



NEWSLETTER

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

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Register Now for the Best Deal on CME, San Antonio, April 17-22, 2005

**On
Target**



Be sure to register with our conference hotel by **March 30, 2005**. That is the cutoff date for our room block at the OMNI Hotel in San Antonio, 1-800-THE- OMNI. You can still register with AMOPS until April 12 and guarantee a seat at the social events as well as the educational sessions. Walk ins are always welcome, but for us to serve you best, we need to know you are coming.

A Special Opportunity

Even at the non-member \$400 registration rate you will find this conference well worth your time and money. Your CME Program Director, LtCol(s) Wally Rustmann, has put together a great continuing medical education program, a copy of the preliminary agenda is posted on page three and website updates will continue on the "Meetings" page as changes occur.

A Unique Experience

Nowhere else will you find everyone from students and brand new physicians to flag officers and physicians who have hung up their uniform, sharing their perspectives and knowledge in an open environment. Many attendees say they learn a lot from the sessions, but even more from the interactions with their fellow attendees from all of the military and public health services.

"Everything's Bigger in Texas"
33.5 Category 1A credits
(anticipated)
For Only \$350 — Member Rate
Good Food, Good Fun
Great People and a CME bargain
that can't be beat,
Don't miss this opportunity.
Register today!

The registration form is on page three or you may download the form from the meeting page on the AMOPS website.

AMOPS students may attend the conference educational sessions at no fee, however, this does not include the three social events. Sometimes social event tickets are donated to students by attendees unable to use their ticket. Students may buy tickets to the social events to guarantee a place.

We are always only an e-mail away, please stay in touch, jim@amops.org or www.amops.org

CAPT Teresa Brennan
President

The year of the student, intern, resident and the mentor. These have been themes or areas of emphasis for recent AOA presidents. I wouldn't know this if I had not attended the AOA convocation as a representative of AMOPS. I suppose the speeches are reported in

the DO magazine but I have to admit that being there and hearing the speeches as well as the reports of the various



committees of the AOA on the schools, post-graduate training, and bills pending in Congress has much more impact than seeing it in print. The articles in the DO often did not seem pertinent to me until I became more involved in AMOPS and by extension the AOA. All these issues are important to each of us as they shape the future of our profession.

AMOPS is a divisional society of the AOA and it reflects in many ways the issues brought up at the national level. We are an organization that has students, interns, and residents as members. We also have a full spectrum of junior to very senior staff officers. AMOPS has always been a place of mentorship. It allows those new to government service to meet those who have "been there and done that". I have always been impressed at how approachable those senior to me have been and how willing they are to share their experiences and give guidance.

If you look over the history of the organization you will come across the names of many individuals who made Federal Service their careers. They served in many capacities and paved the way for those of us who followed.

(Continued on page 2)



Use the free time Wednesday afternoon to see the Alamo or other San Antonio sites in person.

AOA & AMOPS Membership Offer

This year only, if you are eligible to join AMOPS and were **not** an AOA member last year, you can join both the AOA and AMOPS this year for the cost of your \$45 AMOPS dues as part of the AOA's "Get the Power of Two for the Price of One" special offer. There will never be a better time.

On Target, continued



As I entered the military, there were few DO's in the surgical specialties. I remember members of my intern class being told that they would not be selected for surgical residencies because they were DO's—luckily this changed by the time we completed our years with the Fleet. The majority of the DO's that were the first to complete these residencies went on to be residency directors for MD programs and/or commanding officers.

A Wealth of Experience

Many of them continue to attend AMOPS meetings to give advice and encouragement to those that follow them. A large number have gone on to be leaders in the community as well as champions of osteopathic education. We have also had many of our members achieve Flag status, the latest being Rich Jeffries.

These members bring to us some insight into the politics and the decision making that shapes our daily lives as the providers of care for the military and other federally supported constituencies.

I have not been able to talk to Rich since he was selected for Admiral last week but I am sure that he would say that in some way AMOPS has contributed to his success. I know that it allows each of us access to our seniors in a way that can not occur at our own facilities.

Networking Opportunities

AMOPS allows us an opportunity to network with others in all facets of government service in a relaxed, congenial atmosphere. Since the beginning of the Global War on Terrorism, the services are interacting more and more and these contacts have proven to be helpful to more than one AMOPS member as we have sought solutions to new problems. Our annual meeting is fast approaching, make plans to attend. It is your opportunity to get high quality CME and network with others. Invite those colleagues to attend that have never been to an AMOPS meeting.

Please go to the AMOPS website

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.

