



# insights

1955-2005: Celebrating 50 years of full practice rights for DOs in Illinois

www.ioms.org **FALL 2009**



I am always amazed at how fast time goes by...I am already in the tenth month of my presidency, and I think time goes swiftly because I am very busy with all the IOMS business.

May 21st I attended the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine

Graduation Banquet on behalf of IOMS, where it was my honor to present graduate Jennie Kwon, DO with the prestigious Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society annual Student of the Year Award.

In July, the AOA House of Delegates held its annual deliberations here in Chicago. Illinois was represented by 15 delegates and four alternate delegates, including one osteopathic medical student in each group. This year, I served on the AOA House of Delegates Committee on Credentials; it was a busy time for that Committee. I will leave the full report regarding the House and our delegation to our Chair and Co-Chair, Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG dist., FACOG & Earle Pescatore, Jr., DO, MHA, FACOOG, FACOG.

The IOMS Executive Committee, which meets monthly, has been working hard with the Treasurer and our newly established Finance Committee to develop a realistic and balanced budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year,

which began October 1st. This has been a challenge given the economic climate. The approved budget is presented to the full Board at its meeting in October.

Last, our education committee has been very busy working on our upcoming Winter Scientific Seminar, which will be held at the Westin Lombard December 3rd to 6th. IOMS will be offering at least 30.5 hours of Category 1-A CME to all DOs. Your Physician Assistants are welcome for the entire program, and this year we are piloting a new opportunity. Medical Office Staff personnel are invited to register for a two-hour session on billing and coding late Friday, December 4th (3:30-5:30pm) for only \$50 per person. This session will be presented by nationally known speaker Don Self, who addressed our physicians last year and who will also present both a practice management and a risk management session on Thursday to the physician conference registrants. Remember, this is the end of the 3-year cycle for the AOA CME, so be sure to get your 120 hours (30 of which must be in category 1-A and 50 of which must be in your specialty for those of you osteopathic boarded) earned before December 31, 2009!

I look forward to seeing you all at the conference and at the Presidential Banquet so we may congratulate Harald Lausen, DO, MA, FACOFP, FAAFP, as our next IOMS President!

## PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

**RODEY WASSEF, DO, MPH, CS, FACOFP**

## ILLINOISANS LEAD THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION ACROSS THE NATION

**IOMS Salutes our new AOA Leadership!**



**Larry Wickless, DO** was sworn in as President of the American Osteopathic Association. Dr. Wickless, of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has moved with his wife, Carole Crosby, JD to Chicago to facilitate his full-time service during his leadership tenure! Please join us in welcoming President Wickless to Illinois when he represents the AOA at our Winter Scientific Seminar this December in Lombard.



**Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, CS, FACOI** was elected President-Elect of the American Osteopathic Association, making her the first woman to ever hold this office. Dr. Nichols is no stranger

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# GREETINGS from the DEAN



A famous dean once said, "Being the dean is just great. Every year you get to start school and every year you get to graduate!" This is the time for the former. We have matriculated 200 bright shiny new osteopathic medical students. They are fully oriented and launched into the new academic year. They are so excited to be here. They know that 26 applicants vied for the opportunity to sit in each seat so they are the chosen ones. I take the first year students to lunch, 10 at a time, and ask why they chose to come to CCOM. They always list some variation of the same three themes: great reputation, wonder-

ful rotations, and the students here seem so happy. I cannot thank you enough as alumni for the first and foremost one of these reasons, creating the premier reputation of CCOM. Time and again, they give me glowing reports about the wonderful doctors they have met who are alums of CCOM. This is not something you do, this is something you are. Thanks for being such wonderful ambassadors for CCOM!

**KAREN J. NICHOLS, DO, MA, CS, FACO**  
Professor of Medicine  
Dean, Midwestern University  
Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine  
555 31st Street • Downers Grove, IL 60515



## President-Elect of the AOA is One of Our Own

President-Elect of the American Osteopathic Association. It's a dream come true! I remember back to the very first AOA House of Delegates meeting I ever attended. It was in 1989 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Opryland Hotel. Arizona was nominating the candidate for President-Elect, Mitchell Kasovac, DO. The Arizona delegation wore cowboy hats, red and white gingham shirts, and red bandanna neckerchiefs. His nomination was heralded with gunfire (blanks shot from 6-shooters) and dance hall girls (wives of some of the Arizona delegates in some pretty impressive outfits.) I wasn't quite sure what I had gotten myself into.

I also remember wondering what it would take to rise to this office. Now I know. It takes a lot of hard work of course, but it takes much more. It takes the support of a wonderful state association for which I have been a delegate for the last 20 years, serving as President in 1998-1999, the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association. It takes the support of another wonderful state association, my adopted state association, the Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society. It takes the support of my specialty college, whom I served as President in 2000-2001, the American

College of Osteopathic Internists. It takes the support of the committees, councils and bureaus of the American Osteopathic Association, on which I have served over the years. I am deeply grateful to all who have been there working shoulder to shoulder for the profession.

Several people have asked me what a President-Elect does. The quick answer is "whatever the President asks me to do." Therefore it was my great pleasure to bring greetings at his request to a delegation of Chinese physicians visiting four of our DO schools for the purpose of learning about the role of primary care physicians in providing patient care. Other duties are on the horizon.

The year is just starting and I have also enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the association decision-making processes at the highest levels. The honor of serving our profession is very humbling. I hope to serve our great profession with distinction and welcome input from all members.

Respectfully submitted,

**Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, CS, FACO**  
President-Elect of the American Osteopathic Association

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## FOR INFORMATION REGARDING CLASSIFIED AND DISPLAY ADS IN THE IOMS NEWSLETTER

Please Contact us at  
142 E. Ontario Street  
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312.202.8174

# Snapshots from the **THE 2009 AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES**



Your IOMS Delegation!



