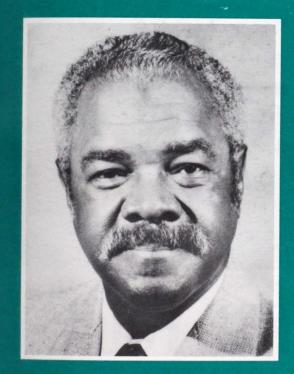


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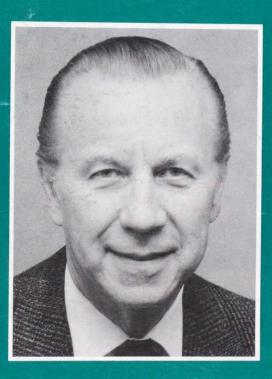
TEXAS OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

September, 1994

# New AOA Leadership To Promote Unity and Growth



William G. Anderson, D.O. AOA President

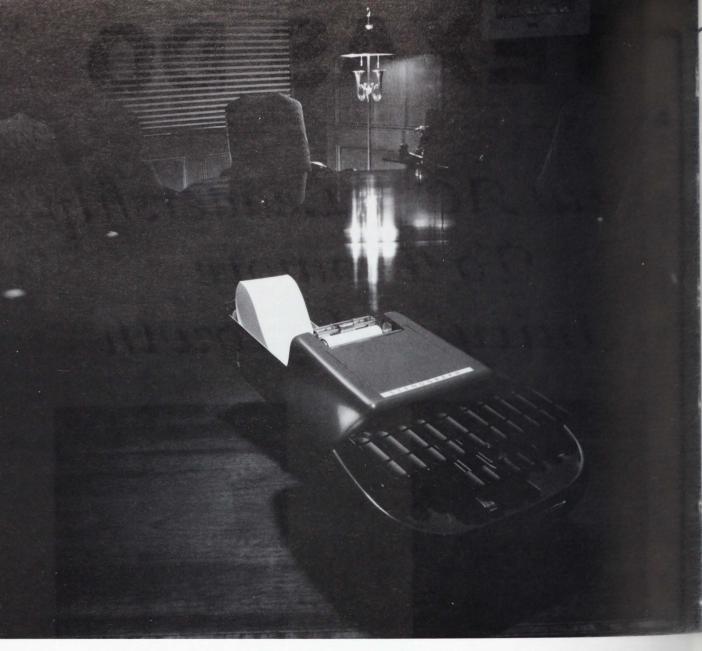


Howard L. Neer, D.O. AOA President-Elect

New Features Beginning This Month

\*The President's Corner

\*Board Member Spotlight



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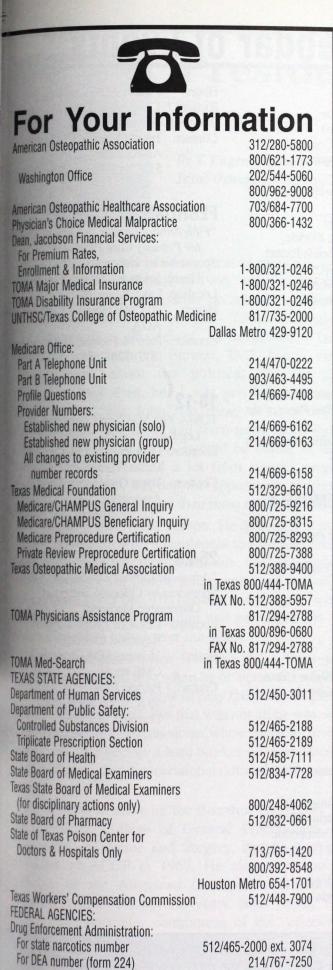
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## TEXAS DO

TEXAS OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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Concerning Health Care Issues Terry R. Boucher, Executive Director Student/Doctor Grant Tarbox

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in Texas 800/392-2040

CANCER INFORMATION:

**Cancer Information Service** 



#### September, 1994

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## **Calendar of Events**

#### **SEPTEMBER 22-25**

- *"Fourth Annual OMT Update"* (Intermediate Level Course)
- Application of Osteopathic Concepts in Clinical Medicine plus Preparation for OMM Boards
- Sponsored by American Academy of Osteopathy
- Location: Walt Disney World Lake Buena Vista, Florida Grand Floridian Beach Resort
- Hours: 4 days; 22 hours AOA Category 1-A and 21 hours AAFP
- Contact: American Academy of Osteopathy (317) 879-1881

#### **OCTOBER 9-15**

- National Osteopathic Medicine Week "Osteopathic Medicine: A Vital Piece of the Healthcare Puzzle"
- Contact: American Osteopathic Association 1-1800-621-1773

#### **OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 5**

Osteopathic Advantage *"The Motor Vehicle Accident Patient"* Seminar/Cruise Hours: 16 1-A CME hours applied for Contact: Shannon 512/264-0082

#### **NOVEMBER 13-17**

AOA Convention Location: San Francisco Moscone Center San Francisco, California Contact: 1-800-621-1773

#### 17-20

Post AOA Convention Seminar – Tri-State Trip "Shared Medical Practice Situations" Sponsored by Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, Oklahoma Osteopathic Association and Arkansas Osteopathic Medical Association Location: Harrah's Casino Hotel Lake Tahoe, Nevada Hours: 6 hours AOA Category 1-A Richard J. Langerman, D.O., Coordinator (Reservations must be made by September 12) Contact: Texas Osteopathic Medical Association 512/388-9400 or 1/800-444-8660

#### FEBRUARY 3-7, 1995

"Fifth An	nual Update in Clinical Medicine
for Pr	imary Care Physicians"
Sponsore	d by University of North Texas
Health	Science Center at Fort Worth
Location:	Lake Tahoe, Nevada
Hours:	20 CME Hours - Category 1-A.
	AOA
Contact:	Pam McFadden, Program Director
	(817) 735-2581

#### 10-12

	Oth Mid-Year Conference & ative Forum
Location:	Doubletree at Lincoln Centre
	Dallas, Texas
Contact:	Texas Osteopathic Medical
	Association
	512/388-9400 or 1/800/444/8662

#### 25-26

"Advance	d Cardiac Life Support Course"
Sponsored	d by Colorado Society of
Osteop	bathic Medicine
Location:	Keystone Lodge & Resort
	Keystone, Colorado
Hours:	15 hours AOA Category I-A
	CME credit
Contact:	Patricia Ellis
	50 S. Steele Street, #440
	Denver, CO 80209
	303/322-1752; Fax 303/322-1956

Articles in the *"TEXAS DO"* that mention the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association's position on state legislation are defined as "legislative advertising," according to Tex Govt Code Ann §305.027. Disclosure of the name and address of the person who contracts with the printer to publish the legislative advertising in the *"TEXAS DO"* is required by that law: Terry R. Boucher, Executive Director, TOMA, One Financial Center, 1717 North IH 35, Suite 100, Round Rock, Texas 78664-2901.

## **President's Corner**



By T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., President Texas Osteopathic Medical Association

In the first few weeks of my term as president, my thoughts have drifted back to 1965, when one of the true giants of the profession became president of TOMA (then known as TAOP&S – Texas Association of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons). That president was John H. Burnett, D.O. I was very inexperienced about the political side of the profession back then, but I was privileged to have someone like "Big John" (as many of us lovingly called him) to look up to and learn from. Little did I know that 29 years later, I would be sitting in that same position. I learned a lot from several people during those years, but had the opportunity to know and work with John longer than most of the others.

John was a marvelous person. He generally was a quiet type of man with a gentleness toward his fellow man that prevailed throughout his life. He had a superb memory for people and events, and basically never forgot either one. His honesty and integrity were never in question in my mind and he helped me to remember many things over the years.

John remembered when someone did a favor for him or his state, and also when he or Texas did a favor for someone. He knew how to play the political game and he did it very well. But that was not all he was. He was a teacher, a good physician whose patients loved him dearly, and he was a hard worker on committees, boards or any other organizational duties that came his way.

He went on to serve on the Board of Governors of the American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, and he became president of ACGP in 1967. He also served as a member of the American Osteopathic Board of General Practice for several years. John served for many years on major committees of the American Osteopathic Association, both before and while he was a member of the AOA Board of Trustees.

He had the ultimate honor and privilege to serve the AOA as its president in 1985-86. Not only did he

perform that job well, but the AOA in 1993 saw fit to bestow its most prestigious and highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, on him for his many years of outstanding service to the profession at so many levels.

John would tell you that he was just a "simple ol' country boy" and that he was nothing special. But that "good ol' country boy" became one of the best "good ol' boys" in the profession. He had many friends at every level of the profession. Of course, as with anyone who accomplished a great deal in his life, he had a few enemies. There were not many, and they were very careful in dealing with "Big John."

After receiving the Distinguished Service Award, John told me that of all the many things that he accomplished in his life, the one that he was proudest of was marrying his wife, Mary. That was indeed a wonderful thing because Mary is, without a doubt, a real lady, and one of the finest persons that I have ever had the privilege of knowing.

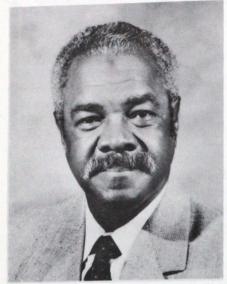
John was very supportive of me in all of my organizational endeavors as well as he was to many other people. He helped me a great deal and gave me a lot of sound advice.

His absence at the last TOMA convention in Houston this past June was startling. To my knowledge, that was the only House of Delegates meeting that he missed in 35 years. I guess nothing is forever.

I will miss him, as I know many of you will. He was truly one of the giants of the osteopathic profession, one of those people that only comes along occasionally, and just fits right in like they were made especially for the job. He left us with quite a legacy: fine physician, three presidencies, organizational workhorse, wise counselor, and good friend. We must carry on.

So long, Big John!!!

## **AOA Installs New President, President-Elect**



William G. Anderson, D.O.

William G. Anderson, D.O., and Howard L. Neer, D.O., were elected president and president-elect, respectively, of the American Osteopathic Association. The elections took place during the recent AOA House of Delegates meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia.

As the newly elected president, Dr. Anderson's goals for the AOA include promoting unity within the profession and encouraging the growth of primary care. "The osteopathic medical profession's niche is in primary care. We must develop a cadre of primary care role models who will play key roles in the educational process and encourage students who are seeking training in primary care," noted Dr. Anderson.

Dr. Anderson currently serves as associate director of medical education at the Detroit Riverview Center in Michigan and as president of LifeChoice Quality Health Plan, HMO in Detroit. He is a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons.

A 1956 graduate of the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, Des Moines, Iowa, he has had a 27-year career of general and surgical specialty practice. Dr. Anderson formerly served as a consultant and senior attending surgeon at many Detroit hospitals, and also held



Howard L. Neer, D.O.

many positions at Michigan Health Care Corporation over a 22-year period, where he was chief of surgery, chief of staff and chairman of the board of directors.

Dr. Anderson is active in both his county and state osteopathic associations, having served as president of both. He has been a member of the AOA House of Delegates since 1974 and an AOA trustee since 1981. Other positions within the AOA have included chairing the departments of Governmental Affairs and Educational Affairs, the Subcommittee on Strategic Planning, the Bureau of State Government Affairs and the Committee on Editorial Policy.

Dr. Neer, a board certified family physician from Plantation, Florida, is Associate Dean for Alumni Affairs at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine in North Miami Beach. He previously served as Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs.

A 1954 graduate of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (CCOM), Dr. Neer was a recipient of the college's "Outstanding Achievement Award" in 1982.

He has had an extensive 40-year career in the medical profession, and his impact extends to leadership roles at both state and national levels. At the national level, Dr. Neer has held numerous positions within the AOA and has been a member of the House of Delegates since 1970. At the state level, he is a past president of the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (FOMA) and has served as a FOMA trustee since 1968.

He is a co-founder of Doctors General Hospital (now Universal Medical Center) in Plantation, Florida, where he has served in many capacities, including chairman of the Department of Family Practice, as hospital chief of staff and is currently chairman of the Board of Governors of the 200-bed acute-care facility. In 1991, he received Universal Medical Center's "Outstanding Physician Award."

When Hurricane Andrew struck South Florida in August 1992, Dr. Neer was one of the first physicians to volunteer Over the next several months, he led the University's medical staff relief efforts, coordinating an effort involving several thousand volunteer man-hours.

## Complaints of Sexual Misconduct Against Texas Physicians Increase

According to the Texas Board of Medical Examiners, there has been an increase in complaints by women and some men, alleging they have been victims of inappropriate sexual advances and/or suggestions, seduction or assault by Texas physicians. There were seven complaints in fiscal 1991; 27 in 1992; 36 in 1993; and 43 complaints so far in fiscal 1994, which ends this month. Of these 113 complaints, 52 cases are pending, 48 have been dismissed for lack of evidence and 13 have led to some type of punishment, including license revocation.

The Texas increase is part of a national trend, according to the Federation of State Medical Boards State boards in 42 states reported 393 complaints of sexual misconduct against physicians in 1992, the most recent year for which statistics are available.

