



# NEWSLETTER

of the **Association of Military  
Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons**

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## AMOPS CME Conference Is Coming to Baltimore, Maryland Next April

Mark your calendars now. An outstanding CME bargain is coming to Baltimore the day after DO Day on the Hill comes to Washington DC.

Not only will there be a great CME program with an anticipated 30 1A hours, but it is also set in the Inner Harbor area of Baltimore, home to some of the best seafood to found on the East Coast. Stir in the camaraderie of old friends and the sharing of problems and solutions across the uniformed services and you have a unique experience.

### Meeting Has a New Footprint

In the past few years, we have met Monday through Friday and spread 32 hours over five days. This year we will meet Friday through Monday and pack 30 hours into just four days. A real bonus for those having difficulty getting away from the office.

### Visit Congress Too

For those of you who want to exercise your right to express your individual views to your elected representatives, you can join the state delegations of civilian Dos and osteopathic medical students who will be calling on their Congressmen the day before our CME meeting. For information on the DO Day on the Hill program visit:

<http://capwiz.com/aoa-aoia/home/> Every individual has the right to contact his or her

## Some AMOPS Members Made the AOA Conference in Orlando

by **CAPT Wayne McBride**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual CIOMEA International Seminar was held Sunday 23 October, in conjunction with the AOA meeting. I served as the Program Director for the Seminar and am also the vice-chair for the Council on International Osteopathic Medical Education and Affairs. The Seminar provided a brief update on the status of expanding practice rights for osteopathic physicians in different countries around the world. England and New Zealand have been added to the growing list of countries where DOs can now practice.

**AMOPS Conference**  
Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, Baltimore Maryland  
Friday April 28 through Monday, May 1, 2006

**An anticipated 30 Category 1A hours**  
On topics with real impact on how your everyday practice of medicine

**Three continental breakfasts, four lunches, a Friday reception and a Sunday banquet.**

**A chance to share problems and solutions across services, renew old friendships and make new ones.**

**All for only \$375, for AMOPS members**  
For more information visit: [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org)

elected representatives and this provides you with a great opportunity to do so.

Another change this year is that lunch each day is part of your conference fee as well as the continental breakfasts, coffee breaks, the Friday night reception and the Sunday night banquet that have been included in past conference fees.

The only thing wrong with last year's meeting was the operational tempo impacted turn out. Please come to Baltimore and bring your colleagues, no one will regret coming.

The Seminar featured presentations from students who have had recent experiences in international humanitarian aid. Two emergency medicine physicians spoke of their experiences in providing relief efforts in the regions ravaged by last year's tsunami. Other presenters spoke of the development of osteopathic medicine internationally, responding to radio-nuclear accidents around the world, and global pandemic planning. We encourage those with any interest in international medicine to attend next year's Seminar. **See Orlando Continued on page 2 and What's New on the AMOPS website.**

### CAPT David Wright President

Flexibility is an often cited quality essential to the military medical professional's career and this fall's events invoked this quality on more than one occasion. I moved into an operational role but was planning to participate in



American Osteopathic Association's Unified Convention in Orlando in October. Looking forward to a getaway, I had airline tickets, rental car and hotel reservations in hand. I should have suspected a potential conflict was in the works when a week after we returned from deployment my administration officer was whisked off to serve a pivotal role as medical regulating officer for Operation Katrina in New Orleans. As I struggled to get my arms around a new job without my administrative support

### Hurricane Wilma Strikes

I monitored the National Hurricane Center's website as the record-breaking season unfolded. A week before the Convention, yet another Tropical Depression formed in the Western Caribbean and a sinking feeling began to develop as the Storm named Wilma strengthened and my team was placed on alert for possible deployment to support hurricane relief operations. The day I was supposed to fly to Orlando I instead spent aboard the USS WASP doing contingency planning and awaiting news on storm damage and the order to deploy. Fortunately, the havoc Wilma wrought on South Florida did not require our deployment but the window of opportunity to participate in the Convention had closed.

(Continued on page 2)

## On Target, continued



The Unified Convention was very successful and only modestly dampened by the wind and rain of Wilma's passing. AMOPS was well-represented by past presidents, CAPT Brennan, CAPT McBride, and CAPT Callan (retired). CDR Findley and our hard-working Executive Director Team, Jim and Kathy rounded out our team. We staffed a booth in the Exhibition Hall and had representation at the State and Affiliate Association Presidents' Meeting. We continue to work with the AOA to coordinate our mailing lists, improving our exposure to potential members.

### Register Now

It is not too early to be planning ahead for our upcoming 23rd National Conference in Baltimore, Maryland 28 April – 01 May, 2006. We need to thank Col Carr for assembling a well-rounded conference including readiness, medical integration, trauma, pain management and medical informatics topics. Jim and Kathy will be arranging multiple opportunities for fellowship. With the ever-increasing operation tempo it will be a challenge for many of us to attend. Do your best to participate and to encourage others as well.

