

In This Issue:

- *ScreenOut!* at State Fair
- Spirit of Hermina: Call for Nominations
- IMS Past President Wins Rep. Primary
- Breaking News Medicare Reimbursement Update
- Fall Reading Retreat
- IMS Education Fund 7th Annual Physicians Golf Challenge
- Adult and Teen Volunteer Awards Winners

We have a new look!
Visit the
Iowa Medical Society Alliance
Web page today!

Join us for the Summer Board meeting!

Thursday, July 17

9 AM to 3 PM
at the Iowa Medical Society Building,
1001 Grand Ave., West Des Moines

Lunch is \$10 (tax included); RSVP to [Tess Young](#) by July 9.

ScreenOut! at Iowa State Fair

With the assistance of the Iowa Department of Public Health, the IMS Alliance will be taking the AMA Alliance's ScreenOut! program to the Iowa State Fair on Friday, August 15, 2008.

We are asking Alliance members to help that day with a petition signing in support of this very important cause.

Any amount of time you can give will be appreciated - we are hoping to have adequate volunteers to cover 3-hour shifts beginning at 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, contact [Debbie McCalla](#) at debers4020@aol.com or 712.251.0387

There's still time!

Call for Nominations:
The Spirit of Hermina Award

The purpose of the Spirit of Hermina Award is to honor special people or groups who have impacted the health of Iowans and to encourage others to make similar efforts.

The Spirit of Hermina Award nomination form is available on the IMS Alliance Web page

Submit materials by July 15 to Dorothy Carpenter, 7 Larchwood Court, Newton, IA 50208 Questions? Call 641.792.3961 or email Dorothy.

Dr. Mariannette Miller-Meeks wins 2nd Congressional District Primary

Dr. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, an ophthalmologist in private practice in Ottumwa, won her Republican primary and is headed to a Congressional race in Iowa's Second District against incumbent Democrat Dave Loebsack. In the days before the primary, Miller-Meeks pulled ahead of her Republican competitor Peter Teahen of Cedar Rapids. The final count revealed that Miller-Meeks had won by a narrow margin of about 100 votes.

Miller-Meeks is no stranger to hard work and high goals; among other accomplishments, she was an army nurse, became a physician and an ophthalmologist, and was the first woman to be President of the Iowa Medical Society. Will she become the first woman to represent Iowa in Congress?

Dr. Miller-Meeks has always been a vocal supporter of the Alliance; we wish her well in the November elections. For more information see www.millermeeksforcongress.com.



Links

IMS Alliance

IMS Alliance Coordinator

AMA Alliance

Click on our name to contact us

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& Suzan Stewart**
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Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to hold Medicare claims on July 1

CMS announced June 30 that they are freezing the current pricing system at least until July 15 so that Congress has time after the July 4 recess to stop the 10.6% cut in Medicare reimbursement for physicians that was scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 2008.

The Iowa Medical Society Web site reported on June 27 that the U.S. Senate failed last week to adopt the "Medicare Improvements to Patients and Providers Act" (HR 6331), which would have stopped the 10.6% cut in Medicare reimbursement for physicians scheduled for July 1. The bill would have extended the current 0.5% payment update for the rest of the year and provided a 1.1% update for 2009 (in lieu of an additional 5.4% cut).

Visit the IMS Web site at www.iowamedical.org for the latest information or to learn more about this developing story.

10.3.08

IMS Fall Reading Retreat

When: October 3-5, 2008

Where: The Royal Amsterdam Hotel in Pella

Please join us for a wonderful weekend of discussion and relaxation in the beautiful city of Pella! Our reading retreats feature short works of fine literature that are read and then discussed by the group. Past participants unanimously agree that the retreat experience re-energizes their passion and commitment to the practice of literature.

Consider attending *with or without* your spouse!

7th Annual Physicians Golf Challenge to Benefit IMS Education Fund

The Iowa Medical Society Education Fund invites you to an afternoon of fun and golf. The entry fee is \$250 per player and all proceeds will benefit the IMS Education Fund, which provides scholarships to medical students and funding for public health activities. Since its inception in 2002, the IMS Education Fund golf tournament has raised \$259,066.

Mark your calendar for Monday, Sept. 22, 2008. The brochure for this event is posted on the [Iowa Medical Society Web site](http://www.iowamedical.org). Questions? Call Deb Potter at 515.223.1401 X202

Deadline to register is August 24, 2008.

2008 IMS Alliance Teen Volunteer Health Service Award: Jessica Tekippe

Since beginning her volunteer service at Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs in May 2004, Jessica has worked 644 hours visiting with patients and assisting nurses by completing tasks to enhance patient care. She has been a volunteer supervisor on Sunday evenings for two years and president of the Teen Volunteer Program for one year.

2008 IMS Alliance Adult Volunteer Health Service Award: Robert Samuelson

Numerous nominations were made on behalf of Bob. At the time of his nomination, he had given in excess of 4260 hours to the patients, visitors and staff at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames, where he serves as chair of the Front Information Desk Volunteer Program. He is a volunteer trainer, giving up evenings and weekends to accommodate others' schedules. Bob strives to improve staff in their role as the "first contact" to the hospital and leads by example. He is quick to personally fill in open shifts. Bob also gives his time with the LifeLine Program. Throughout his numerous nominations, Bob is consistently described as hard-working, dedicated and personable. "Bob finds the opportunity to build self esteem in people . . . He can find goodness in the most demanding of patients or visitors. Bob truly embodies the qualities every manager seeks in a volunteer.

Consider nominating someone you know for the 2009 Volunteer Health Service Awards.