

MAOFP NEWS

A Publication from the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians, Inc.

Winter 2011

President's Message



Andrew Adair, D.O.

Webster's Dictionary defines presidency as the action or function of one that presides. Serving as your president since August has proven to be much more and involves more than one individual to ensure the viability of the Association. The current board of directors is a unique combination of people who not only excel at their profession, but innovative in the strategies for MAOFP.

In September, the board met in Gaylord for a strategic planning retreat. Every three years we meet to review the MAOFP's vision, mission, and strategic priorities. The retreats allow the opportunity to view the organization to see if we are in-line with the needs of our membership. What arose from that weekend is as follows:

Mission – The mission of the MAOFP is to promote, protect, and advance the

specialty of osteopathic family medicine.

Vision – MAOFP is the recognized leader in Michigan to create an environment where:

1. Family physicians provide and coordinate the comprehensive care of the patient.
2. Family physicians advocate for health policy that supports access to primary care.
3. There are enough family physicians to meet the needs of Michigan patients.
4. Sufficient number of students to choose family medicine as a specialty.
5. Osteopathic family medicine is an economically viable and rewarding career choice.

Top priorities for 2011-2014

1. Evaluation of operational management for the Association.
2. Improve relationship with residents/ students and their respective educational programs.
3. Build understanding to clarify ownership role and customer-ship at the board level and within membership. Convert from "me" thinking to "we" thinking.

The membership received an email/fax blast in early October clarifying our first initiative. MAOFP has been renting from the Michigan Osteopathic Associations'

facilities for many years and enjoy many opportunities on collaborative projects. Our Association is growing, expanding its goals and the board felt that a review of the operations was imperative to maintain fiscal responsibility for its members.

MAOFP has received four letters of intent of vendors interested in assisting our future needs. The vendors are the Michigan Osteopathic Association, the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, the Council of Residency Directors in Emergency Medicine and Association Management Resources. You as a member will have an opportunity to sound in on your comments throughout this process. In January, particularly, our Stakeholders' membership meeting will be devoted in discussing the different options. We look forward to hearing your ideas and input to aid in the board's difficult decision. Our goal is to make a final decision by February 2012.

In the meantime, any comments you may have can be sent to Rhonda Ballard, Operations Manager at rballard@mi-osteopathic.org who will forward them to the board. This may be a pivotal year for MAOFP. I am excited to play a small part moving the Association forward into the 21st century.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew D. Adair, D.O., FAAFP, FACOFP
President

Board of Directors

President – Andrew Adair, D.O. **President Elect** – William Morrone, D.O.

Secretary/Treasurer – David Best, D.O. **Past President and Interim Executive Director** – Jeffrey Stevens, D.O.

Directors – Lawrence Abramson, D.O., Patrick Botz, D.O., Glenn Gradis, D.O., Algirdas Juocys, D.O., Frank Komara, D.O., Mary Louder, D.O., Thomas Reeths, D.O., Kathleen Rollinger, D.O., Lynn Squanda-Murphy, D.O., R. Taylor Scott, D.O. **Resident Director** – Leah Cecil, D.O.

Student Director – Ryan Spencer **Alternate Resident Director** – Lynn Wilson, D.O.

MAOFP Hosts Hugely Successful Summer Family Medicine Update at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI

The Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physician's (MAOFP) Summer Family Medicine Update was held at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan from August 4-7, 2011.



The conference hosted record breaking attendance of over 250 registrants. The lectures included a wide variety of topics applicable to the Michigan family physician. Twenty-two hours of AOA category 1-A CME credits were available. Excellent feedback from the attendees was received as a result of informative, up-to-date lectures and topics and a lively exhibit hall boasting over 30 exhibitors.

At its Stakeholders Membership Meeting on August 6, MAOFP members elected the 2011-12 Board of Directors. The new MAOFP board officers were: **Andrew Adair, D.O., FAAFP, FACFP**, of Chesterfield, president; **William Morrone, D.O.**, of Bay City, president-elect; **David Best, D.O.**, of Williamsburg, secretary/treasurer. The new Directors nominated were **Mary Louder, D.O.**, of Traverse City, **Lynn Squanda-Murphy, D.O.**, of Shepherd, **Leah Cecil, D.O.**, of Lake Orion as Resident Director; **Lynn Wilson, D.O.**, of Clawson as Alternate Resident Director

and MSUCOM student, **Ryan Spencer** as the student director. Re-elected for another three-year term were **Patrick Botz, D.O.**, of Flushing, **Algirdas Juocys, D.O.**, of Rochester and **Thomas Reeths, D.O.**, of Bay City.

