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NEWSLETTER

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OSTEOPATHIC
COLLEGE OF
DERMATOLOGY**

*An Affiliate of the
American Osteopathic
Association*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all of you!

When I look back over the past six years as an officer of the A.O.C.D., I feel comfortable in what we accomplished but also frustrated that we could not have accomplished more. To reach the Presidency of our College, I spent three years as a Trustee, one year as Vice President, one year as President-Elect, and then these past twelve months as your President. I have seen our College grow from 109 members to 266 members. I have seen our Dermatology Residency locations grow from 1 to 10 in number. Beside our growth, there have been some earth shattering changes in the direction of our College. I have seen a renewed interest by the "grass root" members to get involved. I have seen people volunteer for several committees instead of being prodded to work on one committee. There is a sense of togetherness and camaraderie which eluded us for years. For the first time I see members working together to build a stronger, more influential society. The number of attendees at our Annual and Midyear Meetings have increased exponentially on an annual basis and have received great reviews.

This year our College has pursued a liaison with the A.A.D. to arrange a permanent relationship which would involve an A.O.C.D.-A.A.D. Liaison Committee. Dr. Richard Odom has volunteered to chair this Liaison Committee. Our goal is to eventually have all A.O.B.D. certified members to be accepted as Fellows of the A.A.D. With open communication our hopes are to one day have our Residents sit for the American Board of Dermatology exams. To those of you who are skeptical, it was only a few years ago that the A.A.D.'s rule for not admitting Osteopathic Dermatologists was reversed. We can eventually have parity with our allopathic counterparts but it will take time and hard work from all of our members.

We are anxiously awaiting approval of our revised Residency Training Guidelines which hopefully will be accepted by the A.O.A. Board of Trustees next Winter.

We have seen an incredulous change in our identity as a College, voting overwhelmingly to change our name to the American Osteopathic Academy of Dermatology and Cutaneous Surgery. We anticipate A.O.A. approval on our request.

Hopefully, all of you have noticed the changes of our Newsletter. We have expanded the Newsletter to include articles of interest to the Residents and to the Attendees. The Residents Corner has been enthusiastically received by the Residents. Our hope is that they understand that their voices are heard, and we need their help and dedication. Articles submitted by Dr. Robert Stokes and Dr. Beth Langford have made our Newsletter more than committee reports. In the coming months, articles on marketing, insurance, and syndrome quizzes are anticipated. The Editorial Committee, chaired by Dr. Stokes and edited by our Executive Director, Cathy Garris, should be highly commended.

Our Public Relations Committee, chaired by Dr. James Young, has developed a Public Relations Brochure covering sun exposure, sexually transmitted diseases, and aging of the skin. This brochure will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval at our Annual Meeting.

Last year, we approved enlarging the Executive Committee by adding the positions of Second Vice President and Third Vice President. We also began assigning the College's four Trustees to the officers, and I am pleased to announce that the change has been extremely successful. The vast amount of work in running the College has now been made more palatable by having more officers. I want to thank Dr. Steven Brenman, our Third Vice

(See Message continued on pages 7)

Reference Book On Coding Provides Specific Dermatology Diagnostic Codes

To help insure appropriate reimbursement through proper coding for the procedures performed, the American Academy of Dermatology has published a new reference book, "Dermatology Coding". This "simplified" coding book contains dermatology-specific codes excerpted from ICD-9 and the E/M CPT codes and is designed for daily use.

Assistance in publishing the guide was provided through an educational grant from Glaxo Pharmaceuticals and will be distributed across the country to AAD members by their Glaxo representative.

Errors In Diagnosis Most Common Causes Of Claims Against Dermatology

Failure to diagnose malignant melanoma and other neoplasms of the skin accounts for the most common medical cause for which malpractice claims are made against the non-surgical dermatologist, reported the Physician Insurers Association of America (PIAA). The reporting cycle of 78 months of open and closed claims data ending December 1990.

CLIA Answers By Telephone

Quick answers to questions about new clinical laboratory regulations are promised by a recently-opened telephone hotline.