Dr. Gerry McClallen helps organize at the IOMS Delegation's initial meeting.



IL delegation participates in the United Federation of Osteopathic Societies (UFOs) Caucus.



Dr. Scott Rusco's son Kyle served as a House Page this year – he was working hard!



New AOA Resident Trustee, IOMS Member Dr. Nicky Ottens congratulates just-elected AOA President-Elect Dr. Nichols.



IOMS President-Elect Dr. Harry Lausen and Dr. Melamie Jessen enjoy the final events of the House.



To celebrate Dr. Karen Nichols ascension to President-Elect of the AOA, the Arizona and Illinois delegations celebrated jointly at Costa's in Greektown. Dr. Gerry McClallen takes his turn describing how Dr. Nichols has influenced him, while...



Dr. Nichols, center, modestly looks on.



At another table, Dr. Laura Rosch demonstrates her technique for scaring the H1N1 flu away from her patients!



Also enjoying the dinner were Delegates Dr. Isaac Kirstein...



and Dr. Alicia Martin, among many others.



## News You Can Use

### Update on BlueCross BlueShield Security Breach

Do you participate in a Blue Cross BlueShield plan? If yes, be advised about a possible security breach, which resulted from a direct violation of BCBS policy by an employee. A laptop containing national physician and other provider data was stolen in August. While the computer did not include any patient information or personal health records, it did include information that BCBS affiliates send to the Chicago headquarters weekly to update BCBS' database of health care providers. With increased focus on the FTC Red Flag Rules to address identity theft, as well as the new security regulations that require notification of security breaches, BCBS made this notification of the breach of physician information public on 10/5/09.

The most serious data breach is for the Massachusetts area because those physicians typically use their Social Security numbers as their tax identification number. BCBS has been working with every single plan across the country, and they will be providing a year of free credit monitoring as a result. The AOA advises all DOs to speak with their BCBS representative regarding the monitoring effective date, make sure that a fraud alert/monitoring is in place for you, and carefully review any waivers before signing them.

For more information, contact your BCBS carrier or the AOA Division of Socioeconomic Affairs at (800) 621-1773, x 8282.

### Other BCBS & PCMH News

BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois, in partnership with Pronger Smith Medical Care and Elmhurst Clinic, has launched a patient-centered medical home pilot project, under which physicians acting as primary care coordinators will be paid more by the insurer, the 10/1/09 *Chicago Tribune* reported.

### H1N1 Reimbursement Code Update

Two new CPT and HCPCS codes have been issued for the H1N1 Vaccinations. CMS has created two new HCPCS codes which are G9141-Influenza A (H1N1) immunization administration (includes physician coun-

seling the patient/family) and code G9142-Influenza A (H1N1) vaccine, any route of administration. Per CMS these codes will be reimbursed at the same rate that has been established for code G0008 (administration of influenza virus vaccine). The AMA's CPT Editorial Panel has created and approved two new codes for the H1N1 vaccine and vaccine administration. Code 90663 was revised to refer specifically to the H1N1 vaccine product which now reads 90663-Influenza virus vaccine, pandemic formulation, H1N1 and the creation of code 90470-H1N1 immunization and administration (intramuscular, intranasal), including counseling when performed. Look for more information to follow on [www.DO-Online.org](http://www.DO-Online.org).

### NIH Student Loan Repayment Program Now Accepting Applications

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is now accepting applications for its Loan Repayment Program (LRP), which repays up to \$35,000 per year of educational loan debt for individuals who commit to two years of biomedical or behavioral research at a nonprofit or government institution. The extramural LRPs include Clinical Research, Pediatric Research, Health Disparities Research, Contraception and Infertility Research, and Clinical Research for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds. To qualify, applicants should possess a doctoral-level degree, devote at least 20 hours per week to qualifying research, have educational loan debt of at least 20% of their base salary, and be a US citizen, national, or permanent resident. On average, nearly 40 percent of all new LRP applications are funded. Visit their website at [www.lrp.nih.gov/](http://www.lrp.nih.gov/) for more information and to apply.

### Vacancies at Illinois Boards

The *IL State Medical Disciplinary Board* is supposed to have 11 members, of whom seven are physicians. One of the physicians must be a DO. Doug Webster, DO, FACOEP, had served as Chair of the Board, but was not reappointed by then-Governor Blagojevich. Quincy Scott, DO, of Carbondale was appointed, but subsequently resigned, and Governor Quinn has yet to appoint a DO (or to fill the three public member vacancies). The IOMS has been working through our osteopathic lobbyist to get this DO vacancy filled as soon as possible, as the Board has continued to

meet all year without a DO representative. Note, the osteopathic profession continues to be represented on the *IL State Medical Licensing Board* by Dennis D. Palmer, DO, who is currently the Vice Chair. This Board also has an MD vacancy.

Two vacancies on the *Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board* leave only three members of five to act on Certificates of Need and other business. Legislation passed that will increase the membership to nine from five, along with procedural improvements. The Illinois Hospital Association supported these changes, which also include establishment of a Center for Comprehensive Health Planning in the Illinois Department of Public Health. According to SB 1905, now Public Act 96-0031, the Center is to "promote the distribution of health care services and improve the healthcare delivery system in Illinois by establishing a statewide Comprehensive Health Plan and ensuring a predictable, transparent, and efficient Certificate of Need process..."

### CME Deadline December 31st

AOA members are required to have a total of 120 hours of Continuing Medical Education for the 2007 - 2009 CME cycle ending December 31st. Of these, 30 hours must be obtained in Category 1-A. The remaining 90 hours may be accumulated in Category 1-A, 1-B, 2-A or 2-B credits.