As a past program chair, I frequently heard from DO speakers that we invited that they really enjoyed the meeting and planned to return because it was a unique experience to get quality education outside of their specialty and it gave them a chance to connect with others in a way most CME offerings do not.

Bring Your Friends

Those who attend regularly, need to encourage others to attend and become involved. We need to encourage the interns, residents and junior staff to attend and become involved so that there will be mentors available for the future DO'S

Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment.

"I pledge to:

provide compassionate, quality care to my patients;

partner with them to promote health;

display integrity and professionalism throughout my career;

advance the philosophy, practice and science of osteopathic medicine;

continue lifelong learning;

support my profession with loyalty in action, word and deed; and

live each day as an example of what an osteopathic physician should be."

Please encourage the pharmaceutical representatives or other sales people who want your business to contact AMOPS to learn how they can exhibit at and/or otherwise support our Continuing Medical Education program.

Interpol said recently that the world still is not prepared for a biological terrorist strike. It will hold a conference with 400 senior police officers and health officials in March focusing on a potential biological attack.

Can't make our meeting due to the operational tempo or for some reason? Visit <http://do-online.osteopathic.org> to learn about other CME opportunities. Have a problem making your required hours, please let us know, at: jim@amops.org.

The New England Journal of Medicine reported that the new estimated cost of four years of attendance at a U.S. medical school wise sm makings ownterpvJJ.263.5 TDr:0.0ha

We Need Mentors

In our last newsletter we asked for volunteers to mentor the many DO scholarship students wondering about what comes after graduation. Because it was published to our website instead of mailed, we had a limited response.

With the recent start-up of new schools, we have many schools that do not have alumni yet who have completed training and entered the "real world". For a list of all the schools, visit the links page of our website, www.amops.org. These students are hungry to hear about our experiences on active duty, the National Guard, Reserves and the Public Health Service.

Reach Out

Mentoring via the internet is the easiest option. If your government travels bring you near one of the schools, or if you live near one, consider making yourself available to these students. Sometimes local military physician recruiters are able to help cover costs of trips to these schools. They need accurate information about careers in the Uniformed Services and the selection process for residency programs.

Give Back

It is also a way to give back to the profession and ensure that the patients you treat now will still receive quality care after you have hung up your uniform.

We would like to have several volunteers for each school so that no one will find this a burdensome task. All it takes to get started is an e-mail to jim@amops.org

Thank you for your consideration.

DO Day on the Hill, April 14

Just because you wear a uniform does not mean you can't be involved in politics. It just means you can't be seen as speaking for your service instead of yourself.

DO Day on the Hill provides the osteopathic community the opportunity to become advocates. Participants meet their members of Congress to discuss issues of importance to the profession. You can register to at:

<http://do-online.osteotech.org/doday.cfm>

Receive action alerts from the AOA's Washington office about legislation that is pending in Congress. and let your representatives know that you care about bills being

AMOPS:
Uniformed Osteopathic Physicians Treating People,
Not Just Symptoms

AMOPS 22nd National Conference Preliminary Program
“Everything’s Bigger in TEXAS”
The Omni at the Colonnade, San Antonio, April 17-22, 2005

Sunday, April

1200 – 1700 Registration
 1500 – AMOPS Board Meeting

Monday April 18

0700 Registration
 0800 LtCol Walter Rustmann: 59th Med Wing Goes to War
 0900 LtCol Don Jenkins: Trauma in Ballad
 1000 LtCol Mike Eppinger: Trauma in Ballad Pt 2
 1100 LtCol Tim Cassidy: GI Update/Cancer Screening for Generalists
 1200 Lunch – Visit Exhibits (Lunch on your own)
 1300 Dr Anthony Dekker: Alcoholism Evaluation & Treatment
 1400 Dr Carr: Military Medical Ethics: WWII to Abu Ghareb
 1500 Visit Exhibits – Pharmaceutical Update
 1530 Col Chris Williams: Multiple Sclerosis
 1630 Capt Richard Griffith: Medical Ethics

Tuesday April 19

0730 Registration – Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Area
 0800 RADM Ben Gaumer, The Reserve Component in Military Medicine
 0900 Col Matt Dolan: WMD/ID update
 1000 Dr Mahoney: Toxicology in a Deployed Environment
 1100 Visit Exhibits – Pharmaceutical Update
 1130 Eske Research Symposium: RDML(R) Clint Adams
 1230 Pharmaceutical Appreciation Luncheon
 Speaker: RDML(R) Clinton Adams, Importance of Medical Research
 1430 Maj David True: Rheumatology Update
 1530 LTC Todd Dombroski: Two Hour OMT Lab
 1830 **Evening Out, Casa Rio Restaurant on the River**

