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Official Newsletter of the Larimer County Medical Society

THE Honker

November/December 2011

LCMS Annual Meeting

Larimer County Medical Society celebrated another year of strong membership and community involvement at the 2011 Annual Meeting held December 7th at the Fort Collins Marriott. President Robert J. Benz, MD, highlighted the year before passing the gavel on to the 2011-2012 President, Peter C. Smith, MD, an internist with Banner Medical Group. Membership in 2011 rose from 567 to 597 and the Society enjoys a strong financial base. Dr. Benz praised the Society for its ongoing efforts to work with both state and federal legislators to ensure quality health care is provided to all Larimer County residents in a safe, efficient manner. He also announced the formation of the Michael P. Wiggins Memorial Scholarship, a five year, \$5,000 annual award, to a medical student who graduated from a Larimer County High School and is attending either an allopathic or osteopathic medical school.

The 2011 financials were reviewed by Treasurer Ted Norman and the 2012 budget was approved.

Upon accepting the presidency for 2011-2012, Dr. Smith thanked Dr. Benz and the entire LCMS Board of Directors for the many hours spent in conducting Society business. His initiatives for the following year stress being proactive in determining possible trends in medicine and being reactive to situations which develop quickly and need immediate action by the BOD and membership. He plans to increase awareness of LCMS and participation in community events. The Society will provide assistance in physician well-being, practice viability and efficiency, collaboration with health agencies, and

in preparing for the Affordable Care Act. He also plans to continue close relations with the Colorado Medical Society, including submitting resolutions to the Annual Meeting and promoting John Bender, MD, as the next CMS president-Elect.

Dr. Jan Kief, President-Elect of the Colorado Medical Society, updated the membership on the CMS 2011 achievements and the opportunities ahead in 2012. There will be many challenges ahead for medicine in 2012 but the Colorado Medical Society is well-positioned to provide guidance and support to its membership. Any physician interested in serving at the state level is encouraged to contact Dr. Kief or CMS staff.

The evening culminated with a presentation by Colorado Insurance Commissioner, James Reisberg, on "Colorado Insurance and Physicians." The commissioner alerted the audience to the challenges to the state when the Affordable Health Care Act effecting insurance coverage becomes law in 2014. Budget restraints will make providing the coverage without an increase in providers very difficult. He indicated he would be very interested in talking with any physician who would like to serve on a committee or otherwise participate in working on insurance discussions as they pertain to patient care and physicians.

See this edition of the *Honker* for physicians who were honored for their years spent serving the community in medicine and for the report of the election of officers, delegates, and alternate delegates.



Presidential Perspective

Robert J. Benz, M.D.

First of all, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the LCMS President this past year. It has been a rewarding experience in getting more involved in organized medicine. I think it is important at this time of year to look back at what we accomplished, what we gained, what we lost, and where we are headed next year.

Unfortunately LCMS lost one of our most beloved members, Dr. Michael Wiggins, during a triathlon in May. Mike is deeply missed by all that knew him. The LCMS Board has decided to offer the Dr. Michael Wiggins Memorial Scholarship for at least the next five years. Five thousand dollars will be awarded to the successful candidate who graduated from a Larimer County high school and is accepted to an allopathic or osteopathic medical school. Applications are due on July 1, 2013. This tragedy has raised awareness of the risk of drowning during group swim races. See the following link for more information. http://www.washingtonpost.com/todays_paper?dt=2011-11-15&bk=E&pg=1

We have been honored to have Cathy Whittlesey serve as our Executive Director for the past three years. Cathy has been one of the most organized, enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and gracious persons I have had the pleasure of working with in my life. Unfortunately, Cathy has decided to step down from her position at the end of this year. The Executive

Committee conducted a search for her replacement and we would like to introduce Barbara Brown as our new Executive Director. Barb has years of experience in the medical field. She has worked as a pharmaceutical representative, worked at PVHS in patient care services and contracting, and has worked for the PVHS Foundation. We are all extremely happy in having her on board with LCMS.