Physicians who are board certified must earn a minimum of 50 hours of Category 1 or Category 2 within their specialty during the three-year cycle. For more information about CME hours within specialties, physicians should contact their certifying body. AOA members may view their CME activity report online by visiting [www.DO-Online.org](http://www.DO-Online.org). You will need your AOA number.

More than 30 hours of Category 1-A CME are available at the IOMS Winter Scientific Seminar, December 3-6, 2009 at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. To register for the conference and/or to book your hotel room online, go to [www.IOMS.org](http://www.IOMS.org). IOMS members will need their AOA number to register online.

*'FYI: News You Can Use' is compiled by your IOMS Executive Director from various news publications, physician association leadership sources, and government announcements. If there are topics that you're interested in getting more information on, please contact [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org) or call (312) 202-8174.*

# Update from the AOA's Council of Interns & Residents



The AOA's Council of Interns & Residents (CIR) has started a new year. Our new eboard is as follows: Chair and AOA Board of Trustees Resident

Representative: Nicky Ottens, DO; Vice-Chair: Draion Burch, DO; Region I Trustee: Almari Ginory, DO; Region II Trustee: Jenny Kendall, DO; Region III Trustee: Christopher Messana, DO; Region IV Trustee: Alan Shahtaji, DO; Member-at-Large: Brad Landry, DO; Student Liaison: Michelle Barbosa, OMS-IV; Council of New Physicians in Practice: Lilibeth Sanchez-Geswaldo, DO.

In July, in conjunction with the AOA's House of Delegates, the Council of Interns & Residents (CIR) held their annual resident caucus to review the reso-

lutions pertinent to postgraduate trainees. Attendees included Drs. Farber, Burch, Ottens, Kendall, Landry & George Christianson and students Kate Mensen, Aaron Huser, & Matt LePorta. Under the guidance of AOA staffer P.J. Lusher, the caucus reviewed a number of resolutions and no significant issues were raised. A general consensus was met on all the resolutions discussed. Afterwards, Drs. Burch, Kendall and Ottens attended the national SOMA meetings and met briefly with their new leadership. Dr. Ottens also attended the COSGP roundtable that evening, to further interact with COSGP and national student leaders.

On September 1st, the CIR had their first teleconference and discussed the 2009-2010 goals and the preliminary agenda for their annual Congress of Interns & Residents to be held **November 1st from 7am-1:30pm at the New Orleans Hilton**

**Riverside Hotel in the Fountain Room**, in conjunction with the AOA's OMED (annual convention). Breakfast and lunch will be served and all interns, residents and fellows attending the AOA convention are encouraged to attend. The event promises to be the biggest Congress we've ever had, with an expanded agenda, interaction with the Council of New Physicians in Practice and free food! A final agenda will be made available to through the OPTI's, state and specialty colleges but for more information feel free to contact us at [cirexec@osteopathic.org](mailto:cirexec@osteopathic.org) or visit our new "Residents" tab on [do-online.org](http://do-online.org). We hope to see you there!

Respectfully submitted,

**Nicky Ottens, DO**  
AOA Board of Trustees Resident Representative  
Chair, Council of Interns & Residents

## Illinois Health Connect: Ensuring a Medical Home

**N**umerous studies have shown that patients who have access to a medical home have better health outcomes and lower healthcare costs. Three years ago, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services moved to a primary care case management model called Illinois Health Connect (IHC) to ensure that HFS clients have a medical home. Illinois Health Connect has created a primary care provider (PCP) network of over 5,400 primary care physicians, clinics and other providers who have agreed to create a medical home for their clients. Currently the IHC PCP network has a capacity for 5.3 million clients and approximately 1.7 million clients are enrolled. Through securing a "best fit" medical home, IHC improves continuity of care, access to preventive services and coordination of chronic disease care for the client. IHC has reduced both inpatient hospitalizations and emergency room visits and generated a savings of \$100 million dollars in FY 2008.

To continue to enhance continuity of care, IHC is now implementing Phase I of the Illinois Health Connect Referral

System. The Illinois Health Connect Referral System will be implemented by Region, on the dates provided below:

- Northwest Counties - October 1, 2009
- Collar Counties - December 1, 2009
- Cook County - February 1, 2010
- Central Counties - April 1, 2010
- Southern Counties - April 1, 2010

Phase I requires patients to be seen by their own IHC PCP or a physician or clinic affiliated with their PCP. IHC PCPs seeing patients enrolled in Illinois Health Connect but not enrolled on their panel, or on an affiliated PCP's panel on the date of service, must obtain a referral from the patient's PCP in order to be reimbursed by HFS for services provided. PCPs will be able to submit referrals for their Illinois Health Connect patients to see other PCPs through the Illinois Health Connect Provider Portal via the secure MEDI system and directly with Illinois Health Connect via fax and phone.

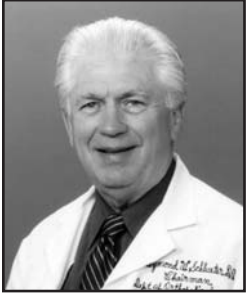
Subspecialty care does not require a referral in Phase I. Certain services such as inpatient care, lead screening, immunizations, STD treatment, lab and diagnostic testing are designated as direct access serv-

ices and do not require a referral regardless of who provides the services.

IHC is assisting providers with this transition by offering a series of webinars and training presentations. These sessions will provide information on the use of the referral system and helpful contact information. In addition to the training sessions, IHC has a team of Provider Service Representatives and QA nurses in the field that work with providers directly at their practice location. IHC is also working to educate clients through client education presentations. Part of the client education process includes a flyer that is being mailed to all households and a notice that will be mailed with the HFS Medical Card to most clients in August, September and October. Both the flyer and notice remind the client to go to their PCP first for most of their medical needs, and that they will need a referral to seek services from other PCPs.

