

TEXAS D.O.

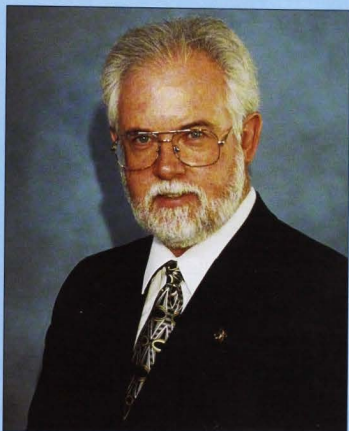
The Journal of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association

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July/August 2000

101st Annual Convention & Scientific Seminar

Special Pictorial Review - Pages 20 - 28



Bill V. Way, D.O.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 11 – 13

"25th Annual Convention"

Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society

Location: Hotel Hershey, Hershey, PA
CME: 16 hours category 1-A credits
Contact: Mario Lanni, POFPS Executive Director
1330 Eisenhower Blvd., Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-939-9318; in PA 800-544-7662
FAX: 717-939-7255
E-mail: poma@poma.org

AUGUST 19 – 20

"Ligamentous Articular Strain Techniques for Treating the Rest of the Body" – based on Sutherland's Methods

Sponsored by Dallas Osteopathic Study Group

Location: Holiday Inn Select LBJ Northeast
11350 LBJ Fwy., Dallas, TX
CME: 16 hours category 1-A credits anticipated
Contact: Conrad Speece, D.O., Course Director
10622 Garland Road, Dallas, TX 75218
214-321-2673

AUGUST 25 – 27

"A Nutritional Approach to Osteopathic Medicine"

Sponsored by Indiana Academy of Osteopathy

Location: Embassy Suites Hotel North
Indianapolis, IN
CME: 20 hours category 1-A anticipated
Contact: Indiana Academy of Osteopathy
317-926-3009

AUGUST 28 – 30

16th Annual Conference: "Technology – the New Frontier in Rural Health"

Sponsored by the Texas Rural Health Association

Location: Austin-Hilton Hotel & Towers, Austin, TX
Contact: TRHA Conference, P.O. Box 2337
Austin, TX 78767-2337
512-476-6527
E-mail: TxRHA@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 15 – 17

"2000 FOMA Mid-Year Seminar"

Sponsored by the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

Location: Hyatt Regency Westshore, Tampa, FL
CME: Approximately 20 hours category 1-A credits
Contact: Florida Osteopathic Medical Association
The Hull Building, 2007 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32301
800-226-FOMA

SEPTEMBER 22 – 24

"The Successful Osteopathic Practice: Wine Country Revelations"

Sponsored by the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California

Location: Embassy Suites, Napa Valley, CA
CME: 20 hours category 1-A credits
Contact: 916-561-0224
FAX: 916-561-0728

SEPTEMBER 24 – 27

"The Third National Conference on Shaken Baby Syndrome"

Sponsored by the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome and by SBS Prevention Plus

Location: Salt Lake City, Utah
Contact: The Child Abuse Prevention Center
2955 Harrison Blvd., Suite 102
Ogden, UT 84403
801-393-3366
E-mail: capcente@ix.netcom.com
Download information at <www.capcenter.org>

NOVEMBER 8 – 12

"Fall CME Conference & Scientific Exhibition"

Sponsored by the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association

Location: Atlanta Marriott Gwinnett Place, Atlanta, GA
Contact: Holly Barnwell, Executive Director
2160 Idlewood Road, Tucker, GA 3084
770-493-9278
E-mail: GOMA@mindspring.com
www.goma.org

CME CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

"Medical Ethics: Applying Theories and Principles to the Patient Encounter"

Sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics and Clinical Consultation Services

CME: 60 hours category 2-B credits
Course Tuition: \$1,200
Contact: 800-480-5542

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ON THE WEB is a monthly feature of the *Texas D.O.* announcing headlines and trailers of timely osteopathic news articles, pertinent information on healthcare and education, legislative updates and much more; all of which can be found on our website <www.txosteo.org>.

Self's Tips & Tidings

DSWOP Surpasses \$10 Million Mark In Grants

Health for the Whole Family

News from the American Osteopathic Association

News from the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth

In Brief

Health Notes

Texas Stars A Listing.

People who have made pledges or have contributed to TOMA's Building Fund Campaign are known to TOMA as "Texas Stars" due to their commitment to the osteopathic profession.

Thank You A Listing.

Thank you to "Texas Stars" who have contributed above the \$1,000 donation level to TOMA's Building Fund Campaign.

For Your Information A Listing.

Phone numbers of Federal agencies, osteopathic agencies and state agencies useful to the osteopathic healthcare community.

Your TOMA Staff and the Services They Provide

erry Boucher, Executive Director

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Medical Practice Issues
Insurance Carriers/ HMOs
Medicare, Medicaid, Workers'
Compensation Issues
TOMA PAC
TSBME Issues
CPT Filing Codes

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Bill V. Way, D.O. Assumes TOMA Presidency for 2000 - 2001



Bill V. Way, D.O., of Duncanville, was installed as president of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association for 2000-2001. Installation ceremonies took place June 17, during TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 at the Omni Bayfront Hotel in Corpus Christi.

Dr. Way received a B.S. degree in Microbiology from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, and earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree in 1975 from the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas City, Missouri. He interned at East Town Osteopathic Hospital in Dallas, and completed a dermatology residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. While in the Army, he served as Chief of the Dermatology Department at the U.S. Army Community Hospital in Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Since August 1983, Dr. Way has maintained a private practice in dermatology at Duncanville Dermatology Clinic. He also serves as director of the Dermatology Residency Program at Tri-City Health Centre in Dallas. Additionally, he serves as dermatology consultant for Dallas Family Hospital, Charlton Methodist Hospital, Methodist Medical Center and Lancaster Medical Center.

Dr. Way is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Dermatology; board eligible in dermatology by the American Academy of Dermatology; and is a Diplomat of the

National Board of Examiners for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

An active member of TOMA since 1983, Dr. Way serves and has chaired, numerous Association committees. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1989; a member of the House of Delegates, the policy-making body of TOMA, since 1985; and has held the offices of Vice President and President Elect. He has also been active in his divisional society, TOMA District 5, having held the positions of president, vice president, treasurer and member of the Executive Board.

Other memberships include the American Osteopathic Association; American Osteopathic College of Dermatology; American Academy of Dermatology; Texas Dermatologic Society; Dallas Dermatological Society; American Society of Dermatologic Surgery; International Society of Tropical Dermatology; Texas Medical Association; Dallas County Medical Society; and Sigma Sigma Phi.

Awards and honors include the Army Commendation Medal in 1987; American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Awards in 1981 and 1982; American Academy of Dermatology Physician's Recognition Award in 1981; Continuing Medical Education Awards by the American Academy of Dermatology from 1982-1985; and Continuing Medical Education Certificate by the American Osteopathic Association from 1980-1984, 1985-1988, 1989-1992, and 1993-1996.

Dr. Way and his wife, Darlene, reside in Duncanville. They are the parents of Julie, 26, and Chris, 24.

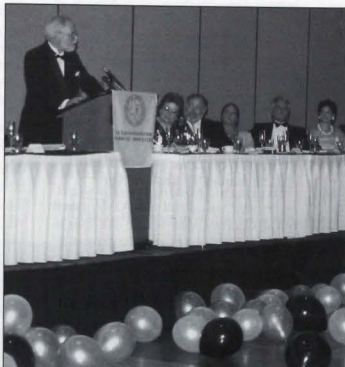


Photos by Art Carroll



Dr. Way Calls for a New Era of Osteopathic Principles and Commitment to TOMA and the AOA

Editor's note: The following are excerpts of the speech presented by Dr. W. Way, D.O., during the President's Banquet, June 17th, on assuming the TOMA presidency for 2000-2001.



Over one hundred years ago, a small group of 10 osteopathic physicians had an idea, a vision, a dream, I met and created on November 29, 1900, the first osteopathic medical association in Texas, the Texas Association for the Advancement of Osteopathy, which brought organized osteopathic medicine to the people of Texas.

It was an experiment for both the doctors and the citizens of Texas. Our association's first president was David L. Clark, D.O. In 1901, the association's name was changed to the Texas Osteopathic Association. In 1930 the association's name was changed to the Texas Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. On September 1, 1971, the association's name was changed to our present name - the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. Over 30 years the organization had some setbacks, and many successes, but the doctors knew there would be other days, brighter days and more successes. We have now succeeded in having our association's home in Austin, our state capital.

Over 100 years later, even today at TOMA, we know it is just the beginning of osteopathic medicine. The future will be more successful than any of us can imagine.

We have come a long way. We can be proud of what our association represents to all osteopathic physicians and the people of the great State of Texas. TOMA and TOM are well respected among our peers.

In 1989, I was nominated and accepted nomination as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Texas Osteopathic

Medical Association. Over the years I have learned the inner-workings of TOMA, and you have now entrusted to me the honor and privilege of being your TOMA President for 2000-2001.

I wish to thank each of the members of the Board of Trustees and all the TOMA members for your support. I would like to recognize three special individuals, two from District 5 and one from District 6. They have been my best and closest friends and colleagues, and each has been president of TOMA. They are Donald Peterson, D.O., Don Vedral, D.O. and David Armbruster, D.O. I thank each of you for all of your support, guidance, encouragement and trust. I will do my best to serve you and TOMA to the best of my ability.

From time to time, we have been tempted to believe that TOMA has become too complex to manage by the TOMA members. Some want to believe that the TOMA political government is only a small, elite group that is superior to the TOMA membership. But tonight, I wish to say that if no one among us is capable of governing himself, then who

among us has the capacity to govern someone else? All of us together, in and out of TOMA, must bear the burden. The solutions we seek must be equitable, with no individual, group, or district being allowed to control the whole. TOMA is a democratic organization made up of 19 district societies and affiliated organizations. Each district is equally as important as the next, whether the district be small or large.

TOMA members, TOMA board members and the officers of TOMA should remember those famous words of our American Constitution: "We the people." Well, for us it is "We the members," which is made up of the districts, each of which is made up of many excellent osteopathic physicians who make up TOMA.

We must review and build on the best of the past, work together on solving our problems, encourage new ideas for the future and not be afraid of what it may hold. I ask each TOMA member to review and abide by our TOMA Constitution and Bylaws and Roberts' Rules of Order.

So, as we begin this new year for TOMA, let us take inventory. We are an association made up of members from 19 districts that has a state association called TOMA; it is not the other way around. We are a democratic organization.