The MAOFP proudly bestowed its Family Physician of the Year Award to **George Sawabini, D.O., FACFP, dist.**, of Dearborn. Dr. Sawabini is a past president of the MAOFP and Michigan Osteopathic Association and the current president of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (MAOFP). Currently, Dr. Sawabini is the Assistant Director of Osteopathic Family Medicine Residency Program at the St. John Hospital in Southfield where he also serves as an Osteopathic Preceptor. He spends part of his time teaching OMT for the Emergency Room, OBGYN, Internal and family medicine resident and students at St. John Oakland-Macomb Hospitals.

The MAOFP proudly bestowed its Distinguished Service Award to **Otto Graesser, D.O.**, of Lansing. He is a Past President of the MAOFP serving in 1994-95. Dr. Graesser is on staff as Chairman of Family Practice at Ingham Regional and is also on staff at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing. He has been in private practice in Lansing for over 50 years. He is also an aviation medical examiner.

SAVE THE DATE:

Winter Family Medicine Update
20 – 22.5 hours of 1-A CME Credits
January 26-29, 2012,
Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire

Summer Family Medicine Update
22 hours of 1-A CME Credits
August 2-5, 2012,
Grand Traverse Resort in Acme

American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians Congress of Delegates Serve as a Michigan Delegate!

The ACOFP's 49th Annual Convention & Scientific Seminar is being held March 15-18, 2012 at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee, Florida. The ACOFP Congress of Delegates will convene at this meeting. The tentative dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Credentialing (simple, short form to be submitted)
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Congress Session I
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Reference Committees

Thursday, March 15, 2012

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Michigan Caucus Meeting, location TBD
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. Congress Session II
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. President Inauguration

For more information on serving as a delegate, please call Rhonda Ballard at (800) 657-1556 ext. 123 or email her at rballard@mi-osteopathic.org.

Serve as a Delegate for Complimentary MAOFP Conference Registration

Receive a certificate for a **complimentary conference registration** to your choice of either the MAOFP 2012 summer conference at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI on August 3 – 5, 2012 OR the MAOFP 2013 winter conference at the Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, MI on January 24 – 27, 2013 if you serve both days as a Michigan Delegate!

“As physicians, we have so many unknowns coming our way...

One thing I am certain about is my malpractice protection.”

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From the Government Affairs Committee...

These seem to be times that try our souls daily as the continued uncertainties abound concerning our future as family physicians, as Michiganders, as US citizens, and as responsible members of our communities. Life, it seems, has assumed a frenetic pace and continues to accelerate. There exists an ongoing undercurrent of instability: the economy, unemployment, corporate bankruptcies, national and other governmental debt and deficits, natural disasters with more frequent and severe incidence. You know that feeling; it's exacerbated with the continuous onslaught of pessimism presented by newscasts, commentators, and internet postings. We feel unsettled and often overwhelmed by the problems in our society and globally. Dealing with the challenges of today makes open-minded envisioning of the future difficult. So, it's really tough to develop an enlightened strategic plan that anyone trusts these days. It almost pits the pessimistic pragmatism against optimistic Pollyannaism. Yet for success, organizations such as MAOFP must have strategies for success lest they end up in the dustbin of history. As an analogy, in the Grimm's fairytale *Snow White* the evil queen looks into her magic mirror asking it a question to which she has already chosen the only acceptable answer: she is the "fairest" of them all; yet as we know from the story, the mirror could not tell a lie so the queen did not always hear the answer she desired. We all want a brighter future and, for osteopathic family physicians, that is the challenge for MAOFP. **Your** board has worked diligently to craft a strategic plan for the next several years that will make the changes necessary to achieve **your** organization's vision to be the recognized leader in

Michigan to create an *environment* where:

- Osteopathic family physicians provide and coordinate the comprehensive care of the patient;
- Osteopathic family physicians advocate for health policy that supports access to their care;
- Osteopathic family physicians exist in sufficient number to meet the needs of Michigan patients;
- Osteopathic medical students in sufficient number select osteopathic family medicine as their specialty of choice;
- Osteopathic family practice provides an economically, professionally and personally rewarding career choice.