The Colorado Medical Society and LCMS have had a busy year. Both organizations have been intimately involved in trying to shape the big issues that will affect the practice of medicine. A great deal of time has been spent on trying to influence the course of payment reform in the state and across the country. Virtually everyone involved in the discussions feels that the way physicians are reimbursed will change in the future. Whether it is bundled payments for acute care episodes or the development of Accountable Care Organizations, change appears to be coming. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has revised the rules for ACOs to make them more palatable to providers by reducing downside risk and providing some upfront money to start and ACO. Still there are enormous challenges in setting up one of these organizations. It will take a great deal of effort for individual practices to come together to form an ACO.

One of the roadblocks that

prevents doctors from providing high quality, low cost care is the difficulty in sharing patient information amongst providers. Members of LCMS have been very involved in setting up the Northern Colorado Health Information Exchange. This along with the Colorado Regional Health Information Exchange promises to improve communication among providers. Hopefully, once these are up and running providers and their staff can spend less time being health information detectives and more time caring for patients. There are many challenges including making the interface friendly enough to improve provider efficiency.

For numerous reasons including all of the uncertainty in the new health care laws, a growing portion of our membership has chosen to become employed by a healthcare system. The challenge facing organized medicine is how to keep this group of physicians involved. We have been lucky in Northern Colorado in that the employed physicians have been very engaged in LCMS. I would encourage all of our members who are employed by one of the healthcare systems to stay involved or become involved in LCMS. Whether you are in an independent group or in an employed model, the issues facing medicine are the same.

In the legislative world, 2011 was not our finest hour. As I reported in a previous article, we are getting our butts handed to us by the trial

(continued on page 3)

Presidential Perspective *(continued from page 2)*

lawyers in regards to political influence. Due to heavy pressure by the Colorado Trial Lawyers and lack of grassroots efforts by physicians, the Phantom Damages bill did not make it to a final vote. This will result in higher jury awards for malpractice cases and as a result higher malpractice insurance rates. In 2012 the peer review statute will sunset requiring new legislation to continue to keep peer review activities from being admissible in court. In addition we suspect there will be other activities by the CTLA to erode the malpractice environment in the state. The Colorado Medical Society continues to push for major changes in the way malpractice claims are

handled to make the system focused on patient safety rather than assigning blame. Please continue to support the Colorado Medical Societies Political Action Committee and Small Donor Fund.

Finally, it wouldn't feel like December unless there was an impending crisis on the SGR fix. And this year is no exception. Without Congressional action, we face a 27% cut in Medicare reimbursement in 2012. The cost for a one year fix is about \$22 billion, and a permanent fix is estimated to cost \$300 billion over 10 years. Please contact our national congressional delegation and tell them how this will affect your practice and your ability

to continue to see Medicare patients. Also, engage your patients in the fight. Putting out an informational letter telling your patients that you may no longer be able to care for them if the SGR is not fixed is a great way to get them involved.

2012 promises to be a challenging and yet rewarding year. Dr. Peter Smith is taking over the reins as LCMS President and I assure you LCMS is in good hands! We are always looking for members to join our Board. If you want to take a more active role in the future of medicine, come to one of our Board meetings and consider being an alternate delegate.

2011-2012 LCMS Board of Directors

President: Peter C. Smith, MD
President-Elect: Christie M. Reimer, MD
Treasurer: Lee Goacher, MD

CMS BOD Members
John L. Bender, MD
Edward A. Norman, MD

Delegates Elected for 2011-2013

Thomas Allen, MD
Julie Brockway, MD
Regina Brown, MD
Geoffrey Capes, MD
Frank Dumont, MD
Jan Gillespie-Wagner, MD
Joe Jacob, MD
Deanne Lembitz, MD
Curtis Markel, MD
Crystal North, DO
Matt Solley, MD

Continuing Delegates

Robert Benz, MD
Cory Carroll, MD
Bruce Cooper, MD
E. Jeffrey Donner, MD
Sarjvit Gill, MD
Lee Goacher, MD
A. Bill Kieger, MD
William Lanting, MD
Krishna Murthy, MD
Christie Reimer, MD
Janet Seeley, MD
Michael Towbin, MD