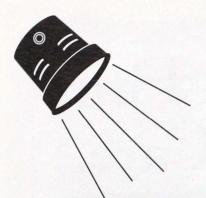
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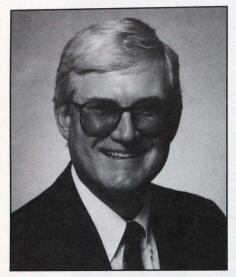


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## TOMABOARD OF THE

Each month a TOMA board member will be spotlighted for his or her work and commitment to the osteopathic profession in Texas. TOMA extends a sincere thanks to every board member who has served or is serving as a member of the TOMA Board of Trustees.



Mark A. Baker, D.O.

Dr. Mark Baker of Fort Worth, recently re-elected Speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates, expresses strong feelings regarding service to the osteopathic profession. "I feel that we need to return time and service to the profession that has provided us with a good living. If osteopathic physicians aren't willing to take care of their profession in this capacity, no one else will," he notes.

Certified in Diagnostic Radiology by the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology, Dr. Baker practices at Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas (OMCT) and Westside Radiology Consultants, Fort Worth. He also serves as chairman of the Department of Radiology at OMCT and as acting chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A TOMA member since 1978, Dr. Baker served as Vice Speaker of the TOMA House of Delegates from 198183 and from 1989-93, and is currently serving his second term as Speaker. He also serves TOMA as chairman of the Constitution, Bylaws and Documents Committee; member of the Governmental Relations Committee; member of the Strategic Planning Committee; and as chairman of the Ad Hoc Relocation Committee.

"I feel that we need to return time and service to the profession that has provided us with a good living."

Dr. Baker received his D.O. degree in 1976 from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and interned at the Public Health Service Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. He completed a diagnostic radiology residency at OMCT in 1986.

Additional professional memberships include the American Osteopathic Association; TOMA District II, in which he served as president from 1989-90; The Radiological Society of North America; American Osteopathic College of Radiology; American College of Radiology; Texas Radiological Society; Texas Medical Association; Tarrant County Medical Society; American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine; American Medical Joggers Association; and life member of the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Association. Community-wise, he is a member of the Board of Managers of Camp Carter, YMCA.

Dr. Baker and his wife, Rita, an active member of the Auxiliary to the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association and the current ATOMA Funds Assistant, are the parents of Christopher Allen, age 14, and Carrie Arlene, age seven. When spare time allows, the Baker family enjoys scuba diving, most recently at Cozumel, which is off the coast of Mexico. Snow skiing at Purgatory and Crested Butte is also an activity the Baker family enjoys.

Speaking of his involvement in TOMA activities, Dr. Baker added, "It's so important that we recognize the need to take care of our profession. However, it's equally important that we show our pride in the fact that we are osteopathic physicians."

We salute you, Dr. Baker, for your service and commitment to TOMA.

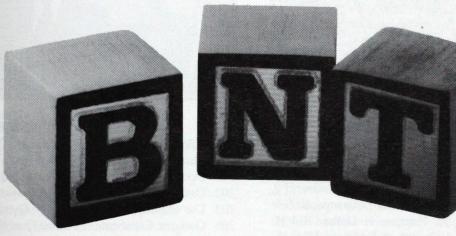
#### Suzanne Schafer, D.O. Receives Board Certification

Suzanne Schafer, D.O., an Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas staff physician, recently became board certified in General and Family Practice according to the American Osteopathic Association.

Dr. Schafer currently practices at Saginaw Family Health in Saginaw, Texas. She graduated from Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1985, and completed her internship at OMCT.

Dr. Schafer is also Vice President for Texas Osteopathic Medical Association District II.

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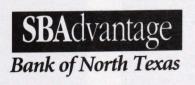


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## The AOA House of Delegates – Texas Report Atlanta, GA



The House of Delegates of the American Osteopathic Association met July 16 - 18, 1994, in Atlanta, GA at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. The Texas Delegation included: Drs. Robert L. Peters, of Round Rock; David R. Armbruster of Pearland; Jerome L. Armbruster of Pearland; Frank J. Bradley of Dallas; Gerald P. Flanagan of Fort Worth; Royce K. Keilers of LaGrange; Robert G. Maul of Lubbock; Donald M. Peterson of Dallas; Bill H. Purvear of Fort Worth; Arthur J. Speece of Burleson; Mark A. Baker of Fort Worth; Jim W. Czewski of Fort Worth; Donald F. Vedral of Cedar Hill; James E. Froelich of Bonham; Rodney M. Wiseman of Whitehouse: Grant Tarbox MS-II, of Fort Worth was the student doctor delegate; Brian Way MS-II, of Fort Worth was the student doctor alternate; both attend the University of North Texas Health Science Center - Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. Serving his 13th year as Speaker of AOA House of Delegates was T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., of Fort Worth.

#### Gerald P. Flanagan, D.O. Joint Board/House Budget Review Committee

The committee reviewed the AOA budget and minute changes in the budget per se. This was approved by the house on 7-15-94 in Atlanta, GA.

Resolution #220 was reviewed by the committee and the following actions were amended and passed by the house.

**RESOLVED**; that following the approval of the 1994 - 95 Budget by the House of Delegates, any budget adjustment that exceeds four percent of the budget must be reviewed by the Joint Board/House Budget Review Committee, and the committee's recommendation will be referred to the Board of Trustees for action at the Board's discretion and, be it further

**<u>RESOLVED</u>**, that the Joint Board/House Budget Review Committee is charged with developing criteria for any future budget adjustments, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Joint Board/House Budget Review Committee's recommendation be reported to the 1995 House of Delegates.

#### Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

218 Code of Ethics of the AOA – *Approved* A-800 Article VIII – Board of Trustees and Executive Committee Section 1 – Board of Trustees – *Approved* 



#### **Committee on Professional Affairs**

- 200 Allopathic Postdoctoral Training in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine – *Referred to Committee*
- 201 Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) as Sole Degree Disapproved
- 202 Osteopathic Credentialing Approved
- 203 Use of the Term Osteopathy Approved
- 206 Geriatric Certificate of Added Qualifications Approved
- 209 Continuing Medical Education Fees (ACOI) Approved as Amended
- 213 Continuing Medical Education Fees (AOCR) Disapproved
- 214 AOA Accreditation Process for CME Providers Referred to Committee on Basic Documents of Affiliated Organizations
- 215 AOA Costs of Processing CME Credit Referred to Council on Continuing Medical Education
- 217 Enhancing the Quality of Newly Established Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine – Approved
- 228 AOA CME Accreditation Sponsorship Approved as Amended
- 234 Standard Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment Criteria for all Osteopathic Colleges – *Disapproved*
- 235 AOA Leadership Disapproved
- 236 Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMT) Programs -Disapproved
- 240 Active Institutional Membership Approved as Amended
- 244 AOA, Strategies and Initiatives Approved as Amended
- 264 Osteopathic Family Physician Definition Approved
- 266 Peer Review Approved
- 267 Peer Review/Federal (to delete) Approved
- 268 Postgraduate Medical Education Programs Approved
- 269 Professional Association By D.O.'s Disapproved
- 270 Professional Review Organizations (PRO) Assignment of Quality Severity Levels (to delete) - Approved
- 272 Small States: Assistance by other States Approved
- 274 Teenage Suicide Prevention Approved as Amended
- 275 AOA Statement on Health Care Reform Approved as Amended
- 279 Who Speaks for Osteopathic Physicians Approved as Amended
- 283 AOA Membership and Certification Status Referred to Committee on Basic Documents of Affiliated Organizations

- 84 Council on Continuing Medical Education Approved as Amended
- 85 Geriatrics Examination for Certificate of Added Qualification – *Disapproved*
- 86 Qualified Osteopathic Medical Faculty Disapproved
- 88 Clinical Practice Guidelines Referred to Committee
- 89 Annual "Open Forum" Approved as Amended
- 90 American Associations of Osteopathic Postgraduate Physicians – Approved

#### **Committee on Public Affairs**

- 05 Anti-Discrimination Regulations Approved
- 07 Healthcare Communications Disapproved
- 16 Denial of Payment Relative to Use of OMT and E/M Codes - Disapproved
- 22 Mandatory Participation in Medicare Approved as Amended
- 23 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey Approved Referred to Council on Fed. Health Programs
- 24 Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Standards Approved
- 25 Physician Reimbursement For Home Health Care Paperwork – Disapproved
- 26 Physician Treating Minors Without Parental Consent Withdrawn
- 27 Third Party Payers and Utilization Review Firms Accountability Approved as Amended
- 29 Single Payer Health Care Reform Disapproved
- 30 Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education Funding Approved
- 33 Restricting Smoking in the Workplace Disapproved
- 37 Prescription Drug Sampling Disapproved
- 38 Federal Legislation on Committing a Crime While Using a Firearm – Approved
- 39 Medical Laboratory Overpayments Approved
- 15 Biomedical Wastes Approved
- 16 Care for the Medically Indigent Approved
- 47 Development of Programs to Reduce Domestic Violence Approved
- 48 Discrimination in Medicare Approved
- 50 Government Intervention in Private Practice Approved
- 55 Health Maintenance Organization Approved
- 57 Managed Healthcare Systems Freedom of Choice Approved



- 258 Medicare Fee Updates Approved
- 259 Medicare Out-of-Town Coverage Approved
- 260 Medicare Patients Cost of Medications Approved
- 261 Medicare Payment to New Physician Repeal of Law Limiting *Approved*
- 271 Public Relations Campaign Approved
- 273 Student Loan Interest Deductions Approved
- 278 Physician Administered OMT Approved
- 280 Health Care Reform Legislation Approved Referred to Council on Federal Health Programs
- 281 Medicare Injectables Approved Referred to Council on Federal Health Programs
- 282 Reimbursement For Administrative Services Approved

#### **AD HOC Committee**

- 204 American Osteopathic Association to Employ Celebrity Promoting Osteopathic Family – Approved
- 210 Driver Intoxication Approved
- 211 Gun Control Approved as Amended
- 212 Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Approved
- 231 Physicians Asst./Nurse Practitioners Approved as Amended
- 232 Fundraising at AOA House of Delegates Disapproved
- 241 Affirmative Action Approved as Amended
- 242 Alcohol Use- Approved as Amended
- 243 Anabolic Androgenic Steroids and Substance Abuse Approved as Amended
- 249 Firearms Handguns Approved as Amended
- 251 Health Insurance Programs/Judicial Review Approved
- 252 Health Care Costs Approved
- 253 Health Care, Economics Approved
- 254 Health Care, Government Involvement Approved as Amended
- 256 Inflammatory and Unethical Advertising by Attorneys *Approved as Amended*
- 262 Multiple Prescription Programs Approved as Amended
- 263 Osteopathic Diagnostic and Procedural Coding Systems Exclusive Use – *Referred to Committee*
- 265 Osteopathic Training Approved
- 276 AOA Supports Early Voting Day Policy *Approved as Amended*
- 277 Drug Samples Approved as Amended
- 287 Patient Protection Act Approved as Amended



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#### Carswell Osteopathic Medical Plan (COMP)

3715 Camp Bowie Bouleva (817) 263-COMP (286

- · An Osteopathic Health Group program for military (active, retired, reserve) and their family members
- · Physician network of OHST health care services
- Discounts on dental services and medications

# as.

#### PLE Club (Adult Prevention gram for Life Enhancement) 3715 Camp Bowie Boulevard

(817) 377-APPLE (2775) re health prevention information

te health fairs and special reenings scount pharmacy w-cost group dental plan and

xount dental services mmunity services and discounts

#### dical Center Pharmacy

3601 West Seventh (817) 738-1883

surance claim filing, including HAMPUS te delivery omplete prescription drug cord-keeping

#### TCapital Corporation

4916 Camp Bowie Boulevard (817) 763-8706

null business investment (SBIC) ans to health care professionals for fixes, equipment, etc. Juity capital for qualified nall businesses

#### me Health Care / IV Infusion

4916 Camp Bowie Boulevard (817) 377-4663

cilled nursing care ecialized services alable seven days a week -hour telephone assistance

#### S Management Company, Inc.

One Summit Avenue, Mallick Tower (817) 334-0131 Counts receivable management free management/consulting



#### About Our System...

Osteopathic Health System of Texas provides this network of hospital and allied services to osteopathic physicians across Texas for a very good reason: to help provide quality health care in the fast-changing medical environment of the '90s.

All these services are built on a philosophy pioneered more than 100 years ago by Andrew Taylor Still, founder of osteopathic medicine.

And that philosophy, which is coming more and more into focus as the rest of the world catches up to it, is simple. It views patients as individuals, each with unique needs that are best met when they work in partnership with their physicians.

This means patients see physicians before they get sick. It means preventive medicine. It means getting people well and keeping them that way. It's why we keep saying "Prevention Works Wonders."

We invite osteopathic physicians across Texas to join us in this important and growing health care network. It's rooted in a 100-year-old tradition that will work wonders well into the 21st century.

