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OF THE ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY

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SETH BARNES, MD

AMS PRESIDENT, 2022-2023

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OF THE ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY

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Nostalgia

BY SETH BARNES, MD
2022-2023 PRESIDENT,
ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY

I suffer from nostalgia – I admit it freely. I may even coin a new term “nostalgic.” It usually reaches its peak during the holidays, but I will have random exacerbations during family events and gatherings. By far the worst place in my home is my attic. Each time I attempt to clean out the attic, I become overwhelmed with nostalgia - my boys’ baby clothes, old high school sports equipment, family photos, etc., etc.

When elected president of the Arkansas Medical Society, I immediately sensed an exacerbation. I love this organization, who it represents, and what it attempts to protect. **Representing the physicians of Arkansas and attempting to protect our profession and our relationship with our patients from outside influences are the core of the organizational values.** I grew up with a sick father, ill with the ravages of severe rheumatoid arthritis. He worked hard daily and made it with the help of several excellent physicians, including his local family practice doctor and the experts serving as consultants. I sure didn't realize it at the time, but the main reason they were able to take such good care of him in an unobstructed fashion was partly due to the long struggles and work of the physicians of the Arkansas Medical Society.

As you may know, AMS was founded in 1875 by a group of physicians sensing a need to organize and protect their profession. The organization has grown to over 4,000 members from across the state and remains active in the goals upon which it was founded. Membership is key as the more members we have, the more influence we have in heading off adverse legislation, thereby protecting our patients from harm.

As part of dealing with my nostalgia, I decided to take a peek into the past by reviewing past presidential addresses and noting some of the comments. Interestingly, problems mentioned in the past still ring true today.

Dating back as far as 1902, Dr. Frank Visonhler admonished the membership to be rock steady no matter the situation by advising us to “be the shadow of a rock in a weary land.” No doubt this has been the case, as all of us have had to deal with the trials of a pandemic and the stress and burdens added to an already hard job.

Progressing through the years, other advice has been offered. In 1922, Dr. Charles Cargile advised, “It is our duty and should be our pleasure to belong to medical organizations, attend meetings, and actively participate in them.” So very true, as we all are reenergized when we meet with fellow physicians and relate similar successes, struggles, and concerns. This helps us realize we are not alone, and a lot of our feelings are shared by our colleagues.



Dr. H. Fay H. Jones gave timeless advice in 1942 saying “...to plans which would benefit the people we serve; we must offer our wholehearted and unselfish support and we must oppose unsound doctrines which would eventually lower the standards of medical service.”

In 1962, Dr. William Snodgrass gave even more pointed advice. “Go home and work on your local colleagues to take an active interest in our state organization,” he said.

Embracing my nostalgia and looking into just a small bit of our history, I learned a lot. We need to be organized; we need active participation; and we need to expand our membership now more than ever. When we encourage nonmembers to join the Arkansas Medical Society, we help protect our profession, develop healthy and nurturing relationships, and protect our patients from harm.

Great advice from the past for the future.

I am a Nostalgic.

We need to be organized; we need active participation; and we need to expand our membership now more than ever.



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SETH M. BARNES, MD, FACP GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR 2022-23 AMS PRESIDENT

BY CASEY L. PENN

The youngest of three sons, Seth Barnes grew up in Fordyce. His father was a logging contractor, and his mother was a homemaker. “Both taught me the value of work and dedication,” recalled Barnes of his parents, both now deceased.

His parents also taught him, by example, to respect and trust the family doctor. “My father had severe rheumatoid arthritis requiring significant amounts of time under the care of physicians,” explained Dr. Barnes. “He had some excellent physicians taking care of him.”

Among those caring doctors was Hugh Nutt, MD, recently deceased. “Dr. Nutt took care of just about everyone in my family,” Dr. Barnes recalled of his family’s general physician. “He was kind, forthcoming, involved in the community, compassionate, and able to establish and maintain an excellent doctor-patient

relationship. Plus, whatever Dr. Nutt said, my mother took as gospel.

“Dr. Nutt was heavily involved in Dad’s care – made house calls and the whole nine yards. So, he was a considerable influence on me early in my life. And when I came back to Arkansas to practice medicine, Dr. Nutt and I talked regularly – about our cases, medicine, and what’s going on. It was fun to know him as a doctor first and then as a colleague and friend.”

