

# STATE NETWORK NEWS

A Newsletter for State Chapters

**SPECIAL ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM  
ISSUE**  
January 2006 Issue 57

## MESSAGE FROM AMDA'S HOUSE OF DELEGATES CHAIR

### Time to Fill the House

The annual symposium is rapidly approaching and so is the need for delegate registration. The House of Delegates is responsible for reviewing policies, positions and resolutions brought before it by individuals, state chapters, committees and the board of directors. The House also considers bylaw changes and elects new board members. It is vital that we have well prepared and interested individuals to participate in the democratic process that continues to make this organization excel in representing its members.

Delegates **MUST** be registered as soon as possible. Material for consideration by the House will be sent by mid February, and it is essential that the "house be filled" by this time. Delegates are selected by the state chapter president, who is allocated one position for every 25 AMDA members the state has in good standing. Alternative delegates can be selected in case a position needs to be filled.

State chapter presidents should have made their delegate selections — if not please contact Kathleen Meyers immediately. Appointing delegates on site is strongly discouraged. State presidents also should

ensure that selected members register for the annual symposium as soon as possible. Late and on site registration are discouraged. Delegates must be clearly identified to the national office in advance as timely distribution of material is otherwise impossible. Thoughtful review of all information is only practical if obtained well prior to the actual meeting. Meetings only function well with adequate preparation.

Member participation at the House meeting is strongly encouraged. Delegate review and input at past meetings have often substantially changed resolutions and bylaw changes, and have prompted reconsideration of positions and policies of the organization. The delegates are to represent their state and the working physicians on the front line. The House should be the conscience of the organization and cannot be allowed to slumber by inattentiveness!

Delegates also should thoroughly consider the candidates for AMDA Board of Directors. This year five officers are to be elected — Vice-President, Secretary, Chair House of Delegates, representative from the House of Delegates, and representative from the State President's Council.

The format for the meeting has not changed. Thursday's meeting will be informational, with reports being given and candidates for office being presented. Updates on recent resolution actions and results will be reviewed by the Chair. Saturday's meeting will center on review and voting on resolutions and position papers, along with election of officers.

**Get prepared now** and be ready to participate and vote for the future of AMDA! See you in Dallas.

Charles Crecelius, MD, PhD, CMD  
Chair, House of Delegates



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## From Lorraine Tarnove, Executive Director, at the national office ...

### Board of Directors Interim Meeting Report

The AMDA Board of Directors met in Baltimore, MD, December 10-11, 2005, for its interim board meeting. The usual varied and ambitious agenda was dispatched with the following notable actions:

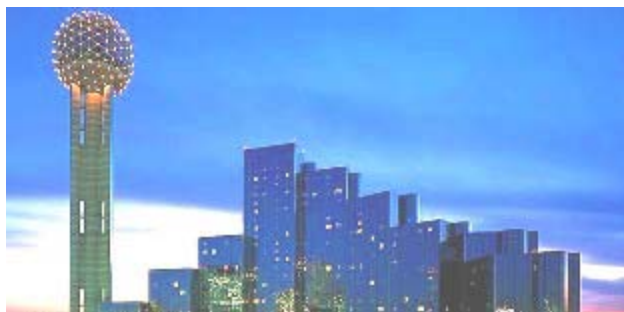
- ◆ AMDCP bylaws revision to clarify original bylaws was approved: IEP hours were revised and all applicants will now be required to complete the Core Curriculum or its equivalent for initial certification.
- ◆ Donation of a year's membership, a free registration to the annual symposium in Dallas, a set of CPGs and several tool kits was made to the AMDA Foundation Art Auction to be held in Dallas.
- ◆ 2006 Budget and work plans previously presented to the Board and recommended by the Finance Committee were passed. Work plans include a conference on assisted living and a fall board event that will include state chapter presidents.
- ◆ An expanded Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy was discussed. Revisions will be made and will come back to the Board in March.
- ◆ The CPG project will reach out to training programs and several existing CPGs will be adapted for use in assisted living.
- ◆ The Board endorsed the National Consensus Project for Quality Palliative Care CPG for Quality Palliative Care.
- ◆ The Board approved the revised Model Agreement for Medical Direction for Nursing Facility: Medical Director Agreement, which has been revised to reflect revisions to 501 F-Tag.
- ◆ The Board approved a paper on Ethical and Professional Responsibility of LTC Providers as Expert Witness to be submitted to the House of Delegates at their March 2006 meeting.
- ◆ Board members and/or Executive Director will attend all state chapter meetings over the next two years.
- ◆ The Board passed a policy for Criteria for Inclusion of Material on the AMDA website.