## When you refer your patients to OMCT:

- You remain the family physician of record.
- You maintain complete access to your patient's records.
- You can monitor your patient's care 24 hours a day on our toll-free telephone line, 1-800-725-OMCT (6628).
- Your practice philosophy is reflected at our exclusive osteopathic medical center.
- Your patient is referred back to you for continued osteopathic care after hospital treatment is completed.

#### While your patient is at OMCT, family members receive special assistance, including:

- · Special hotel rates.
- Free shuttle from hotel to OMCT.
- Free counseling services 24 hours a day.
- One free meal per day in cafeteria.

For more information or to schedule a patient for services, contact CareLink 24 hours a day at 1-800-299-CARE (2273).



Osteopathic Health System of Texas

3715 Camp Bowie Boulevard • Fort Worth, Texas 76107

TEXAS DO/13

## Major General Ronald R. Blanck, D.O. Delivers A.T. Still Lecture During AOA's House Meeting



Major General Ronald R. Blanck, D.O., delivered the annual A.T. Still Memorial Lecture on July 16, 1994, American the during Osteopathic Association's (AOA) annual House of Delegates Convention. Dr. Blanck is commander of Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, the nation's largest military hospital. His presentation, "Dr. Still, Osteopathy, and the 21st Century" addressed the

evolving role of osteopathic medicine in an era of healthcare reform.

Dr. Blanck, an osteopathic internist, told an audience of more than 400 D.O.'s that the principles of osteopathic medicine as enunciated by its founder, A.T. Still more than 100 years ago have withstood the test of time. However, as the nation's healthcare system evolves, so, too, will the role of the osteopathic physician.

"As we emphasize wellness and health maintenance, patient – rather than organ – orientation, and enjoy the resurgency of primary care, we must continue to embrace the technologies and advances that allow us to apply the full spectrum of diagnostic and therapeutic measures as we educate patients – as our partners – to minimize health risks and foster healthy lifestyles" he said.

Dr. Blanck named education as the foundation upon which the nation will build a quality healthcare system; as enrollment at the nation's sixteen osteopathic medical schools rises, so too do prospects for osteopathic medicine to remain "a viable, quality, distinct system of education and health care." He advocates a multi-system approach to patient care. "We must team up with other providers in a comprehensive, unwalled structure of generalists with specialists – of physicians (D.O.'s and M.D.'s) with physicians' assistants, nurses, technicians, dentists, and of course patients, to provide the care that is what we are all about."

Built on principles that remain intact today, Dr. Blanck predicted a solid future for osteopathic medicine. "Focus on the individual – not the disease – and using tools to help the body heal itself, avoiding unnecessary foreign substances (medications) and interventions (surgery), place osteopathic medicine at the forefront of the revolution in healthcare which confronts us," he stated.

Ronald R. Blanck, D.O., a 1967 graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, began his military career in Vietnam, where he served as a general medical officer and received several medals of honor, including the Bronze Star, Meritorious Unit Citation, and Army Commendation Medal with V Device. After holding various positions at Army medical centers across the nation, Dr. Blanck was selected to attend the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania in 1985. He then served as commanding officer of the U.S. Army Hospital in Berlin, during which time he conducted monthly checkups of Nazi war criminal Rudolf Hess. Prior to his current

#### 14/TEXAS DO

appointment as commander of Walter Reed Medical Center, Dr. Blanck served as Director of Medical Corps Affairs and professional services chief of the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. During the Gulf War, he acted as spokesman for the Surgeon General, apprising the media of medical preparations for and accomplishments during the war. Dr. Blanck has held several academic positions, including assistant professor of medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington. He is currently the highest ranking D.O. in the United States armed forces.

## Texas Delegates to the American Osteopathic Association

Speaker of the AOA House of Delegates

T. Eugene Zachary			Fort Worth
Texas Men	nbers of the	AOA Board of	Trustees

Robert L. I	Peters, J	r																				.Round R	oc
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#### Texas Delegates Term Expires

Royce K. Keilers	. 1995	LaGrange
William R. Jenkins	. 1995	
Bill H. Puryear	. 1995	Fort Worth
Robert L. Peters, Jr	. 1995	Round Rock
Arthur J. Speece, III	. 1995	Grand Prairie
Mary M. Burnett	. 1996	Dallas
Gerald P. Flanagan	. 1996	Argyle
Robert G. Maul	. 1996	Lubbock
Donald M. Peterson	. 1996	Dallas
David R. Armbruster	. 1997	Pearland
Jerome L. Armbruster	. 1997	Pearland
Frank J. Bradley	. 1997	Dallas
John H. Burnett	. 1997	Dallas

#### Texas Alternate Delegates

Jim W. Czewski (First Alternate)	Fort Worth
R. Greg Maul (Second Alternate)	Lubbock
Mark A. Baker (Third Alternate)	Fort Worth
Patrick J. Hanford	Lubbock
Richard M. Hall.	Eden
Donald F. Vedral	Cedar Hill
James E. Froelich, III	Bonham
Larry J. Pepper	Houston
Daniel W. Saylak.	Bremond
Rodney M. Wiseman.	. Whitehouse
Steve E. Rowley	Chandler
Nelda N. Cunniff	, Burleson
Christopher P. Penning	Bridge City

#### Student Doctor Delegate

Grant Tarbox ...... UNTHSC/TCOM, Fort Worth

#### Student Doctor Alternate Delegate

Brian Way ..... UNTHSC/TCOM, Fort Worth

## Dr. Robert Maul, ACOFP President-Elect, Is Named Family Practitioner of the Year



(1 to r) Dr. Maul receives Family Practitioner of the Year Award from Mike Franz, D.O., 1993-94 Texas ACOFP President.

Robert G. Maul, D.O., FACFP, of Lubbock, who was recently elected president-elect of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP), has been named "Family Practitioner of the Year" for 1994 by the Texas Society of the ACOFP. The announcement was made during the 37th Annual Convention and 21st Midyear Clinical Seminar of the Texas Society of the ACOFP, held August 4-6 in Las Colinas.

The "Family Practitioner of the Year" award is presented annually by the Texas Society of the ACOFP to an osteopathic physician who has provided exemplary service to the profession.

Dr. Maul attended West Virginia University and the D.T. Watson School of Physiatrics, which is affiliated with the University School of Medicine in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and has been a Registered Physical Therapist since 1951.

Certified in family practice, Dr. Maul received his D.O. degree in 1969 from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Missouri. He interned at Davenport Osteopathic Hospital, Davenport, Iowa, and has practiced in Lubbock since 1970.

He has been extremely active in both the ACOFP and the Texas Society of the ACOFP throughout the years, and currently serves as secretary of the Conclave of Fellows of the ACOFP, a position he has held since 1983. From 1982-83, he served as president of the Texas Society of the ACOFP.

Other memberships include the American Osteopathic Association; the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, in which he served as president from 1983-84, was named "Family Practitioner of the Year" in 1981, and was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1972-82; TOMA District X, in which he is a past president; Texas Medical Foundation; and the American Physical Therapy Association.

The Texas Society of the ACOFP, an affiliate of the ACOFP, represents the special interests of Texas' osteopathic family physicians. The current president is Benjamin C. Young, D.O., of Lubbock.

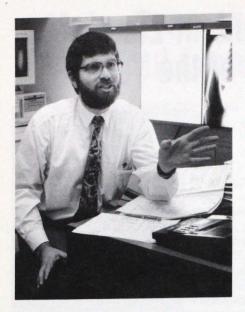
TOMA congratulates Dr. Maul on receiving this special honor.

#### **Resource & Information Service**

#### Texas Organizations

Texas Department of Health	
HIV Division	512/458-7209
Fax number	
Prevention	
Services	
Surveillance	
General AIDS information & assistance	
Texas AIDSLINE	800/299-AIDS
TTY/TDD Hearing Impaired	
Funding sources and information	
HIV Funding Information Ctr	512/458-7684
Fax number	
TDH Film Library	
Texas AZT Hotline	800/255-1090
Texas Information Service	
for Health Professionals	800/548-4659
AIDS Legal Assistance Line	800/828-6417
lexas Commission	
of Alcohol & Drug Abuse	512/867-8700
Coalition of Texans with Disabilities	512/478-3366

National Organizations	
AIDS Clinical Trials Information	800/874-2572
Office of Minority Health Resource Center.	
Resource Center	800/444-MHRC
National Association	
of People With AIDS	202/898-0414
Pediatric AIDS Coalition	800/336-5475
People With AIDS	
Coalition Hotline	800/828-3280
Information, Referral, Services	
National AIDS HOTLINE	800/342-AIDS
Hearing Impaired	800/AIDS-TTY
Spanish Language	800/344-SIDA
CDC education materials, MMWRs and	
	000 00000
National AIDS Information Clearinghouse	800/458-5231
Clearinghouse	
(Reprinted from Disease Prevention News	s Vol. 54. No. 16)
(Reprinted noin Disease Trevention News	o, . o., . o., . o



In an office smaller than the restrooms down the hall, above the noisy voices coming from an adjoining office and a full waiting room, Stephen E. Weis, D.O., is fighting public perception in order to save lives.

Chances are, most of the 30 or more people waiting to see him in the tuberculosis clinic of the Fort Worth-Tarrant County Public Health Department had never considered TB much of a threat to their well-being. After all, the disease had seemingly been brought under control in the 1950s, as tests for its presence and drugs for its treatment became more reliable.

Weis is an expert on TB. Besides being medical director of the clinic, he is associate professor of internal medicine with Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. Yet, sometimes, he has a hard time explaining to his patients that TB is back, in everincreasing numbers, and that their very lives depend on them taking the full round of treatment for at least six months.

Some patients balk at having to take their medicine two to four times a week, for up to a year. A nurse, a community health aide or Weis must watch the patient take their medicine, either at the clinic or where the patient is living or working. But thanks to Weis' program of directly observed therapy, or DOT, relapse from TB or its multi-drug resistance to antibiotics have dropped so dramatically that the program is being considered a model for other cities across the nation.

The results of the study have been promising enough to land Weis an article in the April 28 edition of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Other TCOM faculty members listed as secondary authors of the study are Philip C. Slocum, D.O., Francis

## Tuberculosis Study Called Model For Nation

By Amy Keen, Staff Writer, Office for Development University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth

X. Blais, D.O., and Brian H. Foresman, D.O., all from the department of internal medicine.

"As far as the state of Texas is concerned, Dr. Weis kind of took the lead," said Gerry Burgess, public health program coordinator for the health department. "I think it's something the whole nation has needed, and it has not been done anywhere else in the country like this. Programs for DOT have taken place on a very limited scale elsewhere, but not on this scale. And here, we were very fortunate because not only was it working, but Dr. Weis had been recording the data all along, so we could back it up. We've shown that it works and it's cost effective."

In the article, Weis compares the 407 episodes of TB (each patient can have recurring episodes of TB if they don't complete their treatment) reported to the health department from January 1980 through October 1986, when traditional therapy was used, against the 581 episodes from November 1986 through December 1992, when DOT was in place.

During the latter period, the number of TB cases nationwide had leaped from a low in 1985 of 22,000 to more than 26,000 cases in 1986. In Tarrant County, the number of reported TB cases increased from 58 in 1980, when the county's population was 861,000, to 100 in 1992, when the county's population was 1.2 million.

Since DOT began, despite sky-rocketing rates of homelessness, the use of intravenous drugs and crack cocaine,

- the frequency of primary drug resistance (resistance to one or more drugs on the first sensitivity test) dropped from 13 percent to 6.7 percent;
- acquired resistance (resistance that developed during or after treatment) dropped from 14 to 2.1 percent;
- the rate of relapse (a positive TB test in a patient who previously had completed treatment) fell from 20.9 percent to 5.5 percent, and
- the number of relapses with multidrug resistant organisms (a positive test for multi-drug resistant TB in a patient who had relapsed) fell from 25 to 5 percent.

The DOT program was set up in Tarrant County with no extra money in the clinic's budget by using personnel already on staff. The observation therapy was applied universally to all patients, from street people, prostitutes, inmates and immigrants to doctors, nurses, lawyers and social workers. Patients who didn't comply were issued letters warning of quarantine, and two so far this year have been isolated by court order while they finish their treatment.

"In almost all other health care we want people to take responsibility for their disease, so this is completely different," Weis said. "We can't predict who will take their medicines the way they should, no matter what their race or social status or what they do for a living. Since we can't predict it, we accept the responsibility."

Some days, Weis has a difficult time making patients understand the importance of their taking several months' worth of medicine that has several unpleasant side effects.

A young Vietnamese woman with multidrug resistant TB is in his office one morning and looks puzzled as an interpreter tells her why Weis wants her to continue the treatment that is making her lose weight and feel nauseous and dizzy.

"Explain to her that if we don't cure it this time, she has a 50 percent chance of dying from it," Weis tells his interpreter, Le Turk. The patient sighs and looks near tears. "Le, tell her I'm sorry; I'm not trying to make her miserable, I'm trying to make her feel better."