Alternate Delegates 2011-2013

Richard Oddy, MD
J. Peyton Taliaferro, MD

Continuing Terms

John Cawley, MD
Robert Ellis, MD
Rod Holland, MD
Michael Houghton, MD
Daniel Langer, MD
Parker Preble, MD
Steven Sears, MD
Warren Schutte, MD

Frans D. Dumont, MD, Awarded 2011 LCMS Physician of the Year

Dr. Edward Norman presented the LCMS Physician of the Year Award to Frank D. Dumont, MD. Dr. Norman praised Dr. Dumont for his steady leadership and mentorship of young physicians. He has served in leadership capacities on the Larimer County Medical Society as a delegate and president of the Society. He was then elected to represent LCMS on the Colorado Medical Society Board of Directors serving two terms.

Dr. Dumont is a local leader, graduating from Thompson Valley High School as valedictorian, the University of Colorado with honors in music and physics, and being awarded his medical degree from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center with a specialty in internal medicine. He remained in Colorado after

graduation and is employed as an internist with Estes Park Medical Center. He resides in Estes Park with his wife Katharine and sons, Theo and Gio.

Dr. Dumont's honors include being chosen for participation in the Advanced Physician Leadership Program through the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership (2011), receiving the AMA Foundation Leadership Award (2008), in medical school receiving the Hippocrates Award for "a future physician who most completely epitomizes the ideals and noble traditions of the profession of medicine as set forth by Hippocrates" (1997), being awarded the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Scholarship (1994, 1995, 1996). He was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha in ju-

nior year (1996), received the Gottesfeld Memorial Award for "outstanding attainment in the basic sciences" (1995), the McGraw-Hill Award for "commitment to academic excellence" (1994), Outstanding Research Award at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Student Research Forum (1994) and was awarded for Excellence in Research at the Western Student Medical Research Forum in Monterey, California (1994).

In accepting the Physician of the Year honor, Dr. Dumont challenged physicians to push through adverse situations and to continue to try to improve the health care environment for physicians, patients and their community.

Physicians Honored for Years of Service

25 Years

Douglas W. Beard, MD
Satoru T. Chamberlain, MD
Hans C. Coester, MD
Rebecca A. DelaTorre, MD
Mark E. Dixon, MD
Eric J. Fuhrmann, MD
John P. Guenther, MD
Marianne B. Jacobs, DO
John M. James, MD
Deanne D. Lembitz, MD
Tamara A. Miller, MD
Edwin R. Noordewier, MD
C. Kelley Simpson, MD
Christine F. Skorberg, MD
Eric E. Stevens, MD
Lewis R. Strong, MD
James A. Wilkerson IV, MD
Scott D. Woodard, MD

40 Years

Patrick C. Allen, MD
Earl D. Baumgartel, MD
Edward L. Bender, MD
Michael G. Holthouser, MD
Thomas L. Luttenegger, MD
Gerald C. McIntosh, MD
William A. Shachtman, MD
Bruce M. Smith, MD
Steven J. Thorson, MD

Register for NIMS Healthcare Prep Course

Registration is now open for the free NIMS for Healthcare Prep Course! This 2nd year pilot course is geared specifically to meet healthcare system needs and makes key concepts much more understandable for healthcare workers through healthcare based scenario learning. NIMS compliance is required by all entities receiving federal grant dollars, but the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on-line courses were developed for police and fire based agencies and make little intuitive sense to healthcare providers. Directly after the course a limited number of laptops will be available so participants can complete the online test and get certificates” or “bring your laptop and take the online test right after the course and get certified”.

Workshop Objectives:

- Educate healthcare-based personnel in the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Share a majority of material covered in the FEMA ICS/IS 100, 200 and 700.
- Obtain a tool for small hospitals and other healthcare organizations to use in training personnel in ICS and NIMS, as required by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and NIMS Integration Center (NIC), developed by The Center for Integrated Disaster Health Preparedness at the University of Colorado.