Lofty goals that we believe are achievable.

How do we get what we want? A key concept for success in this endeavor requires that we explore the full range of future possibilities and prepare ourselves to effectively address them as they emerge. We don't have the advantage of a magic mirror, divining rod or an Oracle that predicts the future so we must watch for trends, keep abreast of new developments, constantly update our skills, and maintain vigilance. We must craft policies and initiatives that support and advance our aims. We must act in unity with a single, unwavering voice; we must build the necessary coalitions to augment our organization and leverage these strategic alignments.

Based on the strategic plan the Government Affairs Committee has chartered key objectives to support the plan's success: advocate to strengthen and enhance the education experience in osteopathic family practice residency programs

in Michigan - including expansion of osteopathic residency positions – ensuring that the residencies are competitive with allopathic programs to attract and retain our best osteopathic medical students; develop and implement a primer on healthcare policy advocacy and legislative engagement for osteopathic family practice residents and interested osteopathic medical students culminating in an "Advocacy Day" with legislators in Lansing; advocate pertinent policies to address the primary care workforce shortage (focus on osteopathic family physicians) in Michigan including tactics to retain residents after completion of their training (e.g., incentives and opportunities); advocate concerning public policy related to scope of practice protections and related economic constraints.

Based on our environmental assessment and scan, the MAOFP through the vetting of policies by this committee, will assume positions on public policy and legislative issues. At its November meeting the Government Affairs Committee evaluated the following current legislative initiatives, opined as to support or oppose as published at the time of the meeting, and the MAOFP Board has approved. As always, politics is a strange game. Legislation that is supported or opposed one day may require a change of position the next based on amendments that occur. It is the democratic process: slow, messy, imperfect but a safeguard for our liberty. Here are the recommendations:

Bill Number	Summary	Status	Position
SB 506	Revise conditions for certifying patient for medical marijuana limiting authority to "bonafide" physician-patient relationship" as defined in the bill. This requires physician to take medical history, perform relevant physical examination; review prior treatment including responses and diagnostic test results; discuss advantages, disadvantages, alternatives, etc.; provide for monitoring; create and maintain records; and notify patient's primary physician, if any. This bill provides requirements to prevent charlatan physicians from operating "medical marijuana mills" - they must establish a real patient-physician relationship, not just completion of the required "form". The support does not represent an endorsement of the use of marijuana; it addresses a recognized need to ensure proper evaluation of a patient prior to establishing that the patient has a true chronic debilitating condition under the intent of the law.	Senate Judiciary Committee	Support
HB 4851	House Bill version of 506: Revise conditions for certifying patient for medical marijuana limiting authority to "bonafide" physician-patient relationship" as defined in the bill. This requires physician to take medical history, perform relevant physical examination; review prior treatment including responses and diagnostic test results; discuss advantages, disadvantages, alternatives, etc.; provide for monitoring; create and maintain records; and notify patient's primary physician, if any. This bill provides requirements to prevent charlatan physicians from operating "medical marijuana mills" - they must establish a real patient-physician relationship, not just completion of the required "form". The support does not represent an endorsement of the use of marijuana; it addresses a recognized need to ensure proper evaluation of a patient prior to establishing that the patient has a true chronic debilitating condition under the intent of the law.	House Judiciary Committee	Support

Bill Number	Summary	Status	Position
HB 4008; 4608	Motorcycle Helmet Law Repeal The bill places individuals at greater risk of preventable physical harm. Economic potential to add accident victims to the Medicaid roles.	House Committee on Transportation	Oppose
HB 4127	Create smoking ban exemptions Reverses a crucial section of the clean indoor workplace legislation ("Ron Davis Law) representing potential exposure to the toxins that the healthcare community worked so diligently to get enacted over the past dozen years.	House Regulatory Reform Committee	Oppose
HB 4440	Repeal FDA approved drug lawsuit ban A boon for malpractice and negligence attorneys; stripes protections from physicians from damages related to use FDA approved drugs for on label use.	House Judiciary Committee	Oppose
HB4603	Revise physical therapist licensure mandate Scope of practice extension that allows PT to maintain an independent practice not requiring evaluation and referral from a physician - analogous to nurse practitioner scope expansion.	House Health Policy Committee	Oppose
HB 4774	Establish new nursing licensure categories Scope of practice extension that allows nurse practitioners to maintain an independent practice - scope expansion without adequate education, training and experience.	House Health Policy Committee	Oppose
HB 4936	Auto No-fault Reforms A boon for the insurance industry; a catastrophe for patients, physicians, hospitals, and other providers of needed healthcare and support services for the most severely injured patients in motor vehicle accidents. Just bad policy.	Pending full House vote	Oppose
SB 481	Establish new nursing license categories Senate version of HB 4774: Scope of practice extension that allows nurse practitioners to maintain an independent practice - scope expansion without adequate education, training and experience.	Senate Health Policy Committee	Oppose