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has established the telephone number - (410) 290-5850 - to provide speedy information on the regulations implementing the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA'88).

NEW WARNING ISSUED ON EFFECTS OF SELDANE

For the second time in two years the manufacturer of the antihistamine terfenadine (trade name, Seldane) has been instructed to issue a warning about the possible effects of the drug.

According to the FDA, patients who do not metabolize the drug or who take excessive doses are at increased risk of suffering cardiac arrhythmias. Among the patients at risk are those who take the antifungal drug ketoconazole (trade name, Nizoral) or the antibiotic erythromycin and those with liver disease that interferes with the metabolism of Seldane.

At the request of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Marion Merrell Dow, Inc., sent 600,000 mailgrams to physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, and other health professional alerting them to the dangers of higher than normal levels of medication. Also, FDA reportedly was working with Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc., manufacturer of Nizoral, to spread the warning.

THE FDA also has asked Seldane's manufacturer to strengthen its labeling and develop a patient leaflet that will be included with its unit-of-use packaging. The company says that since 1990 the label for Seldane "has included a precaution discussing the potential for the rare occurrence of cardiovascular events" in certain patients.

Retaining Medical Records

The question of "How long do I have to keep my medical records?" is often asked. And the answer, says attorney Michael Sheldon, is it depends on where you practice. According to the American Health Information Management, said Shel-

don, state laws govern the length of time required for a physician to keep medical records. Reporting in the Legal Times a national publication for attorney's practicing in medical malpractice, Sheldon says that generally state retention regulations require records to be kept for ten years. If the state does not have any retention regulations, then the guidelines for retention would fall under the state's statute of limitations. The American Hospital Association's guideline used in hospitals for retention of medical records is ten years.

Doctors are urged to know the laws of the state in which they practice. In most cases the medical records department of the hospital can provide this information.

"PNEMONIES to PNEMEMBER"

- by David Geiss, D.O.

PAINFUL SKIN LESIONS

- B Blue Rubble Bleb Nevus
- E Eccine Spiraderma
- N Neuroma
- G Glomus Tumor
- A Angiolipoma
- L Leiomyoma

- C Child Syndrome
- I Incontinentia Pigmenti
- G Goltz's Syndrome

- S Seb. Derm/Sezary's Syndrome
- C Contact Dermatitis
- A Atopic Dermatitis
- L Lymphoma Leukemia
- P Psoriasis
- I Idiopathic (50% of cases)
- D Drug Rxn.

FOR SALE

National Biological Corp.
Panosol UVB Unit, Good/
excellent condition, \$850 (or
best offer). Contact Ms.
Sheryl Holdaas, 206/485-
7985.

AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES VOTES TO INCLUDE VOTING DELEGATE FROM EACH SPECIALTY COLLEGE

The AOA House of Delegates at its July, 1992 meeting in Dearborn, Michigan has approved a recommendation to seat a voting delegate from each specialty college at future House meetings. This comes after several year's of negotiations between the specialty colleges and the House. In 1989, the House agreed to seat a delegate from the specialty colleges, but with voice only - no vote. The rationale behind this decision was that all D.O.s, regardless of their specialty, are represented by their state delegates.

Through the Practice Affiliate Leadership Organization (PALO) a protest was filed stating that items of interest and concern to the specialty societies were not necessarily the same as those of the state affiliates. Therefore, specialty societies were left with no formal method of dealing bring their issues before the AOA decision-making body.

Dr. Lloyd Cleaver and Ms. Garris have represented the AOCD at both the PALO and House of Delegates meetings. The PALO also meets prior to the AOA Annual Convention with the AOA Board of

Trustees for an informal discussion session.

Opening a formal avenue in which specialty colleges can effect real change is a very positive step, said Ms. Garris. The specialty colleges can now play a greater role in determining their future and, hopefully, bring a resolution to some issues with which we have been in conflict with the AOA for years. We will finally be in the mainstream of the AOA political force - the House of Delegates - that determines the future for D.O.s and osteopathic medicine, said Garris.