For more information, visit the IHC website at [www.illinoishealthconnect.com](http://www.illinoishealthconnect.com) under Provider Information or contact the IHC Provider Services Helpdesk at 1-877-912-1999.

# DOs in the News



*The Orthoped*, published by the American Osteopathic Association of Orthopedics, included a full-feature article this Summer on IOMS Life Member **Raymond Schlüter, DO, RPh, FAOAO, FACOS.**

Read the entire article at: <http://www.aoao.org/aoao/Newsletter/index.html>.

**Drew Ludwig, DO**, was honored with the Arnold P. Gold Humanism and Teaching Award in April at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine's Bridging Ceremony. Also honored were **Brian Carlson, DO** and **Nicky Ottens, DO**. Our Summer issue of Illinois Insights reported on three of the six awardees, and regrets not including the names of these winners at that time. Congratulations, all! (*See photo below.*)

During the AOA's House of Delegates this summer at a luncheon honoring educational leaders, AOA Trustee **Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, CS, FACOI**, presented the AOA's Distinguished Service Award to IOMS Life Member **George Caleel, DO**.

Also at the House of Delegates, IOMS Members served on these Reference



2009 Winners of the Gold Humanism Award, l-r: Anne Merrick, DO; Tovah Thomasino, DO; Jessica Sulkowski, DO; Nicky Ottens, DO; Brian Carlson, DO; and Drew Ludwig, DO.

Committees: Ad Hoc — **Earle M. Pescatore, Jr., DO, MHA, FACOOG, FACOG**; Credentials — **Rodey Wassef, DO, MPH, CS, FACOFP**; Constitution & Bylaws — **John W. Graneto, DO, FACOP, FACOEP**; and Professional Affairs — **Thomas Kupferer, DO, FACOFP.**

Congratulations to these Illinois DOs, members of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, who recently achieved board certification in surgery. Neurological Surgery: **Jeffery M. Johns, DO**, Carterville; **Jon W. Taveau, DO**, of Herrin; and former IOMS member, now of Oklahoma, **Qualls E. J. Stevens, DO**. Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery: **James Scott McAdoo, DO** of Rockford. Urological Surgery: **Dino A. DeLaurentis, DO** of Chicago and **Antonio Mancini, DO** of Lemont.

**Jennifer Schening, DO**, of Elgin, IL, will be presented with the "Humanism in Medicine Award" by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation for her work with foster children and families. The Award will be presented at the American Academy of Pediatrics 2009 National Conference in October.

**Jon A. Wagnon, DO** of Godfrey was profiled by the *Alton Telegraph*, along with two other physicians, as having returned to his home town near St. Louis to practice family medicine. Read the story at: [www.the](http://www.the)

[telegraph.com/articles/physicians-30459-doctors-hometown.html](http://telegraph.com/articles/physicians-30459-doctors-hometown.html).

**Laura Rosch, DO, CS, FACOI**, can be seen on YouTube.com in videos about "Parenting Tips in the Recession" and "Healthy Eating," taped and posted by the AOA. Also in videos are **Kurt Heinking, DO, FAAO** and **Dr. Karen Nichols**.

## IOMS AUTHORS



The spring 2009 issue of the *Journal of the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians* featured a short history about Denmark's first pediatrician, Harald Hirschsprung, and the GI disease that bears his name, written by IOMS' **John W.**

**Graneto, DO, FACOP, FACOEP.** The jACOP is made available to the public on [www.ACOPeds.org](http://www.ACOPeds.org). Dr. Graneto, dually boarded in pediatrics and emergency medicine, is also featured on MultiVu PR Newswire by the AOA in an interview on "Healthy Halloween."

AOA President-elect **Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, CS, FACOI** authored the cover story for the September issue of *Chicago Hospital News*. The article "Effective Leadership and Management," asks the question, "What makes a good leader or manager?" In response, President-elect Nichols pinpointed several characteristics that are critical to leading effectively: Being able to communicate well; strong negotiation skills; and the ability to be persuasive and resolve conflict. She also encourages leaders to embrace change, which AOA President Larry A. Wickless, DO, has done through his efforts this year to "lead change" at the AOA and in our nation's health care system. Read the article online at [www.chicagohospitalnews](http://www.chicagohospitalnews).

Just for fun: the NBC show, "The Listener," shown this summer, featured an osteopathic pathologist, according to the AOA's Communications team.

Finally, on September 14th, IOMS welcomed a new member to our osteopathic family: **Braeden Luke Ottens**. His parents are teacher Greg and **Nicky Ottens, DO**.

# IOMS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE Report



“The future belongs to those who prepare for it.” (Ralph Waldo Emerson) Each of us as individuals understands this fact as we labor to succeed in our training and practice. There are those now, however, who are preparing what

might be a bleak future for us as physicians. As individuals, we may feel helpless against the onslaught of health care reform being proposed and it is easy to bury our head in the sand as we have many pressing duties to attend. The active members who serve your IOMS are all practicing osteopathic physicians who serve the DO’s of Illinois. They, like you, have an office or hospital practice and families; they serve their schools, places of worship, and communities. Being a member helps protect your practice rights in two ways. First is service to the organization on committees, as lecturers or delegates to the AOA House of Delegates, as sponsors or mentors. Second is the member who pays dues yearly but does not actively participate in committees.

No one could make a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little.” (Edmund Burke)

Our efforts are magnified when we join together. At the state level, your Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society hires a lobbyist to track bills and alert your IOMS staff to legislation that may impact the practice of Osteopathic medicine. You do not have to be watching everything that is happening in Springfield, because as members you are kept informed of urgent issues via emails, our website, the legislative committee, and at CME meetings. In addition to the IOMS taking action, members are better informed when visiting with their local representatives, calling their offices, sending a timely e-mail, or signing a petition to make it known where they stand on the issues that affect their practice and patients. Actions taken by a state organization such as the IOMS are more likely to be noticed by politicians who need votes to be elected. Again, Edmund Burke said, “All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”

“Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for; it is a thing to be achieved.” This is as true now as when William Jennings Bryan first uttered these words. The IOMS maintains a website where you can discover who is working to keep our practice future secure. Your IOMS is made up of physicians throughout the state representing a

variety of specialties. You can contact the trustees, officers, and staff through this site and find information on legislative matters and category I-A CME in Chicago, the suburbs and downstate as well. This summer we launched a Facebook site. Check it out at [www.ioms.org](http://www.ioms.org).

