OSMA ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 28 IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Delegates representing Tulsa County Medical Society are reminded that the Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma State Medical Association House of Delegates is scheduled on Saturday, April 28th at the OSMA office located at 313 N.E. 50th St in Oklahoma City. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. followed by the caucus of TCMS Delegates at 8:30 a.m. The House of Delegates meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

TCMS member, Jenny Boyer, M.D., pictured on the left, is a candidate in a contested race for AMA Alternate Delegate. Todd Brockman, TCMS President, said “Dr. Boyer has served as an AMA Alternate Delegate for seven years and has spent that time developing important relationships that allow her to understand the AMA process and how to best represent Oklahoma at the national level.” Dr. Brockman is encouraging Delegates and Alternate Delegates to attend the meeting and vote for Dr. Boyer, who if elected, will be the only Tulsa representative in the AMA Delegation.

Other Tulsa physicians that have been nominated include; Todd A. Brockman, M.D., for OSMA Vice-President, George Monks, M.D., for OSMA Vice-Speaker of the House of Delegates, Laurie Flynn, M.D., for OSMA Trustee, David W. Griffiths, M.D., for OSMA Alternate Trustee and Scott Dunitz, M.D. for the PLICO Board.

Tulsa County Medical Society has submitted two Resolutions that will be considered by the House of Delegates. Resolution 1, “Support Integration of Care for Returning Military, Veterans and their Families by Opening Access to the States’ Prescription Monitoring Programs by VA Prescribing Providers” authored by Dr. Boyer. Resolution 2, “Protecting our Children from Skin Cancer” authored by Dr. George Monks, supports efforts and legislation to ban the use by minors of indoor tanning bed equipment.

TCMS members who are not currently delegates but would like to attend the meeting should advise the medical society. They will then be appointed to fill slots in the delegation. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Waterford Marriott Hotel. For reservations call 1-405-848-4782. The room rate is $104.00 per night. The Inauguration of the 2012 OSMA President, John Robinson, M.D. is scheduled on Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Oklahoma Civic Center Meinders Hall of Mirrors located at 201 N Walker Ave. For more information on the Inaugural, visit the OSMA website, www.osmaonline.org or call OSMA at 800-522-9452.

AMA-OMSS PRESENTATION TO TCMS BOARD BY DR. JAY GREGORY

Jay Gregory, M.D., F.A.C.S., General, Vascular and Laparoscopic Surgeon in Muskogee has served as the Chair of the Governing Council Organized Medical Staff Section of the AMA since 2008. The council is organized to work together to improve hospital care. Dr. Gregory made a presentation to the TCMS Board of Directors on March 14th. Dr. Gregory said “all hospitals are urged to appoint an AMA-OMSS representative who can serve as an informed point person who is an advocate for the physicians’ interests and can keep their hospital informed.” For additional information about the AMA-OMSS and designating a representative from your hospital, you can call Dr. Gregory at 918-687-5304, email him at dr.gregory@sbcglobal.net or call Mona Wright at TCMS, 918-743-6184.
President’s Letter

Interesting Numbers

Interesting, frightening, aggravating, embarrassing, almost anything but encouraging, those numbers.

Perhaps I should start with an apology. By virtue of reading this, you are probably in the “choir” and don’t need my preaching. I’m going to preach anyway in the hope that it may reach the broader “congregation”.

Seven is the percentage of our members under the age of forty. An astounding and frightening number in my opinion. Twenty two is the percentage of our members age 41 to 50. That leaves a whopping 71 percent of our members who are over 50. Don’t get me wrong here, I’m in the latter group, but I don’t think anyone would argue that these numbers bode well for longevity. I believe there are many reasons for this trend. People have less time than ever and won’t just join because it’s the right thing to do. Also, the market has fragmented with a large number of specialty organizations. How can TCMS or OSMA offer me CME that is as valuable as I can get from The American Academy of Ophthalmology? They simply can’t. Thirdly are generational differences that go beyond the scope of this letter and finally I think we are lagging in technology, which relates back to most of the above.

What about the number 3? That’s the net percentage of dues paying members we lose each year, pretty much like clockwork. You don’t have to know calculus to realize that 10 more years of that puts us in a world of hurt. Good thing the building is paid for.

One is the most interesting and incredible of all. That is the margin by which the vote to deunify with the AMA passed in the OSMA House of Delegates several years ago. That last vote was cast by a Tulsa delegate and occurred at a time when this issue was very divisive, before ObamaCare made it a no-brainer.

Finally, the really discouraging numbers, 3 : 2. This, brothers and sisters, was the ratio of OCMS to TCMS delegates at last year’s annual meeting, which you will recall, was right here in our beautiful hometown. The total number of delegates allotted to each group is roughly the same. Talk about embarrassing.

I think getting our delegates to the annual meeting is important every year, but this year it is particularly important because of the opportunity to keep one of our members in the AMA Delegation. Dr. Jenny Boyer has moved here from Norman and is running for re-election from our Caucus. She is opposed by two members of the OCMS Caucus. All three are strong candidates. If we want a Tulsa voice in the Oklahoma AMA Delegation, we need to turn out at the annual meeting. If you are not a delegate to the OSMA House and would like to be, call Mona Wright at the TCMS office, 918-743-6184, and we’ll make a spot for you.

Returning to the membership numbers for a moment, I do believe there are solutions to this problem, but it will take time and there are only so many Officers and Board Members. Any evangelizing you can do among non-member partners, friends, etc. will be a great service to TCMS and, in the long run, yourself. I very much appreciate your interest.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome.

TBROCKMAN@EYEINST.COM

---

TCMS hosted the Oklahoma Alliance for Continuing Medical Education (OkACME) Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 29th. The program, “The Evolving Journey of CME: Staying Relevant in Shifting Sands” updated CME providers on the most recent changes to the ACCME criteria and commercial support guidelines as well as how to construct a conflict resolution process and relating best practice ideas and solutions to CME program challenges. The meeting was organized by Margie Miller, the OkACME President. Ms. Miller has been the Director of Continuing Education for the OU Health Science Center for many years. Tim Holder, M.D., Chair of the OSMA Council on Medical Education who also serves on the Board of the ACCME presented a program at the meeting on the ABCs of CME and shared his wealth of knowledge on CME in a question and answer session. TCMS is an OSMA accredited CME provider and a member of the OkACME.
NEW APPLICANTS


TCMS Past President, Jeffrey Galles, D.O., shown on the right below with his son Sam and guest speaker Congressman John Sullivan, presented the gavel to current TCMS President, Todd Brockman, M.D., who is pictured above with his wife Blair and Congressman Sullivan, at the Inaugural and Recognition of Retired Physicians held on March 30th at Southern Hills Country Club. Dr. Brockman is the 105th President of the medical society. He noted in his address that the Board is focused on keeping the society relevant to the members and increasing the interest and participation of younger physicians.

IN MEMORIAM

Dixon N. Burns, M.D. March 24, 2012

Walter H. Gary, M.D. March 7, 2012
Medicine is feeling the effects of regulatory and legislative changes, increasing risk, and profitability demands—all contributing to an atmosphere of uncertainty and lack of control.

What we do control as physicians: our choice of a liability partner.

I selected ProAssurance because they stand behind my good medicine and understand my business decisions. In spite of the maelstrom of change, I am protected, respected, and heard.

I believe in fair treatment—and I get it.

“As Oklahoma physicians, we have so many unknowns coming our way…”

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