And this makes us a special organization. Our state association has no power except that granted it by the members. All of us need to be reminded that TOMA did not create the districts; the members from the various areas we now call districts created TOMA. I call upon all members of the various districts to work together to make their districts and TOMA better, stronger and more united organizations.

Now, so there will be no misunderstanding, it is not my intention to do away with TOMA. It is, rather, to make TOMA

work: work with us, not over us; to stand by our side, not ride on our back, to make sure that one district does not dominate over all the districts, but rather that all the districts together govern TOMA in a democratic manner.

TOMA can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it.

It is time for us to realize that we are too great a state organization to limit ourselves to small dreams. We are not, as some would have us believe, doomed to an inevitable decline because of other medical organizations, managed care or because of our new, younger D.O.s' desires to do post graduate training at other than osteopathic training programs. I do NOT believe that our future will be determined for us, no matter what we do. But I do believe in a fate that will fall on us if we sit idly by and do nothing.

So, with all the creative energy at our command, let us together begin a new era of osteopathic principles and commitment to TOMA and the AOA for the new millennium. Let us renew our determination, our courage, our strength, and our dreams. And let us renew our faith and hope in our osteopathic medical profession.

We have every right to dream heroic dreams. Those who say that we are in a time when there are no heroes just don't know where to look. Take a moment and look around - you see heroes across your table and they are on both sides of that table. For you are the heroes of the osteopathic profession. Each TOMA member had a dream to become an osteopathic doctor, each became a D.O., each took the Osteopathic Oath and each of you each day honor that Oath by practicing osteopathic medicine and taking care of the sick and needy. Yes, you make a difference; you are the heroes of this blessed association and, speaking for the citizens of Texas, I say "Thank you."

There are physicians with faith in themselves and faith in an idea that care for the sick, create new jobs, new wealth and opportunity. There are physicians, spouses and families who, with their money and time, support TOMA and whose voluntary gifts support our profession and medical education. Their love of our profession is quiet but deep. Their values sustain our

osteopathic way of life. Tonight, rekindle your dreams, your hopes, your goals, for they are going to be the dreams, the hopes and the goals of TOMA while I am your president, so help me God.

In days ahead, I will propose new ideas to help better our state association. Steps will be taken aimed at restoring the balance between the various districts of TOMA. Progress may be slow, but we will progress. It is time to reawaken this Texas osteopathic medical giant. During my presidential term, I have six goals that I would like for TOMA to begin.

My presidential goals for 2000-2001 are as follows:

1. Lead TOMA members into the Information Technology Age.

To do so, I will direct the TOMA board and all the TOMA committee chairmen to lead TOMA members into the present by asking them to become more active and interact with the TOMA Website and Internet e-mail by having and using a computer. I encourage each TOMA member to purchase the necessary base computer equipment to be able to access the Internet and share with us our wealth of knowledge and information, thus putting the TOMA member and TOMA in direct contact and providing more information to both about each other. We must have a strategy that stresses physician customer service.

2. Insure that the TOMA computer system continues to be the best computer equipment.

To do so, I have ordered the formation of a new committee, the Information Technology and Website Committee. This committee will assist the TOMA staff to immediately, and in the future annually, evaluate the computer hardware and software needs and keep all our computer equipment updated and create the best database for us. Knowledge is power. This month, we upgraded and have a new TOMA Website and will shortly begin new data base software. Technology is moving fast. We must be a leader in information technology. Thus, TOMA business at the Speed of Thought, using a digital nervous system which can unite all TOMA members and process under one common infrastructure, thus providing

rivers of information and allowing our association to make quantum leaps in efficiency, growth and development.

3. Insure that TOMA remains a strong financial organization.

To do so, I will instruct the TOMA Executive Board to keep us within our financial means and to develop new sources of income for our organization to carry out our goals. I will ask the board to invite the leaders of each of the Texas Osteopathic Foundations to come to our board meetings and share their ideas and resources.

4. Improve communications between TOMA and all TOMA members.

To do so, I will instruct the TOMA staff to increase communication with all TOMA members of the districts through the Website, Internet e-mail and faxes about important affairs which affect osteopathic physicians. To help accomplish this I will be creating the "President's Message" which I will send weekly to each TOMA member, osteopathic interns, residents and medical students via the Website, Internet e-mail or fax. Thus, we can share our ideas and problems with TOMA at the Speed of Thought.

5. Organize and unite the Texas osteopathic specialists as affiliated organizations with TOMA.

To do so, I will be calling upon the leaders of the various osteopathic specialties to create and organize Texas State Osteopathic Specialty Societies; let these societies become active affiliated organizations of TOMA; and organize and hold meetings of those societies in conjunction with our two annual TOMA conventions. Thus, TOMA would better represent and improve continuing medical education for all osteopathic physicians, no matter what their specialty.

6. Increase TOMA membership.

To do so, I will be asking the chairman of the TOMA Membership Committee to create and implement a plan to help each district president organize a campaign to recruit new osteopathic interns and residents, new osteopathic physicians and established osteopathic physicians to join their district and TOMA, and attend its meetings. I will also be asking the TCC

Alumni Organization to work with the TOMA Membership Committee to recruit TCOM osteopathic medical students from their first day through their last day. Remember, the osteopathic students, interns and residents are our future.

These are six of my goals and dreams, my first priorities, and on these principles there will be no compromise.

Remember, only a hundred years ago, a few men gathered, had an idea, a dream. Today they would be proud of TOMA because today, when one says "osteopathic medicine," people listen. We do and will make a difference.

I believe we, the Texas osteopathic physicians of today, are ready to act worthy of ourselves, ready to do what must be done to ensure happiness, liberty for ourselves, preserve our osteopathic profession for our present osteopathic physicians and for future osteopathic physicians. And as we renew ourselves here in the State of Texas, we will be seen as having greater strength within the American Osteopathic Association. We will again be the example of the osteopathic professional leadership and a beacon of hope for our great profession.

To those medical organizations and individuals that share our medical profession's dreams, we will strengthen our historic ties and assure them of our support and firm commitment. We will match loyalty with loyalty. We will strive for mutually beneficial relations. We will not use our friendship to impose on their sovereignty, for our sovereignty is not for sale.

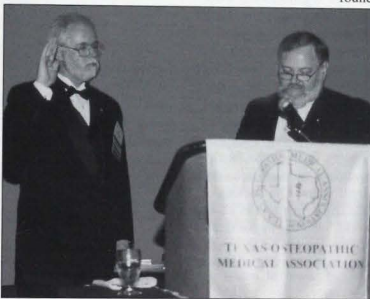
As for the enemies of the osteopathic profession and our Texas osteopathic medical school, TCOM, those who are potential adversaries, they will be reminded that TCOM is our one and only osteopathic medical school in Texas, which was created by D.O.s and TOMA. We will negotiate for it, sacrifice for it; but we will not surrender it, now or ever. TCOM will grow and prosper and will always be an osteopathic medical school

that graduates only physicians with the degree, D.O.

Our goals should never be misunderstood. Our reluctance for conflict should not be misjudged as a failure of will. When action is required to preserve our osteopathic profession's security, we will act. We will maintain sufficient strength to prevail if need be, knowing that if we do so we have the best chance of never having to use that strength. We must have more strength. We must recruit more new members. We must unite. We must share are dreams and visions for the future.

Throughout our first one hundred years, our leaders have had many dreams, fought many political battles and worked relentlessly, just for us to be here today. We owe them a great debt of gratitude.

Throughout this great state we used to



have many thriving osteopathic hospitals; today there are few and one closed just last week. Osteopathic physicians used to gather at our hospitals and plan for the future, but those days are gone. We must remember that osteopathic hospitals did not make our profession great - it was the dedicated osteopathic physicians and their dreams. We must rally again and this time around our districts and TOMA, for they will never die.

President Kennedy once said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Tonight, I ask each TOMA member and spouse, "Ask not what TOMA or the Auxiliary can do for you, ask what you can do and give back to your profession, your state association, TOMA and the Auxiliary."

As each of the past presidents of TOMA and each of their board members worked and gave of their time, I ask that each member here tonight give of your time and recruit a new D.O. or an established D.O. to join your district and our great state association; and that each spouse here tonight give of your time and recruit a spouse to join your district and state auxiliary organization.

Ronald Reagan, in his First Inaugural Address, told the story of a marker on the grave of a young soldier in France.

We are told that on his body was found a diary, with these words written:

"My Pledge."

"America must win this war. Therefore, I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice, I will endure, I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost, as if the issue of the whole struggle depended on me alone."

Then Reagan said, "The crisis we are facing today does not require of us the kind of sacrifice of that young soldier. It does require, however, our best effort and our willingness to believe in ourselves and to believe in our capacity to perform great deeds; to believe that together, with God's help, we can and will resolve the problems which now confront us. And, after all, why shouldn't we believe that? We are Americans."

And tonight I say to you, "And, after all, why shouldn't we believe in TOMA, our osteopathic profession and our dreams? We are osteopathic physicians and I am proud to be an American, a Texan and foremost a D.O., a member of TOMA."

God bless you and thank you.

Above, Dr. James Zini, AOA Trustee, administers the "Presidential Oath of Office" to Dr. Way during the President's Banquet, in Corpus Christi, on June 17th.

Thoughts on Being a D. O.

The *Texas D.O.* asks D.O.s to share their feelings with our readers about being osteopathic physicians and the osteopathic profession in general

The most important reason I love being a D.O. is having the training and opportunity to help people who are having difficulties in their medical lives. The rewards that come with this are really great. There is no better feeling than being able to help your fellow man. The next reason is that the osteopathic profession, being a minority profession, offers many challenges. I like a challenge. That is one reason that I went into osteopathic medicine. Another reason is because an uncle of mine, who was an osteopathic physician, inspired me to become one, too. The osteopathic profession has made it possible to make a good living and lead a comfortable life for the past 40 years. It gave me opportunities to reach out and become a teacher to give something back to my profession. It also gave me opportunities to serve the profession at large in the field of organizational work (some would call it the "politics" of the profession). I have been exceedingly privileged to have held some of the important elected offices, both in my state association and the national association, as well as my specialty college. I have served on many boards of trustees and boards of governors with some exceptionally fine individuals. I have had the privilege of meeting and getting to know some of our legislative and governmental leaders over the years. That was a lot of fun. I had the honor and enjoyment of serving for twenty years on the faculty of the finest college of osteopathic medicine, and serving as the Dean of that college for five and a half years. The doctors of osteopathic medicine that are my colleagues (and that is all of them) are the finest people in the world, working in the finest profession in the world, serving the finest patients in the world. In my retirement, I will always remember them and will continue to work for the profession that I love.