As Warren Buffet advises, “Price is what you pay. Value is what you get.” You may be seeking ways to cut costs during this recession but the value you receive by maintaining your membership in the IOMS is well worth the tax deductible business cost. You pay premiums for insurance that you hope you never need but it is always there to protect you. Your IOMS membership is your insurance to maintain and preserve your current and future right to the full scope of medicine. Call your district trustees, officers, or IOMS staff to find out more or to have your questions answered. I invite you to join us this December at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center for our annual meeting and educational seminar. Come and earn up to 30.5 hours of Category I-A CME.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Gerald W. McClallen, DO, FACOEP**  
 Emergency Medicine  
 District 5 - Carbondale, Illinois  
 Vice-President & Membership Chair

## Illinois DOs and Medical Students Serving on AOA Bureaus, Councils, and Committees for 2009-2010 (alpha by last name)

- Michael J. Blend, DO, PhD**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists — Specialty Board Representative (Nuclear Medicine)
- Jennifer W. Cheng, DO (Intern/Resident)**  
Council on Research
- Meghan Cox, OMS IV (Vice President, SOMA)**  
Mentor of the Year Selection Committee
- Lawrence U. Haspel, DO (formerly of IL, now FL)**  
Chair, Bureau of Osteopathic Specialty Societies  
Chair, Bureau of Healthcare Facilities Accreditation
- Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOG, FACOOG dist.**  
President, American Osteopathic Foundation  
Bureau of State Government Affairs  
Bureau of Membership  
Chair, Council on Women’s Health Issues
- Mark Kalchbrenner, DO, FACOOG dist.**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Specialty Societies

- Isaac J. Kirstein, DO, CS, FACOI**  
Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation
- Thomas Kupferer, DO, FACOFFP**  
Council on Palliative Care Issues
- Harald Lausen, DO, MA, FACOFFP, FAAFP**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Medical Educators
- Kathleen Naegele, DO, MBA, MIS, MPH, Hem/Onc Fellow**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Education
- Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, CS, FACOI**  
AOA President-Elect  
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Audit Committee  
Finance Committee  
Committee on Administrative Personnel  
Council on Building  
Investment Committee

- Nicole Y. Ottens, DO**  
Resident/Intern Member of the AOA Board of Trustees  
Mentor of the Year Selection Committee Chair, Council of Interns and Residents
- Patrick Para, DO**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists — Specialty Board Representative (Radiology)
- Earle M. Pescatore, Jr., DO, MHA, FACOOG, FACOG**  
Council on Continuing Medical Education
- Keith Reich, DO**  
Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists Executive Committee  
Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists — Specialty Board Representative (Internal Medicine)
- Matthew Wilson, OMS IV**  
Council on Palliative Care Issues



**Legislative Report from our State Capitol Lobbyist**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPRINGFIELD? The Budget:**

In mid-July, the Illinois General Assembly passed a budget that relies heavily on additional borrowing and still will only cover approximately 86% of last year's funding levels. In addition, the budget that was passed is a 'lump sum' budget rather than specifying a dollar amount for each service and program. This budget has given Governor Quinn and his state agency directors the ultimate authority in deciding how to spend the money within each department. To see how the Governor has directed each agency to spend this year's funding you may visit [www.budget.illinois.gov](http://www.budget.illinois.gov).

Legislation was also passed to provide that physicians, hospitals, and nursing homes should receive Medicaid reimbursements every 30 days. This money is coming from the federal stimulus package. In talking with officials at the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, I have learned that funds to be used to pay physicians every thirty days have already run dry.

**Politically Speaking:**

On the political front, candidates are beginning to make their intentions

known. Our next primary election will be in February 2010 with the general election in November 2010. This means that right now we beginning to see candidates in our communities asking for our support. *Getting involved in a political campaign is one of the best ways to develop a solid working relationship with a candidate who could become an influential elected official. Remember to always do campaign work on your own time and to check with the rules and guidelines where you are employed, if applicable.*

**FALL VETO SESSION**

When the House and Senate adjourned in July they adjourned to the call of either the Speaker or the President (HJR 69). This means that the Speaker or President could call them back to Springfield but it is unlikely this will happen. They also issued the 2009 Veto Session calendar. The dates are:

- October 5 - House & Senate perfunctory veto session
- October 14, 15, 16 — 1st week
- October 28, 29, 30 — 2nd week

These two weeks go by quickly, but provide an excellent opportunity for you to visit your legislators in Springfield. If you do not have pending legislation to discuss, meet with your legislators to provide them with an update on the services you provide. This is also the perfect time to provide an outline of our plans for 2010 and beyond.

**LEGISLATION OF INTEREST:**

To view all legislation, go to: [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov)

**House Bill 645 (Burke, D-Chicago) —**  
After negotiations and the acceptance of

an amendment offered by the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians, this bill clarifies that when and if a chiropractor writes a note for sick leave, it **must be written within their scope of practice**. It cannot be for an excuse for cold, the flu, or something like that. Following the amendment, all health care organizations removed their opposition. This legislation became effective on the day the Governor signed the bill into law on August 13, 2009.