Topics including the 501 F-Tag revisions, Medicare Part D preparations, e-detailing, AGS Joint Statement on Hospice Care, and state chapter services were also discussed.

The House of Delegates, State Presidents Council, committees, and Board will be working on these positions and issues at the March meeting.

## 2006 AMDA ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE



Still haven't registered for the **2006 AMDA Annual Symposium**? Don't worry, registrations will be taken through February 25. After that date, you can register onsite in Dallas.

You won't want to miss the exciting sessions and activities we have in store for you. Please visit the website at <http://www.amda.com/education/annsymb2006/> to view the meeting offerings and register today!

### AMDA INFORMATION STATION

An expanded Information Station at the 2006 AMDA Annual Meeting will be your one stop resource for your long term care needs. Discover the many products, guidelines and tool kits AMDA has to offer. New products will be unveiled including:

- ◆ Sleep Disorders in the LTC Setting CPG
- ◆ Gastrointestinal Disorders in the LTC Setting CPG
- ◆ Antithrombotic Therapy Management in the LTC Setting information tool kit
- ◆ Palliative and End-of-Life Care in the LTC Setting information tool kit
- ◆ Tool Kit for Implementation of the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Falls and Osteoporosis, Dementia and Depression.
- ◆ CPT Coding, Reimbursement, and Documentation in LTC

Special product demonstrations will be held throughout the meeting showing you how to use the products and tools in your LTC practice.

In addition to these products, you can learn about the many educational offerings AMDA has in 2006 as well as receive updates on AMDA activities.

The Information Station will be open Thursday through Saturday. Be sure to stop by and meet AMDA Staff, purchase products at a discounted rate and take them home with you!

## CMD SCHEDULE

### AMDA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium – Dallas, Texas

#### Wednesday

6:00 – 7:00pm

**CMD Reception** (for CMDs, physicians interested in becoming CMDs, and AMDCP Board)

#### Thursday

8:00am – 5:00pm

#### **CMD Booth**

See separate listing on this page.

#### **Intensive Workshops for CMDs and Experienced Medical Directors**

8:00am – 11:30am

–Wound Care

–Advanced Course on Medical Direction

1:30pm – 5:00pm

–Stepping Up to the Leadership Challenge

#### Friday

8:00am – 10:30am

#### **Opening General Session**

8:30am – 5:30pm

#### **CMD Booth**

See separate listing on this page.

#### **Sessions for CMDs and Experienced Medical Directors**

11:00am – 12:00pm

- Writing and Reviewing Peer-Reviewed Submissions for Journal Publication

#### **Sessions for CMDs and Experienced Medical Directors**

1:30pm – 3:00pm

–What Leaders Really Do

–An Approach to Designing Quality EOL Care for Dementia Patients

3:30pm – 5:00pm

–Advanced Documentation and Coding: What You Need to Know about the New CPT Codes

–Multi-Modal Approaches in the Management of Atypical Dementia

5:00pm – 6:00pm

#### **Poster Presentations**

#### Saturday

8:00am – 10:30am

#### **General Session II**

Acknowledgement of AMDCP Board of Directors and all CMDs

8:00am – 4:00pm

#### **CMD Booth**

See separate listing on this page.

