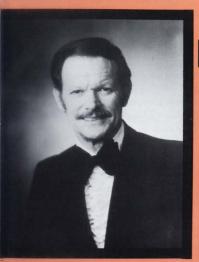


Malpractice Insurance Carrier Abandons Florida Physicians . . . page 3

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Bill H. Puryear, D.O.
of Fort Worth
1987-88
TOMA President

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sident Richards Names Vice President

Academic Affairs and Dean . . . page 41

For Your Information

American Osteopatilic Association	800-621-1773
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TOMA Malpractice Insurance Program For Premium Rates For Enrollment & Information	800-392-2462 713-496-3400
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Private Review General Inquiry Texas Osteopathic Medical Association

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TEXAS STATE AGENCIES

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Controlled Substances Division	512-465-2188
Triplicate Prescription Section	512-465-2189
State Board of Health	512-458-7111
State Board of Medical Examiners	512-452-1078
State Board of Pharmacy	512-832-0661

State of Texas Poison Center for **Doctors & Hospitals Only** 713-765-1420 800-392-8548

Houston Metro 654-1701

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Drug Enforcement Administration

For state narcotics number 512-465-2000 ext. 3074 For DEA number (form 224) 214-767-7250

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Cancer Information Service 713-792-3245 in Texas 800-392-2040



FEATURES

312-280-5800

800-252-9225

817-336-0549

Dr. Purvear New President of TOMA Bill H. Purvear installed as 1987-88 President during the Annual President's Night Banquet

"Families Taking Care of Families"

"We need to return to the basic values and teach our kim the rewards of honesty, beauty, love, integrity and the concept of families taking care of families", says Dr. Purve

Dr. Armbruster Gives Farewell Speech to Convention Attendees

Reviewing the 1986-87 fiscal year, he reminds audience that the only thing consistent in life today is change.

Dr. Armbruster Highlights Tex Roberts'

Accomplishments as TOMA Executive Director Upon the announcement of the impending retirement of Tex Roberts, Dr. Armbruster gives tribute to the Executive Director and his 19 years of service to TOMA.

Pictorial View of TOMA's 88th Annual Convention Courtesy of Marion Laboratories.

TOMA's Officers and Committee Appointments

Activities of the TOMA House of Delegates

Major Actions of the TOMA House of Delegates

In Memoriam Wiley B. Rountree, D.O.

Three New Features Added to TOMA's Universal Liability Program (malpractice insurance)

DEPARTMENTS

Calendar of Events News from the Auxiliary Ten Years Ago in the Texas DO Texas Ticker Tape Letters Newsbriefs For Your Information Practice Locations in Texas

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Tex Roberts, Editor Diana Finley, Associate Editor Lydia Anderson Smith, Staff Writer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

IUNE

istrict XVI Meeting wadewinds Motor Hotel 212 Broad Street ichita Falls =30 p.m. Cocktails =00 p.m. Dinner =30 p.m. Program

ontact: Ted Alexander, Jr., D.O. 817-766-6326

he Fort Worth Osteopathic Study Group Osteopathy and Chinese Medicine" peaker: Johannes Steenkamp, D.O. COM - Room 632 amp Bowie at Montgomery ort Worth Hours - Category 1-A

: 30 p.m.

eventh Annual General Practice Update - A Summer Symposium for the Family Practitioner exas College of Osteopathic

Medicine & Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians, Inc. oliday Inn Emerald Beach orpus Christi

ME Hours: 11 Category 1-A ontact: Cheryl Cooper

TCOM, Dept. of CME 817-735-2539

20

TOMA Board of Trustees Meeting TCOM - President's Office Camp Bowie at Montgomery Fort Worth 11:00 a.m. - Tour of TCOM 12:00 noon - Luncheon 1:00 p.m. - Business Meeting

Contact: Tex Roberts, CAE Executive Director 1-800-772-5993 or 336-0459 or metro 429-9755

july

Fort Worth Osteopathic Study Group Will meet 1st Tuesday of each month beginning July 7 for the next six months. (this is a change in the meeting night)

23

23-27 AOA Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Trustees and House of Delegates Chicago Marriott Chicago, Illinois

Contact: Ann Wittner Director of Admin. AOA 212 East Ohio Street Chicago, IL 60611

800-621-1773

St. Paul Abandons Florida Physicians

St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Florida's largest medical liability insurer, will not be renewing physician policies in the state after July 1. The company currently covers more than 5.300 Florida physicians and will continue to cover hospitals and other health care providers in the state.

The proverbial "straw that broke the camel's back" was the insurance commissioner's refusal to raise premiums by 30 percent as of July 1.

American Medical News reports that the Florida Supreme Court recently dealt a double whammy to insurance companies - that of upholding state insurance regulations required by a 1986 law as constitutional, and its most recent ruling that the law's \$450,000 cap on non-economic damages was unconstitutional.

The company affirms that its decision was not motivated by the court ruling and says it had issued warnings since last year of the possibility of dropping physicians when the 1986 Tort and Insurance Reform Act was passed.

Just prior to St. Paul's announcement, Cigna announced it would be canceling the policies of some 2,500 physicians this year, leaving physicians with very few options in securing medical liability insurance.

James Perry, M.D., president of the Florida Medical Association, said that "...this will just fuel an already crisis situation. Doctors are already leaving the state in droves, and patients are going to suffer."

Although the crisis in liability insurance costs is a harsh reality, it is thought that the legislature will not act until next year after the results of a task force studying the issue are available



Dr. Puryear New President of TOMA

Bill H. Puryear, D.O., of Fort Worth, has been elected president of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association for 1987-88. Installation ceremonies were held during the Association's 88th Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar in Austin, April 23-25.

A 1956 B.S. graduate of East Texas State University, Dr. Puryear also holds a degree in Physical Therapy from Baylor University. From 1959-63 he served as Director of the Handicapped Children's Treatment Center in San Angelo, Texas



He received his D.O. degree in 1968 from Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery and completed an internship at Fort Worth Osteopathic Medical Center.

Dr. Puryear has been in general practice in Fort Worth since 1969 and serves on the staff of Northeast Community Hospital, Bedford, where he is a past chairman of the Board of Trustees, He has also



served as past chief-of-staff at Hurst General Hospital.

In his inaugural remarks Friday night, April 24, he stressed the extreme need to grow together, professionally and as a family, rather than pulling apart.

Active on both the state and national levels, Dr. Puryear has served on numerous committees within TOMA and currently serves on the Board of Trustees; Professional Liability Insurance Committee; Finance Committee and as the Liaison to TCOM. He is also active

in TOMA District II, of which has served as president as secretary.

Additional offices and memberships include delegate to the AO. diplomate of the National Boarde Examiners for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons; member of Who's Who in American Collegand Universities and member of Alpha Phi Omega, a national control of the Alpha Phi Omega, a natio

Dr. Puryear and his wife, Wandahave three children, Nikki, Some and Jean-Paul.



Families Taking Care of Families

Editors note: The following speech was given by Dr. Bill H. Puryear on President's Night as he assumed the TOMA presidency for 1987-88.

I want to drop back in time 23 years and tell you of the great influence and political savvy of one of our most distinguished members. Dr. Elmer Baum, It seems, at that time. Elmer was greatly concerned about the lack of legislative support for the osteopathic medical students. He went to the governor and the legislature and came away with a resounding victory. The legislature voted to give one scholarship of \$850 to an outof-state osteopathic medical student. I was the recipient of that scholarship and that \$850 was like \$8,500 to Wanda and I. But, think of it, that's quite a distinction for me. Do you realize that I, Bill Purvear, received all of the monies for one calendar year appropriated by the legislature for osteopathic medical education in Texas? Like the advertisement for Virginia Slims says, "We've come a long way, baby."

Looking at the remainder of my notes and surveying many thoughts over the past few weeks, the final draft looked more like a scenario from a Clint Eastwood movie than a speech from the President of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. So, here goes, it's titled: "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly."

So, what's good? The good for me is the love, friendship and camaraderie I have received from the profession and secondly, the love I have for the osteopathic
profession and everyone associated with it. Third, it
has provided abundantly for my family and has enabled
me to give of my osteopathic education and use it to
make my friends and patients feel better, add to their
lives and share in their joys and sorrows. I could go on
and on, but what has been good for the rest of you has
also been good for me. Better still, osteopathic medicine offers the people of Texas a healing art and science
of which there is no equal anywhere in the world. You
know, as well as a sentimentalist, I am an optimist. I
really believe everything is going to turn out all right.

From what I see in Texas, we have all the ingredients for success such as fine osteopathic physicians who will continue to do what they have done so well for so many years - give the very best of care to their patients. We also have Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth turning out the best possible osteopathic physicians each year because of leaders such as the president of TCOM, Dr. David M. Richards, and Dr. T. Eugene Zachary, vice president of cademic affairs and

dean. I also have great confidence that TOMA's new executive director will lead us to greater heights.

The bad? You know the bad, but I'll just lump all the bad together: 1) anything that denies the public free choice of physicians; 2) anything that interfers with the patient/doctor relationship; 3) anything that denies the physician his fair fee for service; 4) anything that denies him the right to give to his own charity where, when and how often and to whom he chooses; and 5) anything that denies or limits health care to the people of Pexas.

The ugly? Hate, despair, defeat and chemical abusewhat it has done to my fellow physicians, my friends, their children and to my patients. Sometimes we all wish we could go back, but we can't.

The problem is complex and there is hardly a family whose lives have not been touched in some way by the ugliness. It hurts me to see what is happening in athletics today. We need to return to the basic values and teach our kids the rewards of honesty, beauty, love, integrity and the concept of families taking care of families.

I have proposed no answers and I have made no promises other than the fact that your Board and I will diligently look after the business of the Association and work on your behalf.

There you have it. The movie closes but "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" will go on and it is up to us to see what we can do about it.

In closing, I want to honor those who have gone before us. Many are still with us and let us tell them of our love and appreciation for all their efforts before it is too late. To those gone...a few that have touched my life are Lee Ranelle, Betty Hardimon, Dr. Les Tavel and Dr. Wiley B. Rountree. I can only use the words of the radio comedian, Jimmy Durante, as he closed his show: "Goodbye, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are!"

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Dr. Puryear presents presidential plaque to Dr. Armbruster, outgoing TOMA president.

Being president of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association has been an easy job during my tenure. Shocked? Let me explain! A year ago when I took office I was determined to be a success or a failure! This has yet to be determined! However, I was not going to be a mediocre president and let things fall where they may — so with the wisdom of many years of experience, the extremely competent Board which TOMA provided for me making the job easy, and the will of God, I/we forged ahead and did our very best!

We had many very long, tedious, arduous meetings, however extremely important, to deal with the tasks at hand. We were and are faced daily with an ever changing world of medicine and our destiny! I think that in 1969-70 when I was in Vietnam, I had it easier - then you could identify the enemy (they were the ones not in an American uniform). Today, you don't know. The "other side" could be seated next to you, across the room, city, state or nation, be these people physicians, legislators, lawyers, lay people or indian chiefs.

