

CT-ASCP



CHAPTER NEWSLETTER A SENIOR CARE PERSPECTIVE



Connecticut ASCP takes the lead in educating Healthcare Professionals managing the Elderly

Chapter Newsletter: Volume III,
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Peggy Manning Memoli, RPh, CGP, FASCP

The Connecticut Chapter of ASCP (American Society of Consultant Pharmacist) held their Sixth Senior Symposium at Foxwoods Resort and Casino in Mashantucket, CT on April 21-22, 2005. This has become an annual New England regional event attended by close to a thousand healthcare providers from a broad variety of settings and disciplines. Continuing education credits are offered to pharmacists, nurses and physicians. Much success of this program was attributable to the voluntary leadership. This year's Senior Symposium Committee consisted of chairman Gene A. Memoli, II, RPh, FASCP and committee members David Cooper, RPh, CGP, FASCP, Sean Jeffrey, Pharm.D., CGP, FASCP, Mark Wrabel, RPh, FASCP, Kevin Chamberlin, Pharm.D. and Bryan Lentini, Pharm.D. The entire Executive Board of CT-ASCP assisted the Symposium Committee to achieve the goals of this symposium.

By the year 2030, the 2000 U.S. Census projects that one in five U.S. citizens will be age sixty-five or older. Currently, there are close to 35 million Americans over the age of sixty-five. The goals of the Senior Symposium are to help pharmacists and other healthcare providers, as members of the interdisciplinary team, prepare for the many challenges that they face in caring for older adults. Educational programs are designed to meet the needs of healthcare professionals serving the geriatric patient and their families.

The educational seminars of this year's Senior Symposium were all filled to capacity.

Outstanding speakers and topics provided thirteen hours of continuing education credit. Executive Director and CEO of ASCP, John Feather, Ph.D., CAE, presented the second annual Timothy Webster Memorial Address entitled "Modernizing Medicare". The presentation highlighted the new Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act (MMA) of 2003 which was signed into law on December 8, 2003 by President George W. Bush. This landmark legislation provides seniors and people with disabilities with the most significant improvement in senior health care in nearly forty years. Participants have many questions surrounding the issue of MMA, such as how does MMA coordinate with VA benefits? How will a pharmacy enroll with the Pharmacy Drug Provider (PDP)? Will younger disabled Medicare beneficiaries be covered under Medicare Part D? Can people with cognitive impairments sign up? Are pharmacists allowed to suggest which PDP a patient should choose? These and many other related issues are being closely addressed by Tom Clark, RPh, MHS and other leaders at the Government Affairs Office at ASCP.

Other "Hot Topics" included the controversial cardiovascular safety of the COX-2 Inhibitors. "A Hearty Discussion of COX-2 Inhibitors" was presented by Tracey Mersfelder, PharmD, BCPS, Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy. And the always popular "New Drug Update" by Tom Frank, PharmD, BCPS, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Area Health Education



CT-ASCP Chapter Communications Committee:

- Amy Huie-Li, PharmD, CGP
- Anna Egle, RPh, FASCP
- Brian Pelletier, PharmD
- Kevin Chamberlin, PharmD

Educating Healthcare Professionals	2
Attendee Quotes & Fast Facts	3
SS'05 Sponsor Thank You	4
Notes & Votes from May Board Meeting	5 & 6

Continued on p. 2, 'Education

'Education' (cont. from p. 1)

Center NE, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, did not disappoint with a candid and humorous presentation comparing newly released drugs with those currently available.

Connecticut has an active bioterrorism task force with pharmacists playing a major part in the response effort. This was the goal of the presentation entitled "Emergency Preparedness: Legal Issues and Pharmacists' Roles" given by Marghie Giuliano, RPh, Executive Vice President, Connecticut Pharmacist's Association (CPA) and Robert Guynn, RPh, State of CT

Pharmacy Commission, US Army (retired). The speakers are the state's foremost bioterrorism preparedness advocates regarding emergency response authority.