Wednesday April 20

0730 **Registration – Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Area**
 0800 Col Rob Allan: Tropical Medicine/ Special Ops Medicine
 0900 Maj Richard Blair: Prion Disease
 1000 Visit Exhibits – Pharmaceutical Update
 1030 Col Courtney Scott: Air Force Medical Service Update

Wednesday Continued

1130 Col (R) Steve Derdak: Pulm/CCM update
 1230 MAJ Don Sarmiento: Medical Support and Stabilization in OIF
 1330 **Free Afternoon -- Visit San Antonio**

Thursday April 21

0730 Continental Breakfast in Meeting Room
 0800 Dr Jon Sheinberg: Heart Failure, “ State of the Heart”
 0900 CAPT Wayne McBride: National Quality Management
 1000 Darell Heiselman, DO:Neurologic emergencies sponsored by Pharmacia
 1100 LTG(R) Ronald Blanck:
 1200 **Lunch On your own**
 1300 Mr. Robert Dowd, JD: Medical Malpractice and Asset Protection
 1530 **Annual members’ meeting**
 1900 President’s Banquet and Reception
 George Thomas, DO
 Osteopathic Medicine Update;
 CAPT Teresa Brennan
 Military Osteopathic Medicine Update

Friday April 22

0730 Registration
 0800 COL Charles Holt: Veterans Administration Medical Update
 0900 Col “Chris” Henderson: Sleep Medicine for the Primary Care Physician
 1000 Maj Charles Campbell: Antiplatelet therapy in CAD and the Cox 2s
 1100 LtCol Walter Rustmann: COPD; What’s new, Sponsored by Pfizer labs
 1200 Closing remarks and adjournment

—AMOPS 22nd National Conference REGISTRATION FORM—All requested information is needed for CME credit

Rank _____ Name _____ Service Branch _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

E-Mail, if applicable _____

AOA Number, if applicable _____

Osteopathic College _____ Year Graduated _____

Registration Fees: circle as appropriate:

AMOPS Member \$350 Non-Member \$400 Retired, Non-practicing Physician \$145 Physician Assistants & RNs \$175 Intern or Resident \$175 AMOPS Students no fee

Spouse \$140 Spouse’s Name _____

Enclosed is my check made out to **AMOPS** in the amount of \$ _____ to cover registration costs as marked above.

Or Visa MasterCard

Account Number _____

Exp. Date ____/____/____ (mm/yyyy)

Name on account _____

Phone # _____

Signature _____ Amount Charged \$ _____

AMOPS Website Receives A Facelift

Please visit the new and improved AMOPS website, www.amops.org We have done a major overhaul of the website to try to make it more user friendly. We welcome your feedback. You will see for instance, a what's new section and a link for your change of address information is on the front page.

Our First Electronic Newsletter

The previous issue of our newsletter was the first AMOPS newsletter to be published on the website rather than mailed to you. This is the start of a plan to publish half of the AMOPS newsletters electronically rather than in hard copy.

We have lost pharmaceutical funding for the newsletter and with rising printing and postage costs we can no longer afford to print and mail four issues each year. We hope the AMOPS website and e-mail can be an effective communications tools for our membership. Be sure to let us know how we can make the website more useful to. **Please keep us up to date on your mailing and e-mail address so we can serve you better.**

Eske Research Proposals Still Being Accepted

Eske Research Seminar

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. You can share your success story with your colleagues and come to San Antonio at our expense.

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

San Antonio, Something for Everyone

To learn more about why the city of San Antonio is not only the best CME destination next April but also a great tourist destination visit some of the following websites:

www.sanantoniocvb.com www.nps.gov/saan/
www.heartofsanantonio.com www.sabot.org
www.mysanantonio.com www.alamocity.com
www.sazoo.org www.thealamo.org
www.thesanantonioliverwalk.com
www.buckhornmuseum.com www.casa-rio.com

For a list of Congressional bills of interest visit our website's newsletter page.

Dues Increase on Members Meeting Agenda

A possible dues increase and other revenue issues will be on the agenda of the AMOPS members meeting on Thursday April 21, during the annual CME conference. With less pharmaceutical support and an increased tempo, AMOPS will have to reevaluate how we do business. Come to the meeting for a full report and to share your views.

04/05 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. An application ran in the September AMOPS newsletter. It is a great way to start on the road to AOA recognition for your postdoctoral training if you have not already done so.

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

Our Web site is open 24/7

Visit: www.amops.org

or jim@amops.org



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AMOPS CME Conference April 17 – 22, 2005

AMOPS, uniformed osteopathic physicians treating people not just symptoms