The flexibility demanded of military medical professionals now and certainly in the future will be a continual challenge for our organization but also provides us the opportunity to share a wide variety of experiences with our colleagues. One venue for sharing our experiences is community of practice websites developed by our respective services.

### Navy Knowledge Online

As the Navy Surgeon General's Specialty Leader for Osteopathic Medicine I have the responsibility to maintain our webpage. From this site I have the ability to communicate with all Osteopathic Physicians in the Navy and can provide them links to various conferences or other resources specifically useful to military osteopathic physicians. I believe my counterparts in sister services have or will have similar community of practice web pages. For my Navy colleagues, our webpage can be accessed through Navy Knowledge Online. After logging onto NKO, you will notice a box for "Public Communities and Learning Centers" on the right margin autopopulated with Medical and Medical Corps links.

If you choose the Medical Corps link you will open its webpage and along the left margin you will note all the specialty or community web pages including Osteopathic Medicine. I encourage you to visit the page and provide me input on what you find useful. This is also a great way to expose potential members to our organization as we are hot-linked to this page and can announce our educational offerings there as can other osteopathic societies

### Reach Out & Touch Someone

As we move ahead, we need to continuously explore new opportunities to reach out to potential members and encourage participation in our organization. We have successfully represented military osteopathic physicians on a national level and as an organization depend on the thoughtful development of the next generation of leaders. Be in touch with each other. Share your lessons learned. Help a junior medical officer successfully navigate to a professionally fulfilling tour. If you become aware of an opportunity to advocate for the profession, or an individual colleague, be in touch.

### Orlando Continued

by CDR Allan Finley

I attended the Council of Young Physicians General Council Meeting in Orlando. The meeting was well attended by representatives from the various specialty colleges and other state organizations. Guests included AOA President Philip Shettle, DO who emphasized the importance of mentoring for ACGME trainees and AOA President-Elect John Strosnider, DO who addressed active participation in the AOA with particular emphasis on committee membership. Other presentations included effective use of Power Point, continued AOA funding of Prep for Practice, introduction of Young Physicians Touchpoints bi-weekly newsletter, the iLearn mentor program and requirements for the Young Physician Recognition Award.

There appeared to be a fifty-fifty split between various organizations that have a recognized Young Physicians Council and those that do not. AMOPS does not currently have a Young Physicians Council, but could consider forming one at our meeting next April. I suggested the council might want to consider renaming the organization the "New Physicians Council" as many of the new physicians entering our profession might be a little grey around the ears. I also felt this was an appropriate forum to address the issue of AOA approval of military residency programs. Currently AOA approval of military internships is a straightforward process, but residency pro-

This problem is currently being addressed by the AOA. Hopefully the AOA and subsequently the specialty colleges will allow graduates of military residency programs to automatically sit for their respective boards. The Council of Young Physicians General Council will meet again at the AOA House of Delegates.

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### Orlando Continued

by CAPT Teresa Brennan

A new group was formed and held their first meeting at the AOA Conference. Past and Present Presidents and Executive Directors of the State and Specialty Societies got together to share experiences. Issues that were discussed were how to increase membership and how to function on small budget. The group divided into subgroups and brain stormed common issues. The most important piece of information I got from the meeting is that many small societies are in the same boat we are.

Many of the specialty groups that are very small might consider having their meeting at the same location as us if it was a cost neutral deal, i.e. we get to the required block of rooms by joining together and share the cost savings on the facility or are able to attract more pharmaceutical reps by having the larger meeting who then may sponsor some talks that would be beneficial to both groups. Many groups were interested in knowing that they could have local Military DOs speak without paying huge honorariums.

We discussed that frequently they could get excellent, non-biased speakers by utilizing our members. Meetings that are a little further from home are even do-able if they pay the transportation costs and the hotel stay. AMOPS probably could come up with some attractive deals for both parties if we became more involved in the state or local DO chapters where we are stationed.

Chapters were also interested in having AOA build a big calendar for states and societies to place meetings on so that they were not in direct competition with one another. States that are located in the same region may benefit from alternating the local of big meetings to attract each others members.

