO
Mikhail Gleyzer, DO
Andrew M. Goldman, DO
Stephen I. Goldman, DO
Jeffrey Greenfield, DO
Kelly D. Halma, DO

Continues on page 8
On the Road with your AAO President

Recently, I had the opportunity to represent the AAO at the Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA) Annual Educational Forum and General Meeting in Chicago. The theme of the forum was “Common History, Global Future: A.T. Still and J.M. Littlejohn”. The Academy is a Partner member of the OIA which first met in 2004. The OIA consists of seven Full Members, four Associate Members and thirty eight Partner Members representing fifteen countries on five continents. Their goal is to become the primary international organization entrusted by the osteopathic profession to work for global osteopathic unity, the advancement of the profession and to advocate for high quality osteopathic healthcare. The OIA also continues to work with the World Health Organization (WHO) to complete the WHO Guidelines on basic training and safety in osteopathy.

The OIA is chaired by Larry Wickless, D.O., President-Elect of the AOA and the education program was chaired by Peter Adler Michaelson, D.O. The goal of this educational forum was to bring speakers and presenters from across the globe to present their views and efforts on a variety of topics within the osteopathic profession. Topics ranged from osteopathic history and osteopathic principles to the vision for the future of osteopathy and osteopathic medicine. Other topics included an update on the World Osteopathic Heath Organization (WOHO), numerous research topics, as well as discussions about the accreditation process in the United States and the Registry process in other countries. A recurrent theme in these proceedings is the concept of the co-existence of ‘both streams’ of the osteopathic profession. This concept recognizes the difference between the medical degree of an osteopathic physician and the limited scope of practice of an osteopath. It is refreshing and encouraging to have participated in a collegial endeavor without any animosity expressed between groups. Many stimulating and thought provoking comments were made in the numerous breakout sessions. The viewpoints expressed by both streams resulted in a sense of harmony that acknowledges the basic foundations of osteopathy as they relate to developing a blueprint for global cooperation.

Once again the Academy was well represented at this forum by both attendees and presenters. Many of the international attendees are International Members of the AAO and are anxiously awaiting the annual convocation in March. As an organization, the Academy is well positioned to be a major participant in any international endeavor concerning osteopathy. I was approached on numerous occasions to express the opinion of the Academy as well as recognized that the Academy represents a significant resource for the entire global osteopathic profession. I wish to acknowledge all Academy members who have participated over the years and provided significant contributions in developing this well-deserved reputation. The Academy leadership and membership thanks you for your tireless efforts in promoting the future of osteopathy.

Guy A. DeFeo, DO

Golden Ram Continued...

| Donald V. Hankinson, DO | Ralph Schurer, MD |
| Masahiro Hashimoto, (Japan) | Theresa M. Scott, DO |
| Deborah M. Heath, DO | Alice R. Shanaver, DO |
| Jennifer L. Highland, DO | Joel D. Stein, DO, FAAB |
| Huy Kim Hoang, DC, MD | Jacqueline M. Stoken, DO |
| Paul K. Hume, ND, DO (New Zealand) | Aimee D. Stotz, DO |
| Hemwattie S. Jaimangal, DO | Jean Ann Swift, DO |
| Christie A. James, DO | Shigeru Taijiri, (Japan) |
| David L. Johnston, DO | Piers N. Vigers, DO (UK) |
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| Paul Gerard Kleman, DO | |
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| William A. Kuchera, DO, FAAB | |
| Michael Z. Kuschelewsky, MD | |
| Carol L. Lang, DO | |
| Paul Langevin, DO | |
| R. Paul Lee, DO, FAAB | |
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| Kenneth J. Lossing, DO | |
| Tamara M. McReynolds, DO | |
| Masayoshi Midorikawa, (Japan) | |
| Paul S. Miller, DO | |
| Miriam V. Mills, MD | |
| Wendy S. Neal, DO | |
| Norman C. Neeb, DO | |
| Candace Nowak, DO | |
| Wesley B. Reiss, DO | |
| Philipp Richter, DO (France) | |
| Gary M. Ross, DO | |
| Joann G. Ryan, DO | |
| Jay Sandweiss, DO | |
| Ralph Schurer, MD | |
| Theresa M. Scott, DO | |
| Alice R. Shanaver, DO | |
| Joel D. Stein, DO, FAAB | |
| Jacqueline M. Stoken, DO | |
| Aimee D. Stotz, DO | |
| Jean Ann Swift, DO | |
| Shigeru Taijiri, (Japan) | |
| Piers N. Vigers, DO (UK) | |
| Glenn Norman Wagner, DO | |
| R. C. (Clay) Walsh, DO | |
| Supporters Club – $99 or less | |
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| Kenjo Harada | |
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| Eric Toder, DO | |
| Earl R. Triwel, DO | |
| Michelle F. Veneziano, DO | |
| Melissa M. Ventimiglia, DO | |
| Dina Luci Villanueva, DO | |
| Grace R. Willis, DO | |
| Katherine A. Worden, DO | |
| David P. Yens, PhD | |
| Lisa A. Zaleski, DO | |
### 2009 Board/Committee calendar