That message of caring, Burgess said, is an unwritten aspect of the DOT program's success in building good relationships between the medical community and the TB patient. Some patients even come from other counties for treatment at the Fort Worth health department because they've heard its staff treats them with respect.

Burgess said that is a reflection on Weis "He is probably the most dedicated and caring physician I've ever dealt with. It's nothing for him to be out in the homeless shelter, elbow-to-elbow with the staff. You can tell how much he cares about his work. We're blessed to have him."

## Adverse Event Reporting System Overhauled FDA Introduces MEDWATCH

When a drug goes to market, we know everything about its safety. Wrong. 1-800-FDA-1088 With the theme, "If it's serious, we need to know," the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) introduced a new approach to reporting serious adverse events by health professionals. Known as the FDA Medical Products Reporting program, or MEDWATCH, it is intended to increase the percentage of **serious** adverse event reports by health professionals by simplifying the entire voluntary reporting system.

To ensure the safety of drugs, medical devices and other products regulated by the FDA upon introduction into the market, it is essential that adverse events or product quality problems be reported. As noted by FDA Commissioner David A. Kessler, M.D., the MEDWATCH program "encourages health care professionals to regard reporting as a fundamental professional and public health responsi-

bility." In turn, the FDA will be taking a more aggressive stance in responding to reports.

MEDWATCH Partner organizations, which include the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, have been urged to disseminate information as to what constitutes a **serious** event and how to report one. As of June 22, 1994, 88 organizations had agreed to work with the FDA as MEDWATCH Partners.

#### Serious Adverse Events

Prior to the implementation of MEDWATCH, the definition of serious included death, hospitalization or disability. Under this definition, only 30 percent of voluntary reports of adverse drug events were reported as serious during 1992.

Under the new program, an adverse event is classified as serious when a patient experiences death; hospitalization; disability; a lifethreatening condition; a congenital anomaly; or intervention to prevent permanent damage.

Seven months after the program was launched, MEDWATCH's Central Triage Unit had received more than 4,200 voluntary adverse event reports, approximately 55 percent of which were reported as serious. Sixty-four percent of those reports were for adverse drug events; of these, 70 percent were serious.

#### What to Report

Health care professionals should report serious adverse events experienced with drugs or biologics, medical devices, foods (dietary supplements, infant formulas, medical foods), or any other product used in medical therapy and regulated by the FDA. Report product problems when there are concerns about the quality, performance or safety of any medication or device (e.g., glass fragments in a medication, discoloration of products and foul odors). If there are doubts as to whether an adverse event meets the definition of serious, but the health professional feels it is something the FDA should be aware of, report it.

It should be noted that adverse events associated with vaccines will continue to be reported through the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), a program jointly administered by the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To request a VAERS form, call 800-822-7967.

#### How to Report

One of the benefits of the new program is that the separate forms previously used for voluntary reporting have been consolidated into a single, one-page reporting form, called the MEDWATCH voluntary form (FDA 3500).

Form 3500, as well as the FDA Desk Guide for Adverse Event and Product Problem Reporting, which contains information and instructions, can be obtained by calling 1-800-FDA-1088. The form is also available in such publications as the Physicians' Desk Reference, the FDA Medical Bulletin; AMA Drug Evaluations; the AHFS Drug Information; and the USP Drug Information. For convenience, the form may be photocopied.

To further facilitate voluntary reporting, health professionals can fax reports to 800-FDA-0178; report electronically by computer to 800-FDA-7737; call 800-FDA-1088 to report **serious** adverse drug events and/or quality problems, and product problems with medical devices; or mail reports to MEDWATCH, 5600 Fishers Lane (HF-2), Rockville, MD 20857.

#### **Mandatory Reporting**

Health professionals working in a hospital, nursing home, outpatient treatment facility, or ambulatory surgical facility, who report on a medical device problem in which the patient experienced serious illness, injury or death should notify the person in charge of mandatory reporting to determine whether to use the voluntary or the mandatory version of the MEDWATCH form.

Forms for Mandatory Reporting by User Facilities for Devices (form FDA 3500A), as well as instructions and a coding manual, are available by calling 800-638-2041, or writing: Division of Small Manufacturers Assistance (HFZ-220), Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Serious adverse events with medical devices not subject to mandatory reporting (e.g., occurring in a physician's office) should be reported to the FDA on the voluntary form.

#### A Workable Program

The success of the MEDWATCH program ensures greater cooperation between the medical community and the FDA. The importance of the program, insofar as voluntary reporting is concerned, stresses an enhanced ability by the FDA to not only monitor product safety, but to take any needed action as quickly and effectively as possible. By playing a role in postmarket surveillance, health care professionals will inevitably realize the value of the information they report to the FDA.

## AOA Annual Convention – The San Francisco Marriott November 12-17, 1994 Tri-State Fall Vacation/Seminar – Harrah's Lake Tahoe November 17-20, 1994

#### **OOA - TOMA - AOMA**

Join the Tri-State Fall Vacation/ Convention/Seminar to the AOA Annual Convention in San Francisco and the Post Convention Seminar to Harrah's Lake Tahoe, sponsored by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, Texas Osteopathic Medical Association, and the Arkansas Osteopathic Medical Association.

#### The San Francisco Marriott

San Francisco's glittering new landmark, The San Francisco Marriott, is in the heart of the city. And it's only steps and minutes away from cable cars, Union Square, Chinatown, Fisherman's Wharf, and Pier 39. The San Francisco Marriott has the best accommodations of every type and boasts 39 stories of 1500 elegant rooms. An invigorating indoor pool is ready to relax guests, along with the health club, whirlpool, saunas, and nearby golf and tennis. There is also a wide range of formal and casual dining rooms. The San Francisco Marriott is the AOA's primary headquarters hotel.

#### Harrah's Lake Tahoe

Harrah's Lake Tahoe is as majestic as the lake itself. The 540 deluxe room hotel features, in each room, original artwork and separate bathrooms, each with its own television and telephone. In addition, you will discover shops and services to make your visit more relaxing and enjoyable. Fitness buffs will enjoy the glass dome-covered swimming pool, as well as state-of-the-art health club facilities and a full service indoor sun tanning center. There is plenty to do around beautiful Lake Tahoe, and when it comes to Nevada-style fun, nobody has more fun than Harrah's Lake Tahoe. The spacious casino keeps the good times rolling 24 hours a day. The 24-hour gaming action features 135 table games and over 1800 slot machines. You will enjoy top name entertainment and the best of Broadway in the fabulous South Shore Room. Or you can catch hot music, comedy acts, and sizzling revues in the Stateline Cabaret. Harrah's Lake Tahoe features seven top notch restaurants ranging from deli sandwiches to Travel/Holiday Magazine awardwinning cuisine.

#### **CME Credits Offered Physicians**

Six hours of AOA Category 1-A CME credits have been granted for this Post Convention Seminar. "Shared Medical Practice Situations" lectures will be provided by participating physicians on a variety of general medical subjects with Richard J. Langerman, D.O., Coordinator. Price included in cost of trip.

#### **Price Inclusions and Exclusions**

The cost of the Tri-State Fall Vacation/ Convention/Seminar is priced per person, based on double occupancy. The price includes air transportation from and to your point of origin in Oklahoma, Texas, or Arkansas, ground transportation and baggage handling from the San Francisco Airport to The San Francisco Marriott, ground transportation and baggage handling from the Reno Airport to Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Cost includes hotel(s) in San Francisco and Lake Tahoe, respectively. Cost does not include cancellation insurance, and refunds are limited after September 12, 1994.

#### **Air Reservations**

Grand Tours Travel Agency will make the air reservations and will confirm the best available schedule and rate. Reservations must be made by September 12, 1994, and **rates are subject to change.** 

#### **Hotel Reservations**

Grand Tours Travel Agency will make the hotel reservations for trip participants at The San Francisco Marriott and Harrah's Lake Tahoe and will be responsible for guaranteeing the room with the participant's credit card. Persons not traveling with this sponsored trip must make hotel reservations with the AOA Housing Bureau and may make air travel reservations with Grand Tours Travel or the travel agency of choice. All reservations must be made by September 12, 1994. Call Grand Tours Travel for air travel at 405/942-0750 or 1/800/999-8687, and ask for Gordon or Janet.

#### San Francisco Only

OOA, TOMA, or AOMA members wanting to attend only the AOA Convention in San Francisco and stay i our reserved block of rooms at The Sa Francisco Marriott must make air travreservations with Grand Tours Travel

#### Lake Tahoe Only

OOA, TOMA, or AOMA member wanting to attend only the Po Convention Seminar at Harrah's La Tahoe can call Grand Tours Travel is specific information. Call 405/942-07: or 1/800/999-8687, and ask for Gordc or Janet.

#### Space is Limited

Our block of rooms at The Sa Francisco Marriott and Harrah's La Tahoe is limited and reservations will be accepted on a "first come-first served basis.

#### **Cost Information**

#### San Francisco

<u>Depart</u>	One Person	2nd Person
Amarillo	\$1,407.00	\$331.00
Austin	1,354.00	278.00
Dallas/Fort Worth	1,518.00	442.00
Houston	1,360.00	284.00
Little Rock	1,523.00	447.00
Lubbock	1,381.00	305.00
Oklahoma City	1,399.00	323.00
San Antonio	1,331.00	255.00
Tulsa	1,415.00	339.00

#### San Francisco/Tahoe

<u>Depart</u>	One Person	2nd Person
Amarillo	\$1,894.00	\$338.00
Austin	1,889.00	326.00
Dallas/Ft. Worth	2,028.00	472.00
Houston	1,922.00	366.00
Little Rock	2,054.00	498.00
Lubbock	1,887.00	
Oklahoma City	1,936.00	380.00
	1,879.00	323.00
Tulsa	1,949.00	413.00
Little Rock Lubbock Oklahoma City San Antonio	2,054.00 1,887.00 1,936.00 1,879.00	498.00 331.00 380.00 323.00

## Graduation '94 - Right Profession, Right Time

The osteopathic philosophy of primary care, health promotion and disease prevention makes graduates of Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine "perfectly positioned for national health care reform," said Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H., medical director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Moritsugu, who describes himself as being "more of a D.O. than an M.D.," was speaker for the 1994 commencement ceremony held June 4 at the Tarrant County Convention Center.

Health science center president David M. Richards, D.O., praised Moritsugu for "extending a hand of collegiality to the osteopathic profession" more than 20 years ago. Richards noted that Moritsugu's pronouncements in the 1970s about the direction in which health care should be going – toward primary care, disease prevention and health promotion – are being echoed today by health professionals and policy makers.

In his address, Moritsugu described health care reform as a "maelstrom ... a juggernaut rolling with an unstoppable momentum."

He told the graduates that their degrees would benefit them. "You are graduating from a school that, over a decade ago, commited itself to the principles of health that are becoming the benchmarks of national (health care) reform." The current reform environment, far from being a risk or a danger, poses great opportunity for osteopathic physicians, Moritsugu added.

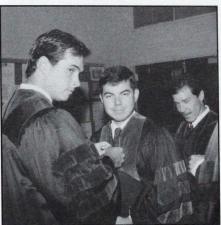
He disagreed with any perception that becoming a health science center means abandoning TCOM's original osteopathic concepts. "This school is a prime example of strategic evolution; to meet its mission of producing health professions for the needs of the nation while retaining its osteopathic foundation," Moritsugu said.

The commencement speaker urged the new physicians to remember "the power of one – one patient seeking care from one provider."

The 87 graduates bring the number of osteopathic physicians graduated from TCOM to 1,530.

Additionally, presentation of five Ph.D. degrees from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences marked the first time that a degree other than an osteopathic medical degree was awarded by the institution in its 24-year history.

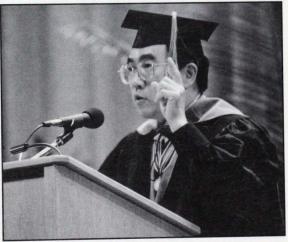












## University of North Texas Health Science Center At Fort Worth Awards Banquet Honors Graduates



Two members of the TCOM Class of 1994, Deborah Kaufman and Thomas K. Hirota, each received five awards when the outstanding achievements of the graduates of the health science center were recognized during the annual awards banquet June 3 at the Worthington Hotel.

Kaufman received the following honors: the President's Scholar Award, the Ross Pediatric Award, the Marion Merrell Dow Award, the Internal Medicine Award for Academic Excellence and the Wyeth-Ayerst Award for Clinical Excellence in Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Hirota was presented with the SmithKline Beecham awards in pediatrics and pathology, the Internal Medicine Award for Clinical Excellence, the Robert J. Nelson, D.O., Memorial Award for Clinical Excellence in Obstetrics/Gynecology and the Sam Buchanan, Sr., D.O., Memorial Award.