**WHO DO YOU KNOW? LET IOMS KNOW WHO YOU KNOW IN STATE GOVERNMENT.**

Do you know your legislators or Governor Quinn? **If you know them or want to get to know them**, please let us know. If you are willing to get to know your legislator, IOMS can help.

If you are unsure who your legislators are contact us or go to the Illinois State Board of Elections web site: [www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/SelectSearchType.aspx](http://www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/SelectSearchType.aspx). **Now** is an excellent time to get to know your legislators. Become their expert on issues affecting public health. Many legislators have policy committees for community members to participate on. If your legislator does not, suggest one and participate.

**Also invite legislators to a special event or meeting.** Provide an opportunity for them to see the vital service **you** provide to your community.

Betsy D. Mitchell, MPA, Legislative Consultant  
Betsy D. Mitchell & Associates  
Legislative Consultant

**Please Welcome these New Members of the IOMS**

- Todd O. Kettering, DO .....Active Member .....Normal, IL
- Mario G. Massullo, DO .....Active Member .....Kankakee, IL (referred by Laura Rosch, DO)
- Peg Lechner.....Associate Member...Downers Grove, IL
- Karen Thompson, DO .....1st Year in Practice.....Rockford, IL (referred by Earle Pescatore, Jr., DO)

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**ILLINOISANS LEAD THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION ACROSS THE NATION** (Continued from page one.)

to IOMS, being an active member since moving to Illinois from Arizona to become Dean of the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. She was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Service Award by the IOMS in 2003, and has been very supportive of involvement in organized medicine by faculty, administration, and students. Dr. Nichols will serve as President-Elect for one year then will take office as President in July 2010 for one year, during which the College will have an Interim Dean. Please read Dr. Nichols' own account of this exciting opportunity in this issue.

Also elected in July was IOMS' **Nicole Y. Ottens, DO**, of Monee, as the Resident/Intern representative to the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees. Dr. Ottens was named the IOMS Student of the Year in 2005, and this year was named one of six winners of the Arnold P. Gold Humanism & Teaching Award. Her residency was in Emergency Medicine and Family Medicine. While a student at CCOM, Dr. Ottens was national president of the student chapter of ACOEP and was IOMS Student Trustee. She has also served on the IOMS Board as the post-

graduate trustee and as District 2 Trustee.

**Illinoisans Lead Specialty Colleges and Non-Practice Affiliates**

- **Thomas Sutter, DO, MPH, FAOCOPM**, of Urbana, served this past year as President of the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine ([AOCOPM](#)).
- **Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG dist., FACOG**, was elected President of the American Osteopathic Foundation ([AOF](#)). She is the first woman to hold this position. The AOF will celebrate its 60th anniversary this fall in New Orleans.
- **Harald Lausen, DO, MA, FACOFP, FAAFP**, was elected as Secretary of the Association of Osteopathic Directors of Medical Education ([AODME](#)) at their Annual Meeting in Seattle. This position includes a seat on the Bureau of Osteopathic Medical Educators (BOME), and runs through spring 2011.
- Peoria's **Jeremy Krock, DO**, serves as a member of the Board of Governors for the American Osteopathic College of Anesthesiology ([AOCA](#)) through 2011.

- IOMS Past President **Robert G. Good, DO, FACOI**, of Mattoon finishes his first term as a member of the American College of Osteopathic Internists ([ACOII](#)) governing board. He is joined on that Board by Chicago's **Martin C. Burke, DO, FACOI**.
- The American College of Osteopathic Obstetricians and Gynecologists ([ACOOG](#)) Board includes President-Elect **Jeffrey Postlewaite, DO, FACOOG dist.** of Geneva and Vice President **Teresa Hubka, DO, FACOOG dist.**, FACOG of Chicago.
- The American Osteopathic College of Pathologists ([AOCP](#)) Board of Governors includes **Randall McGivney, DO**, of Berwyn.
- **Jodi Pelegrin, DO, ATC**, of Aurora, is a member of the Board for the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine ([AOASM](#)).

*Editor's Note: Please let us know if we've missed anyone, and if you have any other news to share: [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org).*

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## Report of the Executive Director

**Y**our IOMS Officers meet with the Executive Director at least monthly, and weekly in the case of the President, so that I can know first-hand what is most important to our physician members. The day-to-day activities of the Society are always focused on those key elements of the IOMS Strategic Plan as developed by the Board, committee members, past presidents and other volunteers. Our planning identified key strategic areas: Education, Membership, and Advocacy. Here are examples of goals with updates on what your IOMS staff has been doing to make them a reality. We look forward to working with your leadership team over the next year to review the Society's strategic plan and its goals. If you are interested in participating, please contact President-Elect Harry Lausen, DO at [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org).

### Education — Offer the 50 hours of CME that state licensure requires annually

Our Summer CME program with the IL Chapter of the ACOFP continues to grow this year offering 16 hours to more than 30 registrants in the Metro East area near St. Louis. IOMS staff is processing CME credits and developing the accreditation files with Summer Program Chair Thomas Kupferer, DO, FACOFP.

In addition, I meet monthly with the Education Committee, chaired by Isaac Kirstein, DO, and the Winter Program Chair, Harald Lausen, DO, to finalize preparations for the Annual Winter Scientific Seminar. The winter conference has been approved for 30.5 hours of I-A CME, and this year, **we're offering two new educational tracks**. One will include most of those CME topics that are specifically mandated by various states across the US (not by Illinois) to facilitate having colleagues join us from all over the country. We are also piloting a two-hour session to run concurrently on Friday afternoon (3:30 - 5:30 pm) for your office staff.

In addition, we're working to fill the Exhibit Hall so you can maximize your time away from the practice and seeking outside sponsorship support to continue to keep our low registration rates. As you may know, during the Convention, staff also arranges for the Gala Presidential Banquet, the Past Presidents Council Breakfast, the IL Program Directors and Medical Educators meeting, the Student Program, the annual Board Meeting and the Annual General Membership Meeting.

