

LEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Bulletin



THE VOICE OF LEE COUNTY MEDICINE

VOLUME 16, NO. 2

Fort Myers, Florida
John D. Donaldson, M.D., Editor

April, 1993

APRIL GENERAL MEETING "OVERVIEW OF THE RIGHT TO DIE ISSUE"

One (1) hour AMA Category I CME Credit is offered by the University of Florida.

To receive your credit hour, you will need to complete and sign the University's evaluation form.

Robert I. Misbin, M. D., Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Florida School of Medicine has attended the Kennedy Institute, University of Washington and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in the study of Clinical and Medical Ethics. One of his most popular talks has been on physician assisted suicide. He will share with us information that we are sure will spark a debate. Do not miss this excellent program. ♦

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



PHILLIP E. ANDREWS, M.D.

Just To Name A Few

Change means many things; transformation, to become different, a loss of original identity just to name a few.

It is important that we think about change as it applies to health care and our country and perhaps most importantly to us as physicians --- we definitely have change before us.

As we face these many changes we may experience feelings of uncertainty, frustration, fear, confusion, instability, a sense of helplessness. There is a way for us to lessen these strong negative emotions and turn them into more positive feelings about what is taking place within our profession and that is through proactive involvement in that change. This will allow us some element of control and with control we are better able to project our thoughts and ideas and channel them to constructive recommendations.

The change process often means that we need to let go of "how it was" but that doesn't necessarily mean that we can't have some impact on "how it will be". We need to take a proactive role in moving through these major shifts within our profession.

Some of you may feel it is too late to have any real impact, but I believe that there are still ways for us to be heard and in turn help to influence some of those decisions that will be coming down from Washington.

By way of this article I am making a call for support of a task force that has been formed of members of our society. The purpose of this task force is to gain knowledge and insight and then to make recommendations which could be submitted to our state and national legislators. We need to think and act creatively. We must look for the opportunities in these challenges of change and become a part of the transition as positively as possible.

The committee needs your positive input in terms of ideas. None of the "I don't want" or "how it used to be". If I sound like a broken record, it is because I have failed in attempts to get much in the way of any positive ideas from the membership. By far and away the most common written as well as verbal comments have had to do with the few dollars it will cost if

"DR. JOHN" Ski Bum

Harris Bonnette joined a long list of physicians who traveled to the distant slopes and returned in a less functional condition. This list, I am anxious to point out, does not include me. I know too much to do that.

Despite being a Miami native and dedicated bass fisherman, my primary ambition was to learn to ski. This was after I saw Sonja Heine in "Sun Valley Serenade." Clatter, schuss, swoosh! I could just see myself hurtling down the slopes in blue pants and amber goggles.

Some years passed, a few things happened, and I was checking in for my internship at Denver General Hospital. I wanted to ask where to sign up for lessons, but didn't want to appear only superficially interested in medicine.

"An internship here is twelve months," the administrator said. "If you break a leg you come back next year." I quickly figured out what he meant and didn't request details. A former high school basketball player doesn't worry about doing klutzy things.

Three months passed, the snows came, and I had checked out the ski shops downtown. Wow--looks like rental is the way to go. The season opened in October, with me as the orthopedics intern that Sunday night. "They're coming," the nurse warned.

"They" were big, tanned, handsome, coordinated-looking guys with their extremities packed in cardboard splints, begging me not to cut their pants as I approached with my plaster cast paraphernalia. This was a little disquieting: they looked like they knew what they're doing, but maybe they hadn't seen "Sun Valley Serenade" five times. I was beset by uncertainty.

I persuaded Alice we needed to just go up to Loveland Pass and look. Loveland is where you went before Aspen and rich people were invented. Alice would go anywhere if I promised dinner, so one Sunday we headed west. It was a crisp, gorgeous day, and I began to feel more positive.

We arrived at noon, with the ski area already in the shade of the mountain. You don't worry about cold, I remembered, you dress for it and go right ahead. Alice said, "I'll wait; leave the heater on."

I stepped out of the car, took one breath and my lungs froze; I could hear the crackle. I figured I had thirty seconds to live, but I didn't want to appear a wimp to my bride. As I stood there, wondering whether I should exhale or just pass out, a four-year-old on tiny skis came slithering past me, shrieking "watch out!" in a tiny voice.