Two new awards were presented at this year's banquet. Amy Hubert, wife of Jeff Hubert, TCOM Class of 1994, received the Donna Jones Moritsugu Memorial Award. The honor, sponsored by the National Osteopathic Foundation, is presented to the spouse of a graduating student who best exemplifies the role of a professional's partner. The foundation established the award in memory of the wife of Kenneth P. Moritsugu, M.D., and the health science center's commencement speaker for 1994. Moritsugu attended the awards banquet to make the presentation to Hubert.

One inaugural Graduate Faculty Outstanding Student Award was presented to XiaoQiang Kang. Kang was one of five doctoral students who earned their Ph.D. degrees this year from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

In addition to Kaufman and Hirota, three other TCOM graduates earned multiple honors. John M. Ward Jr., received four awards: the President's Award, the T. Robert Sharp, D.O., Award, the Upjohn Award and the President's Scholar Award. John David Orr was honored with the Sigma Sigma Phi Senior Award and the Sandoz Award. Monica Johnson was recognized with the Mead Johnson Award and the Larry L. Bunnell, D.O., Award.

Other students receiving awards included: Claire McKay, the Wayne O. Stockseth Award; Jeff Johnson, the Chancellor's Award; William B. Robertson, the Arrowsmith Award; Felice Crowder, the Robert G. Haman, D.O., Memorial Award; Trahn Ho Slavek, the Outstanding Senior Student Award in Emergency Medicine; Jeff Hubert, the Surgery Award; Barry Hardin, the DuPont Anesthesiology Award; Jeff Porter, the Allan & Hansbury Pediatric Achievement Award; and Martha Danhof, the National Osteopathic Women Physicians Association Award.

Three faculty members also were honored at the awards banquet. Richard Baldwin, D.O., associate professor of family medicine, was named the clinical professor of the year. Nizam Peerwani, M.D., associate professor of pathology and the Tarrant County medical examiner, was selected as the preclinical professor of the year for the third time. These awards, determined by student vote, have been sponsored since 1986 by M.L. Coleman, D.O. The TCOM Class of 1994 also dedicated the student yearbook, Speculum, to Carol Browne, D.O., assistant professor of family medicine.

## Important Correction

"Proposed Changes to the Rules of the Caucus," listed on page 14 of the July/August issue of the *TEXAS DO*, contained an error. Number 4 was inadvertently listed as approved when, in fact, it was disapproved. Thus, this section should read:

Proposed Change to the Rules of the Caucus:

\*Change 1 as follows:

1. Host TOMA district will sponsor the caucus meeting, and the chairman of the host delegation or his/her designee shall preside. Host chairman may call for election of caucus chairman if he/she so desires. The host district shall pay all costs of the caucus meeting, if it is financially able, or TOMA will attempt to obtain outside sponsorship for the caucus.

Approved

## Postgraduate Training Locations for TCOM Class of 1994

Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation 1516 Jefferson Highway New Orleans, LA 70121 Barry Todd Hardin, D.O.

Bay Area Medical Center 7101 South Padre Island Drive Corpus Christi, TX 78412 Susan Allen, D.O. Christopher Allen Bell, D.O. Jeffrey Dale Johnson, D.O. Scott Daniel Robinson, D.O.

Baylor College of Medicine One Baylor Plaza Houston, TX 77030-2707 Siddharth R. Dave, D.O.

Beth Israel Medical Center Ist Avenue & 16th Street New York, NY 10003 Sandeep Singh, D.O.

Botsford General Hospital 28050 Grand River Avenue Farmington Hills, MI 48336 Lisa Carole Palmer, D.O.

Brentwood Hospital 4110 Warrensville Heights Road Warrensville Heights, OH 44122 David Scott Scheiner, D.O.

Brooke Army Medical Center Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6200 Sellas Pecos Coble, D.O.

Cheyenne Family Practice Center 821 East 18th Street Cheyenne, WY 82001 Gregory Alan Selenke, D.O.

Cleveland Clinic Hospital 9500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44195-5011 Edward Ralph Assi, D.O.

E.A. Conway Medical Center P.O. Box 1881 Monroe, LA 71210-1881 David Nga Hoang, D.O.

Dallas Family Hospital 2929 South Hampton Road

249 South Hampton Road Dallas, TX 75224 Judith Snow Cherry, D.O. Brent Alan Harvey, D.O. Poin Paul Inthanousay, D.O. Monica Lynne Johnson, D.O. Thao Qui Nguyen, D.O.

Des Moines General Hospital 603 East 12th Des Moines, 1A 50309-5596 Michael Kent McFarland, D.O.

Doctors Hospital 5500 39th Street Groves, TX 77619 Felice Fay Crowder, D.O.

Doctors Hospital - North 1087 Dennison Avenue Columbus, OH 43201 Larry G. Armstrong, D.O. Mark Alan White, D.O.

Driscoll Children's Hospital 3533 South Alameda Corpus Christi, TX 78411 Serena Wilber Sherron, D.O.

Sentember 1004

Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center Fort Gordon, GA 30905-5650 William B. Roberson, Jr., D.O.

Eastmoreland Hospital 2900 Southeast Steele Street Portland, OR 97202 Max Anthony Arnett, D.O.

Erlanger Medical Center 975 East 3rd Street Chattanooga, TN 37403-2112 Gregory Scott Willis, D.O.

Fitzsimons Army Medical Center Aurora, CO 80045-5000 Thomas Kenji Hirota, D.O. Jeffrey Kyle Hubert, D.O.

Grandview Hospital 405 Grand Avenue Dayton, OH 45405 Daniel Robert Gilbert, D.O.

Hermann Hospital 6411 Fannin Houston, TX 77030-1599 Ada Dean Earp, D.O.

Hillcrest Health Center 2129 Southwest 59th Street Oklahoma City, OK 73119 Douglas B. Coffman, D.O. Sean Evan Neely, D.O.

Hurley Medical Center One Hurley Plaza Flint, MI 48502-5993 Arash Manzori, D.O.

John Peter Smith Hospital 1500 South Main Street Fort Worth, TX 76104-4940 Frank Guajardo, D.O.

Kennedy Memorial Hospital 401 South Central Plaza Suite 111 Stratford, NJ 08084 Deborah Louise Kaufman, D.O.

Madigan Army Medical Center P.O. Box 266 Tacoma, WA 98431-5000 Benjamin Merrick Crandall, D.O.

Memorial Medical Center 2606 Hospital Boulevard Corpus Christi, TX 78405 Michael Kent Petty, D.O. Frederick Robb Sherron, D.O.

Methodist Hospital Dallas 1441 North Beckley P.O. Box 655999 Dallas, TX 75265-5999 Stephan Martin Kramer, D.O.

Michiana Community Hospital 2515 East Jefferson South Bend, IN 46615 Carlton John Lewis, D.O. Steven Lee Wimberly, D.O.

Michigan Health Center 2700 Martin Luther King Blvd. Detroit, MI 48208 Paul Anton Bublis, D.O. Mount Clemens General Hospital 1000 Harrington Boulevard Mount Clemens, MI 48043 Brendan Albracht, D.O.

Northeast Community Hospital 1301 Airport Freeway Bedford, TX 76021 Joseph R. Berger, III, D.O. Debbie Ann Crawford, D.O. Sarah Catherine Scheel, D.O. (formerly Sally Ann Murphey)

O'Bleness Memorial Hospital 55 Hospital Drive Athens, OH 45701 Thanh Ho Slavek, D.O.

Ohio State University College of Medicine Hospital Clinic 456 West 10th Avenue Columbus, OH 43210 Gary L. Rhame, D.O.

Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas 1000 Montgomery Street Fort Worth, TX 76107 Paul Steven Bishop, D.O. Michael William Houck, D.O. William Justin Lagaly, D.O. Claire McKay, D.O. Arax Babaian Nazarian, D.O. Trayce Lynn Orr, D.O. Shawn Douglas Parsley, D.O. Scott Alan Russell, D.O. Raewyn Shell, D.O. John Morris Ward, Jr., D.O.

Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital 50 North North Perry Street Pontiac, MI 48342-2253 Kevin Jenn Liu, D.O.

Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas 8200 Walnut Hill Lane Dallas, TX 75231 Martha L. Danhof, D.O.

Quillen College of Medicine East Tennessee State University P.O. Box 70580 Johnson City, TN 37614-0580 Shahram Daniel Asadi, D.O. Michael Joseph Parisi, D.O.

Rhode Island Hospital 593 Eddy Street Providence, RI 02903-4923 John David Orr, D.O.

St. Anthony Hospital 1000 North Lee, Box 205 Oklahoma City, OK 73102-0205 *Charles Barton Pruitt, D.O. Roy Brent Wadle, D.O. Robert Allen Wageneck, D.O.* 

Saint Barnabas Hospital 183rd Street & Third Avenue Bronx, NY 10457 Jeanne E. Gaska, D.O.

St. Paul Medical Center 5909 Harry Hines Dallas, TX 75235 Cheryl Ann Bray, D.O.

Scott and White Hospital 2401 South 31st Street Temple, TX 76508 Justin Wade Powell, D.O.

Southwestern Medical School 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, TX 75235-9096 Jill Wynette Bracken, D.O. Texas Tech Health Science Center 4800 Alberta El Paso, TX 79905-2700 *Karen M. Carr, D.O.* 

Tri-City Hospital 7525 Scyene Road Dallas, TX 75227 Jeanie Huvnh, D.O.

Tulane University Medical Center 1430 Tulane Avenue New Orleans, LA 70112-2699 Tracy Lee Conrad, D.O.

Tulsa Regional Medical Center 744 West 9th Street Tulsa, OK 74127 *Tracey Ann George, D.O.* 

University of Alabama at Montgomery 4240 Narrow Lane Road Montgomery, AL 36111 *Thanq Quoc An, D.O.* 

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Fayetteville 2907 East Joyce Street Fayetteville, AR 72703 Scott Marshall Pierce, D.O.

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard Fort Worth, TX 76107-2699 Shaun H. Kretzschmar, D.O. David Arthur Tilles, D.O.

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio 7703 Floyd Curl Drive San Antonio, TX 78284 *Richard E. Scott, Jr., D.O.* 

University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler P.O. Box 2003 Tyler, TX 75710 Williams Bradley Burrows, D.O. Charles W. Smith, D.O.

Valley Medical Center of Fresno 445 South Cedar Avenue Fresno, CA 93702-2998 Donald Wayne Fields, D.O.

William Beaumont Army Medical Center Piedras Street El Paso, TX 79920-5001 Jeffrey Scott Porter, D.O.

Wilson Memorial Hospital 33-57 Harrison Street Johnson City, NY 13790 *Ely Reuben Gordon, D.O.* 

Wilson Memorial Regional Medical Center 35-37 Harrison Street Johnson City, NY 13790 Kevin Lee Hastings, Jr., D.O.

Womack Army Medical Center Fort Bragg, NC 28307-5000 Hans C. Bruntmyer, D.O.

(Research) 1013 West Fairway Road Waco, TX 76712 Helo Chen, D.O.

# FYI

#### TOMA AND TMA HALT MEDICAID LOBBYING CERTIFICATION

TOMA's and TMA's immediate response to physician concerns resulted in Medicaid halting enforcement of recently mailed lobbying and debarment forms.

#### According to NHIC:

Recently, medical service providers participating in the Medicaid program received Federal Regulation Forms Certification Regarding entitled Federal Lobbying and Certification Regarding Debarment. Because of the concern expressed by the medical community regarding the requirement to sign these forms, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) and the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) have asked their legal counsel to reevaluate the intent of the law's requirements. Until a determination is made and you receive notification, please retain these documents at your office; do not complete and return to NHIC as previously instructed.

TOMA does not believe these forms apply to physicians.

TOMA advises physicians not to sign these forms. If you have questions, contact Terry Boucher, TOMA Exedutive Director, at 1-800-444-8662.

#### STATE PROPOSAL LIMITS SOME HOME BIRTHS

A proposed state standard to prohibit midwives from supervising vaginal births of women who have had Caesarean surgery (V-BAC), unless emergency medical care is available within 15 minutes, has drawn mixed reactions from the states' 300 plus midwives. While some view the proposal as a form of progressive compromise in that midwives supervising V-BAC's could have been altogether prohibited, others feel it restricts a woman's choice of caretaker and place of birth.

Dr. Scott Simpson, an obstetrician and director of Women's Health at the Texas Department of Health, which staffs and supports the state Midwifery Board, noted that although V-BAC's are now considered safe, "you're still more likely to rupture the uterus than if you've never had a C-section. For a nonscarred uterus, the incidence of rupture is about 0.05 percent. For scarred, it's between 0.5 to 1.5 percent. But when it happens, it can be catastrophic real fast." Some midwives contend that the statistical incidence of ruptures is based on births in hospital where drugs are often used to speed up labor.

#### INTRODUCED

\*\*Bristol-Myers Squibb Company has introduced Estrace® (estradiol tablets, USP) 0.5 mg., a new low-dose estrogen replacement therapy (ERT) used to prevent loss of bone density in postmenopausal women. The most common side effects of low-dose Estrace 0.5 mg. include: nausea and vomiting, breast tenderness and enlargement, and retention of excess fluid.

