BYWORD

The Newsletter of the New England Osteopathic Association

Conference Call 1997

HERE IT IS

The right time, place and price. The time is September 25th-28th, the interface of summer and fall, near the end of the AOA three year CME reporting period, right after the departure of the tourist influx. The place is a modern, luxury hotel hidden in the woods of Maine with pathways to the mountain side, scenic spots like waterfalls, rock dotted streams, wading pools, covered bridges and still less than a half hour from the mecca of factory outlets in North Conway, New Hampshire. And the price is still the best for a four day educational, recreational and relaxing experience you need before taking up the wearing cares we face until the next vernal equinox.

Join us in Bethel, Maine on Sunday Mountain at the Summit Resort for a four day hiatus from your problem ridden world. We think we have what you are looking for. Here is a program well-suited to your needs, delivered by experienced qualified speakers in a locale that allows you to isolate your mind from daily irritants and grants the opportunity to relax with peers and family in a social setting conducive to tranquility. There is an application form enclosed. Let's meet again.

Life is a jest; and all things show it.
I thought so once; but now I know it.
John Gay

A WORD TO THE WISE

If your number one reason to attend a symposium is education, then here is number one program to accomplish it. Bruce Bochman, D.O. has been arranging these programs for twenty years and approaches the task with the devotion of a zealot. He knows and listens to many speakers and gets recommendations for others. We think you will enjoy and profit from his efforts.

Teresa J. Farrington, D.O., a pulmonologist from Michigan, will speak on the newest weapon against asthma, the antileuko-trienes. The cautious approach in the use of newer medications is made easier by listening to the experience of the experts who always use them first. Dr. Farrington is returning to familiar ground since she took her undergraduate degree at Bowdoin College just down the road a piece in Brunswick, Maine. She is board certified in pulmonary medicine and critical care medicine. Let us welcome her home.

Jane Carreiro, D.O. will discuss psychoneuroimmunology and AIDS. Curiosity should fill the lecture hall. Dr Carreiro reminds us of the old television show about the gunslinger Palladin, Have Bag Will Travel. She has lectured extensively in this country and abroad including London, Melbourne, Vienna and Brussels. She is on the faculty of the College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of New England. This is not to be missed.

Glenn Gianino, D.O., a board certified obstetrician-gynecologist, probably has a lot of those slides that give sex a bad name for his talk on sexually transmitted diseases. However, pictorial review can never be too often for these seldom seen conditions. Since Dr. Gianino served many years in the Air Force, we suspect he did more than advise "Just say no".

Scott Jacober, D.O., a professor in the endocrinology department of Wayne State University School of Medicine will help us understand the use of the many newer agents that have become available in the last few years to treat diabetes. This is a staple item in primary care practice and it is essential to stay alert to changes in treatment.

Again we shall have a representative from Thorne Research Inc. Timothy C. Birdsall, N.D. is their technical director and will speak about nutritional support in musculoskeletal disorders. Proper nutrition is a great phrase but makes most of us squirm because we

A WORD TO THE WISE (continued)

are not sure how to define it. Are potato chips in yet?

We are happy to welcome back Wayne English, D.O., an old friend in these parts who left us for the hills of Texas a few years ago. He specializes in sports medicine. Maybe be has some for the Red Sox.

Wiley Bruce Bochman knows how to keep those attendees, who don't like to get their money's worth, in their seats Sunday morning. He has scheduled William Castelli, M.D. for the final two lectures. Anyone who has heard of the Framingham Heart Study knows of Dr. Castelli who has directed that study for many years. And anyone who has heard Dr. Castelli speak, which he does frequently, knows he does so with the enthusiasm of firm conviction. This is too good to miss.

These are only a few of the reasons to attend this year's meeting. Space limits our bragging. All speakers will make your time well spent.

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

Please visit the exhibitors to thank them for their support of your educational meeting.

A WORD ASIDE

Ever have one of those days in which you seem to drop everything? Well, something is slipping from your grasp now, control of the practice of medicine. From slow beginnings over thirty years ago, the seizure of the medical field is being taken at an ever accelerating pace by third party organizations. Whether their motivation is profit (insurance company) or reduced expenditure (Medicare, Medicaid) their methods are the same. They unilaterally determine what they will pay and also what they will pay for. By legal stratagems, they prevent you from interfering with the payment structure. At the same time you are still held to the highest standard of medical care.

The burgeoning health maintenance organizations, by their seductive advertising, promise more for less. They then turn to their contracted medical providers and inform them where the less is coming from They set up committees such as the Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEIDS) as a subsidiary of their own National Committee of Quality Assurance (NCQA) to rate their member organizations and advertise to employers and the public what good medical service they provide. Based on this data, national news magazines rank these HMO's. The concept that is promulgated implies that the HMO provides the medical care, not the individual physician members. The criteria they use for ranking their member HMO's is the percentage of subscriber members who have had all their immunizations or required screening tests such as mammography and PAP. Meanwhile, the largest health maintenance organization of all, Medicare, does not pay for most screening tests. Go figure.