"That does it," I thought, "no smart-ass kid is going to intimidate me!" So I got back in the car and drove back to Denver. Some things aren't meant to be.

We found a mountainside restaurant with a huge fireplace and picture win-

March General Membership Meeting



Steven R. West, M. D., President-Elect (R) presents a certificate to Joseph W. Lawrence, M. D. (L) for recognition of his thirty five years of involvement with the Florida Medical Association and organized medicine. Dr. Lawrence spent 56 years in medicine and says he would do it all over again. For those of you who do not know Dr. Lawrence, he was the Medical Director of the Lee County Public Health Unit from 1957 to 1985. ♦

Medicine As A Career Or A Calling

At the March General Membership meeting of the Lee County Medical Society, David Smith, PhD, spoke on "Medicine as a Career or a Calling."

Dr. Smith said that in the last few years he has forgotten the meaning of the word "weekend". The medical field is dealing with hostile and mistrustful patients. He went on to say that we all see ourselves in a certain way and that some ways are much more functional than others. He gave an example of one basketball player looking out for himself and the other players were concerned for the team. Physicians, nurses and professionals are not unlike a basketball team.

His topic posed a question - Is Your Professional Life Seen As a Career or a Calling?

CAREER - Compared to a car. Concerned with self advancement. Tend to focus on process and speed rather than on destination. Tends not to focus on what he/she does, but on his/her amount of success.

Give a minimum amount of service. Somewhat independent of social setting. Success is achieved despite bad career. Alternative way not so much as having a career but having a calling.

Too much money is being spent and too little organization; not enough attention to equity.

CALLING - Is a religious term meaning a vocation. This applied to monks and nuns. At one time this stood for something special. This later changed and was applied to all walks of life. Historically, this related to a special social role in the community.



1992-93 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY Changes

The Directory has been sent to each of our members. It is not without errors! We did our very best with the information returned to us.

Please let the Medical Society Office know of any changes to make on your listing. We will be publishing a sheet with all the changes to put in your directory. Look for this in the May Bulletin. ♦

Pictorial Directories are available for Physician's offices — pick up at the Medical Society Office. ♦

LEE COUNTY MEDICAL
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Fort Myers, Florida 33901
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The Lee County Medical Society Bulletin is published monthly with the June and August editions omitted.

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The Editors welcome contributions from the members. Opinions expressed in the BULLETIN are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect policies of the Society.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)
one forgets to cancel a reservation. Is that the item most worthy for thoughtful comment _____?I leave you with a quote from Rosabeth Moss Kanter, a professor at the Harvard School of Business and author of the **Change Merchants**.*"Change is debilitating when done to us, but exhilarating when done by us."*

P.S.

On a really positive note I just received information from a "reliable" source that the carrot that is supposed to satiate us donkeys is that Hillary will include tort reform in her package --- or was it love for the dog? ♦

"DR. JOHN"

(continued from page 1)

dows. We had great slabs of prime rib with artery-threatening trimmings. As I looked around the restaurant I noticed: no casts, no splints, no slings.

"These are my kind of people," I told my bride. "Pass the horseradish," she replied. ♦
John R. Agnew

CAREER OR CALLING

(continued from page 1)

Objective of the work is the common good. Skills and talents were supposed to help others out. Success is measured in terms of the good of the group. Opportunities seen as gifts rather than earned or deserved. Some liberties are sacrificed; agree to do some things they might not want to do not in their interest.

Professionals should use the "calling" image more. It would be easier to live with ourselves and makes us better members of professional civic community. There is a struggle between the images in our lives as professionals.

Dr. Smith urged physicians to listen to their patients. The relationship between the physician and his patient is very important. Make contact with the patient on arrival and then again on departure. ♦

DISNEY DISCOUNT CARD

The Disney World and Disneyland Discount Card is now available through the Walt Disney Magic Kingdom Club, offered by the Lee County Medical Society. If you would like to receive the discount card, you may do so by contacting our office, 936-1645. ♦

Salvation Army Primary Care Clinic For The Homeless
A Quiet Opening On Tuesday, March 16, 1993

(L-R) Dale Milhauser, Coordinator; Ruth Antonowich, Consultant; Major Ron Smith, Commander, Salvation Army; Dr. Austin Aardema, Medical Director; and Meg Escalle, Administrator, Salvation Army.