We physicians are at the very best controversial and the continual talk of the state and nation. The good we do individually or collectively never seems to reach the media; however let one thing go wrong and the media nationwide picks up on it! We are the butt of litigation founded or unfounded, we are the continual subject of budget cuts and increased police action, i.e., increased regulation (state and federal), etc. Sound familiar? The more we do the less consideration we get. How about a giant nationwide HMO? Do you really think the people of Texas and America will like depersonalized medicine? Now I'm getting on a soap box. I apologize, however, it's our livelihood and American lives we are fighting for. Maybe it's our (doctors) fault. In Texas and the U.S. we have extended life, have the world's greatest live birth rate, actually bring the dead back to life and still are expected to do more for less?

Dr. Armbruster Gives Farewell Speech to Convention Attendees

Well, I want you to know that we are not addown without a fight! For continually being better what we do, we are facing facts like the law Massachusetts tying Medicare assignment to licens. This is also being considered in New Jersey. Or about the RAP proposal nationally? One physical suggested the government add the E.R. doctors to proposal and call it "RAPE", for that is surely what is! These threats are very real and we have to be alert that they don't crop up here! And if we are control our destiny we have to be like Boy Scott "Be Prepared", and we are!

What has the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association in the last year? We have been controvenated faced controversy and will continue to do so. Not of you agree with last years TOMA Board and on zational actions, but what was done was the describe Board to do so. And right or wrong, we disbest with the entire membership in mind.

However, we managed to accomplish a lot. Many the points of the Long Range Planning Committee been addressed and worked on.

Some of the highlights of the year are an increase relationship and liaison with TCOM for the bettern of the profession; we have remained an active part pant and a highly visible force in legislative activity attempted to keep the membership informed through the Texas DO, direct mailings, tracking reports, disco visitations, meetings and seminars; we have in play major medical trust which we own and run. At the set of this year we embarked into the unknown in eloping an alternative liability insurance program. Il program was not developed without many long me ings and endless hours of endeavor by your leaden in conjunction with the other principle entities. As a reported in the House meeting, the program is on ground and running and expanding rapidly. The thing we insisted on was continual input and contr And we have that as you, the policyholders, are owners! These are only a few of our accomplishment So you can see we haven't been idle, and this is only a sampling of the issues we have attended to. Do you member any quotes I made last year? (Will Durant). When a group declines it's through the failure of its solitical and intellectual leaders to meet the challenge of change." And the only thing consistent in life today's change. Well, I think your duly elected leaders have set that challenge and will continue to do so. (Aldous Euxley). "Experience is not what happens to you but shat you make of what happens to you!". Experience! What a teacher! We learn everyday and we are getting etter. (Winston Churchill). "First we shape our structers and afterwards they shape us." But never a day ones by that we don't seek and get more input.

Sometimes we may feel that the wolves are at the soor and if they don't have pups soon (that we can sell) re will all be destitute! Everyone wants a slice of our ise, they want more leaving us less, and expect us to mosper and be better!

Easy! This year I broke my foot, my big dog had hip pinning surgery, I never see my wife, both my teenagers need brain surgery, I can't pay my taxes and I'm on the verge of bankruptcy! As a matter of fact, I've considered retiring on the money I've got in my pocket but I would have to die tomorrow. Other considerations would be to become a ranch manager for your president-elect but he won't hire me. However, I've decided to do what I do best be the best damn osteopathic physician I can because the public is demanding "something more, not something less!"

I thank you for your confidence and your support in letting me serve as president of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

[Editors note: Upon the announcement of the impendding retirement of Tex Roberts, TOMA Executive Director, the following is a tribute, reviewing Mr. Roberts' 19 years of service to TOMA, as delivered by Dr. Armbruster at the conclusion of his speech.]

Dr. Armbruster Highlights Tex Roberts' Accomplishments as TOMA Executive Director

Tex Roberts has been TOMA Executive Director nec November 1, 1968, and has worked tirelessly on ehalf of the osteopathic profession. He was formerly executive Director of the New Mexico Osteopathic Iedical Association and has been involved in either ommunications or organizational work during most of is life. Tex has served as president and is currently executive vice president of the Association of Osteo-athic State Executive Directors, which has made for cood public relations for us.

At the risk of sounding trite, too many of us don't ake the time to stop and smell the roses as we whirl ur way through our hectic lives. However, this vening, it is only right and fitting that everyone gatherd here should stop for a moment and reflect on what 'ex has accomplished for us all for the benefit of the steepathic profession.

When Tex arrived upon the scene, TOMA had robably around 400 members. Today, we have over \$800. If Tex had accomplished nothing more than this remendous increase in membership, he would certainly eserve our accolades. However, he did not stop at this oint.

For the year ending March 31, 1969, TOMA nonues income was \$21,298; by 1986, non-dues income ras \$228,466. It is interesting to note that these gures do not include TOPAC contributions but are from advertising, convention profit, exhibitor contributions, override from I.C. Systems, and other miscellaneous sources. Another new source of income is beginning to come in from TOMA's professional liability insurance program, Universal Liability.

Tex has generated a lot of non-dues income for this Association due to hard work and research and as far as TOPAC goes, contributions increased from \$7,500 in 1977 to more than \$75,000 during the last election campaign.

To backtrack a second, according to the minutes, soon after his arrival Tex petitioned the Board of Trustees to buy two 50-foot lots behind the old 512 Bailey Street office location. Having purchased those two lots helped to make it financially possible for TOMA to acquire the spacious headquarters we now occupy at 226 Bailey. This beautiful building is ideal for Board meetings and the like, and various organizations utilize the large conference room for meetings and such. The building has enhanced our professional image to a large degree.

In the early 1970's, TOMA conventions were running downhill and about to become nothing more than financial disasters. The net profit created by the 1986 convention came to \$98.414.09. of which \$45.000 is directly attributed to registration fees. In all certainty, our conventions can no longer be called financial disasters.

TOMA dues income rose from \$132,850 in 1980 to \$302,865 in 1986 which is quite an increase in six mere years.

Tex has been instrumental in many of our legislative victories and has lobbied hard and long for the profession's benefit in Austin. We now have three D.O.s sitting on the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners by law; a D.O. president of TCOM; laws prohibiting discrimination against physicians based on academic degree; and he was also instrumental in securing funding of a \$10.8 million library for TCOM. The list goes on and on and everyone here should realize that all of the victories achieved over the years benefit all osteopathic physicians. Tex has formed many good contacts in the Legislature and, incidentally, is known as the "silver-haired fox" in certain circles in Austin.

Seminars and forums have been re-established, our observance of National Osteopathic Medicine Week gets wider recognition each year, we are keeping in closer contact with TCOM, more and more of our physician members are assuming key positions and posts in state agencies and so much more is happening due to Tex's direction and influence. The State Head-quarters has been computerized, which aids tremendously in public referrals, district mailings, mass mailings to the membership to keep them better informed, producing mailing labels for various purposes and so on.

Tex has turned our physician placement and recruitment program into an outstanding program which is gaining tremendous recognition as evidenced by the many successes encountered in placing as well as recruiting new ohysicians.

He has made a great effort to keep the entire membership more informed through the use of the Texas DO magazine as well as through countless mailings throughout the years. We now have numerous membership services available for physician members as well as literature for the public.

In 1983, at a reception held in Tex's honor in the bration of 15 years as TOMA Executive Director, on gratulatory telegrams and messages poured in the Lewis, Speaker of the House, wrote, "You have detinguished yourself as the leader of the association have made significant strides in the advancement of your medical profession."

Senator Bob Vale wrote, "Much progress osteopathic medicine has been accomplished unyour leadership and guidance. You are to be comended for your hard work and diligence."

Senator Chet Brooks wrote, "Your good work on the years has been a tremendous boost to quihealth care in our state and I appreciate your effort

Bill Clayton wrote, "Congratulations on your Is anniversary. You do a super job. We're glad to haw opportunity to work with you."

The Texas Osteopathic Medical Association can longer be the subject of jokes. Our beautiful facility computerized, is a clearinghouse for the disnation of information on osteopathic medicine, at matured Association for Texas' osteopathic physic respected by those in power positions, and goe each day in stature in the eyes of the public. Fer. withis, how trivial it sounds to say "Thanks, Tex".

It has been said, "It ain't bragging if you really do
it." Well, you really done it and we are all proud is
able to brag about it.

It has also been said, "Elephants and grandchiznever forget." Depending upon our political indtions and whether we are someone's grandchild aris besides the point. We will never forget what p have done for TOMA.

Exhibit Hopping Pays Off

Visiting with the many exhibitors during the annual convention and taking the time to sign registration forms for door prizes certainly paid off, in some instances, threefold.

TOMA members winning door prizes this year included Ruth Carter, D.O., a three-time winner whose prizes included a calculator, Sony Recorder and a Dream Machine alarm radio, two-time winner Augustin Acosta, D.O., received a backgammon set and a ticket for

two free drinks; L.D. Bricker, D.O., received a coffee travel kit; a microset tape recorder went to Carla Devenport, D.O.; Richard Friedman, D.O., walked off with head phones; a ticket for two free drinks was won by Alex Guevara, D.O.; Michael Hueber, D.O., won a radio; L.J. Miller, D.O., received a travel steam iron; a portable pub went to Bob Orf, D.O.; a Walkman headset was won by Paul Patrick, D.O.; Ogla M. Shlanta, D.O., received a savings box; a tape recorder went to Mar-

cus Sims, D.O.; and F. B. Thoman D.O., was the recipient of a tick for two free drinks.

The grand prize, which is awed to physicians who visit and every exhibit booth, well Carl V. Mitten, D.O., who we VCR. Lest we forget, Dr. Malso won a highway emerge kit as a door prize.

Congratulations to these plucians who took the time to the exhibit booths and emerges winners.

Pictorial View of TOMA's 88th Annual Convention

Courtesy of Paul Trenshaw, Marion Laboratories

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS VLEISIDES



May June 1987

Texas DO/9











Texas Osteopathic Medical Association

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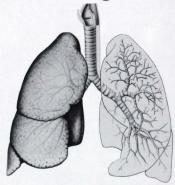
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Administer cautiously to altergic patients.
Pseudomembranous colinis has been reported
with virtually all broad-spectrum artibiotics. It
must be considered in differential diagnosis of
antibiotic-associated diarrhea. Colon tiera is
aftered by broad-spectrum artibiotic treatment,
possibly resulting in artibiotic associated colisis.

Discontinue Cector in the event of allergic reac-tions to it.

Prolonged use may result in overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms.
 Positive direct Coombs' tests have been

Positive direct Combs' fests have been reported during treatment with cephalosporins.
 Ceclor should be administered with caution in the presence of markedly impaired small function.
 Although dosage adjustments in moderate to severe renal impairment are usually not required, careful clinical observation and laboratory stud-ies should be made.

 Broad-spectrum antibiotics should be pre-scribed with caution in individuals with a history of gastrointestinal disease, particularly colitis. Safety and effectiveness have not been determined in pregnancy, lactation, and infants less than one month old. Cecior penetrates mother's milk. Exercise caution in prescribing for these

Adverse Reactions: (percentage of patients)
Therapy-related adverse reactions are uncommon. Those reported include:

ntestinal (mostly diarrhea): 2.5%

prevention of streptococcal infections, including the prophylaxis of rheumatic fever. See prescribing information.