The physician's role in this controversy over national medical care is minimized. Even though our national associations do not speak for a profit motive (nor should they), their words are usually dismissed as self serving and showing little regard for patient or national interest.

Too late, hospital and physician group mergers are taking place in an attempt to stop the control of the many by the few. Pending congressional action will revise federal medical care programs to reduce the escalating medical costs that were predicted when they were initiated thirty years ago. Their only solution is to reduce payments to health care providers. What a wonderful idea. To influence this action, turf protecting provider groups are lobbying to say "Not me".

Perhaps a single payor system would at least reduce the multiplicity of agencies, regulations, formularies, referral patterns etc. that now confuse the physician and staff and would allow the doctor to concentrate on the motivation that we hope brought him/her into medicine: a desire to be a helpful members of mankind.

I'm careful of the words I say.
To keep them soft and sweet.
I never know from day to day.
Which ones I'll have to eat.

A PLACE TO BE

Are you beginning to see a pattern here? Three years ago we assembled in Greenwich Connecticut, an elegant suburb of New York City; two years ago it was Cambridge on the Charles River across from Boston, a center of history and intellectual development; the next year further north to a resort hotel in Nashua, New Hampshire, recently selected again by a national magazine as the number one city in the country in which to live. Now we go further north to Bethel, Maine to a resort hidden at the base of a mountain. We hope our meeting have given you an opportunity to enjoy and see in detail some of the prime areas in New England that make it a great place to live the good life.

The Summit at Sunday River offers the amenities of a city hotel but outside it offers so much more. Forget the skis but bring comfortable hiking shoes. There are a number of trails on the mountain for the physically endowed to make communion with nature. A short hike before or after a day of lectures will cleanse the brain of stagnating thoughts. Chair lifts are available to take you up Sunday Mountain the easy way and you may hike or ride down. There is also a Mountain Bike Park, open on week-ends, where you can rent such a vehicle and get advice on the many trails on the mountain. Bring your own linament.

Further down Sunday River Road, you may see on your left a little farm house with a sign in front saying paintings for sale. It is worth a visit to the gallery in the garage of this Grandma Moses of Maine, Helen A. Morton. Several of her paintings decorate the walls of the hotel.

Still further along the road is a covered bridge crossing Sunday River. The children will certainly enjoy wading in the rocky stream and it is a great spot to feel the waning warmth of summer.

For spouses on Saturday afternoon, if golf is not your vice, there is a variety of diversions and excursions to attract your interest. There is even a motion picture theater on the outskirts of Bethel, a rare feature for any small town. A half hour ride away is North Conway, New Hampshire. From Conway to North Conway is factory outlet mile. If the thought of holiday gift giving is nagging you in September, you might want to take this pleasant trip for some debt filled hours. An enjoyable route to take is from Route 2 West to Route 113 to Fryeburg where you find Route 302, the main street leading west to Conway. Route 113 is a scenic route through the White Mountain National Forest. Bring your camera to preserve the beautiful views from an overlook half way through the forest. Try this same road in the dark of night. With only your headlamps to light the way, the bower of overhanging tree limbs gives it an eerie quality the children will enjoy - especially if you put the lights out. Traffic is rare at night.

There is much to see and to do in your free time. The foliage is changing dress at this time of year, so drive with care to catch the show. Enjoy your visit.

John G. Goulding, D.O., Editor

Summer, adieu.

Adieu, gregarious season.

Goodbye, 'revoir, farewell.

Phyllis McGinley

EARLY REGISTRATION

New England Osteopathic Association
September 25 – 28, 1997

Name _____ School _____

Address _____ Year Graduated _____

City _____ A.O.A. Number _____

State/Zip _____ Telephone _____

Detach and return with your check by Sept. 1st and a receipt will be mailed to you.
Early registration fee is $175.00. Registration after Sept. 1, 1997 is $200.00.

28 A.O.A. CME 1-A credits anticipated Credits by A.O.A., A.A.F.P., & Florida
UNECOM Alumni Luncheon Sept. 26th □ Yes □ No (Enclose $15 for luncheon)

Mail this form and check to:
N.E.O.A., Attn. Denise Gendron, 11 Hills Beach Rd. #774, Biddeford, ME 04005 Telephone (207) 283-0171 ext. 2589

THE "CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST POLICY" OF THE ACCME REQUIRES THAT FACULTY PARTICIPATING IN A CME ACTIVITY DISCLOSE TO THE AUDIENCE ANY RELATIONSHIP WITH PHARMACEUTICAL OR EQUIPMENT COMPANY WHICH MIGHT POSE A POTENTIAL, APPARENT OR REAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH REGARD TO THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROGRAM.