

WSMA Annual Meeting Wrap-up

November 2009



BENTON FRANKLIN COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

The Society Pages

The first weekend in October, several board members, physician members and your Executive Director traveled to Spokane for the WSMA Annual Meeting. It is at the annual meeting that policy is set for the WSMA. Thirty seven resolutions were submitted this year by various delegates from around the state. Topics included everything from health care reform, legalization of medical marijuana, public health funding, emergency call coverage and board member and house of delegate conflicts of interest. It is during reference committee meetings on Saturday that these resolutions are debated by delegates. Then on Sunday, the house of delegates meets and hears the recommendation from the reference committees before voting on the resolutions. Following is a very brief highlight of the official actions of the house of delegates. The full text version is available at the WSMA website.

- Resolution that WSMA will call upon state and federal legislatures to develop comprehensive, long-term dedicated funding for public health.
- Resolution that WSMA will endorse the continuation of a universal vaccine purchase and distribution program
- Resolution that the House of Delegates be given information about the employment status, current professional activities, past work experience and reasons for interest in the position of candidates for office (submitted by B/F County!!)
- Resolution that all WSMA officers should be conflict free during their tenure, board members should be free of conflicts and disclose all conflicts during their service
- Resolution that if a federally sponsored public insurance option does not materialize by the end of 2010, the WSMA shall pursue state legislation in 2011 that will allow universal coverage of individuals
- Resolution that the WSMA work with the state of WA to create e-discovery laws to define the use of electronic data in court proceedings (submitted by B/F County!!)
- Resolution that WSMA endorse the principle of reasonable payment of physicians by hospitals for on-call coverage whether or not they are required to be physically present in the facility

Again, this is just a sample of the actions of the house at the annual meeting. I strongly encourage you to visit the WSMA website for the full-text version.

WSMA ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT AT ANNUAL MEETING

SEATTLE – Dr. Deborah J. Harper was elected president of the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) at the association's annual meeting in Spokane, Sunday, October 4. The WSMA represents over 9,600 physicians, residents, medical students, and physician-assistants throughout Washington state. Dr. Harper is pediatrician at Group Health Cooperative in Spokane. She is also an assistant dean at the University of Washington School of Medicine and oversees UW medical student and residency programs in eastern Washington. Dr. Harper also serves as a consultant pediatrician with Partners with Families and Children in Spokane. Dr. Harper received her medical degree from the University of Illinois. She completed her pediatric residency at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. She is board certified in pediatrics. Dr. Harper has held numerous leadership positions at the WSMA and is also a fellow in the American Academy of Pediatrics.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

6:30-7:00 pm, Social Hour

7:00-8:30 Membership Business and
Presentation

November 17, 2009

Mick Oreskovich MD, Medical Director/CEO
Washington Physicians Health Program

RSVP by November 12

March 16, 2010

April 20, 2010

May 18, 2010

All Meetings Held at Meadow Springs
Country Club, Richland



The Society Ball

(formerly known as the Noel Ball)

*Will be held January 23, 2010 at
Meadow Springs Country Club*

SAVE THE DATE!

Benton Franklin County Medical Society 26th Annual
CME Seminar

February 19-20, 2010

Diabetes Related Complications

Depression in Adolescents

Pediatric Orthopedics and Sports Medicine

Breast Cancer Screening

Vitamin D Deficiency

Treatment Options for Prostate Cancer

Treatment for Heart Failure

Evidence Based Screening Measures

Management of Hypertension

Treatment of Dizziness in Primary Care

Treatment of Allergic Rhinitis

Gastroenterology Update

Legislative Meet and Greet

November 10, 2009, 6-8 pm

Hampton Inn, Richland

Please join us for a wine and hors d'oeuvre reception with legislators from the 16th and 8th legislative districts and Mr. Len Eddinger, Senior Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at the Washington State Medical Association.

You don't want to miss this opportunity to speak directly with our legislators about the issues facing the practice of medicine.

PLEASE RSVP TO NICOLE AT 582-2866 OR BFMEDSOC@CHARTERINTERNET.COM

Applications for Membership

First Notice:

If any member has information as to why any of the following applicants should not be a member of this Society, please furnish this information to the Board of Trustees.

Matthew Peterson MD

Board Certified Pain Medicine, Anesthesiology

Medical School: University of North Dakota (1998)

Internship: Providence Alaska Medical Center

Residency: University of Arizona

Recommended by: Mary Newman MD and Shannon Dramis DO

Welcome New Members!

In accordance with the BFCMS bylaws, Article III, Section 2, a-b, the following physicians are elected to membership, considered provisional members for one year.

Chet Hunter DO

Board Certified Radiology

Medical School: Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (2003)

Internship: Henry County Bi-County Hospital

Residency: Henry County Bi-County Hospital

Recommended by: Saravanan Kasthuri MD and Steven Weighall MD

Ghassan Nemri MD

Board Certified Anesthesia/Pain Mgmt.

Medical School: Minsk Medical Institute (1979)

Internship: St. Michaels Medical Center, Newark, NJ

Residency: Cook County Hospital, Chicago, IL

Recommended by: Bing Manawadu MD and H. Gronski MD

Dues invoices will be sent out in early November. As a reminder, you will be paying your county dues directly to us, NOT to the WSMA.

I am hopeful that we will be able to accept credit card payments for dues this year...stay tuned for further information!!

Benton Franklin County Medical Society
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2009 Board of Directors

John Droesch, MD	President
Stanley Ling, MD	Vice-President
Vacant	Secretary-Treasurer
Heather Phipps, DO	Past President
Richard Long, MD	Past President

Trustees

David Fischer, MD, John Henriques, MD
Larry Jecha, MD, MPH
Sheila Rege, MD AMA Delegate

The objectives of the Benton Franklin County Medical Society are to promote the art, science and practice of medicine and the practitioners who pursue these goals; to promote the care and well being of the patients of Benton and Franklin Counties; to protect and improve the health of the public; to provide medical education and to provide leadership for the members of the Society.

Please contact Nicole Austin with any questions, comments or information you would like added to the Newsletter.