Penicillin is the usual drug of choice in the treatment and

- ampliant or opponementations could not - ampliant or opponementations could not - important products, products, and billiant registroms, provides, virtuals, and supplementations growths, and supplementations growths, and supplementations growths, and supplementations growths growth supplementations growths growth days after season of theregy Servin-colonisa-ders after season of theregy Servin-colonisa-tion of the supplementation of the spi-cocarried copies of billiances and controlled on appear in enhance resolution of the spi-cial controlled on the spiritual season of the colonisation of the spiritual season of the colonisation of the spiritual season of the colonisation of coloni appear either during or after antibiotic treatment

perscisin allergy.

- As with some penicilins and some other cephalosporins, transient hepatitis and cholestatic jaundice have been reported rarely.

- Rarely, reversible hyperactivity, nervousness, insomma, confusion, hypertonia, dzeness, and somiolitica have been reported.

Other ecsinophilia, 2%; genital pruritus or vaginitis, less than 1%; and, rarely, throm

bocytopenia. occytoperia.
Abnormalities in laboratory results of uncertain etiology
- Slight elevations in hepatic enzymes.
- Transient fluctuations in leukocyte count (especially in mants and children).

Abnormal urinalysis; elevations in BUN or serum creatinine.

 Positive direct Coombs' test. rounive prect Coombs' test.
 False-positive tests for urinary glucose with Benedict's or Fehling's solution and Clinitest* tab-lets but not with Tes-Tape* (glucose enzymatic test strip, Lilly).

DA 8794 AME

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Activities of the TOMA House of Delegates

A resolution calling on the Texas Delegation in Congress to oppose further cuts in Medicare and Medicaid physician reimbursement fees in order to maintain quality health care to recipients was among the major actions taken during the April 22 annual meeting of the TOMA House of Delegates.

The House also voted its opposition to the current system of reimbursement to physicians not participating in the Medicare participation program which penalizes those patients who use non-participating physicians by lower reimbursement.

Additionally, the House voted to encourage physi-



cians to maintain current factual information regarding the transmission and prevention of AIDS to share with their patients and communities; oppose any changes in the reimbursement system for medical care providers which would further erode access and availability of quality health care for Medicaid recipients; support legislation to broaden the language under Texas law which would allow physicians to supply patients with medication; urge the Texas Department of Health to revise rules and regulations dealing with patient transfers between hospitals and classify emergency room physicians in regional medical centers as receiving physicians for the purpose of emergency transfers from rural areas for "life or limb-saving" medical care; oppose mandatory participation in the Medicare and/or Medicaid program as a condition of state licensure which would amount to the abolition of freedom of choice; and support Senate Bill 171 which would provide immunity from lawsuit for physicians and staff serving on hospital and medical society peer review committees who furnish information to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners regarding a physician's conduct.

The election of officers highlighted the meeting with M. Lee Shriner, D.O., of Bowie, elected as presidentelect and Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O., of Raymondville, as vice president. Bill H. Puryear, D.O.,



of Fort Worth, assumed the presidency during the three-day meeting, succeeding Jerome L. Armbruster, D.O., of Pearland.

Elected to three-year terms on the TOMA Board of



Trustees were Robert L. Peters, Jr., D.O., of Round Rock; Arthur J. Speece, III, D.O., of Grand Prairie; Selden E. Smith, D.O., of Wolfe City; and David W. Tyler, D.O., of Lubbock.

Re-elected as Speaker of the House of Delegates was T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., of Fort Worth, with David F. Norris, D.O., of Tyler, re-elected as Vice-speaker.

Five TOMA members elected to three-year terms to the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates were Donald M. Peterson, D.O., of Dallas; Dr. Puryear; Gerald Flanagan, D.O., of Fort Worth; Robert G. Maul, D.O., of Lubbock; and James W. Lively, D.O., of Corpus Christi.

Elected as alternates to the AOA were Dr. Shriner as first alternate; Mary M. Burnett, D.O., of Dallas, as second alternate; Dr. Peters as third alternate; Gilbert D'Alonzo, D.O., of Houston; Brian Knight, D.O., of Corpus Christi; William D. Hospers, D.O., of Bedford; Richard M. Hall, D.O., of Eden; Larry Burrows, D.O., of Fort Worth; R. Greg Maul, D.O., of Arlington; Dr. Montgomery-Davis; Dr. Speece; and Jerry Smola, D.O., of Sweetwater.A

May-June 1987 Texas DO/17

Doctors Helpline Accomplishing the Impossible

Marcus Welby, D.O., is now selling coffee and the old-time, friendly family physician has suddenly become a greedy ogre, out to make all the cold cash he can. These sentiments should sound familiar to most physicians today as they are seemingly bearing the brunt of every imaginable misdeed.

All is not lost, however. Doctors Helpline, established in December of 1986 in a concerted effort between Corpus Christi Osteopathic Hospital and 20 local osteopathic physicians, is doing the impossible — giving physicians a much more positive professional and public image.

The program began out of concern for the unemployed of the Corpus Christi and Nueces County areas who had lost health care benefits and therefore, were unable to secure needed medical attention. Due to a strong sense of responsibility and compassion, the hospital and physicians launched the program which surely seemed a gamble at the time (see March 1987 issue of Texas DO). According to hospital administrator Robert Tamez, the organizers "...were aware of the risks when they discussed offering free care, but they decided that the program was a chance worth taking. There was some concern about what we were getting ourselves into. We're a small hospital with limited resources."

The program is a success story in terms of the people helped and has changed many individual's opinions about physicians. As of March 20, 1,000 calls had been received; 364 families were referred to participating physicians and 322 families were put in touch with various social service programs to obtain help.

Another aspect of the program's success, which was probably never anticipated, is the national exposure the service is receiving from the public and also from other professional groups and societies, who not only applaud the efforts of these physicians, but believe the program could very well help with the malpractice situation.

Bobby Howard, D.O., program director, has been interviewed by NBC, ABC and CBS radio broadcasters. In Florida, where a new malpractice law has doctors boycotting emergency rooms, news of Doctors Helpline has created quite a stir. The Orlando Sentinel gave rave reviews to the program in an article entitled "Doctors Patch Up Profession's Image With Free Care." Dr. Howard's comments that we "...look at what we're doing as a way to repay the support the community has given to us and the hospital over the years,"

prompted Jim Perry, M.D., president of the Florish Medical Association, to respond, "That's an attitude from which doctors boycotting emergency rooms in South Florida could learn. The physicians have for sight of their objective, and that's to help people. Per haps it's because everyone else has, but that still doesn't make it right."

There is no doubt that medicine is suffering badly from the new malpractice law in Florida which require physicians to carry malpractice insurance or maintain letter of credit to cover judgments or settlements from as many as three lawsuits a year. Malpractice premium range from \$90,850 to \$170,000 for high-risk special ties and relief is needed. St. Paul Fire and Marie Insurance Company, the state's largest insurer, just as nounced it would no longer cover physicians after July 1.

Although the liability crisis is not quite as severe Texas, Dr. Perry said he "would like to see Flondi doctors get a transfusion of the Corpus Chris cooperation. What these people are doing in Corpuc Christi is going to help medicine rebound," he said "I'm sure there isn't a person in Corpus Christi who would even think about suing a doctor there now. If they (South Florida doctors) just take care of the people, their problems will work out in time."

William Hotchkiss, M.D., president-elect of the American Medical Association said he "believes that it's a good lesson, not just for Florida doctors, but for physicians everywhere.

"I think this is a win-win situation, Everybody makes out. It could have some positive impact on the liability problem."

The Corpus Christi physicians feel the same was "Most of the feedback from the doctors has been positive," said Dr. Howard. "They feel good about whe they are doing. We hope that, in our small way, we can improve the public image of our profession. And if we can, in some way, help with the malpractice situation then we are happy to participate," he concluded.

Physicians currently participating in Doctor Helpline are Thomas N. Bailey, D.O., Donna Becker D.O.; Ron Bruce, D.O.; Mel Eliade D.O.; Samuel Ganz, D.O.; Bobby Howard, D.O.; Gamel Ganz, D.O.; Bobby Howard, D.O.; Leroy Howe, D.O.; Brian Knight, D.O.; Japane Knight, D.O.; John Longacre, D.O.; Robert Low, D.O.; Jame Mahoney, D.O.; P. J. Marshio, D.O.; Glenn McCarty D.O.; William J. Meiser, D.O.; David Miller, D.O. Joseph Schultz, D.O.; and Paul Wakim, D.O.

Oklahoma Governor Drops "Bomb"

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Association has reported that in his State of the State Address on January 20, Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon recommended to the Oklahoma Legislature that the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery (OCOMS) be phased out and Oklahoma students wishing to study osteopathic medicine be provided state loans in order to attend other osteopathic schools in the country. His remarks came as a shock to many legislators, the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association (OOA) and the OCOMS leadership.

His proposal to "phase out" OCOMS appeared on page five of a 13-page prepared text and reads as follows:

"I am also proposing the school of osteopathy in Tulsa be phased out, and funds currently allocated to that activity will be redirected to a free-standing fouryear college in Tulsa. Loans will also be provided to Oklahomans who wish to study osteopathy in other schools in the region."

Subsequently, on February 24, House Bill 1323 was introduced which calls for the suspension of OCOMS by July 1, 1988. The House Bill read that OCOMS "... has been assessed as an unprofitable and unnecessary part of this state's higher education system."

In the meantime, the OOA is not sitting still. They

have launched an all-out campaign to support the OCOMS and to oppose any effort to abolish it. Members, patients, friends, OCOMS faculty and students have all joined together in a massive letterwirting campaign to the Governor, legislative leadership and respective senate and house members. Additionally, thousands of signatures on petitions have been gathered and are being distributed to appropriate government personnel. Statewide and district social events have been planned for legislators to become better acquainted with members of the OOA. Many members have renewed their individual relationships with legislators in an effort to curb any negative action towards OCOMS.

The OOA has activated a media campaign with rural newspapers and many members have placed advertisements in local newspapers which call for "Saving Our School".

The OOA is fiercely determined to save this institution for the interests of the people of the State of Oklahoma, as well as for the osteopathic profession.

The recommendation to abolish OCOMS is truly an outrage as facts supporting OCOMS reveal that minerous Oklahoma communities are currently being served by an OCOMS graduate where there would otherwise be no physician or not enough physicians.

Blue Cross Seeking to Limit Costly Medical Tests

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, along with the American College of Physicians (ACP), have issued new guidelines on the use of the most common categories of diagnostic tests which they contend will reduce spending on medical care by billions of dollars.

Among their recommendations, the guidelines advise against routine chest x-rays unless the patient has a medical history or symptoms of chest disease. The guidelines also state the routine use of electrocardiograms is of limited value and

"should be ordered judiciously." Additionally, limits are urged on the use of urinalysis and urine cultures and complete blood counts, throat cultures and tests for syphillis, among other procedures.

The College of American Pathologists is opposed to the test guidelines, saying they could "jeopardize quality medical care for millions of Americans. These Blues guidelines mean that many common tests that now detect unsuspected diseases will not be performed."