The 2009 Winter Scientific Seminar will take place again at last year's well-received new venue, the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. If you haven't registered yet, please do so right away! Members may register online — all you need at [www.IOMS.org](http://www.IOMS.org) is your AOA number and a credit card.

Finance & Program Specialist Angela Wilkins is working with our active Silent Auction volunteers — Mrs. **Regina DeLorenzo** (Anthony), Mrs. **Jackie Lausen, DC** (Harald), and Mrs. **Debbie McClallen, DVM** (Gerald) — as they create our best Silent Auction ever. Please show them your support by donating and bidding!

Last — save the dates of March 26-27, 2010 for the next IOMS-CCOM Spring CME at the Osteopathic Conference Center in Chicago. The theme will be *Preventive Medicine*.

### Legislation — Maintain State Capitol Osteopathic lobbyist to improve IOMS' impact on public policy development

I work with our State House lobbyist, Betsy Mitchell, to monitor what is happening with the General Assembly, the Governor and Executive Branch agencies that impacts DOs. We're monitoring the federal Health Care Reform, with much of the work led by the AOA and its Washington, DC team. Closer to home, we're paying close attention to who will run in next year's state elections. An example of how these elections will affect DOs: current Governor Patrick Quinn has yet to fill the vacant DO seat on the State Disciplinary Board. IOMS' candidate is current President Rodey Wassef, DO.

In addition, our DO volunteers who serve on state committees let me know when there is important information to pass on to all DOs, and to ensure that no actions are taken that might inadvertently have a bad side affect for our members. One example is the Prescription Monitoring Advisory Committee, which is establishing a database allowing physicians to see what other prescriptions your patients are filling, especially pain meds. We hope to bring more information about this to DOs at the Winter Conference.

### Membership — Improve IOMS outreach to Students

Your Executive Director works with medical students to spread the word about the IOMS and its benefits for students. We've increased the applicants for the 2nd year of

the IOMS Student Book Awards and expanded student volunteer opportunities.

Note, the annual dues invoices have gone out, together with invitations to non-members to join IOMS. These mailings include our annual *Report Card to Members*, which outlines the year's significant achievements and member benefits. Please invest a moment on the Report, and let us know if you have questions or comments, or if there's a project or committee you'd like to participate in.

### In Addition...

Your staff works with members to expand communications with our members (e.g., become a Friend of IOMS on Facebook.com or share your copy of *Illinois Insights* with a fellow DO). Our emails are limited to those most timely and important to most of our members, and we make it simple to unsubscribe later if needed!

In light of the current economy, IOMS staff works very closely with leadership to keep our finances under control. IOMS experienced significant investment losses earlier in the year which may mean not ending with a balanced budget for the first time in several years (i.e., our revenues may not cover all expenses). We will know more by the December 4th Annual Membership Meeting during the Winter CME\*, and Treasurer Richard Feely, DO will have a full report for you then. In the meantime, investment and budget adjustments are in place for the FY2010 budget. One of the budget changes is to cut back on publication of this newsletter from three issues/year (Winter, Summer, Fall) to two issues (Fall and Spring). We'll be offering more updates via our website, and — where immediate — via emails — to fill you in on the Illinois Osteopathic Family, so please add [www.IOMS.org](http://www.IOMS.org) to your favorites and visit regularly.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please let me know. I hope to see you all in December.

(\* NOTE: IOMS 2009-10 members who cannot come to the entire Winter CME are still welcome at the Annual Membership Meeting at 11:30am at the Westin Lombard. Please understand that you must reserve in advance by contacting [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org) not later than November 30th. Thank you.)

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Forkins Harano, Executive Director, IOMS  
[IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org)  
(800) 621-1773, ext. 8174 • (312) 202-8174

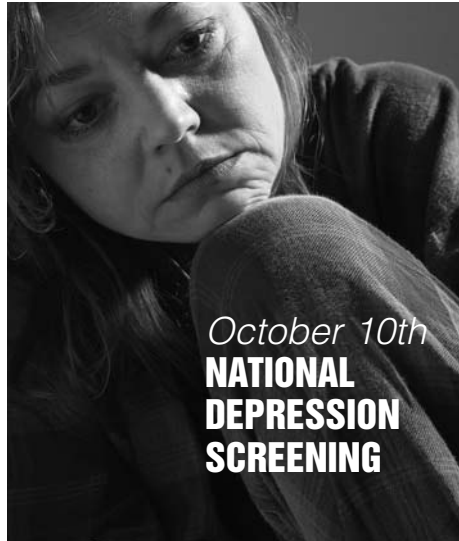
# WOMEN'S Health Committee Report



Great success at our last social gathering at Ladybug Cafe. Thanks for all those who came. I promise to get Dr. Hubka to come to the next meeting! Unfortunately we can not predict exactly when those babies will be

delivered! Our next gathering is scheduled for November 11th. You don't need to be on the committee to attend. Please RSVP to me by email: [laurarosch@yahoo.com](mailto:laurarosch@yahoo.com).

National Depression Screening day is October 10th. The NIH has great information on their website. Since over 60% of the women in the United States will have to deal with depression at some point in their life, it is important to take note. Seniors, adolescents and men are not left out from this group as well. For more information, please check out [www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/depression-easy-to-read/index.shtml](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/depression-easy-to-read/index.shtml). New guidelines recommend screening of all adolescents for depression.



As a program director for the internal medicine residency at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago, it is so important to be involved and aware of issues that can impact not only our own practice, but also the future practices of our residents. As trainers, we can help our residents become aware of health issues that will

influence their ability to become licensed Osteopathic physicians. Times are changing fast, and we need to get on board this train! The best way for a program director to help their residents is to be a member of IOMS and become involved. Please consider joining a committee and helping with a CME program for your state medical society.