T. Eugene Zachary, D.O.
Colleyville
UHS-COM '59

When I first started into general practice years ago, I found myself in a dilemma. I could not define myself yet. I had no good answer for the question - What is a D.O.?

Over the years, I gained some insight into my dilemma. I found it easier to define myself to others on the basis of my professional goals rather than my professional degree.

I realized that for me, the letters D.O. stood for "Do-Gooder," and my main professional goal in life was to look for opportunities to do good for others.

Most of my osteopathic colleagues share a similar goal, and that is what makes osteopathic medicine so unique.

Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O.
Raymondville
CCOM '74

I have wanted to be a family doctor in a small town since I was a little boy. When it was time to apply to medical schools, the allopathic schools were churning out specialists who were better educated from their freshman year in only their specialty. Osteopathic medicine was a perfect match for me - it not only was allowed, but encouraged, family practice and trained me well in being in a rural community. The philosophy of treating the whole person, and not just the disease, fits perfectly with my philosophy. OMT skills taught me to give a great benefit with my own skills in treating patients.

Being a well-rounded osteopathic family physician in a small town was my destiny, and one that I feel blessed to be able to do.

George N. Smith, D.O.
W
UHS-COM '7

I enjoy being an osteopathic physician for many reasons. I like the philosophy of being able to touch my patients and often to what type of problems they have. The personal touch of a physician is very therapeutic. Many allopathic physicians I talk to just do not get that.

I like it when patients ask me what a D.O. is. They often see an enthusiasm about it when I explain. If you are not apologetic but enthusiastic, then patients see that, feel that and are themselves happy about coming to a D.O.

Why did I go to TCOM? I interviewed at TCOM and several other allopathic schools. When I gave my little talk about why I wanted to be a doctor in a small town and be in general practice, there was only one school that listened - TCOM.

That philosophy is still an osteopathic attitude and has always been. I had never seen an OMT before I matriculated at TCOM. I went there because of the ideas that they had, not because of the OMT. That is just icing on the cake. I am proud of that.

Patrick J. Hanford, D.O.
Lubbock
TCOM '8

Being an osteopathic physician is all that I have ever known and the only profession that I have wanted to belong to.

To be able to provide people with a complete method for medical care is important. I am very proud to be an osteopathic physician treating people, not just symptoms.

Robert L. Peters, Jr., D.O.
Round Rock
KCOM '5

chose to be a D.O. instead of an M. D. after meeting with Jerry McShane, D.O., and Ray Denson, D.O., both in the Houston area. I was volunteering in the surgical suites at Ben Taub, all ready to be an M. D. when I met these two D.O.s.

I couldn't get over the compassion, humanity, candor and the non-elitist attitude that these D.O.s represented, and I instantly knew I wanted to be just like them.

If it wasn't for these two D.O.s, my D.O. sister and I would never have known what a D.O. was.

Nick S. Pomonis, D.O.
Orange
TCOM '85

I love my role as a preceptor for UNTHSC-TCOM. That role is the thing that I enjoy most about being an osteopathic physician. The most precious moment is when a student sees a rapid response to a problem by using osteopathic manipulation. It is to look on their face, and the way that they say, "Hey, this stuff really works!" That is the greatest reward I can have. For that brief moment, I am passing along a tradition and a philosophy that has to be experienced to be believed.

Sharing the osteopathic tradition with others makes you feel a part of a continuum. I believe in the philosophy. Sometimes it is hard to teach it because the notions first taught by A.T. Still permeate your thoughts as you present a case, or discuss a challenging patient with your colleagues. I love to share this with students as we discuss our shared experiences with patients.

Perhaps even more rewarding and challenging is the opportunity to open the doors of osteopathic medicine to the pre-medical students who follow me in my day-to-day practice from our local university. Many are looking for the chance to interact with patients by touch and to share those intangible things we learn from that. As an osteopathic physician, I can show them how that opportunity can be theirs as well.

Daniel W. Saylak, D.O.
College Station
TCOM '83

Being a D.O. is a gift that I had never expected to receive. My career life had begun on an entirely different track. I was offered the opportunity to attend allopathic medical school. Instead, I chose to apply to osteopathic school, as Royce and I were already married, and I was promoting "family unity."

The opportunity to treat patients as entire persons, not just a disease process, opened up to me a new perspective on human interaction. This has applied to my experiences in both specialty and family practice. As a bonus, I feel myself a part of the entire state and national osteopathic families. What a gift!

Elva A. Keilers, D.O.
La Grange
UHS-COM '66

In these days of optimism concerning the possibility of cure for many diseases of humankind, and in these days of pessimism concerning the management of the business of medicine, I am proud to be a DO. Many of our patients have already run the gamut of pills, shots and surgery when they arrive at our door. Osteopathic students are taught from the first day of school that we utilize the principles of talking to and touching our patients before we use diagnostic studies. Osteopathic manipulative treatments are indicated for all conditions that bring patients to our offices, not just the musculoskeletal problems. I love being a DO for many reasons, and one of the most important is the personal gratification derived from helping someone change their life. When our treatments go well, our patients are truly grateful. Their thanks is miniscule next to the strength that they give back to us with their caring. Only an osteopathic physician can heal with his or her hands. No managed care auditor, hospital administrator, or government clerk can diminish the truly wonderful feeling gained from treating people, not just symptoms.

George M. Cole, D.O.
Amarillo
UHS-COM '75.

I love being a D.O., because it was the osteopathic profession that believed in me enough to give to me the opportunity to become a physician, practice medicine and care for people. After graduating from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine and completing my internship at East Town Osteopathic Hospital, the United States of America gave me the opportunity to serve proudly as an osteopathic physician and officer in the U.S. Army Medical Corp. The U.S. Army Medical Corp believed in me enough to provide me with an excellent residency in dermatology at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

A few years after practicing and teaching in Texas, my fellow members of District 5 and TOMA believed in me enough to elect me as a member of the Board of Trustees for TOMA. After several years, again my fellow colleagues believed in me enough for them to honor me by electing me as their President of TOMA.

Yes, the osteopathic profession is my second family, one that I love, honor and greatly appreciate for letting me fulfill my lifetime dreams of being a physician and a leader in our profession. God bless America, our osteopathic profession and TOMA - may they last forever.

Bill V. Way, D.O.
TOMA President
Duncanville
UHS-COM '75

New TOMA Officers & Trustees



Mark A. Baker, D.O.

The following physicians formally took office at the conclusion of the 2000 TOMA annual convention in Corpus Christi, Texas. (The actual elections took place during the TOMA House of Delegates meeting on April 8 in Austin.)



James E. Froelich, III, D.O.

☆ Mark A. Baker, D.O., a Fort Worth diagnostic radiologist, is the new president-elect of TOMA.

☆ James E. Froelich, III, D.O., a Bonham family physician, was re-elected TOMA president.



A. Duane Selman, D.O.

☆ A. Duane Selman, D.O., an Arlington emergency medicine physician, is the new speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates. He was formerly vice speaker.

☆ Ray L. Morrison, D.O., a Crockett general surgeon, is the new vice speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates. Dr. Morrison served as program chair for the annual convention both in 1999 and 2000.

☆ George M. Cole, D.O., an Amarillo orthopedic surgeon, was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.

☆ Joseph A. Del Principe, D.O., an Arlington emergency medicine physician, was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.

☆ James W. Czewski, D.O., a Fort Worth family physician, was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.



Ray L. Morrison, D.O.

☆ Elizabeth A. Palmarozzi, D.O., a Fort Worth family physician, was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.

TOMA extends congratulations to these officers and trustees.



George M. Cole, D.O.



Joseph A. Del Principe, D.O.



James W. Czewski, D.O.



Elizabeth A. Palmarozzi, D.O.

Texas Osteopathic Medical Association 2000 - 2001 Committee Appointments

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bill V. Way, D.O., *Chair*
Mark A. Baker, D.O.
Jelda N. Cuniff-Isenberg, D.O.
Jim W. Czewski, D.O.
James E. Froelich, III, D.O.
Hector Lopez, D.O.
Rodney M. Wiseman, D.O.
Ervin E. Zeitler, D.O.

BOARD CONSULTANT FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS

Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O.

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Ervin E. Zeitler, D.O., *Chair*

CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS AND DOCUMENTS (2002)

A. Duane Selman, D.O., *Chair*
Ray L. Morrison, D.O., *Vice Chair*
Mark A. Baker, D.O.
Andrew B. Burke, D.O.
Gregory A. Dott, D.O.
Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O.
Randall W. Rodgers, D.O.
S/D Christopher Tidwell.
Monte E. Troutman, D.O.
Stephen F. Urban, D.O.
John L. Wright, D.O.

ETHICS (2003)

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John H. Boyd, D.O.
Jelda N. Cuniff-Isenberg, D.O.
George L. DeLoach, D.O.
Monte M. Mitchell, D.O.
R. Gene Moulton, D.O.
John R. Peckham, D.O.
David J. Randell, D.O.

OSTEOPATHIC PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE (2005)

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Daniel J. Boyle, D.O.
Jelda N. Cuniff-Isenberg, D.O.
Terry L. Dickey, D.O.
Gregory A. Dott, D.O.
S/D Tim Doyle
Wayne R. Engle, Jr., D.O.

William D. Hospers, D.O.
Ray L. Morrison, D.O.
Donald M. Peterson, D.O.
Daniel L. Rader, D.O.
Arthur J. Speece, III, D.O.
Conrad A. Speece, D.O.
Stephen M. Taylor, D.O.
David E. Teitelbaum, D.O.
Paul S. Worrell, D.O.

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George N. Smith, D.O., *Chair*
Bobby D. Howard, D.O., *Vice Chair*
Rita Baker, *Ex officio*
Sherry Dalton, *Ex officio*
Joseph A. Del Principe, D.O.
Charles R. Hall, D.O.
Patrick J. Hanford, D.O.
Ray L. Morrison, D.O., *Past Chair*
R. Gene Moulton, D.O.
Joseph M. Perks, D.O.
S/D Andrew Peterson
Nick S. Pomonis, D.O.
A. Duane Selman, D.O.
S/D Bobby Smith

PHYSICIANS HEALTH AND REHABILITATION (2005)

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Terry R. Boucher
Daniel J. Boyle, D.O.
Ronald W. Brenz, D.O.
John J. Cegelski, Jr., D.O.
Jerry T. Davis, D.O.
Louis E. Deere, D.O.
Richard A. Friedman, D.O.
Samuel B. Ganz, D.O.
Gunda Kirk, D.O.
Neal S. Levy, D.O.
Edward A. Luke, D.O.
Jeffrey C. Thompson, D.O.
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Jan S. Swanson, D.O.
Paula S. Yeaman

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Dist. 3 - Khoren Hekimian, D.O.
Dist. 4 - Irvin Zeitler, D.O.
Dist. 6 - Robert S. Stark, D.O.
Dist. 7 - Harold D. Lewis, D.O.
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Dist. 16 - Ted C. Alexander, D.O.
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Andrew B. Burke, D.O.
Richard A. Friedman
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Elizabeth A. Palmarozzi, D.O.
George N. Smith, D.O.
David L. Vanderheiden, D.O.