\*\*Abbott Laboratories has introduced the "Abbott Energizer," a drug delivery system that keeps patients' indwelling peripheral catheters free of occluding blood clots and ready to accept IV medication by delivering a minute, steady flow of saline continuously over a 48-hour period. The device cuts the overall consumption of heparin or saline solution and reduces the labor associated with other techniques.

(From Texas Pharmacy, July 1994)

#### CORRECTION

A coding error has been noted in the article *Proper Use of the New OMT Codes*, written by Dr. Brian G. Knight, which appeared in the May issue, page 10, of the *TEXAS DO*.

For purposes of clarification, the entire paragraph should read as follows:

The whole section under Physical Medicine in the CPT has been rewritten. All of those codes have been adjusted and there is now a new code – 97250 – for myofascial release. This can be used one time per visit and is not a per area code. I encourage physicians to review that area of the CPT for the code changes so they aren't missing other things that they're doing, because these can be combined with the osteopathic exam.

Our apologies for any confusion this may have caused.

#### FDA'S FELBATOL WARNING PANICS PATIENTS

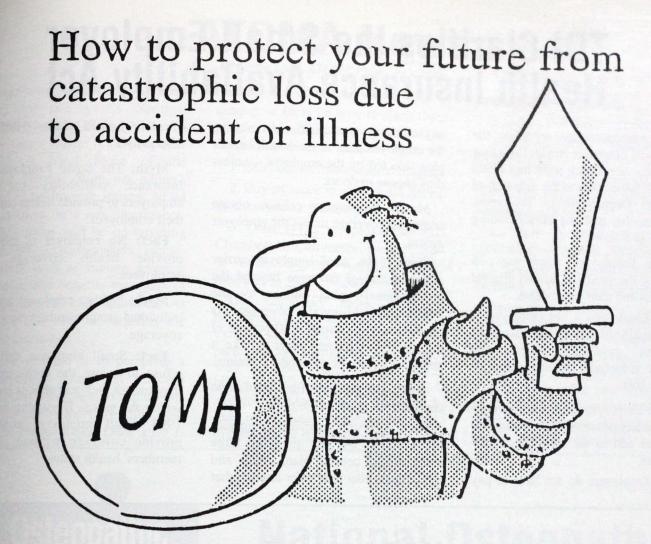
The Food and Drug Administration recently warned physicians to immediately consider taking their patients with epilepsy off of the drug Felbatol, after reports that two patients died of aplastic anemia, and eight others contracted the disease. As a result of the warning, the Epilepsy Foundation of America has been receiving up to 700 calls daily from patients wanting more information on Felbatol. The FDA is strongly cautioning patients to see a physician first, rather than abruptly discontinuing the drug, which could lead to serious seizures. The drug has not been recalled.

#### PERSIAN GULF SYNDROME SUFFERERS TO BE COMPENSATED

A bill has been approved in the U.S. House that would compensate disabled veterans of the Persian Gulf War for up to three years. The various ailments displayed by the veterans have stumped physicians, thus the term "Persian Gulf Syndrome" was coined.

#### FDA ADVISORY PANEL SAYS NICOTINE LIKELY TO BE ADDICTIVE

By unanimous vote, an advisory panel of the Food and Drug Administration concluded that the nicotine delivered by marketed cigarettes is "likely to lead to addiction in the typical smoker," rejecting the tobacco industry's claims that nicotine is not addictive. The FDA will now consider whether to regulate tobacco products as it does drugs.



## HEALTH INSURANCE - A Strategy For The `90s

The high cost, no guarantee system of health insurance coverage is an enemy that is battling ALL small employers, especially physicians.

Although a total victory over these problems may still be far away, TOMA has discovered a "knight in shining armor" for its members who can help shield the frustrations that managing health insurance (or the lack of) can cause.

TOMA has appointed DEAN, JACOBSON FINANCIAL SERVICES to battle the complexities of the health insurance environment for you. Insured through CNA Insurance Company (an A + + Excellent rated company with a long, successful record in the accident and health business) the TOMA plan offers superior Major Medical coverage to its members at very competitive rates.

So, regardless of your current situation with health coverage, call DEAN, JACOBSON FINANCIAL SERVICES to help you protect your future!

For information on coverages, costs, and enrollment forms contact:

#### DEAN, JACOBSON FINANCIAL SERVICES

(817) 335-3214 P.O. Box 470185 Fort Worth, TX 76147 (800) 321-0246 (817) 429-0460 Dallas/Fort Worth Metro

## TDI Clarifies the Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act

Some misconceptions regarding the Texas Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act, which went into effect January 1, have come to the attention of the Texas Department of Insurance. Several myths, and the corresponding facts, are as follows:

**Myth:** Employers must pay 75 percent of the premium for all eligible employees and their dependents.

**Fact:** Employees – not employers – are responsible for paying the full cost of dependent coverage, unless the employer voluntarily assumes some or all of the cost.

**Myth:** Employers also must pay 75 percent of any premium for coverage the employees add to the plan selected by employers.

Fact: Employers do not have to pay

any of the cost of additional coverage the employee adds to the health benefit plan selected by the employer – unless they choose to do so.

**Myth:** Employees cannot obtain additional coverage unless the employer agrees.

**Fact:** If the small employer carrier offers additional coverage beyond the health benefit plan chosen by the employer, additional coverage is guaranteed to be issued if 40 percent of the eligible employees elect to take it and agree to pay the additional premium.

Myth: The number of health plans to choose from is limited to three.

Fact: Although insurance companies are required by law to offer three standardized benefit plans, they and their agents also may offer any number of other benefit plans. (HMOs mus offer only 2).

Myth: The Small Employer Healt Insurance Availability Act require employers to provide health coverage is their employees.

Fact: No employer is required to provide health coverage to it employees.

Myth: Neither employee groups no individual group members can be denied coverage.

Fact: Small employer carriers carriers carriers carriers carriers carriers carriers carriers can refuse to insure the entire group, but they cannot pick and choose individual within the group. Beginning September 1995, small employer carriers mus provide coverage without regard to members' health status.

### IN Memoriam GLADYS AUTEN, D.O.

Dr. Gladys Auten of Waco passed away July 22. She was 86 years of age. Funeral services were held July 25 at the Charlie Marshall Chapel in Aransas Pass, with burial at Prairie View Cemetery, Aransas Pass.

Dr. Auten was a 1934 graduate of Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery, Kansas City, Missouri. To earn the money necessary to attend college and medical school, she taught school in one-room schools. From 1934 to 1945 she and her husband, John M. Auten, D.O., practiced as Drs. Auten and Auten, serving the medical needs of the rural community of Stewartsville, Missouri. In 1945, she moved to the Aransas Pass/Ingleside, Texas area.

Dr. Auten served as the anesthesiologist for Aransas Hospital from 1947 to 1972. She was the administrator of the Aransas Hospital from 1955-1957 and from 1971-1972. On her birthday in 1971, Hurricane Celia destroyed the hospital. Immediately after the storm, she made arrangements to set up a hospital in the Educational Building of First United Methodist Church in Aransas Pass. The hospital operated for ten months in its temporary home. In 1971, Dr. Auten retired and moved to Waco.

Memberships include the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association; TOMA District XVIII; and Austin Avenue United Church in Waco.

Survivors include her husband of 59 years, John Auten, D.O.; a son, William Brutus Auten of Seguin; daughter and son-in-law, Annette and Jerry Blaschke; grandson, Barrett Auten Blaschke, all of Fort Worth; niece Wavera Gilpin Whitney of Ingleside; and her nephew, Richard Jacob Gilpin of Aransas Pass.

Expressions of sympathy may be made by donations to Trinity Valley School Capital Fund, 6101 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76133.

Plans are being finalized for auxiliary activities for this year's National Osteopathic Medicine Week, October 9-15. This year's theme is "Osteopathic Medicine: A Vital Piece of the Healthcare Puzzle." With our nation's emphasis on health care reform, NOM Week has taken on a new importance. This year's focus will be on targeting managed care decision-makers, including contacts such as human resource professionals and benefits managers of major corporations and industries. As always, we will also be targeting the healthcare consumer.

Our task at hand is to comprise a decision-maker name list through various means. Each district can do this at the local level simply by using your library and phone books. Once a list is

## **ATOMA News**

By Shara Lane, ATOMA Public Relations

comprised, the National office has a number of ideas on how to reach these people with the osteopathic message. Some of these ideas include:

1. Send out an informational mailing.

2. Buy ad space in your local/regional decision-maker publication.

3. Offer D.O.s as speakers at local Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, or even internal human resource meetings in large companies.

Our secondary focus, to target healthcare consumers, can include a variety of activities. Some districts prefer to rely on things that have worked well in past years. Each district implements ideas that best fit their abilities and local needs. There is no limit on creating any means that works to promote our message. Some ideas that have worked well include:

1. Hold a free healthcare screening.

2. Display NOM Week posters in local hospitals.

3. Pass out apples along with osteopathic medicine brochures at local hospitals/satellite offices.

4. Have members wear t-shirts promoting osteopathic medicine.

5. Send news releases to local papers outlining NOM Week activities.

Remember to promote osteopathic medicine throughout the year. Always take the opportunity in your conversations with others through work and social life to spread the word. Also, take time to volunteer at your local hospital. Find a way to become involved in NOM Week and enjoy the experience. Each person makes a difference.

**National Osteopathic** 

Medicine Week 1994

# Osteopathic Medicine

### A Vital Piece Of The Healthcare Puzzle

The theme for NOM Week 1994, scheduled for October 9-15, is "Osteopathic Medicine: A Vital Piece of the Healthcare Puzzle."

The NOM Week theme, with its corresponding planning kit, focuses on healthcare reform and managed healthcare issues, and was designed to provide a clear understanding of the AOA's national managed care plan, local opportunities that exist, and how D.O.s can affect their local decisionmakers in their own communities.

NOM Week 1994 is an outgrowth of the AOA's current national managed care campaign, dedicated to reaching decision-makers with information about osteopathic medicine. Changes in the healthcare delivery system mean that a patient's choice of physicians continues to depend more and more on employer choices of plans as well as corresponding plan choices of physicians. Thus, this year's theme is doubly important in that professionwide communication efforts must reach the various decision-makers.

Upon request, the AOA will provide an information kit containing a checklist of ways to reach decisionmakers, an osteopathic fact sheet, ideas for health screening fairs and other activities, NOM Week merchandise, a logo sheet, a poster, a sample managed care brochure and other information designed to assist you in your efforts.

For further information on NOM Week or to request a planning kit, contact Laura Kwiatkowski, AOA NOM Week Project Director, at 1/800-621-1773, ext. 5857 or 312/280-5857.

As a reminder, don't forget to send information and photos as to how you and/or your facility celebrated NOM Week to TOMA for publication in the *TEXAS DO*.

## **Texas ACOFP UPDATE**

#### By Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O., Texas ACOFP Editor



(I-r) Robert G. Maul, D.O., FACFP, ACOFP President-Elect; T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., FACFP, TOMA President; Mr. George Nyhart, Ex. Dir., ACOFP; Royce K. Keilers, D.O., FACFP.

The Texas Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Practitioners (ACOFP) held its 21st Mid-year Clinical Seminar/Symposium at the Doubletree Hotel at Park West, Dallas, Texas, August 4-7, 1994. Special guests included Robert G. Maul, D.O., ACOFP President-Elect; George V. Nyhart, ACOFP Executive Director; T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., TOMA President; and Terry Boucher, TOMA Executive Director.

The Program Chairman was Jack McCarty, D.O., who put together a quality CME program. There were 204 registrants. The Fun Night trip to Medieval Times, Dinner and Tournament was enjoyable to all participants.

Election of Texas Society of the ACOFP officers for 1994-95 took place during the annual session and they are as follows: Ben Young, D.O., President; Steve Rowley, D.O., President-Elect; Jack McCarty, D.O., Vice President; Rodney Wiseman, D.O., Treasurer; Howard Galarneau, D.O., Secretary; and Mike Franz, D.O., Immediate Past President.

There are three Presidential appointments to the Texas Society of the ACOFP Board: T. Eugene Zachary, D.O., Parliamentarian (ex-officio); R. Greg Maul, D.O., Liaison to the ACOFP (exofficio); and Joseph Montgomery-Davis, D.O., Editor (exofficio). There are three invited observers: Robert G. Maul, D.O., and Robert L. Peters, Jr., D.O., who are representatives to the ACOFP; and Craig Whiting, D.O., who is the resident liaison for the Texas Society of the ACOFP.

The six full-voting Texas Society of the ACOFP Trustees currently are: Carol Browne, D.O.; Patrick Hanford, D.O.; John Bowling, D.O.; Sara Apsley-Ambriz, D.O.; Sharron J. O'Day, D.O.; and Lance Hafter, D.O. Dr. Apsley-Ambriz was re-elected to a three-year term. Dr. O'Day was elected to a three-year term and Dr. Hafter to a two-year term. The two non-voting Texas Society of the ACOFP trustees are: Samuel T. Coleridge, D.O., TCOM Observer (ex-officio) and Student/Doctor Mike Bratch, Zeta Chapter Representative (ex-officio).