11:00am – 12:30pm

#### **Sessions for CMDs and Experienced Medical Directors**

–State Survey and the Informal Dispute Resolution Process

–Promoting Excellence in EOL Care in the Nursing Home

2:30pm – 3:30pm

–Palliative E-Kits for Inpatient Care under Title 22

4:00pm – 6:00pm

–Leadership for Culture Change in the Long Term Care Continuum

#### Sunday

8:30am – 11:00am

#### **General Session III**

## CMD BOOTH and POSTERS AMDA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium Dallas, Texas

#### Thursday

8:00am – 11:30am

General questions

11:30am – 12:30pm

Individual appointments

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Individual appointments

2:00pm – 5:00pm

General questions

#### Friday

8:30am – 11:30am

Individual appointments

2:30pm – 5:30pm

Individual appointments

#### Saturday

8:00am – 11:00am

General questions

11:00am – 11:30am

Individual appointments

1:00pm – 1:30pm

Individual appointments

2:15pm – 3:30pm

Individual appointments

3:30pm – 4:00pm

General questions

## 2006 ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM— CMD CREDIT HOURS

The symposium has been approved for up to 26.5 credit hours in medical direction toward certification as a Certified Medical Director in Long Term Care (AMDA CMD). The American Medical Directors Certification Program (AMDPCP) administers the CMD program. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity. For further information, contact AMDCP at 800/876-2632.

## SPECIAL INTEREST SESSION HELD IN DALLAS

**Calling all Authors for a JAMDA Session Friday, March 17, 11am-12pm!**

**Your Opportunity to Learn Tips and Techniques in Writing and Reviewing Peer-Reviewed Submissions**

Please join Dan Osterweil, MD, MscED, CMD — Editor-in-Chief, JAMDA, and Drs. Robert Kane and Barbara Messinger-Rapport, as they present information on how articles should be written for a peer-review journal, and tips about performing a review. The emphasis of the session will be on what factors constitute the critical appraisal performed by the reviewer. Presenters will describe what types of papers are most appropriate for JAMDA and how a final decision is made regarding the paper.

## RESOLUTIONS UPDATE



Seven resolutions are pending before AMDA's Resolutions Committee. The resolutions are submitted by state chapters, committees, members who represented AMDA at the White House Conference on Aging, and the Board of Directors and will be forwarded to the House of Delegates for the March 16-19, 2006, meeting. The resolutions cover a wide range of policy issues from encouraging the use of a narrative discharge summary when the patient is discharged to a nursing home or home health agency to addressing the need to have an objective, neutral review of the medical director's clinical care.

2006 Resolutions:

**A06:** Roles and Responsibilities of the Medical Director in the Nursing Home

**B06:** White House Conference on Aging

**C06:** Graduate Education Centers

**D06:** Influenza

**E06:** Improving Care Across the Continuum

**F06:** Position Statement on Oversight of the Medical Director in Their Role as Attending Physician

**G06:** White Paper on Expert Testimony in Long Term Care

The House of Delegates will be briefed on Thursday, March 16, at the annual symposium. Delegates will review and debate each resolution, allowing for an open and inclusive dialogue on the floor at the House of Delegates' business meeting on Saturday, March 18. Last, the passed resolutions will be implemented by the appropriate AMDA committee or staff person.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Wilson, PhD, Government Affairs, at 410/740-9743 or [kwilson@amda.com](mailto:kwilson@amda.com).

## 2006 NOMINEES

The 2006 Nominating Committee has completed the proposed slate of nominees to be acted on at the House of Delegates in Dallas this March. The slate, brief biographical descriptions and statements from nominees will be posted on the web in mid-February at [www.amda.com/aboutnominees2006.htm](http://www.amda.com/aboutnominees2006.htm).

## NEW STATE CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Join us in congratulating new state chapter presidents:

- ◆ Arizona Medical Directors Association—  
Randolph A. Clark, MD
- ◆ Massachusetts Medical Directors Association—  
Mark Levy, MD, MPH
- ◆ Minnesota Medical Directors Association—  
Edward Ratner, MD,
- ◆ Pennsylvania Medical Directors Association—  
Kenneth Brubaker, MD, CMD
- ◆ Texas Medical Directors Association—  
George N Smith, DO, CMD FACOFF

### IMPORTANT REMINDER!

**Watch your email for House of Delegates information for the 2006 annual meeting, i.e. agendas, resolutions, slate of nominees, AMDA bylaws!**

## CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS

Please add the national office to your mailing list so that AMDA staff receive your chapter newsletter.