Approach:

This course prepares individuals to pass the FEMA exams ICS/IS-100, 200 and 700 to meet the Federal requirements by learning the core concepts and principles of the Incident Command System (ICS), understanding the importance and application of ICS in the hospital and healthcare system, learning the components of the National Incident Management System and meeting the all-hazard, all agency ICS and NIMS training requirements required by Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) and the NIC.

Faculty:

Bill Mayfield, RN is the Emergency Services Liaison for Memorial Health System in Colorado Springs. He has been a Registered Nurse for 25 years specializing in Emergency and Critical Care medicine. Bill manages hazardous materials and emergency medical services programs at Memorial Health. He is a key member of our System’s Emergency Management team.

Locations in Northern Colorado

Jan 19 - Greeley

Jan 20 - Greeley

Jan 24 - Fort Collins

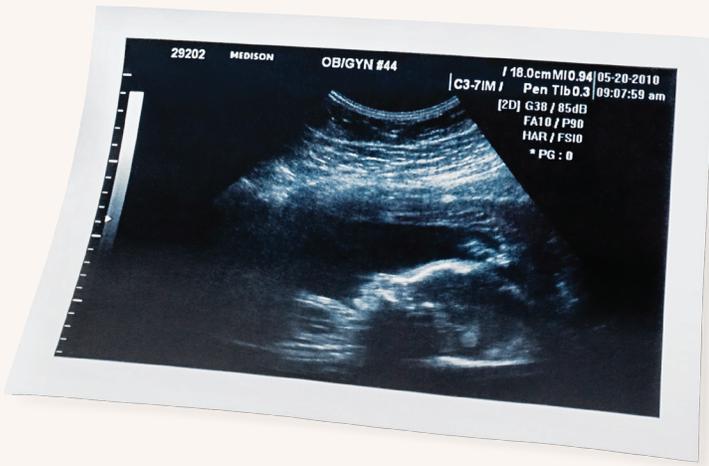
To register for a particular course, please Kerri Martinez, Center for Integrated Disaster Preparedness at kerri.martinez@ucdenver.edu or 720-848-5563.

Upcoming Events

LCMS Spring Meeting- Wednesday, April 11th, 6:15 pm at the Fort Collins Marriott

Next LCMS BOD- January 18th at Biaggi’s

Any member with issues to discuss is invited to attend. Please contact the office to RSVP.



WHAT IF
HE'S A BREECH PRESENTATION?

WHAT IF
HIS MOM HEMORRHAGES?

WHAT IF
A C-SECTION BECOMES NECESSARY?



Last year, more than 12,000 physicians attended one of the more than 420 seminars we conducted on improving patient safety. Another 400 completed online training we provided. We're so passionate about the issue of patient safety that a physician doesn't even have to be insured with us to take advantage of our free educational programs. Learn about birthing simulators we've funded, the doctor's office evaluations our RNs provide, and everything else we're doing to improve health care at callcopic.com.



Where Experts Work Best!

Leading medicine is a team effort. At McKee Medical Center, our reputation is built by our family of leading professionals, each and every day. We bring together the knowledge and experience of some of the best people in health care for one purpose - to make a difference in people's lives through excellent patient care. That's why so many patients choose McKee Medical Center. We provide the best health care possible by setting new standards to meet a wide range of your medical needs. When all is said and done, the best quality of life for you and yours is what's most important to us.