In 1992, Dr. Robert Brueck, Dr. Valerie C. Moore and Meg Escalle set out to discover a new program to help our homeless and indigent families in Lee County. On Tuesday, March 16th the Primary Care Clinic at the Salvation Army held their first Clinic. Dr. Aardema saw his first patients from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The Clinic will operate for the present time on Tuesday nights each week with our primary physicians rotating coverage. Several weeks into the program, we will have a formal opening and invite the press and public. All services and materials are donated.

We wish to thank all area hospitals for working with us. A "big" thank you to physicians with caring hearts who responded financially and also donated equipment, and services.

Our "Special Thank You" to the members of the Committee who worked so hard, gave of their time to attend meetings and were generous with their talents and wisdom: Lee County Medical Society & Osteopathic Medical Assoc. - Dr. Robert Brueck, who saw the need and orchestrated the entire event; Dr. Valerie Moore, Dr. Austin Aardema, Dr. Trevor Elmquist, Dr. Bruce Lipschutz; HRS & LCPHU - Dr. Ernest Feigenbaum, Dr. Judith Hartner, Ms. Mary Allison, Mary Schulthess, Genie Rehak, Dr. Felicia Ritrosky; Lee County Dental Association, Dr. Paul Grumbach; Family Health Centers: Maggie Karner; Pharmaceutical Association: Steve Ferrugia, and ESPECIALLY, the Salvation Army members: Major Dale Smith, Meg Escalle, Santiago Vega, Cheryl Upshaw, Nancy Ropp, Rosana Walters, Ruth Antonowich, Kevin Jursinski and Dale Milhauser. Kudos to the Chefs and Staff of the Kitchen who prepared and served the best meals in town. My apologies if your name has been left out.

As you can see, it has taken many individuals and organizations to come together to accomplish the Clinic. You can participate as well; we always need financial assistance and participation in covering the clinic for primary and specialty care. Call the Medical Society Office and volunteer. ♦

Lee County Medical Society Mini-Internship Program
March 15 & 16, 1993

(L-R) Paul A. Harris, John Albion, Scott Weinstein, Dr. Hetty Z. Snyderman, Coordinator and Dr. Douglas Savage.

FACULTY — John Petersen, D. O., Internal Medicine/Gastroenterology; Douglas F. Savage, M. D., Neuro-Surgery; Marc Schneider, M. D., Plastic Surgery; Daniel Schwartz, M. D., Internal Medicine/Cardiology.**INTERNS** — Mr. John Albion, County Commissioner; Mr. John Kozak, Barnett Bank, Vice President Executive Banking; Mr. Paul A. Harris, Harris Financial, CLU; Mr. Scott Weinstein, Attorney. ♦Address Change? New Telephone #? Moving?
Retiring? Transferring?

Please advise the Medical Society Office of any changes to make regarding your office or membership status.

Our referral information is only as good as you make it!

Please advise the Society Office. ♦

THE
QUESTION
MANOPINIONS - EDITORIALS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John W. Snead, M. D.

"Will Practice Parameters Be Helpful To Patients and Physicians?"Kenneth W. Backstrand, M. D.
Anesthesia*"Practice Parameters can help ensure that only appropriate medical services are provided, thus impacting favorably on the quality and cost of medical care. They can assist physicians in planning individual treatment regimens."*Joseph M. Zeterberg, M. D.
Allergy*"Evolution of the practice parameter concept will take several years but should have a positive impact over the long term. Physicians and patients alike must be open to the inevitable changes these standards will have on health care delivery as we know it. Quality with cost containment is the bench mark."*Peter M. Sidell, M. D.
Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery**NEXT MONTH'S QUESTION:
"HOW SHOULD HEALTH CARE REFORM BE FINANCED?"**

Send your comments to the Medical Society. Bulletin deadline is the 15th of each month... we want to see you in the print media! ♦