Blue Cross Blue Shield officials

hope physicians will voluntarily comply with the guidelines, thus eliminating unnecessary testing which is estimated to run \$6-18 billion a year. However, officials say that the guidelines may eventually become a standard for reimbursement by the individual state Blue Cross Blue Shield plans. The end result of this will be that patients will be forced to pick up the tab if state plans refuse to reimburse physicians for tests not covered by the guidelines.

May-June 1987 Texas DO/19

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Tallies are in for Annual Golf Tourney



For all those golf fanatics who participated in the annual golf tournament at Balconies Country Club on April 24, the tallies are in!

Overall champion was Dr. Lewandowski and low gross champion was Rann Clark, D.O. with Robert Lorenz, D.O. as second runner-up and Selden Smith, D.O. as third runner-up.

Bo Kirkwood, D.O. earned low net with Mr. Dick Vento coming in with second low net and Harvey Smith, D.O. with third.

Hitting the longest drive was Don Beyer, D.O. and the closest to Pin No. 17 was Ron Daniels, D.O. The tailender award went to Gail W. Beckett, D.O.

TOMA would like to thank Robert Lorenz, D.O. for serving as chairman of this event for the second consecutive year. A job well done!

Our thanks also goes to Paul Trenshaw of Marion Laboratories for supplying the golf tournament trophies.







Major Actions of the 1

MOTION: That life memberships in TOMA be approved for Drs. Robert C. Burns, Joseph S. Carpenter, Albert M. Duphorne, Richard W. Hall, J. Clement Keef, Sr., George E. Miller, Dan B. Whitehead, Dan A. Wolfe, L. Linton Budd, George M. Esselman, and James G. Matthews.

CARRIED

MOTION: That the House of Delegates instruct the AOA Delegates to support Dr. T. Eugene Zachary as Speaker of the AOA House of Delegates.

CARRIED

MOTION: That Dr. John H. Burnett serve as the temporary chairman of the AOA Delegation.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 1 PERTAINING TO DISTRICT VII SERV-ING AS THE HOST CITY FOR THE 1987 CONVENTION: The House of Delegates of TOMA goes on record expressing their sincere appreciation to District VII for serving as the host city.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 2 PERTAINING TO "NO-FAULT" LIA-BILITY INSURANCE: The House of Delegates goes on record favoring "no-fault" liability insurance coverage for physician providers for the Medicare-Medicaid programs.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 3 PERTAINING TO ACROSS THE BOARD FEE AND CUT IN MEDICAID PHYSICIAN REIMBURSEMENT: The House of Delegates calls upon the Texas Legislature to remove the Texas Medicaid "fee freeze" that was implemented along with, but not removed along with the Medicare "fee freeze" on January 1, 1987.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 4 PERTAINING TO THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERED TO MEDICARE AND MEDI-CAID RECIPIENTS: The House of Delegates will notify the Texas delegation in Congress that any further cuts in Medicare and Medicaid spending will result in "medicore" rather than quality health care to Medicare and Medicaid recipients.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 5 PERTAINING TO THE THREAT OF AIDS TO THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH: The House of Delegates goes on record encouraging osteopathic physicians in Texas to keep current on the subject of AIDS so that they can serve as a reservoir of current "factual" information concerning the transmission and prevention of AIDS, to be shared with their patients and the communities in which they serve.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 6 PERTAINING TO THE CONCEPT OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF TEXAS ATTEMPTING THE REPLACE THE "FEE FREEZE WITH A "FEE ROLLBACE" FOR NON-PARTICIPATING PHYSICIANS: The House of Make to "roll back" non-participating Medicare physician fees stead of the Congressional intent to use MAAC to limit princreases to Medicare patients by non-participating physiconce the Medicare "fee freeze" was lifted on January 1, 1987.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 7 PERTAINING TO THE CONCENS
OVER ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY
HEALTH CARE FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS: The Health of Delegates goes on record opposing any change in the IUCh
system of reimbursement for medical care providers who
would even further erode access and availability of quality
health care for medicaid recipients.

CARRIE

RESOLUTION NO. 8 PERTAINING TO PHYSICIANS SIP-PLYING MEDICATION TO THEIR PATIENTS: The Heaof Delegates goes on record supporting legislation which wellbroaden the language under Texas law, thereby allowing phycians to supply patients with medications.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 9 PERTAINING TO THE LIMITATURE OF SMALL RURAL LICENSED HEALTH FACILITIES WEERGENCY TRANSFERS FOR LIFE OR LIMB-THREE ENING CARE: The House of Delegates urges the Texas Dearent of Health to revise its rules and regulations dealing an patient transfers between hospitals so that there is a few distinction between "non-emergency" routine transfers or mon-emergency" routine transfers for non-comparable, life or limb-the tening medical care, and that emergency round physician regional medical centers be classified as "receiving physics for the purpose of emergency transfers from rural areas for ecomparable. If or Imb-swing medical care

CARRIE

RESOLUTION NO. 10 PERTAINING TO SUPPORTING TO CONCEPT THAT THERE SHOULD BE OSTEDPAIR REPRESENTATION ON THE FOUR DISTRICT REVIEW OF THE TSBME: The House of Delay supports legislation which would revise each district recommittee's composition to call for three M.D.s., one DI and one public member.

CARRIES

A House of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 11 PERTAINING TO SUPPLYING INFOR-MATION TO THE TSBME REGARDING SUB-STANDARD DELIVERY OF MEDICAL CARE BY LICENSED TEXAS PHYSICIANS: The House of Delegates support S.B. 171 by Senator Chet Brooks that would provide protection from lawbuil for persons, hospitals, peer review committees, etc., furnising information to the Board regarding a physician's conduct.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 12 PERTAINING TO 150 HOURS OF APPROVED CME FOR RE-LICENSURE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS: The House of Delegates supports legislation to require re-registering physicians to receive 150 hours of approved AOA or AMA medical education each three years as a condition of medical licensure in the State of Texas.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 13 PERTAINING TO THE FIRST OSTEO-PATHIC PHYSICIAN TO ASSUME THE PRESIDENCY OF THE TSBME: The House of Delegates congratulates Joel D. Holliday, D.O. on becoming the first D.O. President of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners and expresses our confidence in his ability to represent all licensed Texas physiians well.

CARRIED

PESOLUTION NO. 14 PERTAINING TO NON-VOLUNTARY
PARTICIPATION IN ANY FEDERALLY FUNDED HEALTH
PROGRAMS: The House of Delegates goes on record opposing
nandatory participation in the Medicare and/or Medicaid
program as a condition of state licensure.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. 15 PERTAINING TO 150 HOURS OF APPROVED CME FOR RE-LICENSURE IN THE STATE OF TEXAS: The House of Delegates request that the TSBME eject compulsory CME for Texas.

DISAPPROVED

CARRIED

New officers elected by the House are listed elsewhere in this issue, along with department and committee appointments of President Bill H. Puryear, D.O.

The House of Delegates observed a minute of silence for the following members, family and friends who died during the past year: Warner H. Sorenson, D.O., J. Ralph Cunningham, D.O., Emmett E. Dunlap, D.O., Mrs. Betty Hardimon, Jesse N. Hall, D.O., Jack Woodrow, D.O., John B. Donovan, D.O., S. John Candas, D.O., Nelsen E. Dunn, D.O., Wiley O. Jones, D.O., L.V. Cradit, D.O., Lester I. Tavel, D.O., and Wiley B. Rountree, D.O.

The following physicians were recognized for their service in the TOMA House of Delegates:

5 YEARS:	Larry	Burrows,	M.	McKim	Davis,	R.	Greg	Maul,
	John I	Peckham,	Jerr	y Smola	, John	Wil	son	

6 YEARS	Ine Alexander	Nelda Cunniff	Ed Smith

David Bilyea

16 YEARS: Arthur Wiley

21 YEARS: Robert Finch, William Jenkins, Joseph Love

22 YEARS: David Armbruster

23 YEARS: T. Eugene Zachary

27 YEARS: John H. Burnett

Hay-June 1987 Texas DO/23

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Dr. Keilers Recipient of "GP of the Year" Award

President's Night held Friday, April 24 during the TOMA convention yielded a most pleasant surprise for Royce K. Keilers, D.O., of LaGrange, as he was named the "General Practitioner of the Year" by the Texas State Society of the American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery (ACGP).

This award is presented annually by the Texas State Society to an osteopathic physician who has provided exemplary service to the profession. The award was presented by R. Greg Maul, D.O., of Arlington, current president of the Texas Society ACGP.

A certified general practitioner, Dr. Keilers is a 1965 graduate of the Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery (KCCOS) and served his internship in 1965-66 at the Osteopathic Hospital of KCCOS, located in Missouri.

Originally from the Round Top-Carmine area of Texas, Dr. Keilers received his pre-med education at Texas Lutheran College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Dr. Keilers and his wife, Elva, also an osteopathic physician, moved from Arlington to LaGrange in 1978 where they have been in practice since that time.

Active on both the state and national levels, Dr. Keilers has

served as 1984-85 TOMA president; president-elect; vice president; and as a member of the TOMA Board of Trustees for 10 years. He has served on numerous committees within TOMA as member, chairman and departmental chairman. Additionally, he is a past president of the Texas State Society of ACGP.

He is currently a delegate to the TOMA House of Delegates; and member and delegate to the AOA. He is also a fellow of the ACGP, an aviation medical examiner and is involved in the professional review organization (PRO) conducted by the Texas Medical Foundation.

The Keilers' reside in LaGrange and have one daughter, Dawn.

News from the Texas Society ACGP

By Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O. Texas ACGP Editor

The Texas ACGP Board would like to thank our membership for the excellent turnout for breakfast during the TOMA convention in Austin on April 24, 1987. This function was enjoyed by all who attended.

As the Texas ACGP past president with the most seniority, Dr. Joe Love had the honor of blowing out the candle on the birthday cake commemorating the 34th birthday of our state society.

Dr. Greg Maul, current Texas ACGP president, had the honor of presenting Lt. Governor Bill Hobby with a portable OMT table to be utilized at the Capitol building during this legislative session, as well as future sessions.

Also, the first meeting of the "PACER'S" was held on April 24, 1987. In addition to the current president, Dr. Greg Maul, those past presidents who attended were: Dr. John Burnett, Dr. Mary Burnett, Dr. Robert Finch, Dr. Royce Keilers, Dr. T. R. Sharp, and Dr. Montgomery-Davis.

A very lively and informative discussion took place regarding long range planning issues confronting the Texas ACGP. Some of the topics included: the future of osteopathic hospitals; the future of osteopathic internships and residency programs, the future of osteopathic solo practice; etc.

It is the Texas ACGP Board's intention to rely upon the knowledge and experience of our past presidents in trying to identify and solve ongoing problems confronting our state society through forums dealing with long range planning issues.

Congratulations to Dr. Royce Keilers for his selection as the Texas ACGP General Practitioner of the Year for 1987.

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for the Family Practitioner

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Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education supported by Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians, Inc.

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PROGRAM CHAIRMAN Stanley Weiss, D.O.

TOPICS

A Primary Care Oriented Approach to Acute Respiratory and Cardiovascular Emergencies — Frank Papa, D.O.