Banner Health

McKee Medical Center

2000 N. Boise Ave, Loveland
www.BannerHealth.com/McKee



At the LCMS Annual Meeting December 7, 2011



Drs. Ted and Jennifer Norman, Commissioner Reisberg, Dr. Bob and Denise Benz



New LCMS President, Dr. Peter Smith, Dr. Jan Kief, CMS President-Elect and LCMS Past President, Dr. Bob Benz



LCMS President, Dr. Peter Smith, giving his first address



Dr. Smith congratulates Dr. Benz on an excellent year serving as LCMS President

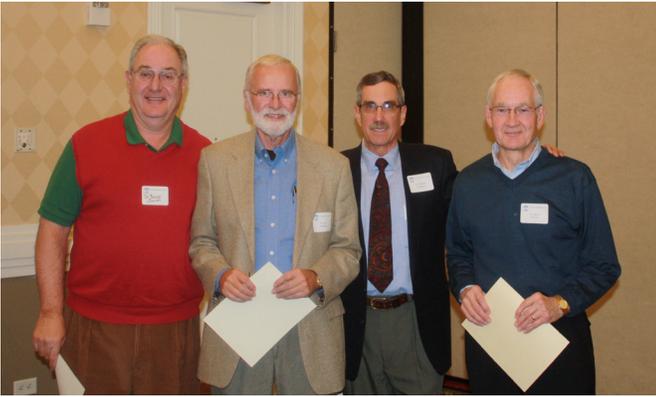


LCMS President-Elect, Dr. Christie Reimer, with new Alternate Delegate, Dr. Peyton Taliaferro



Commissioner James Reisberg discusses "Colorado Insurance and Physicians"

Physicians Honored at the LCMS Annual Meeting



40 Year Service Honorees, Drs. Bruce Smith, Earl Baumgartel, William Shachtman, and Steven Thorson



25 Year Service Honorees, Drs. John James, Douglas Beard and Deanne Lembitz



Dr. Ted Norman congratulates Dr. Frank Dumont, 2011 Physician of the Year



Dr. Frant Dumont with his family

New LCMS Executive Director Introduced

Barbara Dyer Brown has been hired to serve as executive director of Larimer County Medical Society. This comes with the retirement of Cathy Whittlesey, who is retiring December 31, having served as Executive Director for three years.

Barbara has lived in Fort Collins for 30 years. She brings to the Society a broad healthcare background. She worked as a Sandoz pharmaceutical representative in Northern Colorado, Wyoming and western Nebraska from 1980-1989. She began working at PVH in 1991. She worked in Patient Care Services at PVH, as business associate, being involved in budgeting, cost accounting, chargemaster and contracts. She was involved with the PVH/PVHS privatization. Later, she worked in the PVHS legal department continuing her contracts work with compliance projects such as HIPAA. When MCR opened in February 2008, she worked for PVHS Foundation, fundraising for such projects as MCR cardiac research, PVH

Cancer Center and community health initiatives.

Barbara holds a B.S. in Business Management from California State University.

During her 30 years in Fort Collins, Barbara has been involved in community. She served on the Gardens on Spring Creek founding board of directors. She participated in Leadership Fort Collins and with Boy Scout Troop 191.

She and her husband Paul, enjoy all that Colorado offers year round.





No matter which direction you're headed, we're close by.

Every patient is important to us. So we want to make sure we're doing everything we can to meet your health care needs. That's why we've added new locations and new physicians to meet the needs of our growing community. No matter which location is most convenient for your family, you can rely on attentive care from experienced physicians to meet your health care needs.

Aspen Medical Center

**Allergy,
Internal Medicine,
Neurology**

970-669-6660

BMC - Highland Meadows

970-223-2272

BMC - North Loveland

970-203-0047

Berthoud FamilyPhysicians

970-532-4910

Columbine Family Practice

970-663-0722

Family Practice Associates

970-667-3976

Fossil Creek Family Practice

970-461-8031

Allergy

970-498-9226

Loveland Pediatrics

970-663-5437

BMC –Harmony

970-204-9069

Allergy

970-498-9226

**McKee Center
for Women's Health**

970-203-6801

OB/GYN Associates

970-667-2009

Skyline Urgent Care

970-461-6140

**Summit View
Urgent Care**

970-378-4155

Women First

970-663-9523

Big Thompson Medical Group
www.BannerHealth.com
Keyword: Banner Medical Clinics CO



Banner Health®

Becoming a Resilient Physician and Health Care Organization

In the last issue of the Honker we discussed physician stress and resilience. (see the Resilient Physician at <http://www.larimermedicalsociety.org/sites/default/files/SeptOct2011PDF.pdf>. Colorado Physician Health Program was mentioned as a resource for physicians, medical students, residents and nurse practitioners dealing with a wide variety of issues. These include depression, workplace conflict, personal relationships, addiction and substance abuse. The description below is from the CPHP website, <http://www.cphp.org>.