SOCIOECONOMICS (2004)

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Terry R. Boucher
John E. Carter, D.O.
George M. Cole, D.O.
S/D Brian Darnell
George L. DeLoach, D.O.
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Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O.
Adam B. Smith, D.O.

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Kelly D. Grimes, D.O.
Randall E. Hayes, D.O.
Alfred R. Johnson, D.O.
Hector Lopez, D.O.
S/D Reina Patel
Laura S. Stiles, D.O.
S/D Vicki Willoughby
Paul S. Worrell, D.O.

continued on next page

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP (2004)

Jerry E. Smola, D.O., *Chair*
Nelda N. Cuniff-Isenberg, D.O.
James W. Czewski, D.O.
R. Greg Maul, D.O.
Arthur J. Speece, III, D.O.
Rodney M. Wiseman, D.O.

MILITARY AFFAIRS (2003)

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S/D Happy Castro
William D. Hospers, D.O.
S/D Brian McMillan
George K. Wilcox, D.O.
Arthur S. Wiley, D.O.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND LIAISON

Jim W. Czewski, D.O., *Chair*

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS (2002)

Jim W. Czewski, D.O., *Chair*
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Elmer C. Baum, D.O.
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Samuel T. Coleridge, D.O.
James E. Froelich, III, D.O.
S/D Mark Gamber
Russell G. Gamber, D.O.
Patrick J. Hanford, D.O.
Tony G. Hedges, D.O.
Lewis Isenberg, *Ex officio*
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Robert L. Peters, Jr., D.O.
Donald M. Peterson, D.O.
Daniel W. Saylak, D.O.
A. Duane Selman, D.O.
Jerry E. Smola, D.O.
R. Russell Thomas, Jr., D.O.
Monte E. Troutman, D.O.
John L. Wright, Jr., D.O.

LIAISON TO AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION (2001)

Robert L. Peters, Jr., D.O.
T. Eugene Zachary, D.O.

LIAISON TO THE UNTHSC/TEXAS COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE (2002)

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Bill V. Way, D.O.
Mark A. Baker, D.O.

MEMBERSHIP, SERVICES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (2004)

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Jim W. Czewski, D.O.
Joseph A. Del Principe, D.O.
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S/D Christine Sandoval
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Gregory A. Dott, D.O.
Patrick J. Hanford, D.O.
Tony G. Hedges, D.O.
S/D Brandon Lewis
S/D Matthew Margolis
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Jerry E. Smola, D.O.
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Craig D. Whiting, D.O.

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Andrew B. Burke, D.O.
S/D Wilson Chen, D.O.
Robert C. DeLuca, D.O.
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Kelly D. Grimes, D.O.
S/D Rick Lin
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Moin A. Shaikh, D.O.
Laura S. Stiles, D.O.
Ronald D. Tanner, D.O.

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A. Duane Selman, D.O.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMPENSATION REVIEW

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Mark A. Baker, D.O.
Jack McCarty, D.O.
Rodney M. Wiseman, D.O.
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Market Volatility Can Held Long-Term Investment Focus

This past April was a great example of what a white-knuckle month for investors is all about. At least for those who experienced the stock market's roller coaster ride.) Friday the market was especially stormy—the technology-heavy Nasdaq, which had been battered all week, dropped 355 points, representing a nearly 10 percent loss on the day.

Meanwhile, the Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 617 points, a one-day loss of six percent. All major market indexes suffered their largest one-day point losses in history. In addition to the dizziness of April's market performance, both indexes rebounded the following Monday with strong gains.

Regardless of the month or year, market volatility can make investing in equities a nerve-racking proposition. When the market is up or down hundreds of points at a time, it is only natural that even seasoned investors get a little nervous. Consider the fact that some investors bought securities on margin, or with borrowed money that may be recalled, forcing investors to sell stocks at depressed prices, and the situation gets tenser.

Most would agree that these volatile periods are no fun. But as much as we would rather not think about it, inevitably there will be more market fluctuation in the future. Are there lessons to be learned that may help during the next downswing?

If there is a silver lining to market turmoil, perhaps it is the demonstration of the need for solid investment principles. Taking a long-term approach to investing and possessing a balanced portfolio are helpful techniques in weathering rocky market conditions.

Investing for the Long Term

Even though the Nasdaq is off 30 percent from its record high reached on March 10, the composite is still trading above the level it was at in early November 1999. So while several months' worth of gains were lost in the market downturn, over an extended timeframe, this is not a long period of time for the market to recover.

It is important to remember that in the long run, the markets have historically bounced back from world wars and much more. It helps to look at investing as a journey. A diversified, long-term investment strategy will go a long way in helping you look past the potholes and keep your eye on the road ahead.

Since no one has been able to consistently time the markets, time in, not timing, should be the mantra of most investors. Bumps in the road should be expected from time to time. Consulting a professional financial representative to evaluate whether your investments are on track to meet your goals makes sense, but panicking during times of market volatility does not.

Diversity

A well-diversified portfolio can offer a good defense against fluctuations in the economy. This does not simply mean different types of stocks, but also different types of investment vehicles. Combining different asset classes, such as stocks and bonds, which behave differently in response to changing market conditions, can go a long way in helping to lessen a portfolio's risk.

If you would like to discuss your investments to make sure they're well diversified, give us a call.

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Marguerite Badger

Recipient of the Meritorious Service Award for 2000

Photo by Art Carroll



Marguerite Badger and Carl Mitten, D.O., from Houston.

Mrs. Marguerite Badger of Houston received the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's Meritorious Service Award for 2000. The award represents the highest honor that TOMA can bestow upon a non-physician in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in scientific, philanthropic or other fields of public service in Texas. The award was presented to Mrs. Badger during TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 in Corpus Christi.

A native Houstonian, Mrs. Badger was honored for her many years of public and community service, most notably in the Houston area, through her work with emergency air medical service programs at Hermann Hospital, and her service to the osteopathic profession. She began her career at Herman Hospital in 1958, working as a volunteer for the first 11 years. In 1970, she began serving as Assistant Director of Admissions and was promoted within three years to the Director position.

In 1976 the hospital launched a new venture, a helicopter ambulance program, to serve the needs of Houston and surrounding areas. She was instrumental in the formation and development of the new program, the Life Flight Program, and was appointed Director of Flight Operations in 1978. In this position, she assisted other hospitals in organizing emergency air medical services programs; supervised and managed flight and emergency personnel as well as department finance and service goals; implemented a new public relations approach to encourage all hospitals and physicians to use the Life Flight, Lifeline and LIFE Services; pioneered the Lifeline and LIFE programs in 1980 to provide emergency response service to handicapped and elderly persons; developed the Long Distance/Fixed Wing Emergency Medical Service for overseas transport in 1979; and increased the original emergency air ambulance service from one helicopter to five helicopters, including two satellite programs in Galveston and Beaumont. In 1987, she was appointed to head the new Lifeline Program at Hermann Hospital until her retirement in 1990.

Today, nearly every hospital in the Houston metropolitan area, in the nation and around the world, has a heliport to facilitate air transportation. Mrs. Badger was responsible for helping to set up 24 helicopter ambulance programs in cities across the United States.

Mrs. Badger was also instrumental in the formation and continued success of her TOMA divisional society, TOMA District 6, in which she has served as corresponding secretary. Other memberships include the Auxiliary to the American Osteopathic Association; Auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association District 6, of which she is a past president; Houston Osteopathic Hospital Foundation, Inc., of which she is treasurer; secretary of the President's Council of Houston Hospital Auxiliaries; American Helicopter Society; Helicopter Operators of Texas; Association of Air Medical Services; Houston Inter-American Chamber of Commerce; Junior League of Houston; and St. Phillip Presbyterian Church.

Honors and awards include Outstanding Women in Business Award, from the Houston YMCA; Who's Who of American Women; Award of Dedication from the Houston Police Officers Association; International Rescue and First Aid Award; and Marriott/Carlson Leadership Award from the American Society of Hospital-based Helicopter Emergency Air Medical Services.

Congratulations to Mrs. Badger upon receiving this honor.

Bruce A. Levy, M.D., J.D., Executive Director of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners (TSBME) since November 1993, has been awarded the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's first-ever Public Service Award. The award recognizes outstanding works and accomplishments in promoting the health care needs of the state of Texas. The award was presented to Dr. Levy during TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 in Corpus Christi.

Bruce A. Levy, M.D., J.D.

Recipient of TOMA's First Public Service Award

A former resident of Bellaire, Texas, Dr. Levy earned his medical degree from Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in 1971, and subsequently attended the University of Houston, Bates School of Law, where he received his law degree in 1992. Dr. Levy, who is board certified by the American Board of Anesthesiologists, served as Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, at the University of Washington, Seattle, from 1975-1977. He also served as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, from 1980-1989. Professionally, Dr. Levy has practiced anesthesiology and law.

The TSBME is the state agency responsible for the licensure and discipline of Texas physicians. Its mission is to protect the public health, safety and welfare by regulating the practice of medicine and ensuring quality health care for the citizens of Texas. Under Dr. Levy's leadership, the Board has implemented all statutory Sunset recommendations; completed all investigations over the one year of age; increased disciplinary actions by 35%; established a consumer complaint notification procedure and 1-800 number; created ethical guidelines for proper physician-patient sexual boundaries, appropriate advertising, and informed consent; and adopted rules related to therapeutic prescribing for chronic non-malignant pain, regulation of postgraduate medical training, and office-based anesthesia. In addition, the Board of Acupuncture Examiners and the Board of Physician Assistant Examiners have been developed, for which he also serves as Executive Director.

Dr. Levy is the first executive director of the TSBME to have the honor of serving on many prestigious national panels. He has served on numerous committees for the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, and most recently, concluded his term as a member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Levy is also a member of the USMLE and National Board of Medical Examiners Committee on Irregular Behavior. In addition, he serves on the board of the Health Law Policy Institute of the University of Houston School of Law.