Structural Vulnerability of the Athletic Shoulder — Fred Tepper, D.O.

Topical Corticosteroid Selection — Dudley Goetz, D.O.

Parkinson's Disease Update —
William McIntosh, D.O.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Non Q-Wave Myocardial Infarction — Russell Fisher, D.O.

Estrogen Replacement Therapy -Robert Adams, D.O.

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Allied Health Professionals	\$ 50
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Fun Night and ATOMA Fundraiser a Success

The traditional Fun Night Party, marking an end to the convention, was a success in terms of enjoyment as well as the fundraising efforts of ATOMA, which this year, took the form of raffle tickets.

The evening began with a delicious Cable Beach Buffet and attendees were entertained by a group known as Sylone. All in all, it was a delightful night and, best of all, proceeds from the raffe tickets are earmarked for student scholarship in making the ATOMA fundraise a success.

Gift contributors and winner are as follows: Bridges Designer Jewelry, Dallas, (Crystal) — Jeroma Armbruster, D.O.; Koslows Furier. Austin, (S300 gift certificate)—Linda Raborn; The Mandalay Mariott at Las Colinas, (weekend pacage for two) — Dean Gafford, D.O. Adam's Mark Hotel, Houston (weekend package for two)
Robert Young, D.O.; Southnee



From left: Claudette Miller presents the winning ticket to Juanita Roberts while Tex, Marilyn Mohney and Pam Wilson look on.

funds, loans and other worthy causes.

A list of pharmaceutical contributors, gift contributors and winners follows.

The pharmaceutical contributors were Glaxo, Inc., Robert E. Couglin, \$100; Knoll Pharmaceutical, Louise O. White, \$100; Ortho Pharmaceutical, Ray Jordan, \$100; and Smith Kline & French, Dan Massey, \$200. Special thanks are extended to these contributors for their help

Airlines (passage for two to lave Vegas) — Mrs. Tex (Juanila Roberts; Bally's Hotel, Las Vegas (weekend for two) — Juanila Roberts; and (Choice of a trip to London or a Caribbean Cruise for two) — Juanita Roberts.

Congratulations are certainly morder to Juanita Roberts for her astounding luck.

formality and fun Pervade ATOMA Installation Luncheon

The ATOMA Installation Luncheon held Friday, April 24, during the TOMA 88th Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar seemed to combine just the right mixture of formality and fun for such an important function. The event was held in the beautiful Wedgwood Room of the Stouffer-Austin Hotel, which was particularly suited for an occasion of such importance.

Special guest of the Auxiliary was Mrs. Barbara Zeid, AAOA President-Elect, who halls from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. A most interesting addition was Dr. Charles Ogilvie, also on hand as a special guest, who gave a slide presentation on "Women in Osteopathic Medicine". Both guests were warmly received

and made for a memorable time.

Mrs. John (Marilyn) Mohney of Houston was installed as president of the Auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, succeeding Mrs. Chester (Chris) Godell of Arlington.

Also installed as officers with Mrs. Mohney were Mrs. Brad (Liz) Cobb as president-elect; Mrs. Steve (Sue) Urban as vice president; Mrs. Richard (Bessanne) Anderson as treasurer and Mrs. Thomas (Shirley) Nelson as recording secretary. Additionally, Mrs. Morton (Thelma) Rubin was named corresponding secretary; Mrs. Robert (Betty) Collop, parliamentarian; Mrs. James (Nancy) Hawa, auxiliary news chairman; Mrs. Victor (Charnews chairman)

lotte) Zima, funds chairman; Mrs. Mark (Rita) Baker, assistant funds chairman; Mrs. David (Elaine) Tyler, annual report; Mrs. William (Chuckie) Hospers, public relations; Mrs. Charles (Reva) Ogilvie, yearbook chairman; Mrs. C.W. (Janette) Hammond, credentials chairman; Mrs. T. Eugene (Nancy) Zachary, SAA Liaison; Mrs. David (Carolyn) Bilyea, scholarship chairman; Mrs. John (Chris) Brenner, public health and education; Mrs. Reginald (Mary Jane) Platt, historian; Mrs. Richard (Bessanne) Anderson and Mrs. Roy (Peggy) Fisher, guild chairmen; Mrs. Randall (Peggy) Rodgers, supply chairman; and Dr. John L. Mohney, TOMA Liaison. A

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May June 1987 Texas DO/27

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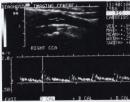
GE 9800 High Resolution Computed Tomography Pituitary Gland Study

> Toshiba Radiographic/Fluoroscopic Double Contrast Upper Gastrointestinal Study



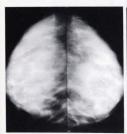
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IN MEMORIAM

Wiley B. Rountree, D.O.

Wiley B. Rountree, D.O., of San Angelo, passed away March 27 after a short illness. He was 71 years of age. Services were held March 30 at the First United Methodist Church in San Angelo, with graveside services at Fairmount Cemetery.

A 1941 graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Rountree established the San Angelo Osteopathic Clinic later that year where he delivered 4,300 babies during his practice.

A TOMA life member, he was very active in TOMA activities and served as president from 1967-68. Throughout the years, he had also served on the TOMA Board of Trustees; House of Delegates; and numerous committees within TOMA. He reactivated District IV in the late 1940's and served as pre-

sident and in other capacities. In 1978, he was chosen "General Practitioner of the Year."

Other memberships included the American Academy of Osteopathy; Texas member of the American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery; library of the American Osteopathic Association; past president of the Kirksville Alumna Association and director of Psi Sigma Alpha national honor fraternity for 15 years.

Dr. Rountree was a true family man in every sense of the word. In 1961, the Rountree family was selected as "San Angelo Family of the Year" by the City Federation of Women's Clubs and at one time, the family was nominated as the "Outstanding First Methodist Church Family".

He had been supportive of many youth activities for over 40 years in San Angelo and was president and a 12-year member of the San Angelo school board as well as team physician for San Angelo High School and San Angelo College.

Survivors include his wife, Jacquelyn, and their children; Mrs. David (Sharon) Hollenback of Syracuse, New York; Barry Rountree of Austin; Mrs. John (Linda) Tyler of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Dr. Randy Rountree of Houston; one brother, S. Reuben Rountree of Austin; and one grandchild.

In lieu of usual remembrances, the family requests memorial gifts be made to one's favorite college, church or charity.

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ATOMA NEWS

By Liz Cobb President-Elect & Membership Chairman

In a nutshell, I have good news and bad news. We take the bad news first.

DOWN!!!! The auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association has been on a steady decline. From almost 400 members three years ago, we have a grand total of 198 members.

The good news. There is still time to get your \$20 in. Cut off date for being published in the ATOMA directory is July 1. You may send your dues to ATOMA Treasurer Mrs. Richard (Bessanne) Anderson, 10407 Silverock, Dallas, Texas 75218, or to the TOMA office.

Before I go any further, let me tell you who may be a member of the ATOMA. Regular membership may be granted to members of the immediate family of any member in good standing of the TOMA. Please note that does not say "wife". Hey, we are not female chauvinists. We want husbands, sons, and fathers; wives, daughters and mothers.

By sending your \$20 you become a member of ATOMA, but, you choose just how active you want to be. We are not going to bug you with committee work or board work or anything else. You choose if and/or when you become active. How's that for a nice way of saying we want your money? Of course, we would like to have your body also, but you take what you can get. Right!!!!

Just a note then I'll wrap this up. The convention in Austin was great. The Stouffer Hotel is beautiful, and as usual Tex and staff "DONE GOOD"!!!! If you have never

been to convention with your doctor spouse, you've missed a lot. Let me take this opportunity to invite you to visit the ATOMA House of Delegates, then you will see we aren't a bunch of "women" at a Tea Party. We are... but, that's another story. See you next time.

By Chris Godell Immediate Past President

What a wonderful year I have had, beginning with the installation of officers in Dallas to my last official duty as president of the Auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

On May 3, 1986, my year began with the installation at the Registry Hotel in Dallas by our official AAOA visitor President-Elect, Sheila Vonder Embse acting as installing officer.

On July 7, 1986, I went to the AOA President's Luncheon in Dallas. It made me so proud to be present at Dr. Eugene Sikorski's installation; he is my brother. It was a great coincidence to be serving as auxiliary state president in the same year as he was serving the AOA as the national president.

On July 13, 1986, I was the official state visitor to help greet the AAOA Board of Directors as they toured TCOM's new buildings and joined them at a lovely tea in the Kiva Room of the Med Ed II Building.

On August 7, 1986, I was the official state visitor to my district, District XV at a meeting at August Moon Restaurant in Arlington.

On September 16, 1986, my official visit took me to a lovely brunch sponsored on behalf of National Osteopathic Medicine Week, by District V Auxiliary in Dallas. The brunch was delicious and it was wonderful to see many new faces.

On October 16, 1986, both my husband, Dr. Chet Godell, and I attended the SAA meeting, as separticipated in an enjoyable pand discussion with the Student Associate Auxiliary. It was a fun-filled nostalgic evening.

On October 18, 1986, I preside over the Mid-year Board Meeting held at my home in Arlington. A luncheon was served and many important issues were discusses such as convention delegates, convention funds project and bylanchanges.

November 2-6, 1986, took me to Las Vegas and the AOA and AAOA Convention. I attended the AAOA House of Delegates as chairman of the delegation. The council of states luncheon, called "Hats Off to You," had as the Keynote Speaker a marvelous registered parliamentarian who spoke about the many hats we wear in the vanous offices we hold. The AAOA luncheon for the SAA was very enjoyable with all of our student associate auxiliaries exchanging ideas with AAOA Officers and state presidents. At the President's Night Dinner we were entertained by the Marie Osmond Show.

I am pleased and proud to ablitant our state scrapbook we second place at the national levil. We also have three members of ATOMA serving on four committees at the national level. Congratulations to Marilyn Mohney Merilyn Richards (serving on two committees), and Sue Urbas. Thank you ladies for representing Texas on the national level. My deepest appreciation is also extended to Betty Collop, Suzansi

Davis, Chuckie Hospers, Wanda Puryear, Merilyn Richards, Sue Urban and Nancy Zachary, who served so selflessly as delegates to the national convention.

On January 16, 1987, I started the New Year off with an official visit to District II's President's Night. Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Armbruster also attended this very enjoyable district meeting at the Shady Oaks Country Club. It was like homecoming, for my roots in Texas began in District II. The Fort Worth Auxiliary was hard at work with plans for their major fund raiser, the Wintercrest Ball.

On February 2, 1987, a quick flight to Houston took me to the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Houston, where my daughter, Kathy, and I attended the District VI meeting. A lovely dinner was served and I extended greetings from ATOMA to the members of District VI. The auxiliary then met for a brief meeting and discussed their fund raising projects.

On March 21 & 22, 1987, my official visit took me to the beautiful Tyler area and District III, Reva and Charles Ogilvie were my gracious hosts. I was their guest at their ranch in Ben Wheeler. We went on a tour of the Azalea trail in Tyler, such beauty to behold. I then attended their district meeting held at the potpourri house on South Broadway in Tyler.

A very special thank you goes to

all of my board members who worked so very hard making this year a rewarding one for us all.