**January 2009:**
AAO Board of Trustees: Teleconference meeting TBA
AAO Education Committee Meeting: Friday-Saturday, January 30-31, 2009 in Indianapolis, IN

**February 2009:**
AAO PS&E Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 6:00 pm (EST) phone conference

**March 2009:**
AAO Publications Committee
AOA DO Day on Capitol Hill: March 5, 2009
AAO Fellowship Committee Meeting and Exams: Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at 8:00 am in Little Rock, Arkansas
AAO Board of Governors Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
AAO Board of Trustees Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm
AAO PS&E Committee Meeting: Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 6:30 pm (CST) in Little Rock, Arkansas

**April 2009:**

**May 2009:**

**June 2009:**
Board of Trustees
PS&E Committee Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at 6:00 pm (EST) phone conference

**July 2009:**

**August 2009:**
Education Committee

**September 2009:**
PS&E Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 6:00 pm (EST) phone conference

**October 2009:**
PS&E Committee Meeting: Monday, November 2, 2009 at 6:30 am (CST) in New Orleans, LA

### Board & Committee Staff liaisons

Board of Trustees - Harriet O’Connor
Board of Governors - Harriet O’Connor
Bylaws - Harriet O’Connor
C-NMM/OMM - Diana Finley
Education - Diana Finley
External Fund Raising - Kelli Bowersox
Fellowship – Debbie Johnson
Informational Technologies - Jennifer Taylor
International Affairs - Harriet O’Connor
Investment - Kelli Bowersox
Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research - Jennifer Taylor
Membership - Kelli Bowersox
Nominating - Harriet O’Connor
OPTI Liaison Committee - Diana Finley
Osteopathic Diagnosis and Treatment Education - Diana Finley
Osteopathic Medical Economics - Harriet O’Connor
Postdoctoral Standards and Evaluation - Diana Finley
Publications - Jennifer Taylor
Undergraduate Academies - Phyllis McNamara
Postgraduate American Academy of Osteopathy - Kelli Bowersox
Members in the News

Keith Barbour, DO, of Rehabilitation Specialists, Monroe, MI, was featured in the Fall/Winter 2008 edition of TRIAD for his 22-year history serving as the official team physician for the USA disabled water ski team. Dr. Barbour spends a great deal of time out of the office and with disabled athletes practicing osteopathic medicine. It is a philosophy of illness prevention, wellness and optimal quality of life for his patients that guides him in his practice of osteopathic medicine, both in the office and out.

Darrin C. D’Agostino, DO, MPH, was recently named chair of the Department of Internal Medicine for UNT Health, the physician group affiliated with the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. He is certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine. He previously served as director of osteopathic medical education and associate professor of clinical medicine, among other positions, at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Michael L. Kuchera, DO, FAAO awarded the Beehler Research Mentor of the Year Award. As Clinical Director for the Center for Chronic Disorders of Aging and Director of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Research at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM), Michael L. Kuchera, DO, has been uniquely committed to mentoring students and training the next generation of researchers. For the first 15 years of his career, he served as a research mentor for residents in the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine’s Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Residency program, and currently has an extensive research mentorship program at the PCOM. For over 25 years, Dr. Kuchera has consistently prioritized osteopathic research and mentorship within the many positions he has held. His mentorship has led to over two dozen published abstracts or articles bearing the names of his mentees. Dr. Kuchera is a tireless advocate for those who aspire to osteopathic manipulative medical research training.