In December 1999, Dr. Levy had announced his decision to leave the post when a successor was found. Frank M. Langley, D.V.M., M.D., J.D., was subsequently chosen to fill the position of TSBME executive director, beginning July 17. Dr. Levy will now fill the newly created position of Deputy Executive Vice President at the Federation of State Medical Boards, based in Eulless. His primary role will be to assist Federation Executive Vice President James Winn, M.D., in representing the Federation and serving as a liaison to external organizations.

TOMA congratulates Dr. Levy and offers its sincere thanks for his tireless efforts on behalf of the citizens of Texas.



Dr. Bruce A. Levy and his wife, Marcia.

Photo by Art Carroll

Carl E. Everett, D.O.

Recipient of the Community Service Award 2000

Carl E. Everett, D.O., a retired Fort Worth physician, has received the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's Community Service Award. The award represents the highest honor that TOMA can bestow upon an osteopathic physician in recognition of outstanding service to their community through the promotion and dedication to osteopathic medicine in their practice. The award winner also exemplifies what the profession perceives to be the "typical" osteopathic physician who cares for patients and is a diligent, local hero. The award was presented to Dr. Everett during TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 in Corpus Christi.

A 1939 graduate of the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine (now renamed the University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine), Dr. Everett interned at Lakeside Hospital, Missouri.

A prominent Fort Worth physician, Dr. Everett maintained his practice on Camp Bowie Boulevard from 1949 to 1976. He served as chief of staff at Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas (Fort Worth) from 1966-67 and later confined his practice to patients at Lakeside Rest Home in Benbrook, of which he was the owner and medical director from 1967 to 1978. From 1973-1986, he was medical director and part owner of Western Hills Nursing Home in White Settlement, later becoming director and part owner of West Side Care Center, a 240-bed facility.

Dr. Everett is one of the three founders of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM), and signed the college's original charter in 1966. He served as secretary-treasurer of the board of directors until the college became a state institution in 1975. Dr. Everett was a clinical professor of general and family practice at TCOM and served on the TCOM Advisory Council from 1980-83. Today, TCOM is a part of the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth.

An active member of TOMA for 51 years, Dr. Everett served on numerous boards and committees throughout the years, and was a member of the TOMA House of Delegates, the policy-making body of the association. He was awarded life membership in 1983. He has also been active in his divisional society, TOMA District 2, of which he is a past president.

Other memberships include the American Osteopathic Association; the TCOM/University of North Texas Health Science Center Foundation, of which he is a past president; and the Ridgely Presbyterian Church, in which he is an Ordained Elder.

Special honors include the TCOM Founders' Medal in 1978; General Practitioner of the Year in 1973 by the Texas Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the North Texas State University; and Honorary Member of the TCOM Alumni Association.

TOMA takes great pride in congratulating Dr. Everett on receiving this well deserved award.



Carl E. Everett, D.O. and his wife, Mary Hope.

David R. Armbruster, D.O., a Pearland family physician for 35 years, has received the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's Distinguished Service Award. The award represents the highest honor that TOMA can bestow upon an osteopathic physician in recognition of outstanding service and contributions to the osteopathic profession in Texas. The award was presented to Dr. Armbruster during TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, held June 14-18 in Corpus Christi.

A 1963 graduate of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri, Dr. Armbruster served an internship at Kirksville Osteopathic Hospital. From 1973 to 1978, he served a proctology preceptorship under L. I. Tavel, D.O. He is certified by the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, of which he is a Fellow, and is also certified by the American Osteopathic College of Proctology.

Throughout the years, Dr. Armbruster has represented the osteopathic profession on all levels with honor and excellence. On the national level, he has been a member of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) since 1963, serving as a board member from 1975-1993, as a member of the AOA House of Delegates since 1966, and as chair and member of numerous boards and committees throughout the years. Other national memberships and activities include the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians; the American Osteopathic College of Proctology; and the Western States Osteopathic College of Proctology, of which he served as president from 1984-85.

On the state level, Dr. Armbruster has been extremely active in TOMA affairs, serving as president from 1976-77; as a member of the TOMA House of Delegates since 1965; and as chair and member of numerous TOMA committees. He is also active in TOMA District 6, his divisional society, in which he served as president in 1968 and 1972. Also on the state level, he has served as a trustee of the Houston Osteopathic Hospital Foundation since 1994; as associate professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth/Texas College of Osteopathic

David R. Armbruster, D.O.

Recipient of the Distinguished Service Award 2000



David R. Armbruster, D.O. and his wife, Elaine.



Dr. Armbruster surrounded by his grandchildren after receiving his award.

Medicine; and as a board member of the Texas Medical Foundation from 1975-1980.

Community activities and memberships include Pearland City Health Officer, a position he has held since 1965; the Pearland Lions Club, in which he served as president from 1969-70; Pearland Schools Team Physician from 1964-85; board member of the Pearland Drug Abuse Program; Civil Defense Medical Chairman for the City of Pearland since 1975; founding board member of the Pearland Chamber of Commerce; and former board member of the Pearland Methodist Church. Special honors include the Citizenship Award from the City of Pearland, and the Jack Welch Fellowship from the Texas Lions Camp.

TOMA is proud to extend congratulations to Dr. Armbruster on receiving this award.

Photos by Art Carroll

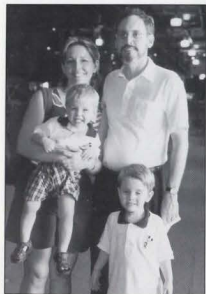
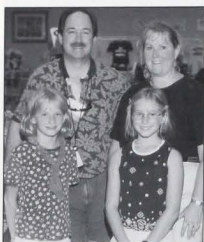
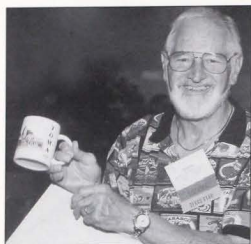


TOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar

June 14 - 18, 2000
Corpus Christi, Texas

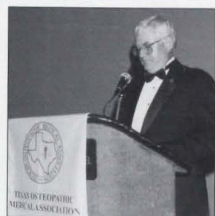


















Photos - pages 20-28 - by Executive Video and Photography

Tami Prangle is New ATOMA President

Mrs. Tami Prangle of League City, has been installed as president of the Auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (ATOMA) for 2000-2001. Installation ceremonies took place June 16 at the Omni Bayfront Hotel in Corpus Christi, in conjunction with the 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA), June 14-18.

Also installed as officers with Mrs. Prangle were Mrs. Susan Selman of Arlington, president-elect; Mrs. Pamela Adams of Fort Worth, as vice president; and Mrs. Barbara Galameau of San Antonio, as recording secretary. Mr. Lewis Isenberg is the ATOMA immediate past president.

Upon accepting the state presidency, Mrs. Prangle outlined her goals for the coming year, which are to encourage others to volunteer their time and talents; and to continue public educational efforts regarding the osteopathic profession. She also noted that she would be visiting many of the TOMA district meetings and Houston area high schools in order to explain and promote the Yellow Ribbon Youth Suicide Program. This suicide prevention program provides Yellow Ribbon Cards to children/teens, giving them a safe and simple way to ask for help. Adults are subsequently educated to respond appropriately when presented with a Yellow Ribbon Card.

Mrs. Prangle has been active in ATOMA as well as in her divisional auxiliary, ATOMA District 6. She has served as the ATOMA president elect; as the Annual Report Chair for three years; and as Supply Chair for one year. She has served as president of ATOMA District 6 for two years.

Mrs. Prangle earned an associate's degree in office administration/management from the College of the Mainland in Texas City. She has worked as an office manager in a CPA firm and as medical staff coordinator at an area hospital. Currently, she serves as office administrator for her husband, Robert E. Prangle, D.O., a Houston family physician.

This January, Mrs. Prangle and a friend formed Wee Care, a pregnancy and infant loss support group. Her desire to help other parents with the grieving process was facilitated by the loss of her own son in 1996.

She also serves as the Bereavement/Infant Loss Committee Facilitator at Memorial Southeast Hospital, where she was instrumental in planning a remembrance ceremony for the community for the past two years. This event is attended by persons who have experienced or been affected by a pregnancy, infant or early childhood loss.

The following is the acceptance speech presented by Mrs. Prangle during the President's Banquet on Saturday, June 17:

Good evening, everyone.

What a pleasure and honor it is for me to be permitted to speak in front of this impressive audience. I want to thank everyone that coordinated this wonderful convention in Corpus Christi. I am enjoying my visit and hope you and your families are, as well.

I have served on the board of ATOMA for five years. I have also served as Houston's District 6 ATOMA president. I have met many dedicated people – beginning with the ones that provide the great support at the TOMA office in Austin, to the great spouses we have in the Auxiliary.

I have to admit that, a few years ago, I wouldn't make eye contact at meetings and even screened my calls for fear of being appointed to a committee. I realize we all have full plates with many obligations, but the only way to make a difference is for each one of us to volunteer in some capacity.



My goal as ATOMA president is threefold. My first goal is to lead our Board and ATOMA members to embrace their communities by getting the Yellow Ribbon teen suicide prevention program heard at their local high schools, and to also participate in Career Day.

My second goal is to encourage everyone here tonight to perform Random Acts of Kindness. Some days it is as simple as letting a car pull out in the lane in front of you, or letting the person with fewer groceries go first. Other days, you might leave an extra \$5 with the fast food cashier to help pay for the car in back of you; buy an extra bag of groceries for the needy and drop it off in the bin before leaving the store; give the cashier at the shoe store an extra \$5 to use towards a family after you leave; or by adopting a needy family at your church. In this rushed world, instead of letting managed health care and insurance plans get us down, we need to realize each and every day how blessed, full, enriched, and precious our lives are. We all give to charities, but I challenge all of you to perform these random acts of kindness in your communities. It will enrich you spiritually, mentally and emotionally.

My third goal is to encourage all of us to take the opportunity while we are out in our communities to educate and dispel the misconceptions of what a doctor of osteopathic medicine is all about. Let people

know that D.O.s and M.D.s are the only two degrees that are considered medical doctors. Let them know that D.O.s did attend medical school the same length of time as M.D.s, and that both are governed and licensed by the same Texas Board of Medical Examiners. Emphasize that the main philosophy of D.O.s is to treat the patient, not just the illness, and to provide hands-on treatment in the form of osteopathic manipulation.

Hillary Clinton has said, "It takes a village." I truly believe it's going to take each and every one of us in TOMA and ATOMA to DO our part. Let's continue to show and prove to the community that D.O.s - DO care about them by providing the highest level of medical care and by adding that personal touch that makes all the difference in the world.

As for a little bit about myself - I've been married for seven years to Bob, who has been practicing as a solo Houston family physician for over 27 years. We have a son, Andrew, turning six next month; a son, Ian, whose fourth birthday is today, but who is in Heaven cele-

brating; and a daughter, Abbey, who will be three next month.