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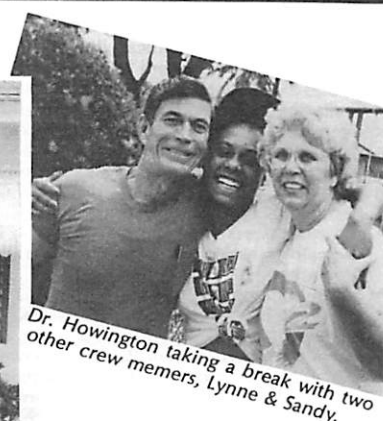
Mail your sign-up time sheet today to the Medical Society office. ♦

PAINT YOUR HEART OUT LEE COUNTY
Saturday, March 20, 1993

OPTION Care families work together in many ways.



Mrs. Virginia Barz (Homeowner) and Crew. (Dr. Howington is taking the picture.)



Dr. Howington taking a break with two other crew members, Lynne & Sandy.



Steve Lukowicz & Jane Simenson are Painting their Hearts out!



Mrs. Virginia Barz was the dear sweet person who let one of the best professional painters in Southwest Florida, John Odissoo, take 17 amateur painters and teach them how to do a professional job in one day. WOW! What fun and fellowship! The house is beautiful! We made good friends and worked on our public image and community support.

Our Hats Are Off To Our Team Members Who Gave Back To Our Community!

OPTION Care — Ray, Amy, Emily and Marjorie Bailey; Linda and Juree Clayton; Tim Holland. Charter Glade Hospital — Joan Hudson. Smith & Assoc. — Sharon Baughman. Lee County Medical Society Members — F. Lee Howington, M. D. and staff — Jeannie McGary; Sandra Dean; Steven Lukowicz, M. D.; Jane Simenson, M. D.; LCMS Staff — Lynne Jones; Robin Wilke; Ann Wilke.

Kudos to all of the other LCMS members who painted on many of the other teams. 58 houses were painted this year with volunteers. All of this could not be accomplished without the dedication of our own member, Dr. Bob Brueck and his wonderful volunteer staff of coordinators.

Thank you to McDonald's on Metro and Colonial for breakfast; Pizza Hut at 3706 Cleveland for lunch (best pizza I ever tasted) and Publix for dinner at the Party. A great time was had by all. Plan to be with us next year. ♦



Continuing Medical Education THE APRIL 1993 C.M.E. PROGRAMS

Every Thursday 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Lee Memorial Hospital in the Auditorium.

April 1, 1993 - "Sleep Apnea", Rozak Dosani, M. D., Christopher Hoek, DDS.

April 8, 1993 - "AIDS Update - Part I", (For physicians only), Stephen Zellner, M. D. Call 334-5959 to register.

April 15, 1993 - "Medical Ethics & Decision Making", Michael H. Levy, M. D., Ph. D., Fox Chase Cancer Center.

April 22, 1993 - "Musculoskeletal Sepsis in Children", F. Brett Shannon, D.O.

April 29, 1993 - "Gout" Bradley D. Castellano, DPM.

Physicians In The News

Joseph P. Fiore, M. D. will be a faculty member at the 13th Annual Health Reporting Conference in San Francisco, April 22 - 25, 1993 by the American Medical Association.

Walter H. Harvey, D. O. and several other colleagues' paper on "Efficacy of Oral Ondansetron in the Prevention of Emesis in Outpatients Receiving Cyclophosphamide-based Chemotherapy" has been published in the March 1993 issue of *Journal of Internal Medicine*. ♦

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified Ads are only for Society Physician Members use.

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BOOKMARK MEDICAL

Thomas R. Connelly Medical Library at the Lee Memorial Hospital celebrates the National Library Week on April 18th to 24th by addition of the brand new books, videotapes and audiocassettes to its collection. Among the highlights of the new titles are:

- Sheila Sherlock's 1993 edition of *Diseases of the Liver and Biliary System*
- *Infectious Disease in Emergency Medicine*, by Judith C. Brillman
- *Blood Transfusion in Clinical Medicine*, by P. L. Mollison
- *Arthritis and Allied Conditions*, by Daniel J. McCarty
- Philip J. Disaia's 1993 edition of *Clinical Gynecologic Oncology, Colon and Rectal Surgery*, by Marvin L. Corman
- and *Hormone Replacement Therapy*, by Donald P. Swartz.