Michael M. Patterson, PhD, delivered the JO Watson, DO, Memorial Lecture, June 20, 2008. Dr. Patterson states that research development in the osteopathic profession has undergone four phases. He explained theses phases during his lecture. Engaged in neurological research since 1963, Patterson’s current efforts focus on the efficacy and mechanisms of osteopathic manipulative treatment. Specifically he has investigated the effects of osteopathic cranial manipulation on visual function and studied the forces used by expert DOs in a variety of manipulative and palpatory tasks to determine optimal forces for use and for teaching purposes. He has written extensively and has published over 150 titles. Established in 1972, the JO Watson, DO, Memorial Lecture is an ongoing tribute to one of Ohio’s most respected DOs. Watson dedicated is life to the osteopathic profession for more than four decades until his death in 1985. The award honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of healthcare, osteopathic medical education or research.

Lisa A. Phelps, DO, was named Ohio ACOFP Resident of the Year for 2008. The award recognizes her compassion, leadership, and demonstrated commitment to osteopathic philosophy patient care, community involvement, education and enrichment of self and others. Over the past three years Phelps has repeatedly demonstrated an exceptionally strong commitment to osteopathic family practice. Throughout her residency she has been involved in numerous political organizations and served on multiple national committees for ACOFP including chair of the Residents Committee. She also served as the Resident representative on the ACOFP Young Physicians Committee and as a member of the AOA Council of Interns and Residents. In addition to her leadership skills, she has a strong commitment to patient care. She has participated in medical missions, most recently in the Dominican Republic, and actively pursues home visits to her patients who are unable to go to the Family Practice Clinic.

Call for Comments on the AOA's Agenda for the 111th Congress

On January 6, 2009 the United States Congress will convene the 111th Congress and on January 20, 2009 President-Elect Barack Obama will be sworn in as the nation’s 44th President and will begin his Administration. Both of these events will have a significant impact upon the direction of health policy at the Federal level and subsequently the osteopathic profession.

The AOA Bureau on Federal Health Programs would like your input as they develop the professions legislative, regulatory, and advocacy agenda for the 111th Congress (2009-2010). They ask that you send any comments or suggestions comments and suggestions on issues you would like to see included in the AOA’s Agenda 111th Congress as well as feedback on what you see as the most pressing issues for the osteopathic profession. Please forward your comments to Shawn Martin, Director of Government Relations atsmartin@osteopathic.org by the close of business Friday, January 2.
Component Society Relations

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
Preparing the Best Physicians for Tomorrow’s World
AACOM’s 2009 Annual Meeting
April 15-18, 2009
Bethesda North Marriott
Hotel and Conference Center
North Bethesda, MD
www.aacom.org

This year AACOM will tackle tough issues confronting osteopathic medical education-national health care policy, funding and financing, and global health care issues. Organized under the theme “preparing the Best Physicians for Tomorrow’s World”, sessions will focus on: grant opportunities and fundraising for osteopathic medical schools, health policy, innovative educational technology, global health/international medical education, and innovations in medical education.

Florida Academy of Osteopathy
The Florida Academy of Osteopathy (FAO) is now in its 57th year. The FAO remains dedicated to the promotion and understanding of the Osteopathic Principles and Practice, and the Osteopathic profession that have provided us with the opportunity to serve our patients in our special ways due to the unique skills we have been taught. The FAO is striving to improve the educational opportunities for the training of Osteopathic physicians/students/interns/residents through their annual conference and affiliated seminars throughout the state. The FAO has a new website at http://faoonline.com, which provides information and links to those interested in OMT. The next FAO Annual Conference will be May 1-3, 2009, at LECOM/Bradenton, Bradenton, FL.