CPHP provides exceptional presentations to the medical community throughout Colorado regarding the services offered at CPHP and physician health related issues. Physicians and CPHP personnel who are experts in the field of physician health conduct these presentations. Below is a listing of presentation topics that CPHP provides. In addition, CPHP can tailor our presentations to discuss the issues that are unique to your organization.

Types of Presentations:

- CPHP Services and Physician Health
- Physician Stress/Physician Self Care
- Professional Boundaries
- The Disruptive Physician
- Physicians in Relationships and Families
- Women in Medicine
- Substance Abuse and Addiction
- Occupational Hazards of Physicians and Medical Students
- Medical Marijuana-Pros and Cons: What Doctors Need to Know

If you have questions or are interested in scheduling a presentation for your organization, hospital or group, please contact CPHP at <http://www.cphp.org/presentation-services.html>.

Collecting stethoscopes! Do you have an extra stethoscope you no longer use?

WorldScopes, a global, philanthropic initiative of the American Medical Association Foundation, works with leading humanitarian organizations to collect and distribute new and gently-used stethoscopes to those in need. For more information, see (<http://www.elabs10.com/ct.html?rtr=on&s=x8pbgr,t1oa,3vnl,61td,cz3k,3ifg,cwis>)

The AMA pays shipping of >20 scopes, so Janet Seeley is collecting until she has 20.

Please contact Janet for pick up of your donations at your office: 970-217-1458 or jkseeleymd@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members

Debra Horensky, MD, whose specialty is pathology. Dr. Horensky is a volunteer faculty member at CSU and lives in Fort Collins.

Robert Lampman, MD, whose specialty is internal medicine. Dr. Lampman practices with Northern Colorado Hospitalists, 2121 E. Harmony, Ste. 300 in Fort Collins. The telephone is 970-224-9102 and the fax is 970-224-9112.

Matthew D. Pouliot, DO, whose specialty is pain management and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Dr. Pouliot practices with RMA Ortho, 3810 N. Grant Ave. in Loveland. The telephone is 970-669-8881 and the fax is 970-669-4200.

For More Information Visit: larimermedicalsociety.org

LCMS Board of Directors

Peter Smith, MD, *President*
Christie Reimer, MD, *President-Elect*
Robert Benz, MD, *Past-President*
Lee Goacher, MD, *Sec./Treas.*

CMS Board Members

John Bender, MD
Edward Norman, MD

Delegates

Tom Allen, MD
Julie Brockway, MD
Regina Brown, MD
Geoffrey Capes, MD
Cory Carroll, MD
Bruce Cooper, MD

Jeff Donner, MD
Frank Dumont, MD
Robert Ellis, MD
Jan Gillespie-Wagner, MD
Sarj Gill, MD
Joseph Jacob, MD
A. Bill Kieger, MD
William Lanting, MD
Deanne Lembitz, MD
Curtis Markel, MD
Krishna Murthy, MD
Crystal North, DO
Janet K. Seeley, MD
Matthew Solley, MD
Michael Towbin, MD

Alternate Delegates

John Cawley, MD
Robert Conlon, MD
Rod Holland, MD
Michael Houghton, MD
Daniel Langer, MD
Richard Oddy, MD
Parker Preble, MD
Warren Schutte, MD
Stephen Sears, MD
J. Peyton Taliaferro, MD

Inside This Issue:

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New Executive Director

Suggestions or comments?

Call Executive Director Barbara
Brown at 674.7512 or e-mail [barb@
larimermedicalsociety.org](mailto:barb@larimermedicalsociety.org).



**LARIMER COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

5356 Promontory Cir
Windsor CO 80528

PRSR STD
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