The newsletters may be sent to the attention of:

Nicole Germain, Membership Coordinator  
American Medical Directors Association  
10480 Little Patuxent Parkway, Ste 760  
Columbia, MD 21044

### AMDA Contacts for State Chapter Business:

Nicole Germain, Membership Department,  
410/992-3114 or [ngermain@amda.com](mailto:ngermain@amda.com)

Nancy Gebhart, Govt Affairs Dept, 410/992-3145 or  
[ngebhart@amda.com](mailto:ngebhart@amda.com)

## ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE 2006 CPT CODES FOR NURSING HOMES?

If not, then be sure to take the Documentation and Coding Basics of the Nursing Home Codes: What you Need to Know held Saturday, March 18, from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. This session, presented by Alva “Buzz” Baker, MD, CMD and Leonard Gelman, MD, CMD, will provide a thorough didactic review of CPT codes with interactive discussion of vignettes. The audience will learn to analyze and assign codes to appropriate situations. Evaluation, management, discharge and annual examination codes will be highlighted.

## IN-THE-TRENCHES ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

An informal, peer-to-peer exchange with symposium speakers and experts in varied settings within long term care will be offered on Saturday, March 18, from 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm. Enjoy a box lunch while further discussing key topics presented during the AMDA Annual Symposium. A complete list of topics and speakers is available at <http://www.amda.com/education/annsym2006/trenches.htm>.

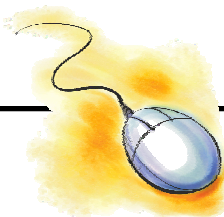
### State Chapter Meetings

Log on to [www.amda.com/chapters/upcoming.htm](http://www.amda.com/chapters/upcoming.htm) for a list of state chapter meetings.

### ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

AMDA members can renew their memberships online!

The online renewal process is as simple as clicking a button. When you receive your first renewal notice in the mail, go to [www.amda.com](http://www.amda.com) and log in as a member, then just click on the link “Membership Renewal” and pay your invoice online.



## KEEP NATIONAL UPDATED

Please submit your annual meeting report and update your state chapter contact information if there have been changes in the last year. Also, be sure to tell us about any upcoming state chapter meetings so that we can post the information on AMDA.com.

Help us share your success with current and developing state chapters.

## CALL FOR MENTORS

We need experienced AMDA Members and symposium attendees to serve as mentors to new members and first-time attendees.

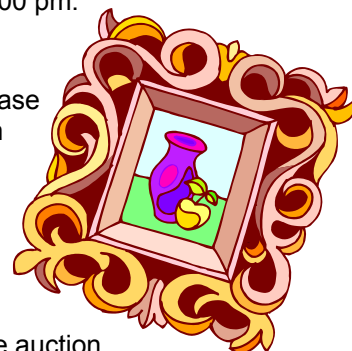
A special breakfast will be held on Thursday, March 16, from 7:00 am to 8:00 am and is open to all registered, first-time attendees. After a brief overview of the meeting, first-time attendees will work with veteran meeting participants to answer questions about the symposium as well as to choose educational sessions and activities that are best suited to each individual's interests.

We invite you to share your AMDA experiences with new members and introduce them into the “AMDA Family.” If you wish to sign up as a veteran mentor and help enhance the meeting experience for new members, please contact Naomi Cahill at 410/992-3107 or at [ncahill@amda.com](mailto:ncahill@amda.com).

## ART OF CARING— WORKS OF "HEART"

The American Medical Directors Association Foundation will hold its first Art Auction on Friday, March 17, from 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm.

The auction, Art of Caring — Works of "heART"; will showcase art from residents of long term care facilities from across the country. Attendees will have the opportunity to view and bid on artwork while enjoying live entertainment, a dessert reception and socializing with colleagues. Proceeds from the auction will go to support AMDA Foundation programs. Please join us for an evening of fun, food and festivities.



Tickets are required and are available for \$25 per person. Tickets may be purchased in advance at <http://www.amda.com/education/annsym2006/reginfo.htm> or onsite in Dallas.