I recommend we develop a speakers bureau that local chapters could refer to for potential speakers. This idea may be a win-win for everyone. \*\*\*

**Interested in being part of an AMOPS speakers bureau? — Contact AMOPS at: Jim@amops.org**  
**We will compile an AMOPS Speakers and Topics list and share the list with other Osteopathic Societies.**

**CME Meeting Agenda — Visit [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org) for Speaker and Topic Updates**

Anthrax Cures Show Promise — For This and More visit "What's New" on the AMOPS Website

**Friday – April 28**

- 0700-0745 Registration
- 0745-0800 Welcoming Remarks
- 0800-0900 Medical Readiness Training
- 0900-1000 Infectious Disease
- 1000-1015 (break in meeting area)
- 1015-1115 Navy Medicine
- 1115-1215 Joint Medical Integration
- 1215-1245 (lunch)
- 1245-1315 (break – exhibits open)
- 1315-1415 WMD
- 1415-1515 Emergency Management
- 1515-1545 (break in exhibits area)
- 1545-1645 Neurological Trauma
- 1700-1800 (Pharma Update)

**Saturday – April 29**

- 0700-0800 Continental Breakfast
- 0800-0900 Trauma ARDS
- 0900-1000 Eske Research Seminar
- 1015-1045 (break in exhibits area)
- 1045-1145 Seizures
- 1145-1215 (lunch in exhibit area)
- 1215-1315 (Pharma Update)
- 1315-1415 Pulmonary Update
- 1415-1515 Surgery
- 1515-1545 (break – exhibits close)
- 1545-1645 Trauma Pain Management
- 1645-1745 Hematology

**Sunday – April 30**

- 0700-0800 Continental Breakfast
- 0800-0900 Psychiatry
- 0900-1000 Sports Medicine
- 1000-1015 (break in meeting area)
- 1015-1115 OMT
- 1115-1215 OMT
- 1215-1245 (lunch in meeting area)
- 1245-1345 E-Medical Records
- 1345-1445 HIPPA (22)
- 1445-1545 Air Force medicine
- 1545-1715 (AMOPS member meeting)
- 1830-1930 (reception)
- 1930-2200 (banquet)
- AOA & AMOPS presidents

**Monday – May 1**

- 0700-0800 Continental Breakfast
- 0800-0900 Coast Guard Medicine
- 0900-1000 Chronic pain
- 1000-1100 Army Medicine
- 1100-1200 Medical Research
- 1200-1245 (lunch in meeting area)
- 1245-1345 Hurricane Relief
- 1345-1445 Heart Failure
- 1445-1500 (closing remarks)

**We anticipate 30 Category 1A hours.**

A new anthrax antibody engineered by scientists at The University of Texas at Austin protects and defends against inhalation anthrax without the use of antibiotics and other more expensive antibodies. The high-affinity antibody, an anthrax antitoxin, successfully eliminated both anthrax bacteria and its deadly toxins in animal tests. If future tests concur, this could be the first successful treatment for late-stage anthrax infection, even for an anthrax strain that has been designed to resist antibiotics. The new antibody is produced in bacterial cells, rather than the more expensive mammalian cell culture now used to produce anthrax antibodies. This research was sponsored by the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Stockholm University Researchers find substance that knocks out the anthrax bacterium Anthrax infection in the lungs develops very rapidly and must be stopped as quickly as possible. This can be done by combining the substance N-hydroxylamine with ordinary antibiotics that work more slowly. The discovery may play a major role in enhancing our preparedness for possible terrorist attacks.

**Specialty Membership Challenge: Fill out below and send to AMOPS for dual AOA/AMOPS membership for AMOPS dues.**

**Contact Information:**

AOA ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Apt., Ste., etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if business address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Above address is Home ( ) Work ( )

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:**

Please provide a check made out to AMOPS or your credit card information. Credit card payments will be processed by the AMOPS, then forwarded to AOA.

VISA ( ) MasterCard ( )

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category Fees:**

Active: \$100 Intern/Resident: \$20

**Mail to:**

AOA/AMOPS Specialty Membership Challenge  
1796 Severn Hills Lane  
Severn, MD 21144-1061  
or  
**Fax to:** (410) 519- 7657

**A Few Questions:**

Do you currently have an unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state listed in your address?  
Yes ( ) No ( )

State License number:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Issued:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Has your license ever been suspended or revoked? (If so, please provide details separately.) Yes ( ) No ( )

Have you ever been convicted of a felony offense? (If so please provide details separately.) Yes ( ) No ( )

I am applying for membership in the above specified organization and the American Osteopathic Association, and I agree to comply with the constitution, bylaws and code of ethics of these organizations.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Specialty Organization: AMOPS**

Membership Category: \_\_\_\_\_

# Best Wishes this Holiday Season

No matter what you celebrate this time of year, your AMOPS staff wishes you a happy holiday season.

## Please Stay In Touch

Please visit the AMOPS website, [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org) to stay in touch. We have a link for address changes (Did you move?), a link for items of interest (What's New) as well as meeting information, membership and much more.

## Electronic Newsletter

If it seems like a while since you had a newsletter in the mail, that is because the last newsletter was electronic. If you provided your e-mail address and didn't forget to let us know when it changed, you should have received an e-mail with a link to the newsletter which was posted on the AMOPS website.

