

September 2009



BENTON FRANKLIN COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

# The Society Pages

At the May general membership meeting, a motion was made to donate half of the funds that had been given to the Medical Society by the Mid-Columbia IPO (MCIPO) to the WSMA Preserve Patient Access Legal Fund. This would have resulted in a donation of approximately \$43,000.00 to the WSMA. As stated in the Medical Society Bylaws, the "Board of Trustees has full and complete power and authority to determine policies and to transact business for or on behalf of the Society" and as such, we have carefully considered this matter

The MCIPO was organized exclusively for charitable, scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

They were designated as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in 2001 and listed their exempt purpose as "organization engaged in community health planning, information and data collection and activities related to the promotion of health care." (1998 Federal tax return for MCIPO). When this organization dissolved in 2006, it was the decision of the MCIPO to gift their remaining funds to the BFCMS.

The MCIPO stipulated that the funds be "managed/expended consistent with the 501(c)(3) purpose and powers (Article II, section 2.1 and section 2.2 of the IPO bylaws) and that the already committed \$5000.00 a year for the 2007 and 2008 Southwest Washington Chapter of the American College of Physicians courses be continued."

The Board of Directors of the Medical Society has carefully reviewed the minutes of the MCIPO, the bylaws of the MCIPO and had discussions with former board members of the MCIPO in order to better understand the intent of the MCIPO when they gifted their funds to the Medical Society. After reviewing all of this, the board has determined that it would be inappropriate to donate funds that were given to the medical society by the MCIPO to the WSMA Preserve Patient Legal Access Fund. The board is currently considering options for these funds that would be aligned with the stipulations set by the MCIPO when they gave us this money.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact a Board Member of myself.

## 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**

The AMA, in conjunction with multiple specialty organizations, has submitted a letter to Representative Henry Waxman asking to include meaningful medical liability reform as part of the healthcare reform package. Reforms based on California's Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) model, include a \$250,000 cap on non-economic damages, sliding scale for attorney fees, collateral source rule reform, periodic payment for future damage awards, as well as other reforms such as a requirement to file a certificate of merit in any medical liability lawsuit and expert witness requirements are requested. Other alternatives suggested include health courts, early disclosure and compensation models, and liability protections for use of Evidence-Based Medicine Guidelines.

Full Text can be found at [www.bentonfranklincms.com](http://www.bentonfranklincms.com) or [http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/where\\_we\\_stand/liability/waxman7-09.pdf](http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/where_we_stand/liability/waxman7-09.pdf)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

6:30-7:00 pm, Social Hour

7:00-8:30 Membership Business and Presentation

**September 22, 2009**

New Physician Reception

RSVP by September 17

**October 20, 2009**

Swine Flu Update

Larry Jecha, MD, MPH

Public Health Officer, Benton Franklin County Health Department

RSVP by October 15

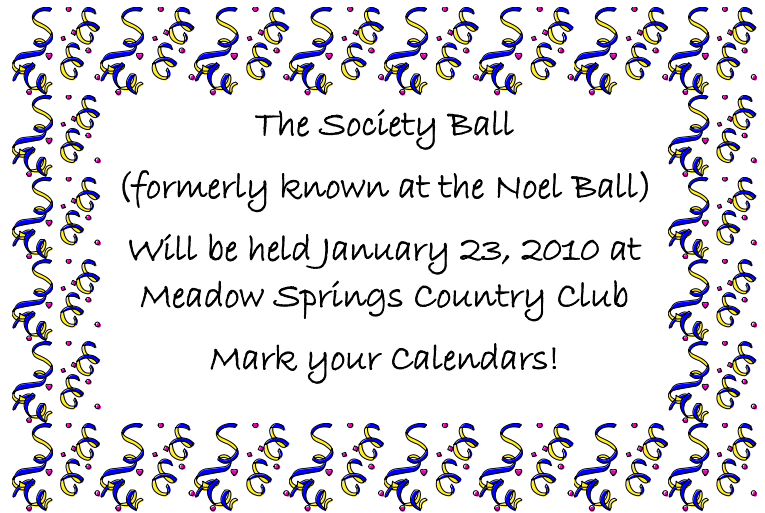
**November 17, 2009**

Mick Oreskovich MD, Medical Director/CEO

Washington Physicians Health Program

RSVP by November 12

**All Meetings Held at Meadow Springs Country Club, Richland**



### WSMA Annual Meeting

**October 2-4, Davenport Hotel, Spokane**

**Visit [www.wsma.org](http://www.wsma.org) for registration information**

Thank you to the following physicians who have volunteered to be part of the delegation for Benton/Franklin Counties at the 2009 House of Delegates

John Droesch MD

Eli Kaczynski MD

Stanley Ling MD

Heather Phipps DO

Larry Jecha MD (WSMA Trustee)

Sheila Rege MD (AMA Delegate)

Thank you to all the physicians and families who attend the first ever Medical Society night at the ball park in July.



We appreciate all the positive feedback we received and are excited to plan more events like this.

# Applications for Membership

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## **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.

### **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

## **Welcome New Members**

In accordance with the BFCMS bylaws, the following physicians are elected to membership and considered provisional members for one year.

### **Elton Kerr MD**

#### **Board Certified OB/GYN**

**Medical School:** Loma Linda University (1976)

**Internship:**

**Residency:** University of Florida

**Recommended by:** Kevin Taylor MD and Jeanne Berretta MD

### **Franklin Newhouse MD**

#### **Board Certified Family Practice**

**Medical School:** University of Washington (1986)

**Internship:** University of Utah

**Residency:** University of Utah

**Recommended by:** Jennifer Brindle MD and Mark Flesher MD

Welcome Back to Craig Howell MD who has reinstated his membership with the society. We are pleased to have you back!

Benton Franklin County Medical Society  
PO Box 5998  
Kennewick, WA 99336

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KENNEWICK, WA  
PERMIT NO. 75

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**BENTON FRANKLIN COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

PO Box 5998  
711 S. Auburn Street, Suite F  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
Phone: 582-2866  
Fax: 582-3318  
Email: [bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com](mailto:bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com)  
[www.bentonfranklincms.com](http://www.bentonfranklincms.com)

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**2009 Board of Directors**

John Droesch, MD	President
Stanley Ling, MD	Vice-President
Luzcel Tuazon, MD	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.*