Sutherland Cranial Teaching Foundation
The Sutherland Cranial Teaching Foundation (SCTF) is offering a very special course in Osteopathy October 16-18, 2009 entitled “An Osteopathic Approach to the First Two Months of Life.” This course will be a total body course in Osteopathy. As course coordinator, Ken Graham, DO, is especially interested in [NMM], pediatric and family medicine residents who are currently active in hospital newborn nurseries and NICU’s. The course requirements include at least one SCTF 40 hour basic course. Dr. Graham is willing to make an exception to this requirement of an SCTF course if the resident has completed either an approved 40-hour course of Viola Frymann’s or an approved 40-hour Cranial Academy course. The resident who applies for this exception will need to email Dr. Graham at kgrahamdo@cox.net requesting this exception listing the OCF course(s) they have taken along with information of their involvement with treating newborns. Dr. Graham will also need a letter of reference from an attending or mentor of the resident’s involvement with newborns. Limited enrollment, apply early.

Cranial Academy
February 14-18, 2009
Midwinter Introductory Course, Osteopathy in the Cranial Field
William Lemley DO FAAO, Course Director
San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel
40 Hours Category 1-A AOA CME (anticipated)

February 19-22, 2009
Intermediate Course: The Cranial Base
Paul E. Dart, MD FCA
R. Paul Lee, DO FAAO
Course Directors
San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel
22 Hours Category 1-A AOA CME (anticipated)

AA COM Assembly of Presidents Remarks

Dr. Ajluni's recently presented to the AACOM Assembly of Presidents. His speech covered pressing, timely issues facing the osteopathic medical profession, including responsible growth, OGME development, and other dilemmas that should concern us all. Please click here to view a copy of Dr. Ajluni's presentation.
**Component Society Relations Continued**

April 17-19, 2009  
Intermediate Course: Brain Parenchyma, Nuclei and Fluid (registration opens soon)  
Bruno Chikly, MD DO  
Course Director  
Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine  
24.5 Hours Category 1-A AOA CME (anticipated)

June 13-17, 2009  
Summer Introductory Course, Osteopathy in the Cranial Field  
Michael J. Porvaznik, DO  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Bethesda, MD  
40 Hours Category 1-A AOA CME (anticipated)

June 18-21, 2009  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Embryology and Osteopathy: Developmental Patterns and the Template of Health  
Eric J. Dolgin, DO FCA  
Ilene M. Spector, DO  
Course Directors  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Bethesda, MD  
21 Hours Category 1-A AOA CME (anticipated)

For more information, please visit: [http://www.cranialacademy.com/](http://www.cranialacademy.com/)

**Indiana Academy of Osteopathy**  
Indiana Osteopathic Association Conventions  
April 30 - May 3, 2009, Sheraton Hotel and Suites, Indianapolis  
April 29 - May 2, 2010, Blue Chip Hotel and Casino, Michigan City  
For more information, please visit: [http://www.inosteo.org/Coming_Events_2ddbbbd27191537153.html](http://www.inosteo.org/Coming_Events_2ddbbbd27191537153.html)

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**Training Researchers in Manual Medicine**

Osteopathic Collaborative Clinical Trials Initiatives Conference X (OCCTIC X):  
Training Researchers in Manual Medicine (TRIMM)  
March 23-24, 2009  
The Peabody Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas  
Preceding the American Academy of Osteopathy Convocation

Program Co-Chairs: Michael L. Smith, PhD, The Osteopathic Research Center and Kendi L. Hensel, DO, The Osteopathic Research Center

Program Focus:  
• Developing a Research Curriculum  
• Paths to becoming a Clinician Scientist  
• Funding Manual Medicine Research & Negotiating the Grant Process  
• Developing a Research Plan

For more information, please contact  
Cathleen Kearns  
Administrative Director  
Osteopathic Research Center  
University of North Texas Health Science Center  
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard Fort Worth, TX 76107  
Phone: 817.735.0515
Center for Osteopathic Medicine
1030 Harrington, Suite 206
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Seeking a full-time Osteopathic Physician specializing in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

Mount Clemens Regional Medical Center (MCRMC) is a 288-bed acute care teaching hospital located in southeastern Michigan. MCRMC Center for Osteopathic Medicine is an osteopathic manipulative medicine clinic located in the hospital’s medical office building. The Center is open five days a week receiving referrals from physicians in family medicine, internal medicine, neurology, orthopedics, neurosurgery, pain management, cardiology, ENT and pediatrics, as well as current and past patients. The Center is also involved in training for students, interns and residents.

