



FOCUS

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Save the Date

April 17, 2010

**81st Annual Meeting
of the
IMS Alliance
House of Delegates**

**Sheraton Hotel
West Des Moines**

**Watch future issues of
The FOCUS
for more details.**

IMS Alliance Winter Board Meeting

Thursday, January 21

9 AM to 3 PM

IMS Building

1001 Grand Avenue, West Des Moines

Board members have received their Winter Board Meeting notice and information via email.

All other IMSA members interested in attending, please contact

Alliance Coordinator Deb Whitver

to receive the meeting's e-packet of materials.

Plan to attend.

PCMSA hosts

Meet and Greet Wine Event

The PCMSA Meet and Greet, held November 8 as a kick off for membership recruitment, was a great success with 57 attendees. Spouses of physician members of the Polk County Medical Society as well as residents from both Health Systems were invited to a Meet and Greet at the Jasper County Winery in Des Moines. This lovely facility, owned and donated for the event by Newton Radiologist and his wife, Paul and Jean Groben, was a comfortable, welcoming spot for old members and prospective members to gather.



The invitation designed by Barbara Bell said it was sure to be a fun time; invitation lists pulled together by Sheila Drevyanko ensured attendance by our target audience.

Those attending enjoyed music arranged by Stacie Fry and performed by Willie Shay and Dave Altiermier; and event planning by Bonnie Zittergruen and Tess Young assured a lovely gathering for all.



Regional Opportunity: Development Conference

Tired of the snow and cold in Iowa? Looking to network with members of the broader Alliance community? Plan to attend the



North Central States Alliance Leadership Development Conference February 5-7 in (relatively warmer) St. Louis, Missouri.

Join members from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin in discussing current issues in legislation, health promotions activities and membership. During unscheduled time, explore Frontenac Mall, home to many quaint shops and wonderful restaurants, or visit the nearby St. Louis Zoo and the Art Museum. Registration for the entire conference weekend is \$150; Saturday only registration is \$85. **Please call conference organizer Millie Bever (314.910.7148) by January 15 to register** for the conference; a registration form, conference schedule and payment instructions are available on the IMS Alliance Web site.

The conference is taking place in the Hilton St. Louis Frontenac, 1335 South Lindberg Blvd; the reserved block of room was released in early January. **Please make your room reservations directly with the Hilton (800.325.7800)** and request the conference rate (\$85+tax for single/\$92 + tax for King Bed Junior Suite). *Though the block of rooms has been released, it is possible that the Hilton may honor the conference rate - inform the reservation desk that you are attending the Missouri State Medical Alliance/NCSALDC.*

State President Maureen Lyons is planning to attend and would love to have others from Iowa go with her. Maureen notes: North Central States is "a great way to find out what other states are doing and connect with others in our region. Plus St. Louis is a fun place to visit!"

National Level News

John Lovin, AMA Alliance Treasurer, passed away suddenly in November 2009; members of the IMSA may remember John's wit and enthusiasm for the Alliance from a program on member recruitment and retention he and Kathy Lariviere presented at Summer Board a few years ago. Jeanie Owen has agreed to fill the remainder of his term as Treasurer.

Former IMS Alliance member Barb Savage has been reappointed as Director to fill an additional AMAA Board vacancy.

CGCMSA holds Multicultural Potluck and raises \$200 for AMA Foundation

Twenty members of the Cerro Gordo County Medical Society Alliance gathered at the home of Historian Melanie Sewell in November to partake of a multicultural potluck.

In addition to good food and fellowship, members participated in a "reverse raffle" to raise money for the AMA Foundation. Each member was issued ten raffle tickets that were destined to be included in the raffle - UNLESS the member "bought them back" for one dollar apiece.

AMAF Chair Jennifer McCambridge explained to members that the "lucky winner" of the raffle would perform something for the rest of the group. Amid chuckles, all twenty in attendance bought back their ten tickets rather than chance "winning."



Sadly, since no one entered the raffle, no one "won," so the group didn't get to witness the chicken dance or hokey-pokey.

Call for Nominations

**IMS Alliance Member of the Year
IMS Alliance Outstanding Achievement Award**

**Teen Volunteer Health Service Award
Adult Volunteer Health Service Award**

For nomination requirements and official nomination forms, visit our Web site. Question? Contact Awards Chair **Debbie McCall**. Deadline for submissions is March 1, 2010. Awards to be presented at Annual Meeting in April.

Just what is the AMA Foundation?

The funds raised by the CGCMSA in November will benefit the AMA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the American Medical Association. Founded in 1950, the AMA Foundation's mission is to improve the health of Americans through philanthropic support of quality programs in medical education and public health. Moneys can be designated by the donor to support any of three areas.

Donating to the AMAF for medical education provides scholarship assistance to students in Iowa and across the country. Today's medical student graduates with approximately \$140,000 in debt; donations could help a future physician graduate with a lower debt load.

Donating to the AMAF for public health will provide support for public education campaigns and community service efforts that help improve the health of all Americans.

Donating to the AMAF for research will advance the AMAF's support of scientific discoveries and the professional development of young scholars involved in biomedical research.

Consider hosting an event to raise funds to support the mission of the AMA Foundation.

Blue Book Reports due 3.1.10

The Blue Book is the compilation of the annual reports submitted by Board officers, committee chairs, district councilors and county presidents; those attending Annual Meeting in April will receive a copy of the Blue Book.

Board members are asked to email their Blue Book reports to the Alliance office by March 1; timely submission of reports will greatly assist our coordinator.

Have an IMPAC(t) on Legislation

What is IMPAC? The Iowa Medical Political Action Committee (IMPAC) is the political arm of the Iowa Medical Society, which represents over 4,600 physician members. IMPAC is a voluntary, non-profit organization that uses personal donations by physicians and their families to help elect pro-medicine candidates in Iowa. IMPAC makes campaign contributions to both state and federal candidates running for office in Iowa and is affiliated with AMPAC, the political action committee of the American Medical Association.

Why should you join IMPAC? Policymakers need to hear from physicians and physician families about how medicine should be practiced in Iowa now and into the future. IMPAC campaign contributions increase the visibility of physician issues, such as tort reform and scope-of-practice and strengthen the voice of medicine in the Iowa Legislature. By supporting pro-medicine candidates, IMPAC makes a strong statement about what issues are important to physicians and their patients in Iowa.

How do you join IMPAC? Sign up on the [IMS Web site](#) by clicking on the Legislative Advocacy link on the left of the screen and following the link to IMPAC. Or simply email [IMS Alliance](#) to have a form sent to you. Take the time to join! Together, we can make a difference.

Links

[IMS Alliance](#)

[IMS Alliance Coordinator](#)

[AMA Alliance](#)

[Click on our name to contact us](#)

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