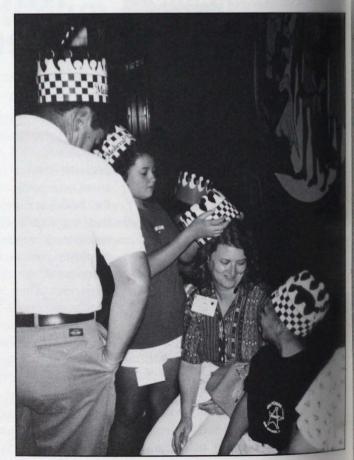
The PACER Committee of the Texas Society of the ACOFP held their meeting on Friday afternoon. They met with the Executive Committee of the Texas Society of the ACOFP and had input on the hiring of a new coordinator and the selection of nominees for board positions. Danny Wiseman, our current Texas Society of the ACOFP Coordinator, has acquired new lapel pins which are blue and white in color and measure three inches in diameter. This is an attractive pin with Texas ACOFP imprinted on it, and looks good when worn on white coats. Members can obtain lapel pins freeof-charge by calling the Texas Society of the ACOFP toll-free number, 1-800-825-8967.

The Texas Society of the ACOFP would like to thank Danny for his service to this organization. Danny is returning to his college studies at Texas A&M. He has enjoyed his tenure as Texas Society of the ACOFP Coordinator and is looking forward to an informal relationship with us in the future. We all wish Danny our best in his future endeavors; he is a quality young man.

We would also like to welcome Dawn Keilers as she assumes the position of our new Coordinator. Dawn comes to us with glowing recommendations. She is a member of our Texas osteopathic family, and we are happy to have her with us.

At our banquet on Saturday, August 6, 1994, the Texas Society of the ACOFP's "Family Practitioner of the Year" award was bestowed upon Robert G. Maul, D.O., of Lubbock. Congratulations, Bob! (*Editors note: see story on page 15*)

In closing, the Texas Society of the ACOFP Board would like to thank those members who attended the 21st Mid-year Clinical Seminar/Symposium and contributed to its success. As you can see from the photos, we all had a great time. Congratulations are in order for Kathryn E. Schmidt, D.O., of Fort Worth, who won the color TV set.



















September 1994

TEXAS DO/27

## What's Happening In Washington, D.C.

• Back to the Drawing Board. That's the status of health reform. The primary pillars of Clinton's health care plan – universal coverage and requiring employers to foot the bill (the "Employer Mandate") – are on their last legs, if not dead. Congressional leaders promise a quick trip back to the drawing board to develop a package that Congress might buy this year.

• *The Old Standbys.* The latest health care emphasis is to scrap the employer mandate and rely on two old standbys – tax incentives for employers who offer coverage and subsidies for the poor who want coverage.

• A Postcard? Your tax return could be filed on a postcard. So says Congressman Richard Armey if his new proposal to simplify the tax system and impose a flat rate tax of 17% becomes law.

• Some Hard Facts. In the U.S., government employment now exceeds the entire manufacturing work force of the American economy. The U. S. public sector is now larger than the entire economy of any country in the world except for Japan and the United Kingdom. The average family in the United States pays more in taxes than it spends on food, clothing and shelter combined.

• *More Public Employment.* Welfare reform is still on the front burner. The focus is to provide public sector employment for welfare recipients who can't find work in the private sector. Debate rages on how to cover the projected costs.

• *Bigger and Better IRAs.* Support is growing to expand the deductible IRA to all individuals, including participants in other qualified retirement plans, and to liberalize the IRA contribution and withdrawal rules. The goal is to increase saving in America.

• Big Interest Jump. New government projections indicate that the interest cost of the federal debt will be \$101 billion greater from 1994 to 1999 than was estimated when the budget was sent to Congress in February.

• A Scary Warning. The heads of the Federal Reserve Board and the Congressional Budget Office both have recently warned that unless major steps

are taken to reduce the federal deficit in the next few years, Americans will face a lower standard of living and more draconian economic remedies. Both state that it will require a mix of spending and tax changes. Heavy reliance on tax increases will choke off economic growth and actually reduce the tax base.

#### SERVICE "S CORPORATIONS" BEWARE

The Clinton Administration's health reform package includes a provision that would require all income of an S corporation involved in a service business to be treated as selfemployment income of the shareholders who materially participate in the business. The effect would be increased FICA taxes and higher mandatory health insurance premiums for the shareholders. The Senate Finance Committee's health care package would require that 80% of a service S corporation's income be treated as self-employment income.

Although key elements of Clinton's health care package are in trouble, there appears to be strong support for the notion that service S corporations need a special rule. It's reasonable to assume at this time that any health care proposal that makes it through the Washington maze will include a burdensome self-employment income provision for the shareholders of these companies.

#### PARTNERSHIPS AND LIFE INSURANCE - STRANGE BEDFELLOWS?

A successful privately-owned business faced a common planning dilemma. Its buy-sell agreement was funded with life insurance that would allow the company to purchase the stock of any shareholder who died. Although this corporate redemption structure was easy for funding and administration purposes, the shareholders knew that they would forego valuable tax benefits if a shareholder died. The alternative of using a crosspurchase structure with the policies owned by the individuals would provide better tax benefits down the road, but would greatly increase the funding and administrative hassles now.

The company discovered that the dilemma could be solved by using a separate partnership in structuring their corporate buy-sell agreement. The partnership structure provided the tax benefits of the cross-purchase option without the funding and administrative disadvantages. And it allowed the company to convert from its corporate redemption structure without any adverse tax consequences.

Many companies and individuals are discovering the benefits of using partnerships to help structure their insurance programs. A well-structured partnership often can boost the value of insurance in both business and family situations.

The above information was provided by Dean, Jacobson Financial Services, Fort Worth, Texas.

## Federal Commission Says Deficit Spending Out of Control

The Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform, a federal commission appointed to seek solutions to the government's addiction to deficit spending, recently admitted that the problem is out of control. By a 30-1 vote, the commission adopted an interim report concluding that unless the government acts now, spending on entitlement programs and interest on the national debt will eat up the entire federal budget by the year 2012, leaving a zero balance for all other programs ranging from national defense to road construction.

The report noted that any effective plan to reduce the deficit must decrease entitlement spending, which covers such programs as Medicare and Medicaid, food stamps, Social Security and federal pensions. The commission noted that Medicare spending must be brought into balance with Medicare revenue; health care costs must be restricted; and the Social Security trust fund, projected to run out of money by the year 2029, must be brought into balance.

Letters to the Editor

Mr. D. Scott Petty Associate Executive Director Texas Osteopathic Medical Association One Financial Center 1717 N. IH-35, Suite 100 Round Rock, TX 78664-2901

Dear Scott:

Thank you for taking care of the shipping of my precious items acquired while attending the T.O.M.A. Annual Convention.

The convention was excellent, the activities extraordinary and the hospitality superb. Norma and I thank you and the remainder of the staff for the opportunity of being with you.

Sincerely,

William G. Anderson, D.O., F.A.C.O.S. President, American Osteopathic Association Texas Osteopathic Medical Ass'n One Financial Center 1717 N. IH 35, Suite 100 Round Rock, Texas 78664-2901

Dear Sirs:

I am deeply grateful for the lifetime membership given me in TOMA. I thank my District 14 and the State delegates for their thoughtfulness and consideration. I appreciate the honor and the financial consideration that goes with such a special recognition.

Sincerely,

Joe Suderman, D.O. Pharr, Texas

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## **TCOM Student Receives OMCT Guild Scholarship**



TCOM Student Todd Young and OMCT Guild President Ruth Mustarde

The Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas Guild awarded a \$5,500 scholarship to TCOM Student Doctor Todd Young during Honors Day '94. The ceremony was held May 9 at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth.

Ruth Mustarde, OMCT Guild President, presented the award to Student Doctor Young, Class of '95. Todd is the second recipient of the award, which is given annually to an entering third-year student.

Mustarde said the scholarship is awarded to a student not solely on the basis of academic standing but interest in and commitment to the osteopathic profession. Todd was deemed as the most deserving of the Guild scholarship, because "he showed an interest in the volunteers at the hospital and the Guild, as well as himself," she said.

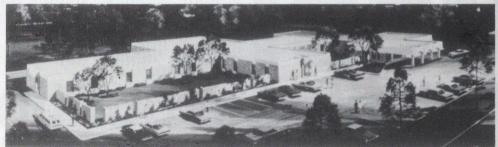
Student Doctor Young was named to the 1994 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.* He received his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Texas at Arlington and plans to complete a residency in internal medicine or family practice after graduation. Todd follows in the medical footsteps of his father, a former Fort Worth dentist who practiced in the area for 28 years. Todd said growing up around medicine strongly influenced his career choice. He has been a Fort Worth resident for eight years and plans to stay in this area to practice. Todd's parents live in the Ridglea area of Fort Worth.

Todd said the scholarship has helped remove a great part of the financial burden incurred in medical school. His education is completely supported by loans, grants and scholarships.

The Guild will continue to award the scholarship each May, treasury balance permitting. The amount of money disseminated to each student recipient will be determined each year by the executive board.

Members of this year's Scholarship Committee included: Ray Stokes, chairman, Margaret Adams, Katherine Beard, Idella Gates and Mona Harmon.

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

UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth to get new four-story clinic, animal care facility expansion from \$10 million tuition revenue bond sale

The University of North Texas Board of Regents have approved construction of a new four-story clinical education building and expansion of a vivarium for the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth.

On Aug. 12, the regents authorized a \$10 million tuition revenue bond sale for construction of the 71,500-square-feet clinic building, which will consolidate many of the health science center complex's clinics under one roof.

The money also will be used to add 8,900 square feet to the 16,000-squarefeet animal care facility, known as the vivarium, at the health science center.

The architectural firm of F&S Partners Inc. of Dallas was contracted by the board of regents to design the buildings. A construction contract will be awarded later, with construction anticipated to begin in early January.

The new clinic will house many of the health science center's clinics, several of which are now located inside the main building on campus, Medical Education Building 1.

The new clinic will include one level of underground parking for 36 vehicles. The plan, depending on the bids received, calls for leaving the top floor an unfinished shell for later use, as needed. The unfurnished upper portion of the building would be completed as the need arises, using Higher Education Assistance Funds and/or local funds.

The construction contract also will include an option to add in the future two more floors of 17,500 square feet each.

The new clinic will be located fronting Montgomery Street on part of Parking Lot C, just north of the Gibson D. Lewis Health Science Library. The clinic will replace the Central Family Medicine Clinic, which is in a separate building at 999 Montgomery St.

The vivarium expansion will add an extension onto the corner of Medical Education Building 2, facing Clifton Street.

Health Science Center President Dr. David M. Richards said, "The need for these new and enlarged facilities indicates the growth and progress of the health science center, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

"The badly needed clinical education building will enable us to consolidate most of our clinics into one location," Richards continued. "We will be able to better serve the increasing number of patients who are turning to the osteopathic medical school for their health care. It also will provide a more efficient clinical education environment for our students and faculty."

The board of regents anticipated the need for a new clinic building in September 1983, when the board voted to have a study done on the health science center's medical teaching clinics. In February 1984, the board appointed a committee to determine the long-term needs for an ambulatory academic teaching center.

The vivarium expansion is needed to accommodate the growing research programs at the health science center. The renovations also will keep the center in compliance with animal care facility guidelines of the U.S. Department of Public Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care.

The two projects will be bid as a single package, in an attempt to get a lower construction price than if the projects were bid separately. The new clinic's construction is expected to cost \$6.5 million, the vivarium expansion would cost about \$2 million and the other \$1.5 million would pay for the costs of contingencies, architect's fees, surveying and testing the site and special consultants as necessary.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will review the plans at its next meeting this fall. However, the board has already given its approval for the project. The tuition revenue bond sale was authorized during the last session of the Texas Legislature.

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth is a stateassisted facility that includes the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. It is located in the heart of Fort Worth's cultural district at 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard.

#### UNT Health Science Center Wins 1994 Medical School Award

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians presented its 1994 Medical School Award to the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth and the center's Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine for their record of graduates practicing family medicine.

The award recognizes Texas medical schools with more than 25 percent of their graduates going into family medicine. Nearly 45 percent of TCOM's 1994 graduates chose family medicine residency programs.

Accepting the award at the TAFP meeting in El Paso on July 29 were Benjamin L. Cohen, D.O., vice president for health affairs and executive dean, and Samuel T. Coleridge, D.O., chairman of TCOM's Department of Family Medicine.

A recent report from the Texas Department of Health also helps to solidify TCOM's position as one of the premier producers of primary care physicians in the state. According to the report, TCOM ranks first among the eight Texas medical schools in the percentage of its 1987 graduates who remained in Texas to practice primary care medicine.