That kind of doctor-patient relationship that he saw exemplified by his family doctor and later his friend is something Dr. Barnes strives for in his own practice of medicine. As evidence of success in this area, he received (during his residency) the Eagle Award at the Nashville Veterans Affairs Medical Center for caring for a man with lung cancer. “This was the first cancer patient I ever cared for as a physician,” he said. “It made a lasting impression.”

Board-certified in internal medicine, Dr. Barnes has practiced for 23 years. He attended undergraduate studies at the University of Arkansas Monticello and earned his medical degree at UAMS. He completed his residency at Vanderbilt University Medical Center before beginning his career in private practice at Batesville’s White River Diagnostic Clinic. He was there from 1999 to 2018, and during his tenure, he also served as chief of staff at White River Medical Center. He also served as executive medical director for Future Fuel Chemical Company Batesville (2002-2018).

Today, Dr. Barnes lives in Hot Springs, where he is employed by the St. Vincent Medical Group as an internist and serves on multiple committees. In addition to his involvement with AMS since 1999, he is a fellow with the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Barnes also shared pride in his two adult sons. His son, Spencer, has earned a PhD in finance and is embarking on a teaching career at the University of Texas-El Paso, while his other son, Sumner, is a corporate pilot with a business degree from Lyon College.

GOALS AS AMS PRESIDENT

During the AMS President’s Dinner, held in May at Chenal Country Club, Dr. Barnes was able to share his goals for the Society. After commending the leadership of his predecessor Danny Wilkerson, MD, and thanking his family, friends, and fellow members for electing him, he began his remarks by saying what was on everyone’s mind that night.

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As I began earning good grades, that was reassuring, and later my wife Scarlett was instrumental as well. She encouraged, supported, and helped me along the path of becoming a physician.

”

“It was revealing to look back at past speeches and see they dealt with the same struggles we deal with today: retaining membership and fighting harmful legislation. It also made me realize how much work has gone into making the Society as strong and effective as it is today.”





Dr. Barnes receives his AMS medallion from the outgoing president, Danny Wilkerson, MD.

“I’ve forgotten how much fun it is to meet in person,” he said. “As you go through life, you do things that are routine. You forget what a blessing they are until they’re taken away from you, so it’s good to look out and see all of you. Thank you for electing me. I’ll do my best to look out for the best interests of the physicians of Arkansas and, in turn, the patients of Arkansas. That’s who we work for and who we serve.”

Turning his attention to his goals for the Society, Dr. Barnes took members back



Dr. Barnes addresses the attendees as president at the President’s Dinner on May 6, 2022.

in time and, for a few moments, revisited some recorded comments made by far-in-the-past presidents. For instance, Dr. Charles Cargile (1922) called it “our duty to belong to medical organizations, attend meetings, and actively participate in them.”

Dr. William A. Snodgrass, Jr., (1962) said, “If we don’t wake up and work as an organization with concerted action through our county, state, and AMA (national organizations), we will lose our battle to practice medicine as we know it today ... Go home and work on your local colleagues to take an active interest in our state organization.”

Dr. Barnes gave a recap of how AMS started and addressed the significant gap between the number of members and the number of licensed physicians in the state. “It was revealing,” he said, “to look back at past speeches and see they dealt with the same struggles we deal with today: retaining membership and fighting harmful legislation. It also made me realize how much work has gone into making the Society as strong and effective as it is today.”

Looking back on his initial involvement in the Society, he shared what drew him into active participation. “I went to the first few meetings as a trustee,” he said. “I loved the work they do to protect the profession from outside influences and adverse legislation. It’s so much fun to get together and share experiences, and it’s reassuring to be in a group whose mission is to help the profession along - and they do it so well. If you’ve never had the chance to see Mr.

Wroten and the staff at the Capitol in front of committees dealing with them graciously, in a straightforward manner, I would encourage everyone to go and witness them in action. They are very talented at getting the point of the Arkansas physician across to the legislator.”

These are just some reasons that Dr. Barnes regularly talks to colleagues about the Arkansas Medical Society. He hopes all members will do the same to recruit new members. “I encourage folks to join because that’s where our strength comes from,” he said.