Candidates require residency training in Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine/Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine or equivalent certification or board eligibility (C-NMM/OMM or C-SPOMM).

Duties include patient evaluation, care and treatment, educational programs for housestaff, and assisting in the review and implementation of hospital policy with regards to conforming to accrediting osteopathic standards.

Michigan, the Great Lakes State, offers pristine lakeshores of the great lakes and several inland lakes, championship golf courses, camping, fishing, hunting, skiing, canoeing, and exhilarating sailing. Also professional sports teams and cultural events are located in our metropolitan area.

If you are interested in joining our two-physician practice, please email Julie Blancke, Physician Business Development, at: jblancke@mcrmc.org or fax your CV to (586) 741-4127

EEO Employer

VOLUNTARY, OSTEOPATHIC, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
Passing on the Tradition

An Interview by Charlotte H. Green, PhD with:
Morse, Christopher M., DO
Gutensohn Clinic
800 W. Jefferson
Kirksville, MO 63501

( Editor’s note: The AAO continues the series of interviews conducted by Charlotte H. Greene, Ph.D. with the editorial assistance provided by Donald R Eaton, Jr. Dr. Greene conceived this project to convey some of the rewards and challenges encountered during a career in osteopathic medicine and to highlight the role and contributions mentors can provide, accounts that might otherwise be lost.)

I was first told about Osteopathic Medicine when I was a student at Juniata College in Pennsylvania. One of my college advisors, Dr. Deborah Kirchhof-Glazier, (Professor of Biology and the Director of the Health Professions Program), was really open to different treatment modalities and she encouraged me to look at Osteopathic Medicine when she realized that I was interested in becoming a physician.

Dr. Todd Alan Bezilla was one of my first mentors. I started out just trying to palpate, just trying to determine if this is really happening where I think it’s happening. He kept hammering into everyone that you have to first know the anatomy and the physiology – how is this structure supposed to work and what are the mechanics of how it actually takes place. So I started off focusing on the Anatomy first. I would say to myself okay now just what exactly am I feeling.

While Dr. Bezilla used a variety of techniques, he really focused on muscle energy and facilitated positional release. He did a little bit of the HVLA (High-Velocity Low Amplitude) but those techniques were more often used by the Nicholas brothers. Dr. Alex Nicholas was very careful to stress all the contra-indications for each of the techniques and both were very careful to make sure that you first knew when not to perform a technique. A lot of other clinical learning situations that I attended never really stressed this, but it was something that I keyed on and teach-when to and especially when not to perform a technique.

My very first rotation as a third-year student was in Family Practice at the Beaver County Medical Center, out in the middle of nowhere in Western Pennsylvania. One incident really stands out because I didn’t know if a joke was being played on me or if what I was asked to do was a serious request. During the middle of my second week, a decision was made to send me out to see what I knew, and what I could do. I had finished my day, turned off my pager, gone out to get some dinner, and then returned to the house where I was staying with a couple of other medical school students. As I pulled up to the house, one of the students said that they had been looking for me all over and that one of the residents was on the phone right then asking for me.