In addition to the superb educational topics, a full spectrum of vendors representing the pharmaceutical industry participated in the exhibit hall. Attendees were given information on products and services used in caring for the senior population. The Symposium also provides numerous opportunities for colleagues to network, such as at the closing reception hosted by the University of CT School of Pharmacy and CT-ASCP.



Next year's Seventh Annual Senior Symposium date is set for May 11-12, 2006 returning to the Foxwoods Resort and Casino. The symposium committee plans to collaborate with other major health care organizations to further expand the program. All healthcare providers can expect to learn how to assist seniors in leading happier, healthier lives by providing education to seniors about disease states and through medication management. So, if you are looking for a great place to meet colleagues and be entertained by a vast array of educational programming, mark your calendar for next year's Senior Symposium!

Above: M. Fran Smith, MD and J. William Doyle, MD, PhD (seated on stage) discussed the management of eye disorders in the elderly

Below: Dennis Chapron, RPh, MS gave a talk on the management of anemia in the elderly



Attendees' Perspectives at SS '05

The CT-ASCP presented its Sixth Annual Senior Symposium at the Foxwoods Resort Casino on April 21-22, 2005. Here are some comments on this year's program:

"I especially enjoyed the new format of offering an open debate regarding the Cox-2 Inhibitors. This debate was unique in that it offered the audience an opportunity to influence the direction of the discussion based upon our questions...The program regarding the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) by Executive Director & CEO John Feather, Ph.D., was an eye opener regarding the complexity of administering and delivering this new government sponsored program. It is vital for pharmacists to have a good understanding of the MMA in order to be effective in communicating this information to our patients..." *Phil Hritcko, PharmD, Director, Experiential Education, UConn School of Pharmacy Storrs, CT.*

"I enjoyed coming to the Senior Symposium 2005 at Foxwoods. It is very easy to get to and well organized. The speakers were very informative and presented their material in such an interesting manner. The drug company sponsored booths provided us with even more information." *Claire R. Long, RPh, Retired Community Pharmacist, Niantic, CT.*

"I decided to attend this conference primarily because of the topics offered. I was tempted to attend because of the offering on "Eye Diseases" - I have never seen a program such as this offered at any of the conferences I have attended in the past." *Pauline Roy, RPh, Hospital pharmacist, Somerset, MA.*

"John and I always look forward to the ASCP meetings, education materials, and the related professional magazines and journals. John and I have attended three of the past six symposiums. Topics, presentations, and the open discussions are always timely, serve to update professional information for us, and are useful in our respective professions." *Ruth T. Suh, RD, CDN, Greenwich, CT.*

"Each session I attended was worthwhile and provided me with relevant and current practice information. I found the Timothy Webster Memorial lecture to be the most interesting and enlightening. I had had only a general sense of how convoluted the new law was, so to hear the intricacies and the potential nightmares clinicians, pharmacists, institutions, and particularly, the Medicare recipient will face is daunting." *Mary Lilley, APRN, Gerontological Nurse Practitioner, West Haven, CT.*

Senior Symposium '05: Facts & Figures

This years SS attracted over 800 registrations, including the Senior Symposium Kick Off Dinner, First Lite Symposium & Breakfast and Senior Symposium Closing Reception.

The majority of participants were pharmacists, including LTC specialists, hospital pharmacists, community pharmacists and representatives from academia, both active and retired. There were also pharmacy students, pharmacy technicians, RN's, LPN's, APRN's, nurse practitioners and MD's as well as representatives from industry and governmental agencies.

This years participants came from AR, CT, FL, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, and VT.



L to R: ASCP Region I Director Frank Cirillo, RPh, ASCP Executive Director John Feather, PhD, and Paul Rasa, RPh.

Thank You!!

On behalf of the Planning Committee for CT ASCP and Senior Symposium '05, we would like to thank the following Supporters. Without their continuous generous support on the local, state, and national levels we would not be able to provide the quality educational programs to which we have become accustomed. Please join us in thanking your local and regional representatives as you see them throughout the next few weeks and months!