ON BEING “THE DOCTOR”

In ending his presidential address, Dr. Barnes shared with attendees one of his favorite paintings, an 1891 work by Luke Fildes entitled “The Doctor,” which “summarizes” perfectly the doctor-patient relationship. “At the heart, you have a physician at the bedside,” he pointed out. “It’s not a wealthy family; they’re not well-to-do ... the child is on two chairs on a pallet. You have a distraught mother, and a concerned father that is feeling helpless. We need to keep this image in our mind as we go through processes to care for and protect our patients from adverse legislation. Our whole goal is to take care of our patients. I hope by looking in the rear-view mirror, you can see that a lot of the struggles we’re going through right now have gone on for years and years, and the way to get in front of those struggles is through expanded membership and support of the Society.” ■



The Doctor, a 1891 painting by Luke Fildes, focuses on the relationship between physician and patient.

SETH BARNES, MD: AT-A-GLANCE

HOBBIES:

I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, the outdoors, hunting, fishing, and time on the lake. I am the baby of the family, and due to my father’s health, my two brothers taught me how to hunt and fish and pretty much all things outdoors.

Something people might not expect about me: I am an instrument-rated pilot in single-engine airplanes.

FROM HIS COLLEAGUES:

“Seth practiced in Batesville for years and is a colleague as well as a friend. He is one of those rare physicians that is uniformly respected by his colleagues for both clinical skills and leadership qualities. I appreciated the time he spent with my elderly parents, who were quite ill. We shared many patients, and his patients always spoke highly of him.”

Edward Jones, MD (Gynecologist/Batesville)

“Dr. Barnes moved to our community a few years ago, and I have had the privilege of working with him professionally and getting to know him personally. As a surgeon, I would tell you he is the ‘classic’ internist, and I mean that in the most complimentary manner. Well-trained and up-to-date, he has been an invaluable asset to my practice as I am frequently relying on his expertise regarding new medications, treatments, diagnostic criteria, and information regarding the many disease processes I encounter and manage in the perioperative arena. I am quite excited that he is AMS president and am sure his passion for excellent medical care will be of significant benefit to the people and patients of this state.”

John Webb, MD (General Surgery/Hot Springs)



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PHYSICIAN LEADERS GATHER FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AND PRESIDENT'S DINNER

For the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, AMS Board of Trustees and guests convened at the Chenal Country Club in Little Rock on May 6, 2022, for its quarterly Board of Trustees meeting. AMS physician leaders were excited to be back together to see familiar faces and to meet new board members.

After the Board of Trustees meeting that included many updates on the Society's business, the **Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care (AFMC)** hosted a welcome reception to kick off the President's Dinner honoring incoming president, Seth

Barnes, MD. Normally, these events would occur during the AMS Annual Membership Meeting held each spring but had to be postponed during the public health emergency. Guests enjoyed a sampling of hors d'oeuvres and drinks while mingling with colleagues and their guests.

Following the reception, the President's Dinner began with the Society's recognition and appreciation for the continued support of the dinner sponsors: **Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield** and **State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company**, and participating sponsor

MAI Capital Partners. Following the remarks from outgoing president, Danny Wilkerson, MD, newly elected board members joined him and Dr. Barnes to recite the oath of office. Dr. Wilkerson also took a moment to recognize Dr. Larry Lawson's many years of service and his retirement from the Arkansas Medical Foundation.

After President Barnes' inaugural address, guest speaker Rex Nelson gave an engaging talk about the history of Arkansas and how the Society fits into the future success of our state.



BOARD MEETING

1. Drs. Dennis Yelvington, Willard Burks, Seth Barnes, and Shannon Swift (left to right) listen during the May 6 board meeting.
2. Dr. Omar Atiq and AMS Executive Vice President David Wroten
3. Chairman of the Board and Outgoing President Dr. Danny Wilkerson