I immediately worried that I’d forgotten something or missed a patient appointment. I answered the phone and was told that I would be participating in a ‘first-time situation’, involving a particular treatment that had never been given at that hospital, and that I was needed immediately. When I arrived I was told that the patient was already admitted and that I had been designated for the first-ever stat OMT Consult*. At this point I was almost definite that they were putting me on, but I went to the room and introduced myself. The patient was suffering with a migraine headache that had already lasted a week. Now, I really had no idea whether it was a real patient or not so I played it straight-fortunately, as it turned out to be a real consult after all. I did some cranial manipulation, I eased up a lot of the fascial restrictions going through the neck and the thoracics like Dr. William T. Crow and Dr. Bezilla had previously taught me. Towards the end of the treatment I ask him if he felt any relief, and he replied that the pain was no different but the pressure in his head was gone. I told him that I would come by the next morning to see how he was doing. The next day when I went by he had already been discharged as his migraine had resolved, but I never got confirmation of what actually happened following my treatment.

Towards the end of my third year, I was on rotation with Dr. Ruth Jones (anybody who has done a rotation with her knew that she was not called “Doctor” nor “Dr. Ruth” ever). She was “Ruth” and you never called her by her last name. She’s a very easygoing, very down to earth and very much a part of the community. She is one of the only practitioners in her small town, lives in a house that’s right above her practice and does not like any separation from her community at all. She does serve some of the outlying Amish and Mennonite communities as well as occasionally practicing pro bono in one of the near-by cities. Ruth had always combined family practice with manipulative therapy. One particular treatment incidence that occurred during my time with her I will never forget: We were treating a group of Amish patients that had all come in together as was their custom about every two months…many of them for chelation therapy. However, there was one 93 years-young lady who had come for manipulation. I say young because she did not look her age, rather more like she was in her early 50s, but I soon realize her age when I felt her arthritic joints. Towards the end of her treatment, I felt myself being drawn into treating her left arm (particularly her left humerus), I didn’t really know why until I had gotten in there… It seems that she had fractured the humerus completely through as a child. It was an old fracture and
the how of it I didn’t find out until later on. I was just working on the interosseous strains and trying to ease up a lot of the fascial tensions around it as well. Just as I was about to let go of her arm, she started screaming something like: “What’s going on? The cart just rolled over!”

I didn’t understand what she was hollering about; there was no cart there, but she continued, “I can’t get my arm out.” Right there and then she re-experienced the exact incident during which she had fractured her arm as a 16-year-old girl. The wagon that she was driving had rolled over and the horse had continued to pull with her arm still underneath the cart. That was my first experience with somato-psychic release.

Eventually I graduated and went to Kirksville, another remote location. I wanted to do a combined Family Practice and OMM residency. But, before I applied I did a one month rotation with each of the four residency sites available to me. Kirksville was the only location where the people in the community actually accepted the clinicians at the hospital. The other places seemed to shun you if you worked in a hospital, and I really did not like that feeling of being an outsider in the community. So, I went to Kirksville, because I wanted to be a part of the community in which I was working.

I’m in my first year of the combined Family Practice and OMM residency. After next year I will be the senior resident in both programs. Next year we will have four to five Family Practice residents and about four OMM residents coming in. I have been told that as the senior resident, I will be leading them. I have learned to listen to everyone, and this is my advice to students too.

I did a lot of rotations with other people in other states because I wanted to see how they practiced medicine in other locales. I learned that there is more than one way to practice the “art” of medicine. There is more than one way to do family practice, there’s more than one way to do internal medicine, surgery, and there’s more than one way to do OMM. Learn from everyone what you can.

### MedPAC Recommendations on Physician Payment

The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) met in Washington, DC, earlier this month to review draft recommendations on payment updates in preparation for its March report to Congress. Overall, Medicare faces serious financial challenges as health care spending is taking up more and more of the GDP, leaving less funding available for other sectors. By 2019, Part A reserves will be exhausted. According to MedPAC, 25% or more of care under Medicare could be eliminated without any detrimental effect on patient care. Commissioners are considering recommendations to increase physician payment, recalculate imaging RVUs, and change ambulatory service centers’ cost reporting.

### New Way to Enroll in Medicare

DOs in thirty four states and the District of Columbia may now enroll in Medicare or make a change in their Medicare enrollment information via the Internet. The internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) allows physicians and non-physician practitioners to enroll, change their enrollment, view their enrollment information on file, and check on the status of a Medicare enrollment application via the Internet. Click [here](#) for more information.