Scottsdale Host 1992 Midyear Dermatology Conference



Scenes from the 1992 AOCD Midyear Conference held in Scottsdale, Arizona in April. More than 100 doctors registered for the Conference ... a record for AOCD cme meetings!

Call For Speakers For The 1993 Midyear Conference



A call for speakers for the AOCD Midyear Conference to be held in Vail, Colorado, April 1-5, 1993, has been announced by program chair Dr. Steven Brenman. Anyone who would like to lecture at the meeting should mail their request to Dr. Brenman at Suite 200, 6990 West 38th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 along with their topic, the length of their lecture, and the day and time they wish to speak.

This is an excellent opportunity for our group to get together without the larger format of the AOA Convention, said Dr. Brenman. We will have some excellent guest speakers, hold surgery workshops and even have a few surprises. In addition, you can't beat the Rockies for spring skiing, snowmobiling, or just siteseeing, said Brenman. The format will include cme in the morning and afternoon with the middle of the day free to enjoy the area.

The Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine will once again coordinate the Conference's educational program and the registration. We are indeed fortunate to have their help, said Dr. Brenman. They have done an excellent job in the past.

This will be our second year for exhibits at the Midyear Conference and we are expecting an even larger turnout out than last year. It is extremely helpful, however, for each member to encourage the representatives who call on them to recommend to their companies that they exhibit at our meeting. It doesn't matter what part of the country you live in, said Brenman, this is a national meeting of YOUR speciality society. Even though we are small for a national group, these companies will respond, if they get requests from throughout the United States, said Brenman.

AOCD Annual Directory To Be Published

The 1992-93 AOCD Annual Membership Directory and Yearbook will be published in December. Members are urged to renew their membership as soon as possible in order that they will not be left out of the directory. Members who would like to update their photographs are asked to submit a new one by November 15, 1992.

AOCD TO VOTE ON NAME CHANGE AT ANNUAL MEETING

Notice of an intent to vote on a name change for the AOCD has been mailed to members, said Bylaws Committee chair Dr. Charles Hughes. The membership has clearly indicated they wish to change the name of the College to:

American Osteopathic Academy Of Dermatology & Cutaneous Surgery

We will therefore officially vote on the change at the Annual Membership Business Meeting to be held on Tuesday (11/3) in San Diego, said Hughes. Once the membership has approved the change, information will be transmitted to the AOA through AOCD's representative to the AOA Advisory Board for Osteopathic Specialists David Brooks Walker, D.O.

AOCD ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING SCHEDULED

President Shelly Friedman, D.O. has issued the official call for the 1992 AOCD Membership Business Meeting to be held at the Marriott Hotel in San Diego, California on

Tuesday, (11/3), at 1:00 pm. All members are asked to attend this most important meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY CERTIFIED

AOBD Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Tom Bonino has announced the following doctors have passed their certification exams administered in November, 1991, and have been approved by the AOA as board certified in osteopathic dermatology.

Duyen Truong Faria, D.O.
Ronald M. Glick, D.O.
John P. Hibler, D.O.
Cindy F. Hoffman, D.O.
Richard E. Johnson, D.O.
Janet L. Koprince, D.O.
Bradley S. Kurgis, D.O.
Lee P. Laris, D.O.
Matt L. Leavitt, D.O.
Scott J. M. Lim, D.O.
James W. Young, D.O.

Exams for 1992 will be administered on Sunday, November 1, 1992, at the Marriott Hotel in San Diego, California. Information and questions should be directed to Dr. Thomas H. Bonino, 25510 Plymouth Road, Detroit, MI 48239, 313/937-1200.

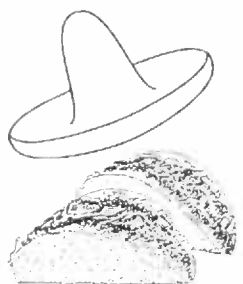
Residents may now take the board certification exams in the same year in which they complete their training, said Dr. Bonino. However, a "Board Certification Packet" must be obtained from Dr. Bonino and all materials requested in the packet must be received in his office no later than April 1 of that year.

A reminder: Residents must be members of the AOA to become board certified.