The Government Affairs Committee has set an aggressive course for this coming year. As we all work our way through these gale-like headwinds of change and challenge, the Committee will continue to provide support to the overall aims and vision of MAOFP and serve as the primary advocacy center for you, our osteopathic family physician colleagues. Just like the military commercials, we're recruiting stouthearted individuals to join our team. If you have an interest in policy, political, the future of our profession, or are just curious to see how this all fits together and would like to participate, I invite you to join this hearty band. You'll learn and you'll have wonderful camaraderie.

For any of you interested, feel free to contact me for information about our work and how you can help by becoming an active member of the group. Our future as a vital profession is truly up to you.

Larry Abramson, DO, Chair
Government Affairs Committee

MAOFP to sponsor afternoon of CME at MOA's Scientific Convention in May 2012

The MAOFP will be sponsoring an afternoon of Continuing Medical Education (CME) at the MOA's Scientific Seminar, May 16-19, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, Michigan.

The family medicine focused afternoon will take place on Thursday, May 17 beginning at 2 p.m. Topics include: Geriatric Medicine-Update and Case Studies in an Extended Care Facility, Sports Medicine: Common Injuries in the Throwing Athlete, Addiction Medicine Prevention and Case Studies at a Community Health Center and Challenging Dermatology Cases Seen in Primary Care.

You may register for the MOA's Scientific Convention by calling Shelly Madden at 800-657-1556, ext. 120 or email smadden@mi-osteopathic.org.

Legislative Influenza Vaccination Day at the Capital in Lansing



MAOFP, MOA, MSU-COM, and McLaren Health System co-sponsored the annual legislative influenza vaccination day on October 18, 2011. Several hundred influenza vaccinations were administered by MSU-COM students to legislators, legislative assistants and building staff. The students were supervised by Margaret Aguwa, D.O. from MSU-COM, Andrew Adair, D.O., MAOFP President, Tony Ognjan, D.O., MOPAC Chair representing both MOA and McLaren, and Patrick Botz, D.O., MAOFP Director. Dr. Ognjan also had several residents with him to assist in supervising the students. William Strampel, D.O., MSU-COM Dean was also there for the start of the event. Kris Nicholoff, MOA Executive Director/CEO and Kevin McKinney, MOA/MOPAC legislative consultant attended to support the event. The students were responsible for drawing up the influenza vaccine, keeping track of each dose, having recipients fill out an informed consent release, a brief health screening and administering the vaccine. Everything went very smoothly. The event was held in the House of Representatives Library/meeting room just off the Capital rotunda area between the House of Representatives and the Senate. The House was in session. At the conclusion of the event the students were all seated in the visitors' gallery of the House of Representatives

and the group was introduced to the House members. This event is one of several initiatives your MAOFP board undertakes to keep your MAOFP name in front of the legislature. It is imperative that we all make our views known to our legislators and regulators at both the state and federal level. The MOA and the AOA have systems to alert members to pending legislation that can impact your ability to practice. Your MAOFP sends out periodic e-mail blasts for legislative actions that are important to our members. I encourage you as an Osteopathic physician and you to encourage our supporters to donate to the Michigan Osteopathic Political Action committee (MOPAC). MOPAC is your vehicle for collective action in the political arena. I also encourage each MAOFP member to contact legislators about issues of concern. If you need assistance in developing your message to your legislator related healthcare policy issues impacting osteopathic family physicians in Michigan, contact MAOFP headquarters.

If you have interest in influencing health policy and legislation in Michigan that impacts YOU as an osteopathic family physician, I strongly urge you to become an active member of YOUR MAOFP Government Affairs Committee. You will find it engaging, informative and an effective means to get the voice of the osteopathic family physician heard in the Michigan Legislature and Executive/Regulatory branches. To volunteer contact Rhonda Ballard at the MAOFP headquarters (800) 657-1556.