The pain management section has been enriched by addition of the following classics in the field:

- 1993 edition of R. Patt's *Cancer Pain*,
- *Neural Blockade in Clinical Anesthesia and Management of Pain*, by M. J. Cousins,
- *Practical Management of Pain*, by P. Prithby Raj
- *Principles and Practice of Pain Management*, by C. Warfield

From the American Medical Association publishing office, the library received an excellent set of audiocassettes, *Fresh Advice*, dealing with various problems concerning management of medical practice, as well as several books on the topic ranging from starting your practice, physician employment contracts to buying and selling a practice.

The Thomas R. Connelly Medical Library is located on the first floor of the Medical Office Center at the Lee Memorial Hospital on Cleveland Ave. and is open Monday to Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM to all members of Lee County Medical Society and to staff of Lee Memorial Hospital. Physicians may use the library after hours by contacting security office at LMH. ♦

American Medical Association Presses for Redefinition of Expert Testimony

In a friend of the court brief filed before the U.S. Supreme Court, the AMA advocates that the Court limit expert testimony to opinions founded in scientific knowledge or based on valid scientific knowledge or based on valid scientific methodology. The outcome of the *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals* case will determine the legal role of medical expert testimony.

"Expert" opinion without scientific basis has extremely negative effects on physicians, their patients and society as a whole — as well as on the legal process. The *Daubert* case involves expert testimony in product-liability suits that linked the morning sickness drug *Benedictin* to birth defects. Joining the AMA in this effort are 15 national medical specialty societies and the AMA/Specialty Society Medical Liability Project. ♦

AMA Meeting With Task Force 'Constructive'

An AMA delegation reported a successful meeting March 16 with members of the White House task force on system reform.

Described as a "very constructive dialogue," the two and one-half hour session covered several issues critical to medicine. Those included professional liability, quality of care, antitrust and negotiations, and ethical standards.

"We are extremely pleased with the nature and content of our discussions," said William E. Jacott, MD, AMA secretary-treasurer. "These were serious, worthwhile talks about matters of great concern to all physicians."

The gathering took place in the Old Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House.

Meeting with the task force groups were Board Trustees Nancy W. Dickey, MD, Dr. Jacott, and P. John Sewerd, MD. Also representing the AMA were: John Crosby, AMA senior vice president for health policy; Kirk Johnson, AMA general counsel; John T. Kelly, MD, AMA director of quality assurance; and Dorothy Moss, AMA director of federal affairs.

The four separate task force working groups requested additional follow-up materials from the AMA. ♦

First Lady to Speak at AMA Summit

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who heads the President's National Task Force on Health Care Reform, meets this week with hundreds of physicians from across the country at the AMA meeting in Washington.

At the conference, called "A Time for New Partnership," Mrs. Clinton will speak at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 24.

Physicians are assembling in the Capital March 23-25 to voice their viewpoints on health system reform and to meet with key Washington health policymakers. Physicians also will receive briefings from AMA legislative staff and visit with their representative in Congress.

Other officials attending the event include congressional leaders and administration officials. They are: Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R, Kan.), House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D, Mo.), Jay Rockefeller (D, W.Va.), HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, PhD, and Majority Leader George J. Mitchell (D, Maine). ♦

Talks Resume With Senior Policy Adviser

AMA officials met again last week with Ira Magaziner, the President's senior health policy adviser. They are continuing their series of health system reform discussion.

Issues discussed at the meeting included employer mandates, and essential benefits package, antitrust relief and physician participation in negotiations. ♦

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**APRIL MEDICAL
SOCIETY MEETING**

Royal Palm Yacht Club
APRIL 19, 1993

Social Time: 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Time: 7:00 p.m.

SPEAKER:
ROBERT I. MISBIN, M. D.
Internal Medicine/
Endocrinology
Associate Prof. of Medicine,
University of Florida

TOPIC:
"Overview Of The Right
To Die Issue"

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