Certifications exams for 1993 will be held Sunday, October 10, 1993, in Boston, Ma. (Third-year residents are advised to request the packet from Dr. Bonino by January 15, 1993.)

ANNUAL MEETING TO FEATURE SUNDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

The AOCD will once again hold a special buffet/reception on Sunday night (11/1) to kick off the Annual Meeting events in San Diego in November. This was a very successful event last year, said Program Chair Dr. Michael Scott, and it's a great opportunity for us to spend some social time together with our colleagues and friends.



Dr. Scott has chosen a Mexican theme "South of the Border" to coincide with the close proximity of San Diego to Mexico. The menu will feature a number of traditional Mexican dishes (as well as some standard American cuisine) at food stations around the festively decorated room. A Mariachi Band will provide entertainment.

There is no additional cost, but reservations for doctors, residents, and spouses or guests are required.

Schering Corporation will once again sponsor this event.

National Practitioner Data Bank Update

Doctors should stay up to date on information being retained on them by the National practitioner Data Bank. A Request for Information Disclosure Form may be obtained from the Bank by calling 1/800/767-6732. There is no fee charged if the doctor requests his/her own information.

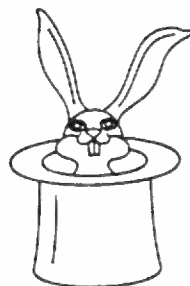
UPIN Reminder

All ordering/referring doctors should remember that their Unique Identification Number (UPIN) must

be shown on ALL Medicare Part B claims submitted for certain items and services. Claims submitted without the UPIN will be rejected.

INTERNATIONALLY KNOW MAGICAL ENTERTAINER BOOKED FOR BANQUET

Paul Driscoll, who likes to be listed as a "magical entertainer" will provide some light-hearted entertainment for the Annual AOCD Banquet on Monday night, November 2. This is really great, said AOCD president Dr. Friedman, not to be missed! Mr. Driscoll will be presenting a program of magic and comedy which will include audience participation. His credits include the "Catch a Rising Star" Comedy Club and Bally's and Harrah's in Las Vegas. He has also performed in various clubs throughout Europe and has performed with many top musical artists including Gloria Estefan and the Miami Sound Machine, Kenny G., and Paul Anka.



Tickets for the banquet are included in the AOA physician registration packet, however, tickets for spouses or guests must be purchased in advance through the AOA.

Annual Meeting To Feature Expert In Dermatology Coding

The AOCD Annual Meeting will bring back dermatology coding expert Inga C. Ellzey, MPA, RRA for an encore, announced Program Chair Dr. Michael Scott. We had such an overwhelming response to her session last year and many of our members requested that we have her back for this meeting, said Scott. Ms. Ellzey is the only consultant I know

of who deal exclusively with dermatology coding, said Scott. She is also an authority on legislative activity effecting dermatology.

Ms. Ellzey will conduct a workshop entitled "1992 Update on Dermatologic Coding: Maximizing Reimbursement in your Practice" on Wednesday (11/4) for a Breakfast Session. There is no additional charge, however, participants must make reservations through the AOCD office in Atlanta.

Surgery To Be Prominently Featured In 1992 Annual Program

Several surgery workshops and lectures on various aspects of dermatologic surgery will be included in this year's didactic sessions. On Monday afternoon immediately following the alumni lunches, a "Basic Surgery Course and Workshop" and a pig's feet surgery lab will be presented. Both sessions are limited to 30 people and reservations through the AOCD office in Atlanta is required by October 1.

On Tuesday, a Breakfast Session will lead off the day with "Applied Surgical Principles"

Concurrent sessions will run on all three days with a wide variety of topics that will have broad appeal to dermatologists as well as doctors in other specialties. Members are urged to share information on this outstanding AOCD program with their colleagues . . . and encourage them to attend.

In addition to the complete program provided by the AOA, the AOCD will publish for its members a "pocket size" itinerary of the osteopathic dermatology didactic program.

Be sure to register as a member of the AOCD and receive 33 1-A AOA-approved credits in the specialty of dermatology for attending the convention.