



# FOCUS

November 2007

www.ims-alliance.org

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## President's Message

What a wonderful time of year, with the leaves changing their colors and the holiday season just beginning. This is the time when our "To Do" lists keep getting lengthier! I urge you to spend a few minutes in reading our newsletters and in checking our website at [www.ims-alliance.org](http://www.ims-alliance.org). Our goal is to serve you and keep you informed of what the Alliance is doing around the state. Your membership support is critical to our continuing efforts to improve the health of Iowans and to support the medical family.

Darshini Jayawardena, IMS Alliance President

## IMS Alliance Coordinator retires



Current members of the IMS Alliance Board and Past Presidents honored Sandy Nichols' 26 years of service to the IMS Alliance at a reception marking her retirement. [Dorothy Carpenter](#) and [Martha Holzworth](#) are compiling a memory book of Sandy's years. Send a note or letter to Sandy via Dorothy and Martha; the deadline for submissions is February 1, 2008.

Submissions are best sent through snail mail to Dorothy at 7 Larchwood Court, Newton, IA 50208 or to Martha at 4661 N. 47<sup>th</sup> Place, Des Moines, IA 50310.

## S.O.S. for the holidays and beyond

The S.O.S. Committee (Spouses Offering Support) is a network of concerned physicians' spouses willing to give support, share information and experiences and listen with compassion to other medical spouses facing problems, stress or crisis. The S.O.S. offers confidential and caring support to any member dealing with problems such as:

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Impairment           | Loneliness                 |
| Parenting challenges | Marital difficulties       |
| Handicapped child    | Illness or hospitalization |
| Depression           | Caring for aging relatives |
| Death of a loved one |                            |

For a brochure with contact names, e-mail [Mary \(Mick\) Conway](#) by clicking on her name or by calling 712.852.3712.

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

S.O.S.

## HEALTH PROJECTS

### Great American Smoke Out

### Screen Out!

## Links

[IMS Alliance](#)

[AMA Alliance](#)

### Click on our name to contact us

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Bylaws

[Mary \(Mick\) Conway](#)  
S.O.S. Committee Chair

[Dorothy Carpenter  
& Martha Holzworth](#)  
Memory Book Coordinators

## Great American Smoke Out 11/15/07

Visit the [AMA Alliance](#) website for Screen Out! postcards and more ideas for supporting efforts to get smoking out of youth-rated movies and to educate the public on the dangers of tobacco use.

**Honor the Smoke Out by participating in Screen Out!**

## 1,700 signatures for Screen Out!

The Polk-Warren County Medical Alliance sponsored a booth at the Blank Park Zoo's annual "Night Eyes" event, highlighting the Screen



Out! campaign. This event is a "merry, not scary" Halloween festival designed for younger guests and their parents to be able to Trick or Treat in a safe, caring environment. Upwards of 30,000 Iowans attend the event each fall to visit booths while learning about causes in Iowa, and also collecting

some candy! The Polk-Warren County Medical Alliance collected over **1,700 petition signatures** in support of the Screen Out! campaign and got the word out to parents of the Des Moines area about the dangers of smoking in youth-rated movies. Volunteers from the county Alliance staffed the booth; it was organized by Stacie Fry, a Polk-Warren County Alliance member. Congratulations are in order for an amazing success on gathering so many Screen Out! signatures while having fun during the Halloween season!

## Bylaws

**Proposed amendments to the IMS Alliance bylaws are due by to the Bylaws Chair by December 1, 2007.** E-mail [Diane Trimble](#), State Bylaws Chair, by clicking on her name or send her a note at 1038 Fair Meadow Drive, Mason City, IA 50401.

## IMSA Member of the Month: *Martha Holzworth*

Martha has been a member of the Alliance since 1958 when her husband Paul graduated from medical school. Active at both county and state levels, Martha has thrown costume parties, organized fundraisers and served as IMS Alliance President 1991-92. She values the Alliance for the friendships she has made with people from all over the United States.

In addition to Alliance activities, Martha enjoys raising Vizsla hunting dogs (20 years!), beading, puzzles, fishing and hunting. Martha and Paul live in Des Moines; six children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson enliven and enrich their lives.