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Notes and Votes from May Board Meeting

MEMBER NAME & TITLE	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Tom Lachapelle, President 2004	X		X	X	X		X					
Sandy Wojciechowski, President Elect 2004	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Jim Conklin, Immed.Past-President / PAC Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Michel Fortin, Secretary / Treasurer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Mark Wrabel, Board 2002 / Programs Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Peggy Memoli, Board 2002	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Dennis Chapron, Board 2003	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
John Cannarella, Board 2003	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Kevin Chamberlin, Board2004 / Commu- nic.Comm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Anna Egle, Board 2004 / Communic. Co-Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Sean Jeffery, Education Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Amy Huie-Li, Communications Co-Chair	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Larry Sobel, President Emeritus / Legislative Chair				X	X	X						
James Ryan, Legislative Committee			X		X							
Gene Memoli, Past President / Chair Senior Symp.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
David Cooper, Past President	X				X	X	X					
Jack Ziskin, Past President	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Sheldon Sones, Past President	X		X		X		X					
Bryan Lentini, Programs Committee		X	X	X	X	X						
Brian Pelletier, Communication Committee		X	X	X	X	X	X					

REVIEW OF PAST MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as written.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report was reviewed and approved as submitted

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sandy W. (covering for Tom L.) welcomed guests and students and ask that everyone introduce themselves.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dennis Cleary distributed the Bill Tracking form and discussed various bills and the chapter's position for each. He feels long-term care pharmacy is doing well so far. We need to defeat any bills related to importing drugs from Canada. Budget issues require most of our attention. On a positive note, the Appropriations budget had our fee and percentage mark ups restored.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE - Senior Symposium 2005 (SS05)

Website: www.seniorsymposium.com . Gene M. thanked the SS05 committee for their tremendous success despite adverse conditions. The \$13,000 Boehringer-Ingelheim grant and the \$15,000 Rhode Island grant helped prevent a deficit. In general all the vendors and attendees expressed satisfaction with the program, as did John Feather from ASCP. Discussion about the positive feedback from our speakers. For SS06 the date will be May 11th & 12th, 2006 at Foxwoods. Conflicts with holidays and other programs have been avoided in order to maximize attendance. Attendance numbers for SS05 not definite yet. We had fewer walk-ins than last year so the total may be about 800 attendees. Peggy M. wrote an article which may be accepted for submission by Drug Topics and/or CPA's Journal of Pharmacy. Sean J. volunteered to contact John Feathers for a possible interview to be included in this article. Sean also asked if a golf tournament would be held this year because we would need to begin checking on course availability soon. Gene suggested a possible need for a golf tournament committee to handle this endeavor. Dave C. warned about the risk that Pharma companies would shift resources away from SS06 to support the golf tournament. He reviewed

Continued on page 6

Notes and Votes, *(cont. from page 5)*

how payments for sponsorship commitments have been coming in and we have received 59% of payments to date. He should have been completely paid up by August. Mark W. suggested including vendor photos on the CT ASCP website under the vendor section.

NEWS FROM UCONN

Dennis Chapron discussed this Saturday's Pharmacy School graduation. The October dedication of the School of Pharmacy will be a two day ceremony. Mark W. asked who would attend to represent CT ASCP and Dennis Chapron volunteered to represent the CT Chapter of ASCP as well.

PAC COMMITTEE

Jim C. discussed the PAC booth and how a few people showed up. His impression is awareness is increased this year.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Amy H. discussed the upcoming newsletter on SS05 which includes excerpts from Peggy's article, Dennis Chapron's photographs and a thank you to sponsors. She recorded feedback from some attendees which may also be included. Brian Pelletier volunteered to assist the Communications Committee.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Five members from CT ASCP will be attending the ASCP mid-year meeting. Mark W. discussed the issue of finances and how the chapter is the second payer of choice for the CT Chapter President's attendance at ASCP conferences. He and Sheldon S. suggested that a letter of denial from the president's employer regarding reimbursing conference & travel expenses, or a signed affidavit if a letter is not obtainable, be submitted by each President with their conference expenses. A motion was made and the Board voted on this motion and passed it unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Michel Fortin,
CT-ASCP Secretary



Above: John Feather, PhD discussed the Medicare Part D reform and its impact on pharmacy practice as we know it at SS'05.