RECEPTION

4. Dr. Samuel Bledsoe with his wife Kelly, and Dr. Greg Bledsoe
5. Rep. Steve Magie, MD, and Dr. Amy Cahill
6. Dr. Tim Paden and Dr. Lyle Burdine
7. Dr. Mark Ramiro and his wife Precy
8. Dr. Willard Burks with his wife Velma, and Dr. Candace Franks
9. Dr. Anthony Johnson with his wife Denise
10. Cathy Bain, Peggy Starling, Ray Hanley and his wife Diane Hanley, from AFMC
11. Incoming President Dr. Seth Barnes with his friends and family before the President's Dinner
12. Dr. James Hunt and his wife, Deanne
13. Scott Smith, Jay White from MAI Capital Management, and his wife Laura
14. Dr. Jerakaycia Smith with her husband Trent
15. Laura Hawkins, Anna and Dr. Grant Morshedi, and Rep. Deborah Ferguson
16. Kathryn Griffin, Nikki and Dr. Larry Lawson, and Carole Lang

DINNER

17. Dr. Wilkerson leads Drs. Anthony Johnson, Seth Barnes, Candace Franks, Jerakaycia Smith, Courtney Sick, Lyle Burdine, and David Dobies in the Oath of Office
18. Dr. Larry Lawson (left), with Dr. Danny Wilkerson, was recognized for his 18 years of service to the Arkansas Medical Foundation
19. Rex Nelson

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WHAT HAVE THEY DONE LATELY

BY **DAVID WROTEN**
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY



Instead of “what have we done lately”, I’m choosing to use this space to tell you “what THEY have done lately”. Who are “they”? They are the new members of the Arkansas Medical Society 50 Year Club.

Each year during the AMS Annual Membership meeting, the Society recognizes those members who have been in medical practice for 50 years or more. A luncheon is held in their honor and special recognition is given to the “new” members

who have met the milestone of having been in practice for 50 years. It’s one of the best-attended events sponsored by AMS. The new initiates are presented with a 50 Year Club pin and certificate, but the best part of the luncheon is the time just before and right after the official ceremonies when old friends get to visit. COVID prevented us from having this luncheon in 2020 and 2021. So this year, we honored those physicians from the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972, at a

luncheon on June 8 at the Chenal Country Club in Little Rock.

These physicians have a special place in the history of the AMS and have contributed significantly to its success. More importantly, we honor them for their dedication and sacrifices they have made to care for the patients of Arkansas.



SO WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING ELSE, HERE IS THE LIST OF NEW INITIATES INTO THE AMS 50 YEAR CLUB:

2020 INDUCTEES TO THE 50 YEAR CLUB

James S. Beckman Jr., MD
George H. Benjamin, MD
James E. Boger, MD
Renie Bressinck, MD
James C. Campbell Jr., MD
Jack A. Cates, MD
Jock S. Cobb, MD
James H. Golleher, MD
Aubrey J. Hough Jr., MD
James T. Howell Sr., MD

Ben D. Johnson, MD
A. Dale Kincheloe, MD
Ted S. Lancaster, MD
James H. Landers, MD
Frederick R. Levin, MD
E. Jane Mauch, MD
John D. McConnell, MD
William D. McKnight, MD
Moises A. Menendez, MD
Laurence H. Miller, MD

William J. Morton, MD
Jon Kirby Newsum, MD
Clifton Parnell III, MD
Raul R. Ramirez, MD
Charles H. Rodgers, MD
Ladd J. Scriber, MD
William M. Sherrill Jr., MD
Douglas F. Smart, MD
Ronald D. Smith, MD
Darrell L. Speed, MD

Marolyn N. Speer, MD
P. Reddy Tukivakala, MD
Robert S. Weinstein, MD
James A. Wellons Jr., MD
Frank J. Wilson Jr., MD

2021 INDUCTEES TO THE 50 YEAR CLUB

David G. Albers, MD
Leslie F. Anderson, MD
C. Murl Baker Jr., MD
Timothy M. Boehm, MD
E. Cliff Clifton, MD
Donald R. Guinn, MD

Ray H. Hall Jr., MD
John D. Hoffman, MD
Jorge F. Jimenez, MD
John C. Jones, MD
Linda M. McGhee, MD
Robert J. McGowan Jr., MD

Samuel G. Meredith Jr., MD
Phillip J. Peters, MD
Thomas A. Pullig, MD
Jim D. Sharp, MD
L. Gene Singleton, MD
John G. Slater Jr., MD

Sebastian A. Spades III, MD
Hoy B. Speer Jr., MD
James D. Studdard, MD
H. Aubry Talley, MD