Together, we can make a difference!

Patrick Botz, D.O.
Director, MAOFP Board

Advocacy Corner

On Monday, November 14, 2011, MAOFP Board Member, Kathy Rollinger, D.O., met with State Representative Marilyn Lane from the 31st District.

Representative Lane represents the people of Clinton Township, Fraser and Mount Clemens. Dr. Rollinger felt it was important to see the Representative who represents the district she lives in. Representative Lane currently sits on the Local Government and Family, Children and Seniors Committee.

The meeting covered the proposed H.R. 4936 Auto No-Fault Reforms, H.R. 4127 Create Smoking Ban Exemptions and H.R. 4008; 4608 The Motorcycle Helmet Law Repeal. Discussion of the resolutions included explaining to Representative Lane the MAOFP position to oppose these resolutions.



*Left to Right:
Kathy Rollinger, D.O., and
Representative Marilyn Lane*

Education Committee Update

The Education Committee and I look forward to another successful year of CME conferences. In 2011 we had record attendance at both our winter and summer conferences with 201 and 249 registrants at the Shanty Creek and Grand Traverse Resort sites respectively. We appreciate your continued support for MAOFP activities and have carefully reviewed your comments and suggestions. I would also like to thank our new CME coordinator, Melissa Budd, for her efforts at planning the upcoming conference. We have scheduled a strong list of topics and speakers for our 2012 Winter Conference at Shanty Creek. As a way to make the event even more family friendly we have added a Kids Movie Night for Friday Night.

The conference starts on Thursday, January 26 at 2:45 p.m. with introductions by me, and our MAOFP President, Andrew Adair, D.O., and ends with the always well-received Risk Management Seminar on Sunday morning. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded and interesting agenda, and to provide practical topics and updates to enrich your knowledge of the practice of Family Medicine in a changing practice environment. In the agenda are updates on: Osteopathic Medical Education, Health Care Policy, Atrial Fibrillation, Wound Care Management, Geriatrics, Insomnia, Pediatric Asthma and Allergy, Women's Health, and Sports Medicine. Please go to our website at <http://maofp.org/MidWinterFamilyMedicineUpdate.html> for the full agenda.

In order to further engage students and residents we have included a student and resident reception with MAOFP board members on Friday Night and have a "Prep for Practice" seminar planned for Saturday afternoon. The seminar will be run by Ryan Spencer, MSUCOM student, and Lynn Wilson, D.O., FP Resident at St. John Oakland. Topics will include billing and coding, financial planning, and what to expect in the job search process. In addition scholarship and loan repayment options will be presented to students and residents.

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) in particular will be presented to students and residents as an option for getting up to \$60,000 in loan repayment assistance for a minimum 2 year commitment, and \$30,000 or more for each subsequent year. The NHSC has received increased funding and offers a great way to practice in a medically underserved area while eliminating all that dreaded debt from student loans (full disclosure: I was a NHSC scholar and am currently in the last few months of a loan repayment contract and am thankfully student loan free). For more information on the NHSC go to: <http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/fulltimeprogram/index.html>

We hope to see you soon at Shanty Creek in Bellaire!

Sincerely,
David Best, D.O.
MAOFP Education Committee Chair

Medical Opportunities in Michigan (MOM)

www.mimom.org – serves hospital employers and private practices with an online recruitment program, designed to connect Physicians, Physician Assistants, and Nurse Practitioners with jobs in Michigan. Job seekers register for FREE! Our database of Physicians spans more than 85 specialties!

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Any Tribute Plan projections shown here are not intended to be a forecast of future events or a guarantee of future balance amounts. For a more complete description of the Tribute Plan, see our Frequently Asked Questions at www.thedoctors.com/tributefaq.

Save The Date

Upcoming Events

Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians

January 26 – 29, 2012 at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, Michigan
August 2 – 5, 2012 at Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan
January 24 – 27, 2013 at Shanty Creek Resort in Bellaire, Michigan

Michigan Osteopathic Association

May 16 – 19, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, Michigan
May 15 – 18, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, Michigan

American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians

March 14 – 18, 2012 in Kissimmee, Florida
ACOFPP Congress of Delegates: March 14 & 15, 2012 in Kissimmee, Florida

American Osteopathic Association Annual Convention

October 7 – 11, 2012 in San Diego, California