I worked in a hospital setting for six years as the Medical Staff Coordinator, part of which involved doing background checks on physicians making application to staff. That's how I met my husband - there were no red flags, so I married him!

For the past five years, I have worked from home being a mommy, as well as being my husband's administrator. I've tried to ease his stress by doing the hiring/firing, bill paying, banking, book-keeping, employee meetings, gift giving, etc. I keep reminding him that my position out in the medical field is making over \$50,000 - but he's not buying it (I think it's an old saying that says something about "why buy the cow when you get the milk at home for free") - just kidding, dear, I wouldn't trade my job for anything. I've been blessed by being able to be at home to raise our children.

I do have a couple of other irons in the fire. After losing our son in 1996, it became crystal clear what my purpose in life was: it was to console grieving

parents who have experienced the loss of a child. I am now the facilitator for the Infant Loss Bereavement Committee at Memorial Southeast Hospital. For the past two years, I have been instrumental in having the hospital sponsor a remembrance ceremony for the community to join together and memorialize our children by planting a tree of hope. This past January, a friend and I formed Wee Care Support Group, a pregnancy, infant and early childhood loss support group helping parents and grandparents with the grieving process.

I'm the vice president of the South Shore Women's Club and a member of the Bay Area Medical Auxiliary. Both of these organizations donate food, clothing and other items to crisis centers.

I love a challenge and take on the ATOMA presidency as one. I thank TOMA and ATOMA members for DOing your part. I vow to do my very best in representing ATOMA and further educating others about the osteopathic profession.

Thank you and God bless.

Advertisement

GERIATRIC MEDICAL FELLOWSHIPS

Join us for an exciting opportunity to train in Geriatric Medicine. The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC) is located in the cultural district of Fort Worth, Texas. In partnership with four institutions in the region, physicians will train with leaders in geriatrics. *The Geriatric Fellowship Program* offers a one-year clinical fellowship and a two-year faculty training fellowship to physicians who are board certified or board eligible in Internal Medicine and Family Medicine. Internists must have completed an osteopathic residency. Family Medicine physicians must have completed an osteopathic or allopathic residency. This geriatric medicine experience includes training across the continuum of care including ambulatory, acute care, house calls, long-term care, and Alzheimers Special Care Units. During the two-year program, fellows can simultaneously complete an MPH degree.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. For further information, contact Janice A. Knebl, DO, FACP, Chief of the Division of Geriatrics at 817/735-2108 or email at <jknebl@hsc.unt.edu>.

An EEO-Affirmative Action Institution

New ATOMA Officers and Chairs for 2000-2001

The following ATOMA officers and chairs were installed during the ATOMA Installation Breakfast on June 16, at ATOMA's 101st Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar in Corpus Christi.

President/Liaison to TOMA

Fami Prangle (Robert)
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League City, TX 77573
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218-481-0111 (Fax)
prangle@flash.net

President Elect

Susan Selman (Duane)
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817-483-0414 (Fax)
mkbysusan@aol.com

Vice President/SAA Advisor

Pam Adams (Robert)
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pamadams96@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary

Barbara Galarneau (Howard)
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San Antonio, TX 78248
210-492-2189

Treasurer

Joanna Love (Ralph)
4414 Scenic Elm
Houston, TX 77059-3725
281-286-5605

Immediate Past President/Golf Tournament

Lewis Isenberg (Nelda)
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817-645-0381 (Fax)
ewiberg@aol.com

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esmola@camalott.com

Auxiliary News Chair

Paula Bonchak (John)
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Auxiliary News Co-Chair

Ann Costello (Richard)
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Convention Chair

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BruceFMcDonald@Hotmail.com

Corresponding Chair

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Historian

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Credentials Chair

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Yellow Ribbon/Career Day

Mireya Lopez (Hector)
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Funds Chair

Ronnie Flagiello (Victor)
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Guild Chair

Martha Coy (Marion)
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Historian Chair

Patty Wise (Martin)
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Supply Chair

Ann Brooks (Lloyd)
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Yearbook Chair

Joyce Hanstrom-Parlin
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817-297-3459
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Health Science Center Graduates Medical Professionals During 27th Commencement

More than 140 students graduated from the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth on May 20 at the Will Rogers Coliseum in Fort Worth.

The graduating class included 106 doctors of osteopathic medicine from the health science center's Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine; nine students from the center's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; and 28 from its School of Public Health. This was the 27th commencement for the health science center.

Current U.S. House of Representatives Member of Congress Kay Granger was the guest speaker for the event. A former mayor of Fort Worth, Kay Granger is the first Republican woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. Originally elected in 1996, she is also the first woman and first Republican to represent District 2 in the House in a century. Granger told the graduates to ignore naysayers who discourage individuals from trying. Treat people fairly, be patient and give back to the community – all lessons she has learned in her lifetime.

One new graduate, Jacqueline Nga Ngoc Le, D.O., faced many struggles getting here and once she did, she never gave up on her dream. Born in Vietnam, Le remembers the bombs that fell in the war that divided her nation. After the war ended in 1975, nightmare events divided her family.

In 1987, Le made her fourteenth attempt to escape from Vietnam drifting in a powerless boat. The boat stalled just hours before leaving the shore, and 21 passengers had drifted for days in storms. Just as they spotted the island, a huge wave struck the boat and broke it in half. She waded to shore – and freedom – in neck-deep water.

Le took English classes while working and enrolled at the University of Dallas, graduating magna cum laude. From there, she came to the UNT Health Science Center to become a doctor.

Following are the names and residency appointments of the TCOM Class of 2000.

Class of 2000

Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

Roberta Lee Abbott, D.O. - Community General Osteopathic Hospital, Harrisburg, PA

Meredith Michelle Adams, D.O. - Dallas-Fort Worth Medical Center, Grand Prairie, TX

Shaheena Ahmed, D.O. - Mount Sinai Hospital, Chicago, IL

Richard Andrews Angel, D.O. - Martin Army Community Hospital, Columbus, GA

Rommana Aziz, D.O. - Charlton Methodist Hospital, Dallas, TX

Chris P. Bajaj, D.O. - University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

Melanie Creech Barron, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX

Stephanie Ann Berlet, D.O. - Greenville Memorial Hospital, Greenville, SC

Jeffrey Patrick Blood, D.O. - St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, Toledo, OH

Glenn Timothy Brothers, D.O. - Holston Valley Hospital & Medical Center, Kingsport, TN

Amador Ramirez Cantu, D.O. - Wyoming Medical Center, Casper, WY

Denise Michele Casper, D.O. - Bay Area Medical Center, Corpus Christi, TX

Carl Gustav Chakmakjian, D.O. - Scott and White Memorial Hospital, Temple, TX

Susie C. Chiang, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX

Steven L. Cole, D.O. - Baylor University Medical Center - Dallas, Dallas, TX

Jason Robert Conn, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX

Richard F. Costello, Jr., D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX

Timothy Neil Cowthorn, D.O. - Atlanta Medical Center, Atlanta, GA

Michael R. Coy, D.O. - St. Joseph's Regional Hospital Health Center, Bryan, TX

Brian Wayne Dach, D.O. - Greenville Memorial Hospital, Greenville, SC

Foy Edward Dark III, D.O. - Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, TX

David Victor Dent, D.O. - University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS

Arpan Narendra Desai, D.O. - Dallas Southwest Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Jason Hoang Dinh, D.O. - Queens Medical Center, St. Francis, Kuakuini, Honolulu, HI

Mark Allan Dirnberger, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX

Norma Leticia Escamilla, D.O. - John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, TX

Maria Teresa Gentile, D.O. - Warren Hospital, Phillipsburg, NJ

Neha Pravin Ghael, D.O. - North Broward General Hospital, Fort Lauderdale, FL

David Perez Gilbert, D.O. - Christus Spohn Memorial Hospital Shoreline, Corpus Christi, TX

- Maria Liliana Gonzalez, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Eric R. Groce, D.O. - Bay Area Medical Center, Corpus Christi, TX
- Rachna Gupta, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Margarita F. Garcia Hammeke, D.O. - St. Elizabeth Hospital, Beaumont, TX
- Germaine Bernard Hawkins, D.O. - John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, TX
- Marshall T. Hayes, D.O. - University Hospital/Mercy Franciscan-Mt. Airy Campus, Cincinnati, OH
- Emal Lynn Ho, D.O. - Charity Hospital Medical Center at New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- Hsiu-Bun Hsu, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX
- Charleece Scoma Hughes, D.O. - University of Oklahoma, St. Francis/St. John's Hospitals, Tulsa, OK
- Scott A. Irvine, D.O. - Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH
- Gregory T. Jacobs, D.O. - Indiana University Hospital, Indianapolis, IN
- Nicki Lyn Jones, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX
- Timothy Charles Jones, D.O. - University Medical Center, Lubbock, TX
- Kathryn Judd, D.O. - St. Paul Medical Center, Dallas, TX
- Linda B. Kaczmarek, D.O. - Wyoming Medical Center, Casper, WY
- Damon M. Kennedy, D.O. - Dallas-Fort Worth Medical Center, Grand Prairie, TX
- Rizwan H. Khan, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Paul Binu Kurian, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Bradley David Kurtz, D.O. - Tulane University Ochsner Hospital, New Orleans, LA
- Dilshad Fatimah Lalani, D.O. - R. E. Thomason General Hospital, El Paso, TX
- Geoffrey Stone Landis, D.O. - Doctors Hospital, Columbus, OH
- Jacqueline Nga Ngoc Le, D.O. - Dallas-Fort Worth Medical Center, Grand Prairie, TX
- David Weinthrop Levine, D.O. - Columbia Southwest Hospital, Dallas, TX
- Mark Andrew Lindemann, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Upinder Kaur Mann, D.O. - University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX
- Earl E. Martin, D.O. - Brackenridge Hospital, Austin, TX
- Scott Joseph McKeon, D.O. - Doctors Hospital North, Columbus, OH
- Katherine Elizabeth McNamara, D.O. - Creighton/University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NB
- Sandip Gatubhai Mehta, D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- Amy Beth Miller, D.O. - Baylor Medical Center - Garland, Garland, TX
- Charles Moran Myers, Jr., D.O. - Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, TX
- John J. Nguyen, D.O. - John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, TX
- Pamela Hao Nguyen, D.O. - Baylor College of Medicine - Houston, Houston, TX
- Thien Bao Nguyen, D.O. - Memorial Hospital Southwest, Houston, TX
- Tiffany Xuan-Huong Nguyen, D.O. - Driscoll Children's Hospital, Corpus Christi, TX
- Sini Ninan, D.O. - Methodist Medical Center, Dallas, TX
- Aaron Geoffrey Osborne, D.O. - Tulsa Regional Medical Center, Tulsa, OK
- Kyle Patrick Owen, D.O. - University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI
- Joseph Park, D.O. - Baylor Medical Center - Garland, Garland, TX
- Ashna Parti, D.O. - Staten Island University Hospital, Staten Island, NY
- Anita Dhirubhai Patel, D.O. - University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, Tulsa, OK
- Russell MacBain Peckham, D.O. - Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, TX
- Hieu The Pham, D.O. - University of Texas - Houston, Houston, TX
- Rakesh Pherwani, D.O. - Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX
- Garima Prasad, D.O. - Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX
- Roland Prezas, D.O. - Brazos Valley Medical Center, Bryan-College Station, TX
- R. Todd Richwine, D.O. - Forest Park Hospital, St. Louis, MO
- Caryn Jean Roelofs, D.O. - Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN
- Rocky C. Saenz, D.O. - Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills, MI
- Rita Elizabeth Schindeler-Trachta, D.O. - Brackenridge Hospital, Austin, TX
- Monika Vidyut Shah, D.O. - Sun Coast Hospital, Largo, FL
- James William Silverthorn, D.O. - University of California - Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, CA
- Steven Lee Simmons, D.O. - John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, TX