2022 INDUCTEES TO THE 50 YEAR CLUB

Francisco Batres, MD
J. Dale Calhoun, MD
Mary Corbitt, MD
Donald L. Dunn, MD
William W. Galloway, MD
William E. Harrison, MD
Malcolm L. Hayward Jr., MD
Roger D. Hill, MD
J. Presley Jackson, MD
Robert D. Johnson, MD

Steve A. Jones, MD
F. Richard Jordan, MD
Ron A. Kaler, MD
Joe D. King, MD
Jay M. Lipke, MD
Don Lum, MD
Stephen C. Manus, MD
James R. McCoy, MD
John P. Park, MD
Donald H. Pennington, MD

Dana Rabideau, MD
Jon M. Robert, MD
Henry L. Rogers, MD
James D. Russell, MD
Ferdinand K. Samuel, MD
Sam J. Scroggins, MD
John B. Simpson, MD
George W. Smith, MD
John D. Smith, MD
Norman I. Snyder, MD

Jack J. Sternberg, MD
Charles D. Sullivan, MD
Steve Tilley, MD
Thomas R. Wallace, MD
John J. Weisse, MD
Philip A. Woodward, MD
James E. Young, MD
Sandra S. Young, MD ■

AMS INDUCTS THREE CLASSES INTO THE 50 YEAR CLUB



50 Year Club Inductees from the Classes of 2020, 2021, 2022, from left to right: Dr. Ted Lancaster of Jonesboro, Dr. H. Aubry Talley of El Dorado, Dr. William Galloway of Russellville, Dr. Donald Pennington of Clarksville, Dr. Sandra Young of London, Ark., Dr. Mary Corbitt of Little Rock, and Dr. Henry L. “Hank” Rogers of Little Rock



1. Sheila and Dr. H. Aubry Talley of El Dorado
2. Dr. James Bledsoe of Rogers and Dr. William Galloway of Russellville
3. Mary Ann and Dr. Robert Kerr of Little Rock
4. Carla and Dr. Joseph Farmer of Little Rock
5. Drs. Coburn Howell and James Hagler with Lois Hargrove
6. Drs. Jim Lytle, Jerry Thomas, Joseph Farmer, Harold Hutson ■

AMS would like to thank these physicians for their many contributions, not only to the Society, but to the practice of medicine. Your service is greatly appreciated.



HOW THE AMA CONTINUES TO MEET PANDEMIC-RELATED CHALLENGES

BY **SCOTT FERGUSON, MD**
SECRETARY, AMA BOARD OF TRUSTEES



As the COVID-19 pandemic stretches into its third year, our knowledge of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the most effective methods to limit its spread and treat those who fall ill continues to expand.

Since the pandemic began, the AMA has focused on supporting physicians on the front lines by pushing Congress and the White House for personal protective equipment and other resources to keep health professionals safe. The AMA has also helped physicians in private practice weather the economic storm of COVID-19, working with Congress to secure billions of dollars in emergency funding.

The AMA secured broad telehealth expansion and improved payments at the state and federal levels, boosting access to care that is safer to receive and provide. We have also created a broad range of toolkits, webinars, podcasts,

practice guides, wellness strategies, and other resources to help physicians provide the best possible patient care during the greatest threat to public health in generations.

Caring for caregivers is another area of AMA emphasis. Our physician wellness resources include a 17-step guide to creating highly resilient health care organizations, both large and small, that can kick into an even higher level of performance in a crisis. A broad range of additional tools and resources designed to help physicians cope with pandemic-related stress can be found on our Ed Hub online learning platform. (Links can be found on [ARKMED.org](https://www.arkmed.org)).

Throughout the pandemic, the AMA has focused on communicating clear, concise, evidence-based messaging about the virus and the vaccines and treatments

developed in response. At the same time, we have spoken out strongly against the spread of disinformation and other falsehoods that have fueled a parallel pandemic of overt politicization, which has heightened vaccine hesitancy and refusal with dire consequences.

History has shown us time and again that a sound strategy driving a multifaceted response can overcome the greatest obstacles placed in our path. The AMA, which marks the 175th anniversary of its founding this year, remains dedicated to propelling the science, research, and advocacy that drives organized medicine forward during this crisis and beyond.