Lastly, IOMS President Dr. Wassef has asked that Vice President Dr. McClallen and I attend the 2009 Advocacy for Healthy Partnerships in Phoenix November 21-22. We will be learning about State Legislative issues, Advocacy 101 — Preparing for a Hearing, Navigating Reimbursement and even a Mock Senate Hearing! You can bet I will be reporting back to you on any new information I can squeeze into my brain and my laptop!

Respectfully submitted,

**Laura Rosch, DO, CS, FACOI**  
 Chair, Women's Health Committee  
 IOMS At-Large Trustee



**FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS AVAILABLE – California/Oregon.** Western University College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (WesternU/COMP) and OPTI – West is seeking qualified candidates for leadership roles as Residency Faculty, Program Directors and Directors of Medical Education.

Positions are immediately available at newly approved AOA residency programs (training begins July 2009) in Monterey Park California (Garfield Medical Center) and Corvallis Oregon (Samaritan Health Services). Additional AOA residency programs are under development by OPTI – WEST in California and Oregon with anticipated start dates of July 2010. All applicants should be board-certified physicians (AOA certification preferred) and eligible for licensing in California or Oregon.

(WesternU/COMP) is also seeking qualified candidates for leadership roles as Clinical Department Chairs. The positions are open now and will remain open until filled.

WesternU/COMP is one of the largest graduate schools for the health professions in California. Competitive base salary, clinical practice incentive and an excellent benefit program are offered. Interested applicants should forward in confidence a copy of their curriculum vitae with cover letter, as well as three letters of reference to Michael Finley, D.O., Associate Dean, WesternU College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, 309 East Second Street, Pomona CA 91766. For further information, please call (909) 469 - 5508 or email [mfinley@westernu.edu](mailto:mfinley@westernu.edu). WesternU/COMP is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 15 - October 15, 2009: Virtual Job Fair**

Sponsored by ISPR, this free event provides a unique opportunity for physicians to communicate directly with in-house physician recruiters from health care organizations located across the U.S., access detailed descriptions of each opportunity and each organization, submit your CV or request further information with the simple click of a button. No travel required; instant job information, available any time of the day. Visit: [www.midwestrecruiters.physicianjobfair.com](http://www.midwestrecruiters.physicianjobfair.com).

**October 22 - 24, 2009: Perrin Clinical Refresher Course & CCOM Alumni Weekend**

Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. 21 hours of 1-A anticipated, pending approval by the AOA CCME. For more information: [BDohman@midwestern.edu](mailto:BDohman@midwestern.edu).

**October 31 - November 3, 2009: Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Surgeons**

Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile, Chicago. For more information: [www.facos.org](http://www.facos.org).

**November 1 - 5, 2009: AOA Annual Convention**

now called "OMED" Osteopathic Medical Education New Orleans, LA. For more details or to register, go to: [www.DO-Online.org](http://www.DO-Online.org).

**November 1, 2009: AOA Council of New Physicians in Practice\***

9am - Noon, General Council Meeting, followed by the Practice Enhancement Workshop CME Program. New Orleans, LA  
*\*representing those practicing DOs who completed their postgraduate training within the last five years or received their DO degree within the last ten years.*

**December 3 - 6, 2009: Winter Scientific Seminar**

Sponsored by Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society. 30.5 hours of Category 1-A CME approved by AOA CCME. Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, Lombard, IL. For more information or to book your hotel room, go to [www.IOMS.org](http://www.IOMS.org). Members may register online with their AOA number.

**December 4, 2009: Annual General Membership Meeting of IOMS**

11:30am - 12:45pm, Buffet Luncheon and Business Meeting. Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. All members welcome, but if you are not registered for the Winter Scientific Seminar, you must RSVP not later than November 30th to IOMS staff at [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org).

**December 4 - 5, 2009: Silent Auction at Winter Scientific Seminar**

**December 5, 2009: Annual IOMS Past Presidents Council Breakfast**

8am - 9:15am, Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. Please RSVP to [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org) or (312) 202-8174.

**December 5, 2009: Annual Meeting of IL Osteopathic Program Directors and DMEs**

10am - 11am, Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. For more information: Convener Melanie Jessen, DO, FACOFP, at [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org).

**December 5, 2009: Annual Meeting & Luncheon of IL-ACOFF**

12:15pm - 1:30pm, Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. RSVP to [TobiK@ACOFF.org](mailto:TobiK@ACOFF.org).

**December 5, 2009: Student Program**

1pm - 4pm, Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. For more information: Student Trustee and Program Chair Jessica Reggi, [JessReggi@gmail.com](mailto:JessReggi@gmail.com).

**December 5, 2009: IOMS Presidential Inaugural Gala (ticketed event)**

6:30pm reception; 7:15pm banquet and program; 10pm dancing. Black-tie Optional. Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. For more information: [IOMS@IOMS.org](mailto:IOMS@IOMS.org) or (312) 202-8174.

**December 31, 2009: Deadline to have earned CME hours**

See the FYI column for more information.

**January 21 - 24, 2010: Winter Family Medicine Update**

Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, Michigan. Contact Sara Carson, Meeting Coordinator, Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians, (800) 657-1556 or [scarson@mi-osteopathic.org](mailto:scarson@mi-osteopathic.org), 25 hours of Category 1-A CME credits anticipated.

**March 26 - 27, 2010: IOMS-CCOM Spring CME — Theme: Preventive Medicine**

Begins Noon, Friday and all day Saturday. Osteopathic Conference Center at the AOA HQ, 142 E. Ontario Street, Chicago. For more information, [BDohman@midwestern.edu](mailto:BDohman@midwestern.edu)

**April 29, 2010: DO Day on the Hill**

Washington, DC. For more information, visit [www.DO-Online.org](http://www.DO-Online.org).