The report, issued by the health department's Health Professions Resource Center, says that 74 percent of TCOM's 1987 graduates who are practicing medicine in Texas are in some form of primary care. The publication also ranked TCOM first in the number and percentage of graduates practicing primary care in rural areas of the state.

The report was based on 1987 graduates so that the physicians could be tracked from graduation through residency training to their current practice specialty selections as of June 1994.

Another report on the health science center's achievements in producing primary care physicians was an article in the May 1994 issue of the American Osteopathic Association magazine, *The DO*.

## Self's Tips & Tidings

#### **DIPSTICK URINALYSIS**

Medicare no longer requires the Q code for urinalysis. They now accept and require the codes 81000 and 81002. We recommend you immediately change your coding.

#### **BLANKET APPROVAL**

Medicare Newsletter #128 (6/1/94) has all of the companies that have been granted blanket approval for claims (which means the provider does not have to go through testing) and we are definitely on the list. Our electronic claims program (Compass) and our claims partner (Ed Muehlhause) are listed on page 39 of the newsletter. Also interesting in this issue is the response Medicare received to their survey of why practices are not submitting claims electronically. One answer: "the expense of submitting electronic claims is too high and cannot be justified" is in deference to all of those high priced claims services. We charge less than almost anyone else we know of. If your volume and type of claims justify, your fee can be as low as 50 cents per claim. If you have no computer at all, and wish us to keypunch your Care/Caid, the fee can be as low as \$1.50 per claim. Unlike 99% of the other services, we do not have a setup fee, monthly minimum fee or duration contract. Pass this on to your friends and colleagues.

#### **HPSA AREAS CHANGE AGAIN**

If you live in an area that you believe is underserved by physicians, you may wish to check Medicare Newsletter #128 (6/1/94), as a new updated list of HPSA areas is listed on pages 9 to 13. The additional 10% quarterly bonus payment may not sound like much, but it can add up. If you have questions about the modifiers QB & QU, or the placement of the designator, give us a call. This is part of our monthly retainer service, so retainer clients are not charged for help.

#### **SCREENING PAP – MEDICARE**

As we reported in our April edition of S.T.A.T., Medicare does not pay for screening pap in certain circumstances. Medicare briefly covers this area on page 19 of their newsletter #128, but not in enough detail. Medicare does not mention the code for collecting and handling of the specimen (Q0091) or the more than \$20.00 reimbursement level, that we discussed in April for this little known code. This is just one more example of why we are thankful you use our services, because Medicare doesn't tell you everything you need to (or should) know, to maximize your reimbursement. Physicians unaware of the circumstances of using code Q0091 are possibly losing hundreds of dollars every month, and Medicare doesn't even mention it!

#### **UNLISTED MEDICARE – J3490**

Due to the fact that some clients do not receive (or get a chance to read) EVERY Medicare newsletter. We have enclosed a listing of the most commonly given drugs that do NOT have a separate HCPCS code. You should use code J3490 on these drugs, and make sure you give the name of the drug AND dosage in box 19 of the HCFA form. If you are filing electronically, and your computer program does not allow you usage of the Free Form field, you need to either get your computer expert to remedy the problem, or switch your electronic claims to us.

Drug	Dosage	Par	Non-Par	Limiting
Adenosine	1 mg	\$ 3.90	\$ 3.71	Charge
Adenosine Azactam	500 mg	\$ 7.51	\$ 7.13	\$ 4.27
Bumex	.50 mg	\$ 1.66	\$ 1.58	\$ 8.20
(Bumetanide)	.ou my	ψ 1.00	φ 1.36	\$ 1.82
Buprenophine HCL	0.3 mg/ml	\$ 2.19	\$ 2.08	¢ 200
(Buprenex)	olo my/m	Ψ 2.10	φ 2.00	\$ 2.39
Carnitor	1 am	\$ 7.20	\$ 6.84	0
Cefabid	500 mg	\$ 7.90	\$ 7.51	\$ 7.87
Cefamandole	250 mg	\$ 2.27	\$ 2.16	\$ 8.64
Nafate	200 mg	Ψ 2.21	φ 2.10	\$ 2.48
(Mandol) Cosyntropin	0.25 mg	\$ 11.71	\$ 11.12	0 10.70
(Cortrosyn)	0.20 mg	φτιπ	φ 11.12	\$ 12.79
Collagen Skin Test (Contigen)	1 test	\$ 35.00	\$ 33.25	0.0001
Cytovene (Ganiclovir)	500 mg	\$ 34.80	\$ 33.06	\$ 38.24
Dalgan	15 mg	\$ 7.10	\$ 53.00	\$ 38.02
Decadron LA	4 mg	\$ 1.83	\$ 0.75	\$ 7.76 \$ 200
(Dexamethazone Acetate - Long)	4 mg	φ 1.00	φ 1.14	\$ 2.00
Acting, i.e., Dalalone DS)				
Decadron with (Xylocaine)	4 mg/4 ml	\$ 6.01	\$ 5.71	\$ 6.57
Diflucan (Fluconazole)	4 mg/4 mi 400 mg	\$ 1.62	\$ 1.54	
Diffucan (Fluconazole) Dobutrex	12.5 mg	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.41	
Fludara	50 mg	\$ 2.54	\$ 2.41	and the second s
Flumazenile (Mazicon)	0.1 mg/ml	\$ 5.39	\$ 5.12	\$185.01
Fortaz	1 gm	\$ 14.23	\$ 13.52	\$ 5.89
	1  cc = 1  mg	\$ 27.07	\$ 13.52	\$ 15.55
Glucagon Granisctron (Kytril)	1  mg	\$166.00	\$ 25.72 \$157.70	\$ 29.58 \$181.36
Imitrex	1 mg	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.61	
		\$ 48.00	\$ 45.60	the second second
Leustatin Mag. Sulfate	1 mg	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 52.44
Mag. Sulfate	20 meq = 5 cc 5cc	\$ 1.00	\$ .95 \$ .95	\$ 1.09
Marcaine	Per 1 mci/2.5cc	\$ 1.00	\$ .95 \$439.38	\$ 1.09
Mctastron (Strentium 80 Chlorida)	Fei TillCi/2.3CC	\$402.00	\$439.30	\$000.29
(Strontium 89 Chloride)	1 ma	\$ 8.54	\$ 8.11	e 000
Narcan	1 mg	\$ 8.54 \$1.440.00	\$ 8.11	\$ 9.33 \$1,573.20
Nipent (Pentostatin) Nubain	10 mg 10 mg	\$ 1.63	\$1,300.00	\$ 1.78
		\$ 7.95	\$ 7.55	\$ 8.68
Octreotide (Sandostatin)	100 mcg	\$ 7.95	\$ 7.55 \$161.90	\$ 0.00
Pamidronate (Aredia)	30 mg	and the second s		\$ 32.78
Persantine (Dipyridamole)	10 mg	\$ 30.00 \$ 1.00	\$ 28.50 \$ .95	\$ 1.09
Phenol Potoscium Chlorida	Up to 5 ml		\$ .95 \$ .95	\$ 1.09
Potassium Chloride	10 meq		\$ .95	\$ 18.08
Proleukin Prostin VP (Prostoclandin E.)	1 million units		\$ 15.72	\$ 1.09
Prostin VR (Prostaglandin E <sub>1</sub> )	3 mcg		\$ 21.55	\$ 24.78
Relefact TRH (Thypinone)	500 mcg	\$ 22.68	\$ 21.55	\$ 6.73
Stadol	2 mg	\$ 6.16		\$ 4.32
Tagamet	300 mg	\$ 3.96	\$ 3.76 \$ 27.44	\$ 31.56
Teniposide (Vumon)	10 mg	\$ 28.88	\$ 27.44	\$ 1.55
Terbutaline Sulfate (Brethine)	1 mg/ml	\$ 1.42	\$ 1.35	\$ 4.37
Zantac	50 mg	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 4.01

#### STARK – MEDICARE – UNINSURED

Congressman Pete Stark introduced a Health Care Reform Plan, that if passed, would result in Medicare coverage for every man, woman and child who are not covered by a private paying insurance plan. The plan, if passed, would extend Medicare Part C benefits to the uninsured and limit the physicians in the exact same manner as Medicare Part B does not. Employers (ALL) would have to offer this option to their employees and would have to pay for 80% of the costs for the employee. The uninsured would be covered under a new health tax, which would also be paid by ALL employers. Congressman Stark does not identify in the plan how many employees would be dismissed, due to the employer not being able to afford paychecks after the Part C premiums and additional taxes.

(Continued on Page 33)

#### Don Self & Associates

## OHST Puts Prevention Works Wonders Campaign into Action in Fort Worth's Como Community



ictor Dizon UNTHSC/TCOM Student

On June 6, Osteopathic Health System f Texas began a 10-week fitness and ealthy lifestyle program for more than 00 young people who spent their summer n the Como Community Center. The Como Summer Youth Program provides a un, safe, educational learning environnent for children ages five to 18.

"Our goal is to give our surrounding ommunities the help and information hey need to be healthy," said Jay Sandelin hairman of the board for OHST. "The ummer youth program is part of OHST's lan to focus on the needs of our ommunity by getting involved in helping hem find the best care possible."

During the summer program, the hildren received first-hand instruction nd demonstrations on subjects covering xercise, water safety, hygiene, relationhip counseling, dental care, fire and prnado safety, first aid, CPR, nutrition, areers and self esteem, and gang ounseling.

"We're so thankful for everything HST has done for our program," Carol rown, Como Community Center 'oordinator, said. "The Prevention Works Vonders message is important to our ommunity. Como is underserved in the tea of health care and by bringing revention workshops to our community he osteopathic hospital makes a big ifference in the lives of Como residents."

OHST's summer youth program at the omo Community Center wrapped up its



Cindy Huston UNTHSC/TCOM Student

health education series with a Children's Health Fair on Aug. 2. Volunteers from the hospital provided health screenings for more than 100 children ages five to 18. The checkups included a vision test, blood pressure checks, and height, weight and body fat measurements. OHST physicians, residents and interns and University of North Texas Health Science Center/ Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine student doctors performed general health assessments on each child including scoliosis checks.

The assessments showed that some of the kids had health problems that needed to be addressed immediately. Problems included enlarged thyroids, high blood pressure, blurred vision and ear infections. One child had possible tonsillitis and a pink eye infection. Each child received individual written health reports to take home to their parents.

Those OHST physicians, interns and residents who made the health fair a success included Deborah Blackwell, D.O., Shaun Kretzschmar, D.O., Bill Lagaly, D.O., Sam Lee, D.O., and Shawn Parsley, D.O. Student doctors from the UNT Health Science Center/TCOM included Victor Dizon, Krishali Gunaratne, Cindi Henry, Cindy Hutson, Jeff Swanson and Olga Tezaquic.

Earlier this year, OHST held a health fair for senior citizens who live in the Como community. More than 60 seniors took part in the fair and received free cholesterol screenings, blood sugar tests, blood pressure and respiratory tests. The health fair also provided information about OHST's APPLE Club, for seniors,



OMCT's Deborah Blackwell, D.O.

aged 50 and over. APPLE membership includes free health services, discounted pharmacy services, free health screenings and informational seminars.

With 265 beds, OMCT is the largest osteopathic institution in Texas. Located in the heart of Fort Worth's Cultural District, this non-profit medical center serves as a primary teaching hospital for the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

#### Self's Tips & Tidings, Continued FILING DME – BACK TO TEXAS?

In a note of good news, HCFA is considering allowing physicians the option of using the new DMERC (Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier) or the local Medicare carrier for DME claims. This would simplify the job of thousands of practices in Texas, that are now having to file one claim to the DMERC and another to BC/BS in Dallas. We hope to hear HCFA's decision in late September or early October. As soon as we do, we'll let you know!

#### LAB UNBUNDLING RULES

HCFA is also undertaking a study to determine if Medicare needs to change its reimbursement policy to lower payment for lab services. AS IF THEY HAVEN'T THEM TOO MUCH LOWERED ALREADY !!!! This study is expected to be published in mid September, so NOW is the time to write to HCFA and your elected leaders with your views. If you feel Medicare has cut the lab services enough (or too much), you better let your feelings be known now. Waiting will only result in further cuts!

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HOUSTON TEXAS – Wanted Immediately/Full-time/Family Practice or Internal Medicine Board Eligible/Board Certified. Salary negotiable. Send CV. FAX (713) 778-0839; Attn: Madeline. (54)

WANTED – Associate with ultimate goal to take over established family practice in Denton. Contact: TOMA, Box 4, One Financial Center, 1717 North IH-35, Suite 100, Round Rock, TX 78664-2901. (04)

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IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT – PA needed for established family practice D.O. (10 years) with a wide variety of patients. Solo practice looking to add full time associate for a long term relationship. Fun, energetic, and outgoing staff wants another team player!!! \$50k + 2 weeks paid vacation or 2+ years exp. up to \$60K with bonus. Contact: Karla Dickey, Business Manager, D. Dean Gafford, D.O., 214/223-1111. (12)

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