The AMA will continue to fulfill its mission by working to remove obstacles to patient care, leading the charge to prevent chronic disease and confront public health crises, and driving the future of medicine through innovation and improved physician training and education. ■

History has shown us time and again that a sound strategy driving a multifaceted response can overcome the greatest obstacles placed in our path.

Congratulations to Dr. Scott Ferguson, West Memphis radiologist and AMS past president, who was elected to a second term on the American Medical Association Board of Trustees. With Dr. Ferguson (third from left), are the AMS delegation - Dr. Gene Shelby, Dr. Amy Cahill, AMS EVP David Wroten, Dr. Alan Wilson, and Dr. Omar Atiq.





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ANSWERING THE “HOW” QUESTIONS IN MEDICAL RECORDS

BY **TERESA HOLMES, CMPE**
DIRECTOR OF PRACTICE AND HEALTH POLICY

As an advocate and resource to physicians, the Arkansas Medical Society directs and assists clinics with daily operational questions and concerns. A few of the most common questions are: how long do I keep medical records, how do I supply records to the patient, and how do I destroy records? To cover these questions, we’ve dived into The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) regulations, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regulations, and Arkansas State Medical Board rules and regulations to highlight what you need to know.

Under HIPAA Privacy Rule, individuals have a right to their personal health information that is maintained by their physicians. This includes not only medical records, but also billing and payment records, insurance information, clinical lab test results, medical images such as X-rays, wellness and disease management program files, clinical case notes, and any other information used to make decisions about a person’s health care.

Because of patients’ rights to their medical information, physicians and their clinical staff often ask how long they are required to keep patient records and documentation. According to the Arkansas State Medical Board, medical records for adult patients should be kept 10 years from the date of their last treatment. If the patient was not a current patient at the time of their death, the records should be retained for six years. The complete medical record of a minor-age patient

must be retained two years after the patient turns 20 years old.

The form and format of the medical records and how you supply them to patients are detailed in the HIPAA Privacy Rule:

- If a patient requests a paper copy that is either maintained electronically or on paper, you must provide them with the paper copy.
- If a patient requests an electronic copy of a record that has only been maintained on paper, you have two options:

1. If it can be easily converted, your office is required to scan the paper documents and send electronically to the patient.
2. If the record cannot be easily converted to a digital copy, you

must provide them access to the information in an alternate format. This does NOT mean that you must purchase new software or equipment for every possible individual request, but you must have a way to turn the paper copy into an electronic format and offer that to your patient. If they decline your electronic format, you may supply the paper copy.

- If a patient requests an electronic copy of a record maintained digitally, you must provide them with the report in the requested form and format.²

A physician or clinic may also require a written request from individuals who are requesting the records, and they may also decide to charge for supplying the records. Cost parameters have been

set by the Arkansas State Medical Board if physicians decide to charge a fee. Photocopies may not cost more than \$.50 per page for the first 25 pages and \$.25 for each additional page. A labor charge of up to \$15 may be added for each request for medical records, covering the supplies for copying records, labor, and postage. If the physician or clinic does intend to charge the patient a fee, the patient must be notified in advance.¹

In addition to the length of time, format, and fees, HIPAA Privacy Rule also encourages clinics to supply the records to the patient as soon as possible but within 30 calendar days. If a clinic is unable to provide the records within that time, the patient must be notified in writing of the reason for the delay and what date the records will be available. An extension of delay gives a clinic an additional 30 days to comply but is allowed once.

When it’s time to dispose of medical records, physicians and staff will want to consider how you go about destroying files. According to HIPAA and CMS, medical records that are being destroyed must be unreadable, indecipherable, and cannot be reconstructed. They can use methods such as shredding, burning, pulping, or pulverizing. For electronic files, they

can use products to overwrite the media, purge the files by exposing the hardware to a strong magnetic field, or physically destroy the media by shredding, melting, or incinerating.²

While the information in this article can be helpful, it’s not a complete listing of all the federal and state laws and regulations that physicians and clinics must follow. There may be specific incidents and scenarios where certain types of requests or medical records must be managed in a different manner. That’s where the Arkansas Medical Society can help. Call me at **501-224-8967** or email **tholmes@arkmed.org** if you need personalized guidance before providing or destroying medical records. We’re always here to help as you provide quality, consistent services to your patients. ■