Thank you to all of my "Osteopathic Family," you the members of TOMA and ATOMA, AOA and AAOA, for allowing me the privilege and the honor of representing our great State of Texas as the president of the Auxiliary of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Last of all goes all my love to my family, who supported me in all of my travels around the state and the country.

My best wishes to our incoming president and her new Board of Directors for a wonderful and successful year to come.

Ten Years Ago in the "Texas DO"

The TOMA 78th Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar held in Corpus Christi was the biggest and best in history. Total attendance was 766 which included 411 D.O.s, 173 spouses, 161 exhibitors and 21 guests and speakers. Speaker for the Keynote Luncheon was U.S. Representative Bob Gammage. President's Night attracted 465 persons, the largest number served a meal at any TOMA function ever.

Also during the convention, 70 Texas general practitioners rolled out at 6:30 a.m. for bloody marys, breakfast steaks, elections and the chance to hear their national president, Dr. Larry Koplovitz of Pennsylvania, speak. Robert Finch, D.O., FACGP, was elected president of the Texas Society of ACGP for the coming year.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Rockwall Family Health Center took place on the building tite in Rockwall. The facility was

designed to accommodate Drs. Sherman P. Sparks, Randal P. Sparks and Robert D. Sparks, a father and sons team of general practitioners. Guest speaker for the occasion was Tex Roberts. TOMA Executive Director, who declared the importance of the medical center, emphasizing that many small Texas towns did not have the facilities of an emergency room and clinical services. Mr. Roberts went on to salute the Sparks for their private enterprise investment, saying that without federal government financing being involved, there would be no restriction on a normal doctor-patient relationship. He said, "Federal government in the health care industry induces governmental regulations and a huge pile of paper work between you and your doctor."

And that's the way it was!

Cocaine and Dental Work Don't Mix

A recent issue of American Medical News reports on a new and possibly deadly worry for regular cocaine users — their next trip to the dentist.

According to the Academy of General Dentistry, dental anesthetic, when mixed with cocaine, can cause increased heart rate and blood pressure and shallow breathing, which can possibly lead to angina or heart attacks in the worst cases.

The Academy of General Dentistry says that those who smoke cocaine in its free-base form are at greater risk because free-basing reduces the lungs' capacity to exchange gases.

"If the lungs are unable to expel gas, the dental patient (who has been anesthetized) could experience respiratory distress," says Mark Simmons, D.D.S., head of the general-practice residency program at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

May June 1987

TEXAS TICKER TAPE

TCOM ANNOUNCES 1987-88 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Alumni Association of TCOM has announced the names of the 1987-88 Board of Directors. Serving as president is Glenn M. Calabres, D.O.; McKim Davis. D.O., president-elect; Richard Hochberger, D.O., first vice president; Christopher Hull, D.O., second vice president; E. Carlisle Holland, D.O., immediate past president; and Ray Stokes, administrative secretary. Directors are Alex Guevara, Jr., D.O.; James Hawa, D.O.; Edward Luke, Jr., D.O.; Jeffrey Thompson, D.O.; and Richard Zemenick, D.O.

DR. SCHMIDT RECEIVES CERTIFICATION

Daniel Schmidt, D.O., of Pearsall, has received notification of certification in general practice by the Board of Trustees of the American Osteopathic Association.

A 1972 graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Schmidt interned at Stevens Park Hospital in Dallas and practiced in Oklahoma until 1976, at which time he relocated to Pearsall.

Certification by the AOA and the American Osteopathic Board of General Practice is a prestigious honor and represents hundreds of hours of additional education in the field of general practice.

Congratulations to Dr. Schmidt!

WHOOPS!

We aren't too big (yet) to admit our mistakes but we certainly made a whopper in the April issue of the Texas DO. On page 7, in the article entitled "Photo Search Underway", D. L. Clark, D.O. served as the first TOMA president in 1900, not 1990. We may have "come a long way", but foretelling the future is not one of our fortes (yet).

PATIENT TRANSFERS DURING INPATIENT HOSPITAL STAYS

Under the Medicaid DRG prospective payment system, patient transfers within the same facility are considered one continuous stay and receive only one DRG payment, regardless of the number of transfers within the facility. If a facility files separately for these cases, the additional claim(s) will be denied as part of the first claim and considered one inpatient stay.

DR. TED ALEXANDER APPOINTED TO HOSPITAL BOARD

Ted C. Alexander, Jr., D.O., of Wichita Falls, has been appointed to the Wichita General Hospital Corporation Board for a six-year term.

A 1971 graduate of Kirksville College of Osteopath-Medicine, Dr. Alexander has been a TOMA membersince 1972. He is certified in general practice and is a diplomate of the American Osteopathic Board of General Practice.

We congratulate Dr. Alexander on his appointment

REVISIONS TO PROVIDER PROCEDURES MANUAL

Revision 8 to the Provider Procedures Manual sus distributed March, 1987. Any physician not receiving this revision should notify National Heritage Insurance Company at 11044 Research Boulevard, Building C. Austin, 78759-5239. Address your correspondence to the attention of Provider Enrollment.

EXERCISE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN DIETING

A Stanford University study has found that although individuals can lose weight by dieting or by exercising more, exercising is more beneficial for long-term results.

In a study involving 155 men, one group dietal while the other exercised. Two years later, the group involved in dieting had regained most of the weight or ginally lost while the exercise group had maintained their weight loss.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR FOR FAMILY HOSPITAL CENTER

Rodney Bailey has been named administrator of Family Hospital Center in Amarillo. The announment came from Claude G. Rainey, president of Health Care of Texas, Inc., parent organization of the facility

"Since friends of Amarillo assisted in the establishment of this hospital, I am firmly committed to helping this facility in its future growth and to continue pledge to provide quality health care to this committy," said Mr. Bailey, a long-time resident of Amarilla

The 50-bed Family Hospital Center provides generated and specialized care to patients from 26 counties in the Texas Panhandle. It is an affiliate of Health Care of Texas, Inc., in Fort Worth.

HE PRESSURE'S ON

Almost one out of two physicians, responding to a uvey conducted by the American Medical Associon, feel they are under pressure to release Medicare tients from hospitals too early, with one-third statig they felt no such pressure.

Other statistics obtained from the survey indicated percent of physicians believe their control over cisions regarding the treatment of hospitalized tients has been lost, and 63 percent of those surveyed what patients are much more demanding than they are three years ago.

Additionally, surveyed physicians stated that tients are showing more concern over health care sts and appear to be better informed as to lifestyle anges and characteristics attributed to better health.

ANCER PREVENTION PRACTICES INCREASING

A study conducted by the HHS reveals that nericans are increasing their cancer prevention praces. Almost 76 percent of individuals surveyed stated by have been taking steps to improve or maintain in health, such as stopping smoking, including more er and less fat in their diets and increasing their prices. This study reveals a six percent increase over a previous report published two years ago.

LLAS SURGEON NEW TMA PRESIDENT

David Vanderpool, M.D., a Dallas general surgeon, become the new president of the Texas Medical occiation (TMA), succeeding Dr. Jim Bob Brame of lorado. Installation ceremonies took place during TMA's annual meeting in Houston in May.

To vanious meeting in rousion in May.

To vanderpool noted that "One of the things that iters me most is the degree to which third parties interfering in the practice. Increasingly, insurance apanies, the government, and peer review organizas are changing the way doctors and patients inter-We must maintain our special role as advocates for patients, or health care in Texas will suffer."

The physician is a native of Dallas and has been a cticing surgeon for more than 20 years.

A. A. ANNOUNCES OFFICERS FOR 1987-88

The Student Associate Auxiliary (SAA) to the Texas lege of Osteopathic Medicine has announced the owing officers for 1987-88:

resident - Amy Harvey (Class of 1988); Vice-presits - Debbie Male and Frances Doherty (both Class 1989); Recording Secretary - Andrea Hansen (Class 1989); Corresponding Secretary - Myra Harmon ass of 1989); and Treasurer - Mary Polinard-Tipton ass of 1989).

PHYSPRC ENDORSES MEDICARE FEE SCHEDULES

The AOA reports that fee schedules for Medicare have been endorsed by a congressional commission whose purpose is to make recommendations regarding payments for physician services. Known as the Physician Payment Review Commission (PhysPRC), the commission is studying issues relating to a fee schedule, such as the determination of relative values, mandatory assignment, and variations in practice settings and geographic location. The commission's final recommendations are due in 1989.

Capitation and all-inclusive fees are other alternatives being studied by the commission, according to the AOA, who will be submitting comments to PhysPRC on reimbursement issues. Current AOA policy calls for an indemnity reimbursement system of payment, which preserves the physician's right to balance-bill patients.

TEXAS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT SCHEDULES REPUBLISHED

The Texas Department of Health has republished the Schedules of the Texas Controlled Substances Act as of December 31, 1986. This republishing of schedules reflects changes which have occurred since the last republishing as a result of amendments to the Texas Controlled Substances Act by the Texas Legislature or by order of the Commissioner of Health.

Any physician wishing a copy may notify the TOMA State Headquarters at 800-772-5993 or by writing.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Texas Department of Health, Division of Food and Drugs, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, 78756. The phone number is 512—458-7248.

FILLING THOSE EMPTY BEDS

In an effort to fill empty beds, a hospital in Chicago has come up with an idea which affects patients where it hurts the most - their wallets. The hospital is offering a 20 percent rebate on most inpatient stays and in some instances, the rebate climbs as high as \$500.

Leonard Muller, president of the hospital, as quoted in American Medical News said, "Obviously we are borrowing from Detroit. It worked for the auto industry." And, like the auto industry, the offer is being tried on a limited basis in an attempt to discover if it will work.



Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians, Inc. received a special thank-you from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine for the help the group has given to TCOM students and continuing education programs.

David M. Richards, D.O., president of TCOM, and T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., vice president for academic affairs and dean, presented an appreciation plaque to A. G. Bascone, D.O., vice chairman of the DSWOP board, at the annual banquet for Dallas Family Hospital.

Dallas Southwest Osteopathic Physicians formed as a result of the sale of Stevens Park Osteopathic Hospital in 1983. Since then the organization has given \$50,000 to TCOM for support of the continuing medical education program and \$80,000 for scholarships.

In addition to Dr. Bascone, members of the board include chairman J.L. LaManna, D.O.; R.B. Helfrey, D.O.; N.E. Beiser, D.O.; R.M. Carmichael, D.O.; G.B. Clark, D.O.; H. Kahn, D.O.; L.C. Woody, D.O.; and A.R. Young, D.O. Executive Director is Don L. Hicks.





Professional Pathology Services

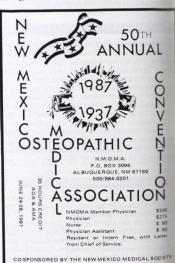
George E. Miller, D.O., F.A.O.C P.

P.O. Box 64682 Dallas, Texas 75206



Tom King, president of the Houston Osteopathic Hopital Foundation, Inc., left, accepts a plaque of apprication from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine a recent quarterly meeting of the foundation's Boyl of Trustees. Presenting the plaque is T. Eugene Zachar, D.O., vice president for academic affairs and dean at TCOM. The foundation has given the college \$90,000 for 14 scholarships this year.