continued on next page

Lauren L. Sims-Norville, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX

Jason Wade Skiles, D.O. - John Peter Smith Hospital, Fort Worth, TX

Jennifer Naiser Smith, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX

Lenora Brooke Smith, D.O. - Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine/City Avenue Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

Kathleen Takemoto-Earley, D.O. - University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

Jim L. Tarpley, D.O. - University Medical Center, Lubbock, TX

Sally Thomas, D.O. - Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX

Tom Mylakkal Thomas, D.O. - John Sealy Hospital, Galveston, TX

Sabna Thoppil, D.O. - San Joaquin General Hospital, Stockton, CA

Julie A. Traynham, D.O. - Medical Plaza, Odessa, TX

Brian Sol Treuhaft, D.O. - University Hospital, San Antonio, TX

Hong Le Truong, D.O. - University of Texas Health Science Center - Houston, Houston, TX

Elizabeth Lynn Ulrich, D.O. - San Antonio Affiliated Hospitals, San Antonio, TX

Douglas Vacek, D.O. - Texas Tech Health Science Center, El Paso, TX

Jeffery W. van den Broek, D.O. - Tripler Army Medical Center, Tripler, HI

Haley Elyse Wagner, D.O. - Tulane Hospital for Children/Ochsner Hospital, New Orleans, LA

Ned R. Warner, D.O. - Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills, MI

Edward Allison Weidow, D.O. - Parkland Hospital, Dallas, TX

Jeremy Lance Weiss, D.O. - Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, Fort Worth, TX

Rita Marie Weisskopf, D.O. - Mercy General Hospital, Sacramento, CA

Stephen John Whipple, D.O. - Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Neil Zucker, D.O. - Dallas Southwest, Dallas, TX

Dual Degree Students – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and Doctor of Philosophy Degree

Matthew John Crawford, D.O. - Ingham Regional Medical Center, Lansing, MI
(Anatomy and Cell Biology – Doctor of Philosophy)

Kevin Matthew Gallagher, D.O. - Parkland Hospital, Dallas, TX
(Integrative Physiology – Doctor of Philosophy)

TOMA Welcomes New Members

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association are pleased to introduce the following new members who were formally accepted at the June 17, 2000 Board meeting.

Timothy D. Allen, D.O.

P.O. Box 209

Teague, TX 75860

Dr. Allen is a member of District 18. He graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in 1995, and specializes in Internal Medicine.

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Grand Prairie, TX 75051

Dr. Beene is a member of District 15. She graduated from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1991, is Certified in Family Practice, and also specializes in Obstetrics.

Jolene R. Berry, D.O.

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Dr. Berry is a member of District 6. She graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in 1986, and specializes in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Paul A. Bubliss, D.O.

702 South Roland

Spearman, TX 79081

Dr. Bubliss is a member of District 1. He graduated from the University of North Texas Health Science Center/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1994, and is a Certified Family Practitioner.

Jorge A. De La Chapa, D.O.

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San Antonio, TX 78240

Dr. De La Chapa is a member of District 17. He graduated from Oklahoma State University/College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1995, and is Certified in Ophthalmology.

E. Scott Ferree, D.O.

4021 Rothington Road

Fort Worth, TX 76116

Dr. Ferree is a First Year Member and a member of District 2. He graduated from the University of North Texas Health Science Center/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1996, and specializes in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Pain Management.

David G. Haman, D.O.

2701 Osler #7

Grand Prairie, TX 75051

Dr. Haman is a member of District 15. He graduated from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1980, and is a Certified Family Practitioner.

continued on next page

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Dr. Kuipers is a member of District 15. He graduated from
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in
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Calvin J. Lyons, D.O.
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Dr. Lyons is a member of District 6. He graduated from The
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in Kansas City, Missouri in 1953, and specializes in Family
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Candace F. McDaniel, D.O.
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Arlington, TX 76015-4127.
Dr. McDaniel is a member of District 15. She graduated from
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1996, and specializes in Family Practice, Addiction Medicine,
Research, Complementary and Integrative Medicine, and Anti-
Aging Medicine.

Norma L. Schacherl, D.O.
51 North Sam Houston
San Benito, TX 78586
Dr. Schacherl is a member of District 14. She graduated from the
Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1990, and specializes
in Family Practice.

Sonya W. Sorensen, D.O.
102 West 10th
Dallas, TX 75208
Dr. Sorensen is a member of District 5. She graduated from the
Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1981, and specializes
in Family Practice.

Kerry S. Waits, D.O.
1510 Live Oak
Commerce, TX 75428
Dr. Waits is a member of District 13. He graduated from the
University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences/College
of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, Iowa in
1995, and is Certified in Primary Care and Internal Medicine.

Mark P. Robbins, D.O.
16002 Santa Cathrena
San Antonio, TX 78232
Dr. Robbins is a Military Member and a member of District 17.
He graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic
Medicine in 1984, and is Certified in Family Practice.

Francis Fischer, D.O.
William Beaumont Army Medical Center
5005 N. Piedras
El Paso, TX 79920
Dr. Fischer is an Intern Member. He graduated from the
University of North Texas Health Science Center/Texas College
of Osteopathic Medicine in 1999. He is currently serving an
Internship at William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and will
start a Family Practice Residency at Darnall Hospital in Killeen
in July of 2000.

Edward S. Mansour, D.O.
St. John's Oakland General Hospital
Warren, MI 48236
Dr. Mansour is a Resident Member. He graduated from the
Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic
Medicine in Pomona, California in 1995. Dr. Mansour is
currently serving an Orthopedics Residency at St. John's
Oakland General Hospital, and will start an Orthopedic Trauma
Fellowship at Baylor University in July of 2000.

District Stars

Report from TOMA District 6 By Marguerite Badger, Corresponding Secretary

District 6 of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association met on May 9 at Tony's Restaurant in Houston. President Morton L. Rubin, D.O., introduced special guests Paula Yeamans, TOMA Associate Executive Director; her mother, Mrs. Wanda Sampley, and medical students attending the meeting.

Dr. Rubin also introduced the speaker for the evening, Donald Kramer, M.D., who presented a very informative program entitled, "New Horizons in Pain Management."

The slate of officers for 2000-2001, to be installed in September, is as follows:

President – David R. Armbruster, D.O.
Vice President – Bryan J. Blonder, D.O.
Secretary – Victor L. Flagiello, D.O.
Treasurer – Harlan J. Borcharding, D.O.
Corresponding Secretary – Marguerite Badger

HCFA Tests Simplify E & M Guidelines for Physicians

Continuing its efforts to simplify Medicare's requirements for doctors, the Health Care Financing Administration will pilot test new, simplified documentation guidelines for physician visits, HCFA Administrator Nancy-Ann DeParle said.

The new draft guidelines streamline existing requirements and make it easier for physicians to document the level of service that they provide to individual Medicare beneficiaries. The new guidelines reflect reasonable documentation standards that practicing physicians follow.

The revised guidelines for physician visits represent the latest step in HCFA's ongoing efforts to ensure that doctors receive fair and accurate compensation for the services that they provide to more than 39 million elderly and disabled Medicare beneficiaries.

"We want to make it as easy as possible for physicians to do their jobs and provide appropriate, quality care to their patients," HCFA Administrator Nancy-Ann DeParle said. "These simpler guidelines should make it easier for physicians to focus on patient care while ensuring that Medicare pays them appropriately for their services."

DeParle directed a team of physicians at HCFA to develop the new documentation guidelines as a way to simplify earlier guidelines, reduce the time physicians spend on administrative tasks, and ensure consistent and fair medical review. HCFA now will conduct pilot tests to ensure that the new, simpler guidelines work in the real world of clinical practice.

Properly documented medical records help ensure good clinical care by allowing clear communication among physicians and other health-care professionals. They also help Medicare to pay appropriately for services. In part due to the efforts of doctors and other providers, Medicare's efforts to pay accurately and to reduce waste, fraud and abuse, have achieved measurable results by reducing Medicare's improper payment rate to almost half of what it was just three years ago.

Medicare's improper payment rate, as estimated by the HHS Inspector General, was less than 8 percent in Fiscal Year 1999 – down from the 14 percent estimate for Fiscal Year 1996. However, the latest audit shows that more progress must be made. In the latest review, documentation errors accounted for the largest category of errors.

In 1995, HCFA and the AMA issued the first set of documentation guidelines to help physicians understand codes as defined by the AMA's Current Procedural Terminology coding system, which physicians use to bill when they evaluate patients' medical needs or manage their treatment.

HCFA and the AMA updated the guidelines in 1997 to try to accommodate the requests of various specialty societies to add detail to recognize the more narrow focus of specialists' clinical services. Despite these cooperative efforts, many physicians expressed concern that the 1997 guidelines became too cumbersome to use in practice. To respond to such concerns, HCFA worked to develop a simpler alternative based on the 1995 guidelines.

HCFA will update the medical community on its progress and plans for pilot testing the new guidelines. HCFA also will test a second version that focuses more on how physicians make medical decisions and less on history and physical examination. It involves little or no counting.

Throughout this process, HCFA will develop comprehensive education materials to help physicians use the new guidelines effectively and efficiently. HCFA plans to use a range of training approaches and materials during the pilot tests and maintain an array of the most effective training options when new guidelines are put in place nationally. HCFA will seek physician advice throughout the process and will make appropriate changes based on the pilot tests' results, which should be available next year. New guidelines could be in place as early as 2002.