References

1. Arkansas Code Section 16-46-106. Medical Records <https://www.armedicalboard.org/Professionals/pdf/act767.pdf>
2. Individuals’ Rights under HIPAA to Access their Health Information 45 CFR § 164.524 <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/privacy/guidance/access/index.html#:~:text=Requests%20for%20Paper,of%20the%20PHI>

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YOU ARE THE BEST ADVOCATE FOR THE HOUSE OF MEDICINE

BY H. SCOTT SMITH, JD
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS



Like a big-picture statement. Great billboard signs, like great soundbites, are rare and make an impression because they are clear, concise, and complete. Earlier in the Journal, Dr. Barnes touched upon a great big-picture statement in his “From the President” taken from Herbert Fay Hempstead Jones, MD, in his AMS president’s address on April 27, 1942:

“To plans which would benefit the people we serve, we must offer our wholehearted and unselfish support, and we must oppose unsound doctrines which would eventually lower the standards of medical service...”

Eighty years later those words provide guidance to some vitally important, big-picture questions like...WHAT should AMS members be doing and WHY do it when it comes to advocacy?

Like the members of Arkansas Medical Society in 1942, members today must continue offering wholehearted and unselfish support to plans which would benefit the people served by AMS members AND continue to oppose unsound doctrines that could lower the standards of medical service. Just think how low standards of service would be

Act now because the election clock countdown is moving. We need YOU, our best advocates, helping us in our effort

today had AMS members not fought against past unsound doctrines.

The words of Dr. H. Fay H. Jones are powerful words that ring true and are clear, concise, and complete. You and your colleagues have put in an enormous amount of hard work and determination to provide your patients with the highest standards of medical service, but according to Dr. Jones, all that work isn’t enough.

It is not enough to go through years of undergraduate, medical school, residency training, not to mention the CMEs and outside study to keep up with the latest in medicine, science, and technology. All your hard work to provide high quality medical care can be quickly and efficiently dismantled by a vote because passing legislation is easier than going to medical school.

But HOW can you, as an AMS member today, best support plans benefitting your patients and defend high standards of medical service? At our state Capitol and the U.S. Capitol, unsound doctrines

and bills are constantly being proposed that do not benefit patients. AMS is there working on your behalf, but we are at our best when all members are involved.

Decisions are made in those buildings that impact your patients and your ability to provide the highest standards of medical service. Having legislators willing to listen to and support the House of Medicine makes the difference, and it takes work to get good legislators elected.

You can start helping AMS by meeting candidates and working with them now... before the November 2022 election, and before the next legislative session begins in January 2023. Take up the fight to defend your patients by finding and getting to know at least one candidate near you. After you see how easy it is to help and how appreciative a candidate is for you reaching out, you may want to find another candidate in your area and help them as well.

As most of you know, every 10 years “re-districting” occurs. After the census takers have done their thing, new

district lines are established for the four congressional districts (done by the state legislature) and state legislative districts (done by the governor, secretary of state, and attorney general as the Arkansas Board of Apportionment). Sometimes it’s not easy to figure out who your new congressman, state rep, and state senator may be, especially if you miss the postcard mailed to your house with those new district numbers.

HERE’S AN EASY WAY YOU CAN FIND THE CANDIDATES IN YOUR UPDATED DISTRICTS:

- ✓ Visit Voter View at www.voterview.ar-nova.org/voterview and type in your name and birthday to check registration. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and open “Districts.” Take note of your new congressional district, state representative, and state senate districts.
- ✓ NOW, go to Arkelect.com and click on the candidate directory in the top navigation menu. On the left side of the screen, click on the “Office” tab and scroll down to find your district numbers. Candidates in your districts will be listed there, as well as party affiliation, address, email, and phone number. Reach out to them by sending a text or email or make a call and ask how you can help.

Please let us know if you make a contact and if we might be able to be of assistance as you step into the action. Call us at the AMS office or email me at ssmith@arkmed.org.

And please, act now because the election clock countdown is moving. We need YOU, our best advocates, helping us in our effort to re-elect friends and elect new friends of the House of Medicine. There’s no time like the present and not a moment too soon. ■



The AMS 19th Annual Insurance Conferences are back and in-person this year in three locations. This event brings the major players in health care together for one day to discuss the issues important to your practice.