Other members of the Board of Trustees are Bol Murphy, president-elect; Bill Badger, D.O., treasure; Billy Coltharp, secretary; Joe Martin; Lanny Vlaub, William Thomas, D.O.; Alvin Rosenthal; Hunte-Harang, D.D.S.; and J. Hutto.



Three New Features Added to TOMA's Universal Liability Program

TOMA announces three new features available under the Universal Liability professional liability insurance program offered by Clarendon National Insurance Company in Texas.

Effective May 1, 1987, prior acts coverage back to May 1, 1986 is available, individual practitioners doing pusiness as a professional association are not charged extra premium and rates for some specialties will be

educed.

PRIOR ACTS COVERAGE: Clarendon National tow offers prior acts coverage to physicians who join he Universal Liability program if they have a claims rade policy issued after May 1, 1986. This very imporant feature enables the physician who has been on a laims made policy since May 1, 1986 to switch their rlaims made coverage to Clarendon National Insurance company and have their prior acts covered at the same

limits as previously purchased without having to purchase a tail from their current carrier. There is an additional premium charge based on the retroactive date of the prior policy and the limits of liability carried.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION COVERAGE: An individual practitioner, P.A., will be covered at no additional premium. A multi-member P.A. will automatically be provided a separate limit of liability of \$100,000 per occurrence/\$100,000 maximum annual at no additional charge with higher limits available for an additional premium.

RATE: While most malpractice underwriters are increasing their Texas rates, Clarendon National Insurance Company announces there will be no rate increases in 1987 and many specialties will actually enjoy a rate reduction.

Letters

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Your letter informing me that the TOMA House of Delegates has onferred life membership upon me nd the receipt of the very attractive esk plaque and permanent billfold aembership card are most apprecited. Thank you.

incerely, tobert C. Burns, D.O.

lear TOM A

I would like to take this oppornity to thank the TOMA House f Delegates for its decision in warding me Life Membership in be TOMA along with attending enefits.

As in the past I will continue to two our community to the best of y ability and to support the steopathic profession through uch service.

I thank you again for your

Dear Tex and Board Members:

This profession has been very good to me in the 21 years spent in Oklahoma and then from 1966, until retirement in Arlington, Texas. Please accept my thanks and appreciation for the life membership award.

Richard W. Hall, D.O.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

I am deeply grateful and honored to become a life member of the TOMA. I received notice of the award April 27, 1987.

I am also grateful for the years of working with the TOMA as well as working for the TOMA.

Sincerely yours, Rollin E. Becker, D.O. Dear TOMA House of Delegates:

It is with humility that I accept this great honor. I am, and have always been, so very proud to be a D.O. We have proven so much for so long, how the profession has given so much to the established main-line medicine, and the acceptance of our philosophy, worldwide. Science is proving everyday that Dr. A. T. Still was as great a scientist as any in history.

Also, thank our God that we live in the U.S.A., where we have the distinct privilege of following new avenues of scientific advancements.

It is our prayer that we remain distinctively different and continue our degrees as such.

Sherry and I again thank all of you. We were out of state from April 20 to May 4 and were unable to attend the meeting.

Dan B. Whitehead, D.O.

espectfully, oseph S. Carpenter, D.O.

13y-June 1987

Newsbriefs

TROUBLE IN NEW YORK

A ruling by a state agency in New York has mandated that those physicians who treat patients covered by both Medicare and Medicaid must accept the Medicare assignment as payment in full. Contending that this practice will force physicians out of inner-city areas, the state medical society is seeking help from the Legislature in order to override the rule. The society will take the case to court if their lobbying efforts fail.

HOSPITAL OFFERING LIABILITY RELIEF

In the wake of the new malpractice law in Florida whereby physicians without insurance and unable to pay malpractice judgments can be stopped from practicing for as long as five years (see April issue of Texas DO), South Miami Hospital has offered their physicians some relief from the liability woes by stating it would pay damages as well as attorney's fees for suits brought against emergency room treatment of patients not treated previously. Although the offer was for three months, hopes are it will remain in effect until the state legislature implements a wider scope of protection for physicians.

A CHIROPRACTOR BY NO OTHER NAME

The Kansas attorney general, agreeing with the state medical society on the issue that chiropractors are not "physicians", has overruled a 1984 decision by the State Board of Healing Arts which gave chiropractors the right to use the title "physician" along with the term "chiropractic". According to the medical society, "physician" is a term used to describe someone licensed to practice medicine and surgery.

THIRD PARTIES PLAYING DOCTOR

The California Supreme Court has ruled that it is legal for a third party to dispute a treatment decision initiated by a physician, thereby refusing to pay for a treatment deemed as medically necessary. This case involves Blue Shield's refusal to reimburse a patient hospitalized for diagnostic testing. The patient's attorney persuaded the court that Blue Shield acted in bad faith by contesting the physician's decision. This case now goes back to Superior Court.

THE DILEMMA OF AIDS CONFIDENTIALITY

A tug-of-war drama is taking place in California regarding secrecy restrictions on AIDS reporting. Currently, if a patient tests positive for the virus a physician is prohibited from informing anyone even other physicians treating the patient, without the written consent of the patient. If a physician disclosures this information without consent, he may face a fine of up to \$10,000 and a one year jail term.

While the medical association is seeking hep from legislators whereby physicians who notity as dangered people, other physicians and local health officials would be granted immunity, critics are cotending that individuals in high-risk groups would not have blood tests performed due to the dread of being identified publicly.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY TO RELOCATE

The American Cancer Society is planning to relocal its national headquarters from New York City, citing economics as the main reason for the move. American Medical News reports that Dallas and Houston as among the top contenders for the national headquarters, however, a final decision is not expected unit sometime in June.

The society estimates that operating costs could be reduced by as much as \$2.5 million by moving out of New York.

VERMONT MAY FOLLOW MASSACHUSETTS' LEAD

A bill before the Vermont Senate would require physicians to accept assignment as a condition of licensure. Furthermore, physicians would be banned from balance billing all Medicaid patients and Medicambeneficiaries whose annual income is less than \$25,000 or \$32,000 for couples.

NEW THREAT TO HOSPITALS EMERGING

Hospitals may be facing a new threat if a scheme in California catches on. A three-year project now give surgicenters the authority to perform operations requiring up to three days of post-operative care. The post-op care will be provided in special additions adjucent to or near the surgicenters. The state's hospitals are fearing a huge loss of utilization from this enterprise.

Maryland Physicians Breathing Easier

A bill that would have forced Maryland physicians to either accept government-mandated Medicare reimbursement or total non-participation in the Medicare program was defeated March 20 by the state's House Committee on Environmental Affairs.

If the bill had passed, Maryland would have become the second state to wield control over Medicare participation. The bill differs from the Massachusetts law in that it would have offered physicians an option whereas Massachusetts allows physicians no choices.

Angelo Troisi, executive director of the Medical and Surgical Faculty of Maryland, the state medical society, as quoted in American Medical News, said, "Obviously we're very pleased. Now we're going to go out and work like the dickens — with the governor's office and senior citizen groups—to help people understand how the Medicare system really works. One of the unified positions that emerged from the debate is the enor-

mous need to better understand the true issues of the Medicare system "

According to Mr. Troisi, the defeat of the Maryland bill "was not a victory for physicians or a defeat for senior citizens. It reflects the legislators' understanding of a tremendous problem that exists nationally."

An interesting point brought up in the article was a question posed by Mr. Troisi who asked, "If physicians had to choose between accepting only HCFA payment or not participating at all, many would have to choose not to participate. What would have happened to the elderly patients in an area where the only physicians available can't participate in Medicare?"

At the present time, Vermont and Connecticut are pondering bills similar to Maryland's defeated one and Massachusetts, the only state requiring participation as a condition of licensure, appealed the case last October to the 1st Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, however no decision has yet been reached.

Medigap Sales Practices Watched

Due to the escalating sales efforts promoting "Medigap" insurance on television and through direct-mail campaigns, concerns are rising regarding tactics used in gathering information from senior citizens.

Texas Hospitals reports that Consumers Union, a national consumer advocate organization, is collecting copies of direct-mail Medigap solicitations as well as experiences and difficulties individuals have undergone in dealing with Medigap

sales and claims.

Anyone knowing of instances whereby deceptive practices are used in order to gather personal data about elderly individuals or in the promotion or selling of Medigap insurance, should contact Carol Barger, Consumers Union Southwest Regional Office, 1300 Guadalupe Street, Austin 78701, phone 512—447-4431; or the State Board of Insurance's toll-free Consumer Hotline, 800—252-3439. A

PRO Review Modified

Peer Review Organizations (PROs) are required to use physician reviewers who practice "in a setting similar" to that in which the physician is being reviewed practices, according to modifications in the Health Care Financing Administration's (HCFA) instruction manual to PROs.

The changes require rural physicians to review rural physicians and urban physicians to review urban physicians. If this is not possible, the reasons must be documented. So far, HCFA and the Texas Medical Foundation have not defined "rural setting" in the context of this requirement. An advocacy committee of the Texas Medical Association will assess the criteria used to select physician reviewers.

In late April, TMA president Dr. Jim Bob Brame, testifying in Washington in support of changes in PROs, told the U.S. House Subcommittee on Health and Environment that the way peer review is being administered is driving physicians into retirement and to move to the cities, and that access to needed services is being reduced tremendously. He also noted that "...the law as administered is unfair...and there are physicians in West Texas who are afraid to admit patients to the hospital because of the excessive scrutiny of their records by urban physicians with a very different high-tech practice perspective." To date, all of the 14 or 15 sanctions imposed in Texas have been on rural physicians.

"When medical records are more important than patient care, then something is wrong," he added. Dr. Brame assured the subcommittee that Texas physicians strongly support peer review but believe the way it is now administered is not fair enough for it to continue in its present form.

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PROFESSIONAL PATIENTS COSTING HOSPITALS MEGA-BUCKS

Hospitals are experiencing annual losses in the \$4 million to \$40 million to sydo million to range due to patients suffering from Munchausen's Syndrome. Patients with this syndrome are often called "suspected professional patients" according to an article in Texas Hospitals.

These patients go to extremes in order to be hospitalized, simulating illnesses with dramatic symptoms and many go so far as to abuse medications on purpose or induce self-inflicted injuries.

The article states that most Munchausen's Syndrome patients are men with high IQs, many of whom have worked in health care settings. Studies have revealed, although the syndrome's cause is unclear, that the majority of these individuals were abused as children, had lost one or both parents, were institutionalized quite frequently and had formed an emotional tie to a physician when they were growing up.

Treatment of the syndrome is very difficult since most patients deny the fact that they have a problem and normally leave the hospital before treatment can be initiated. One patient suffering from the syndrome, according to the article, was hospitalized more than 400 times over a 25-year period.

Dr. Ron R. Lipsitt, chief of psychiatry at Mount Auburn Hospital in Massachusetts, estimates that "...approximately 4,000 Munchausen's Syndrome patients are admitted to hospitals each year at a cost of \$1,000 to \$10,000 per case." The huge annual loss to hospitals is attributed to the fact that most of these patients do not pay their hospital bills.