"Physicians helped develop the guidelines, and we want physicians to tell us whether the revisions being tested are in fact, better for them in the real world, day-to-day clinical practice," DeParle said. "Working together, we can have a simpler, clinically meaningful, and not intrusive approach to documentation that works for patients, the doctors who care for them, and the taxpayers."

The guidelines are part of HCFA's ongoing efforts to make it easier for physicians and other health-care providers to understand and meet Medicare's requirements.

HCFA has doubled the number of physicians in high-ranking positions, with physicians now in charge of the Center for Health Plans and Providers and the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality. Another physician heads Medicare oversight of private claims-processing contractors, and physicians work as managers throughout the agency.

In 1999, HCFA expanded its successful, innovative national education program to help doctors and other health-care providers understand Medicare's billing procedures properly. The project features interactive computer courses accessible through the Internet at www.hcfa.gov – to allow providers to study specific topics about Medicare policies to ensure accurate claims.

In May, DeParle sent letters to more than 800,000 physicians, home health agencies and durable medical equipment suppliers explaining how to avoid some common claims errors and asking for their help in assuring that Medicare pays correctly for their services. HCFA sent similar letters to all health-care providers last year regarding Year 2000 computer issues.

HCFA is requiring all the private companies that process and pay Medicare claims to establish toll-free lines for doctors and other providers to call with billing questions. These lines will become operational by this fall.

Will *YOUR* Name be on the Texas Star Contributor's Plaque?

This is *your last chance* to be a part of the program that made the purchase and renovation of the historic TOMA Office Building, in Austin, possible.

In November of this year, for the *100th Anniversary of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association*, a magnificent, etched glass plaque, measuring over five feet in height and cut in the shape of the state of Texas, will be *engraved with the name* of each contributor to the TOMA Building Fund. It will then be permanently mounted in the Reception Area of the TOMA Office Building.

Don't let this *unique opportunity* pass you by... to have *your name* displayed, for future generations of osteopathic physicians and for visitors to the TOMA Office Building to see, as part of the continuing history of osteopathic medicine in Texas.

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National Academies of Practice Inducts Drs. John Carter and Ralph Willard

Editor's note: Due to an oversight, the following were inadvertently excluded from the June issue of the Texas D.O., during which time the National Academies of Practice named TOMA inductees. Our thanks to Stephen F. Urban, Jr., D.O., for bringing this to our attention.

The National Academies of Practice has announced the election of John E. Carter, Jr., D.O., of Fort Worth, and Ralph L. Willard, D.O., of Lewisburg, West Virginia, as distinguished practitioner-members of the NAP. Drs. Carter and Willard were installed at a gala membership banquet on April 28 in Bethesda, Maryland, at which time the National Academies of Practice inducted new members from ten professions, including osteopathic medicine.

Dr. Carter is an associate professor in family medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. Active in TOMA affairs, he serves as a member of the TOMA Socioeconomics Committee.

Dr. Willard served as dean of TCOM from 1975 to 1980, and as president from 1981 to 1985. A life member of TOMA, he is a practicing surgeon in West Virginia.

The National Academies of Practice was founded in 1981 in recognition of the need for interdisciplinary collaboration in health care. It is comprised of distinguished practitioners and scholars from all of the primary health professions, now including ten disciplines: Dentistry, Nursing, Optometry, Osteopathic Medicine, Medicine, Psychology, Podiatric Medicine, Social Work, Veterinary Medicine, and Pharmacy. Only 100 distinguished members can be elected to membership, so selection is indeed an honor. Each year, the NAP sponsors a forum on aspects of interdisciplinary collaboration. This year's Forum charted requirements to advance the field of interdisciplinary practice, research and teaching in the 21st century through a consensus development process culminating with a conference held at the National Institutes of Health on April 28.

For further information about nominating potential members to the NAP or about the work of the organization in interdisciplinary care and public policy, call the NAP office at 410/676-3390 or visit the Web site at <<http://views.vcu.edu/nap>>.

TRHA Conference: Technology – the New Frontier in Rural Health

"Technology – the New Frontier in Rural Health", a statewide conference about successfully positioning Texas rural communities in the e-world, will offer a handle on our fast moving, changing new century with cutting-edge speakers, high tech educational sessions with real-world applications, hands-on workshops, and networking opportunities," said Mary Wainwright of Galveston. Wainwright, president-elect of the Texas Rural Health Association (TRHA), is chair of TRHA's 16th Annual Conference set for Austin, August 28-30.

"Many rural communities in Texas are facing a crisis in survival of their medical and economic infrastructures due to governmental, economic, technological and commerce-related changes," Wainwright noted.

TRHA's conference annually connects rural community citizens, leaders, chambers of commerce folks, elected city-county-state officials, educators, health care providers, and businesses/corporations with tested and new ideas, solutions, information and resources.

"Our conference will focus on new technologies that are key to bridging the disconnection experienced in rural Texas and key to closing service and competition gaps faced by rural infrastructures," Wainwright said.

Conference speakers on rural and technology issues include Commissioner Susan Combs, Texas Department of Agriculture, James S. Logan, M.D., NASA flight surgeon, and international experts on telemedicine. Planned events include general and concurrent education sessions, poster sessions, an exhibit show, receptions and meals.

A conference brochure, registration materials, poster session information, and exhibiting or sponsorship opportunities for "Technology – the New Frontier in Rural Health," are available by contacting: TRHA Conference, P.O. Box 2337, Austin, TX 78768-2337; or call 512-476-6527; or e-mail TxRHA@aol.com.

The Texas Rural Health Association, headquartered in Austin, is a statewide membership organization providing a unifying forum on Texas rural health care issues for rural advocates including rural leaders, public officials, employers, educators, and health care professionals. Visit the association's Internet web site at www.TRHA.org.

ATOMA's ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Thank you golfers (You were great sports.)
and

Thank you Tee Sponsors!

(Your Red and White Tee Signs were great

and your individual signs are ready for next year's tournament in Arlington.)

The ocean front golf course in Corpus Christi was beautiful but very windy.

So, if we all look like we're bald in our photos, it is because the wind tried to blow our hair into the ocean.

AND THE WINNERS ARE:

First place:

Shelley Howell, D.O.
Stephen Daniels, D.O.
Ron Daniels, D.O.
Jobey Claborn, D.O.

Second place:

Jerry Liles, D.O.
Bobby Howard, D.O.
Rene Acuna, D.O.
Steve Casey

Last place:

Jake Jacobson
Tim Coleridge, D.O.
John Bowling, D.O.
Vern Shirley, D.O.

Jobey Claborn, D.O. had the longest drive. Jeff Schmeltekopf won the \$250 Titleist Putter.

ATOMA's annual fundraising golf tournament was a huge success thanks to the following sponsors

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The Neighborhood Doctor

News

from the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners



Dr. Frank M. "Skip" Langley New TSBME Executive Director

At the May 18-19 Board meeting, the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners approved Frank M. "Skip" Langley, D.V.M., M.D., J.D., of Corpus Christi, to fill the position of executive director. Dr. Langley was selected from a field of more than 50 candidates after a nationwide search.

Dr. Langley, 58, a native of Paris, Texas, received his D.V.M. from Texas A&M University in 1967. He graduated from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 1973 and completed an anesthesiology residency at John Sealy Hospital in 1976. He has practiced anesthesiology in Corpus Christi since 1976 and is a Diplomat of the American Board of Anesthesiology. In addition, Dr. Langley received a J.D. from South Texas College of Law in 1990.

Dr. Langley was the medical-legal editor of the *Texas Society of Anesthesiologists Bulletin* from 1989 until 1998. He is currently an adjunct professor on the faculty at Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi. He and his wife, Karol, currently live in Rockport.

Bruce A. Levy, M.D., J.D., has served as executive director of the Board since 1993 and announced in December his decision to leave the post when a successor was found. He will fill the newly created position of Deputy Executive Vice President at the Federation of State Medical Boards, based in Eules. His primary role will be to assist Federation Executive Vice President James Winn, M.D., in representing the Federation and serving as a liaison to external organizations.

The Dilemma of Bad Times and Bad Choices

By Wayne Clark, J.D.

Wayne Clark & Associates, LLC

Physicians today are faced with ever increasing pressures in order to maintain a successful practice. It seems that every day brings a fresh onslaught of regulatory changes that add increasingly to the operating and administrative costs of their practice while payors institute endlessly creative ways to limit, reduce or delay reimbursements to almost untenable levels. Physicians must then either face the distasteful prospect of reducing or restricting their practice or become equally innovative and find ways to increase their potential income. Unfortunately, this often results in the motivated but pressured physician making unwise decisions regarding the business of their practice.

More often than we would like, this generally means making the decision to acquire new technology/devices or the increased utilization of procedures that often fail to produce the intended financial results. Sometimes the consequences of these ill informed decisions are disastrous and may result in the demise of a physician's practice.

During a recent medical convention, I had the opportunity to visit with a number of physicians regarding their practices and listen to their concerns. In a number of instances I was asked my opinion on an array of newer devices, technologies, and procedures. It is always disheartening in those situations to advise a physician that what they thought and were told was acceptable to the industry at large was, in fact, the subject of a Medicare Advisory and had been determined to be unqualified for reimbursement. In some cases, I have also had to advise physicians that coding and reimbursement advice provided by the manufacturer or distributor was questionable at best.

Imagine how the physician must feel. They have acquired a device costing tens of thousands of dollars and now may be faced with having to refund the payments they have received over the past months or years.

Do they continue to roll the dice and do what they have been advised is inappropriate? Where do they get the money to process the refunds? What happens when they self-report? Who is it that gets stuck? What will other professionals' think when they discover what has happened? Can they handle the potential loss of prestige, position, and money? How do they explain this to their patients, peers, payers, and family? Where do they go for help?

Unfortunately, there is no one single best answer to these questions. It is also trite to repeat an oft-repeated adage, "Get informed - Stay informed." However, that is the answer. Develop sources of information that you trust and can be relied upon to provide the facts, not conjecture or biased information. Always remember to "FOLLOW THE MONEY." If the person providing the advice and counsel is the one who benefits from the advice and counsel, find a way to get an objective unbiased opinion. It may well be the best money you ever spent.

A courtroom scene. A judge in black robes sits on the bench. A man in a grey suit stands at a podium, facing away from the camera. A man in a dark suit stands to the left, facing the judge. A woman in a purple shirt sits at a desk in the foreground, facing the man in the grey suit. An American flag is on the left and a Texas state flag is on the right.

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