If we do not have your current e-mail address, please send it to us so we can stay in touch.. With our members literally all over the world, e-mail can be an effective and efficient means of communication, **but only if you**

## Charm City has Much to Offer

To learn more about why Baltimore is known as Charm City, visit the sites below. To find out why the AMOPS CME meeting is the best CME bargain anywhere, talk to someone who has come to one of our meetings or visit [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org)

[www.aqua.org](http://www.aqua.org) The National Aquarium has a brand new Australian exhibit opening soon that vastly expands the nation's foremost aquarium.

[www.baltimore.org](http://www.baltimore.org) general Baltimore information

[www.theorioles.com](http://www.theorioles.com) Baltimore Orioles Baseball Babe Ruth birth place and sports legends museum

[www.eapoe.org](http://www.eapoe.org) Edgar Allen Poe museum.

[www.baltimoresymphony.org](http://www.baltimoresymphony.org) Symphony

[www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org) Baltimore Museum of Art

[www.marylandzoo.org](http://www.marylandzoo.org) Zoo

[www.bwiairport.com](http://www.bwiairport.com) BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

Please register in advance and tell your friends and colleagues about the meeting. If they come along with you, they will thank you later for the educational experience and the opportunity to meet and share stories and camaraderie with so many of our nation's uniformed physicians.

# Eske Research Seminar Presenters Wanted

As part of our annual CME conference, members are encouraged to apply to present your research project. For details visit the AMOPS website Meetings page. If you are selected to present your findings, you will receive transportation to the conference and one night's free stay at the conference hotel.

## RDML Louis H. Eske

The seminar is named after Admiral Louis H. Eske, the first osteopathic physician to reach flag rank in the military.

This Eske seminar is open to student members as well as physicians. Don't hide your work under a basket, let it shine for all to see and learn. We hold CME conferences to learn from each other. Know of someone else who is doing interesting work, encourage him or her to submit their work for consideration. Let your voice be heard.

If you have any questions concerning a submission for consideration that are not answered by the listing on the AMOPS website, contact the seminar Clinton Adams, DO, dean, Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, at: [cadams@westernu.edu](mailto:cadams@westernu.edu)

Our Web site is open 24/7

Visit: [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org)

## DoD Pandemic Flu Site Has Much to Offer and Will Have Even More

DoD's Pandemic Flu Web Site has gone live. In partnership with other federal agencies, the Defense Department's Deployment Health Support Directorate went 'live' with a Web site to help meet the objectives outlined in President Bush's national strategy for pandemic influenza.

The site, at <http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/> offers information about pandemic flu and avian flu. It has a section of frequently asked questions, a glossary of important terms and health-related information.

The site includes links to other federal government agencies, and more information will be added as it becomes available, officials said. The site also has a section with information for service members, such as the DoD's role in dealing with avian flu, the risks for service members overseas, and protective measures that can be taken. "In the past few months," read a statement on the new Web site, "DoD assistance to civil authorities during recent natural disasters has demonstrated that, when directed, we are able to respond with a wide array of capabilities to support the nation during times of need. "With these same capabilities and others, we stand ready to assist in the event of a pandemic."

## 05/06 AMOPS Dues

Our fiscal year runs from 1 June to 31 May. **If you were not an AOA member last year**, you can get both AOA and AMOPS membership this year for the cost of AMOPS dues. It is a great way to start on the road to AOA recognition for your post-doctoral training if you have not already done so.

AMOPS membership information and dues applications are available on our web site or by contacting us:

[www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org)

[jjm@amops.org](mailto:jjm@amops.org)

## Please go to the AMOPS website [www.amops.org](http://www.amops.org)

1. Download the AOA Census Form.

2. Fill it out. 3. Send it in to AOA.

This is how they decide how many delegates AMOPS sends to the AOA House of Delegates, the more delegates, the stronger the voice speaking for you.

## VA Committee on Chiropractic Meets

The Veterans Administration (VA) Advisory Committee on Chiropractic Care Implementation convened in Washington, DC, December 6-7, 2005. Former AOA Trustee Michael Murphy, DO, of Pikeville, KY, represents the AOA on this committee, which was chartered in December 2004 to advise the VA Secretary on implementation and evaluation of the chiropractic care program within the VA.

## CAPT Michael K. Murphy, Retired

Dr. Murphy is also CAPT Mike. Murphy, Retired, a past AMOPS president and long time AMOPS representative on the AOA Board, Committees and Councils. The Advisory Committee received an update on the status of VA's implementation of the chiropractic care program and conducted a conference call with doctors of chiropractic at VA facilities. The Committee also developed its final report to the VA Secretary.