RULING ON ASSISTANTS AT CATARACT SURGERY CHALLENGED

The new law effective March 1, 1987, requiring advance approval of a PRO for assistants at cataract surgery for Medicare patients, is being challenged by attorneys for two state ophthalmological societies, California and New York, who are asking a U.S. Court of Appeals to overturn a lower court's dismissal of their suit.

According to American Medical News, the two societies say complications cannot always be predicted in advance and a preliminary injunction was sought after the PROs were told to implement the new provision as of March 1.

Judge George C. Revercomb denied the plea for an injunction on March 10 and on March 16, dismissed the constitutional challenge. As quoted in American Medical News, the judge ruled that COBRA provisions are "rationally related to a legitimate government purpose: the prohibition of the expenditure of federal funds determined to be medically unnecessary while protecting Medicare beneficiaries."

As stated in the April issue of the Texas DO, this law may have dire implications for other specialties because federal officials are also reviewing and identifying other procedures in which payment for assisting surgeons could be denied.

POSTDOCTORAL TASK FORCE

In an effort to allow physicians who have or are currently train ing in non-AOA approved nost doctoral programs to gain AOA approval, a Task Force to Explore Alternate Approval Mechanisms for Postdoctoral Training was passed in the form of a resolution by the AOA Board of Trustees at its midvear meeting according to the April issue of The DO. A preliminary report will be prepared by the task force to be reviewed by the Board and the AOA House of Delegates by July 1987 with a final report no later than July 1988.

The AOA also reports that the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians (ACOP), contending that a decrease in D.O. pediatric residency programs has resulted in a decrease in potential ACOP members, submitted a resolution to approve proposed bylaw amendments. The resolution was deferred until the new task force reports its findings. The amendments would allow ACOP to accept as senior members those D.O. pediatricians who are graduates of AOA-approved osteopathic medical schools but are trained in non-AOA approved residency programs and are certified by the American Board of Pediatrics. The new task force will study the ACOP resolution in order to provide recommendations to resolve these concerns according to the AOA.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSIGNMENT LAW UPHELD

A Massachusetts law which denies physicians from balancebilling Medicare patients has been upheld by a federal appeal court in Boston. The Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) will now be taking the mandatory assignment issue for review by the United States Supreme Court.

AMA Executive Vice President James H. Sammons, M.D., as quoted in American Medical News, said the AMA "believes the decision is wrong, and it will promptly petition the United States Supreme Court to hear the case."

Massachusetts physicians are prohibited under state law from billing Medicare patients for more than government-set reasonable charges as reimbursement in full

Although similar bills in New Hampshire and Maryland were just recently defeated, other states have similar bills in the hopper including New Jersey, Ohio, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Washington.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSIGNMENT BILL DELEGATED TO FILE 13

A bill which would have made it a crime for New Hampshire physicians to refuse assignment of health care claims was
defeated 17-1 by members of the
House Committee on Commerce,
Small Business and Consumer
Affairs. The companion Senate
Bill was defeated 7-1.

The House bill would have imposed fines and jail terms on physicians not accepting mandatory assignment of medical care claims. The insurance carrier would have paid 80 percent of the customary and prevailing charge directly to the physician, who in turn, would only be able to bill the patient 20 percent, irrespective of the physician's charges.

The Senate version was to

have made licensure dependent on physician assignment for Medicare and Medicaid recipient's bills.

The bill naturally drew opposition from physicians who said both bills would inflict financial hardships on them since they would not be allowed to bill for the actual costs of their services. Interestingly enough. the bill was not supported by the insurance commissioner who stated that policing medical rates would place a giant burden on his department. The New Hampshire chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) also voiced their opposition, saying they felt the bill's end result would be a serious decrease in the number of physicians who would treat the state's elderly population.

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California Hospital First to Face Patient Dumping Fines

A California public hospital has become the first hospital to be investigated under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Act of 1986, a federal law allowing for sanctions against physicians and hospitals who transfer emergency patients to other hospitals without determining whether the patients are in stable condition. The law, passed last April, calls for penalties which include expulsion from Medicare and Medicaid as well as fines of up to \$25,000 per case.

Brookside Hospital in San Pablo has allegedly transferred several unstable, indigent patients from its emergency room to other hospitals. According to American Medical News, the situation was brought to light when a pregnant woman in premature labor was transferred to a county hospital 20 miles away where she delivered a stillborn baby.

The Health Care Financing Administration, after an on-site survey of the hospital, found deficiencies, with seven involving alleged patient dumping. The hospital has since corrected the inadequacies, many of them very minor, however, investigation of the patient dumping charges are still going on. The case has been referred to the state inspector's office who could still fine the hospital.

New policies initiated by the hospital include the immediate monitoring of women in labor, mandatory participation of physicians in covering the emergency room and acquiring a second opinion in specific specialty areas before transferring patients. A

TCOM Faculty Member Receives Grant



His explorations into the mysteries of the aging process have earned Robert Gracy, Ph.D., the largest grant ever received by a Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty member.

The grant from the National Institute of Health will be worth more than \$3 million to Dr. Gracy's research team over the next 10 years. The long-term MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) awards were begun by the NIH within the last year to support "investigators whose research competence and productivity are distinctly superior and who are likely to continue to perform in an outstanding manner."

The TCOM biochemistry professor's research is in an area that is receiving increased attention because of the aging of the population. "Most of the major health problems of this country are those that affect the elderly — heart disease, cancer, diabetes, impairment of mental faculties," he said. "It's not our objective to make people live 200 years. We just want to help people live the years they have in good health."

It was Dr. Gracy's team, working at TCOM and North Texas State University, that was able to trace the breakdown in the immune system in the elderly back to the accumulation of abnormal proteins in cells. His team discovered that this cell "garbage" is not disposed of in elderly people as effectively as it is in younger people.

"Ninety percent of the health problems of the elderly are the result of a failure of the immune system," he explained. "Since the accumulation of 'garbage' may make cells less responsive, we want to know why and how. Then we'll need to figure out how to either get rid of the garbage or enhance the immune system."

The NIH grant will allow Dr. Gracy to expand his research and divide it into four main areas. The first two areas will be expanded versions of the work he has already done in cellular and molecular changes in aging. A third new area will be in wound healing, which is

markedly impaired in elderly persons, and a fourth in the progresive impairment of vision in the aging by such processes as catage formation and glaucoma.

The NIH has awarded some 10 MERIT grants nationally during its nine months. Researcher in the property of MERIT awards have selected by the NIH based on their research history. Dr. distribution of the initial phase of the gratest will receive more than \$1 miles in the initial phase of the gratest with automatic extensions based inflation and cost changes. To servatively we expect the 10-just total to be in the \$3 millions are range." He said.

"These grants are exceeding important," he added, "because they allow a researcher to put for long-term work. Obvious, they are particularly relevant when you're studying aging."

Dr. Gracy has been chairmas of TCOM's biochemistry department in the 1976 and was a chemistry professor at NTSU for six years of the currently hide a joint faculty appointment of TCOM and NTSU. Past research brought him grants of approximately \$3 million from NIH, Rose Welch Foundation, Texas Advanced to the contrology Research Program evarious pharmaceutical companion.

Dr. Karbach Reaches 40th Milestone

Every so often, in going through individual files for one reason or another, we come across items of interest concerning TOMA members

One such item we have discovered is February 18 marked the 40th year of practice in Arlington for Armin Karbach, D.O., to whom we extend our belated congratulations.

At 73 years of age, Dr. Karbach is seeing patients, some of whom are three generation families whom he has delivered over the years. He is still going strong and shows no sign of stopping as evidenced by his six-day workweek.

A 1941 graduate of Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery, Dr. Karbach is a TOMA life member as well as an AOA life member and is a fellow of the American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.

Further research into Dr. Karbach's file revealed an article written in 1984 which states that he believes many illnesses are comby bad diets. "We're the animal that can go to the mobut doesn't live his full spanlife," he said. This is certain an interesting thought.

That same article quotes Karbach as saying, "I'd just soon practice medicine 'til I'm % TOMA wishes Dr. Karbach me

more rewarding years of practice above and beyond 99, if that is to desire.

TDH Seeking \$1.4 Million to Fight AIDS in Texas

State Health Commissioner Robert Bernstein, M.D., has asked the Texas Legislature for additional funding of \$1.4 million to help sem the rapid spread of AIDS in the state. In addition, he has endorsed a bill seeking a \$2 million increase in general revenue funds for community-based AIDS prevention programs.

In Texas, 2,067 confirmed cases of AIDS have been reported through February 27, Sixty-two percent, or 1,290 of those victims, are known to be dead. We estimate that 90,000 Texans are infected with the virus (HIV for human immunodeficiency virus) that causes AIDS and less severe illness, "says Dr. Bernstein.

AIDS has spread from 17 coun-

ties to 81 counties and from 167 cases to 2,067 cases in Texas in just over three years. According to Dr. Bernstein, national experts estimate that for every AIDS case reported, there are 50 to 100 persons infected with the HIV virus. And, as grim as these figures are, the future is more frightening, he said.

"If nothing changes — no vaccine to prevent infection, no drug to check the virus, no change in individuals from risky to safer behavior, and, most especially, no action from us all now — then we can expect the worst," Dr. Bernstein said. He estimates that by the end of 1991, Texas could have a total of 16,200 cases of AIDS, with 4,400 diagnosed in 1991 alone; a total of

11,000 Texans dead from AIDS (68 percent of all cases) with 3,200 deaths in that last year; and nearly 240,000 Texans infected with the virus, about 60,000 of whom may have AIDS by 1996.

Dr. Bernstein says this nightmarish outlook can be improved somewhat with more money to strengthen local and state-wide efforts. Additional appropriation of general revenue funds, \$700,000 in each year of the next biennium, would be used to expand counseling efforts in conjunction with antibody testing, increase surveillance with emphasis on case detection and expanded educational effortss.

Dr. Zachary Named Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean



T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., acting vice president for academic affairs and dean at Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, was named to that post April 22.

TCOM President David Richards, D.O., made the announcement before the House of Delegates of Texas Osteopathic Medical Association meeting in Austin. Dr. Zachary is speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates.

The news was announced at TCOM at the same time. Dr. Richards will ask the North Texas State University Board of Regents, which governs TCOM, to confirm the appointment at its next meeting.

Dr. Zachary, a member of TCOM's general and family practice faculty since 1980, was named acting vice president for academic affairs in December 1984. A nationwide search had been launched by TCOM within the last year to find an academic vice president.

Dr. Zachary practiced family medicine in Richardson for 20 years before joining the TCOM faculty. The Lubbock native directed TCOM's Riverside Family Practice Clinic before being named to the acting vice president position.

He is the first physician to serve concurrently as speaker of three major osteopathic organizations the TOMA House of Delegates, the American Osteopathic Association's House of Delegates and the Congress of Delegates of the American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. He is also a fellow of ACGPOMS and past president of Sigma Sigma Phi national osteopathic fraternity. He was named Texas General Practitioner of the year in 1984 by the Texas Society of ACGPOMS.

Dr. Zachary is a graduate of North Texas State University and the University of Health Sciences in Kansas City. A

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