Scan the QR code below to register for an event near you. All conferences will feature the same content and vendors, so if you miss one location you can attend one of the other events.

September 29, 2022
Northwest Arkansas



October 5, 2022
Jonesboro



October 26 & 27, 2022
Little Rock



Visit ARKMED.org for more information.

DOCTOR OF THE DAY PROGRAM CONTINUES DURING 2022 FISCAL SESSION

The Arkansas General Assembly convened for the 2022 Fiscal Session on February 14, where the state's legislators met to discuss and vote on budget and appropriation bills presented in each chamber. As in the past, the Arkansas Medical Society member physicians were able to serve as Doctor of the Day for the Arkansas State Legislature. This unique volunteer opportunity allows physicians to connect with legislators

one-on-one and get a first-hand look at the legislative process and how it affects the practice of medicine, with this session focusing on the state's finances.

As a part of this long-standing program, Doctor of the Day physicians are granted floor privileges to both chambers of the State Legislature and are introduced in the House and the Senate. They also have the opportunity to attend budget

committee meetings and personally visit with their legislator.

We appreciate all of our volunteers who have served our legislators, state employees, and guests during this session. The Society would like to extend a special word of thanks to the Infirmity nurses, Brenda Huett and Sherry Barnard. ■

1. From left to right: Rep. Andrew Collins, Dr. Bala Simon, Dr. Beth Milligan, and Rep. Les Warren 2. Dr. Bala Simon and Rep. Ashley Hudson 3. Dr. James Hunt with Sen. Kim Hammer 4. Dr. Gloria Richard-Davis and Rep. Denise Jones Ennett 5. Dr. Gina Drobena and Sen. Clarke Tucker 6. Dr. Beth Milligan, Rep. Steve Magie, MD, and Dr. Bala Simon 7. Dr. Shannon Swift and Sen. Missy Irvin



PHYSICIAN-FOUNDED NATIONAL BANK HELPS ARKANSAS PHYSICIANS AND TRAINEES WITH STUDENT LOAN REFINANCE, PERSONAL LOANS AND PRACTICE FINANCING



How should a physician handle their finances in training and early in their career? Why isn't there a place physicians can go to that understands what it is like to train for so long and borrow so much for the honor of treating patients? Arkansas physicians Michael Jerkins and Ned Palmer found themselves asking the same questions, and that ultimately led them to start Panacea Financial — the bank for doctors and doctors-in-training.

Like many physicians, Michael Jerkins, MD, and Ned Palmer, MD, were financially frustrated in residency and early practice. As two practicing med-peds physicians, they went from borrowing for every expense in medical school, to living month-to-month in residency (while also supporting their families), to finally becoming attendings. But at none of these stages did they have a bank that recognized the issues they faced.

"It was as if the banks didn't even try to understand what my financial life cycle was. All they saw was some numbers on a spreadsheet but not my earnings potential or lifetime employability," said Dr. Palmer, a pediatric hospitalist. "It was plainly obvious that there needed to be a bank that was created for doctors that actually understood us."

Dr. Jerkins, an outpatient med-peds physician based in Cabot, recounted, "I will always remember an experience I had in residency when I needed a few thousand dollars for car repairs. Banks told me I needed a co-signer to receive any loan. At the hospital, I was entrusted with

people's lives, but at the bank, I was being treated like an adolescent."

Based on their experiences, it was clear the physician community needed a better way. Medical training and cost-of-living are not getting cheaper, and physicians should have healthier options at debt. As physicians themselves, they felt uniquely qualified to build better products and services to meet their community; their experiences led them to build a nationwide digital bank for doctors called Panacea Financial.

Panacea Financial is powered by their partner Primis Bank, a publicly-traded, multi-billion dollar bank and FDIC member. Panacea provides doctors and medical students with checking/savings accounts, PRN Personal Loans, student loan refinance, and commercial loans.

"It was important for us to build something that made doctors' lives a little easier," Dr. Jerkins said, as he described Panacea's focus on putting the physician at the center of both their products and their service. "That is why we made sure every doctor had access to 24/7, live customer service, and their own free personal banker. It's also why the interest rates on our consumer loans don't depend on metrics that can hurt early career physicians like debt-to-income ratio or credit score."



We are extremely proud to support AMS and its members by giving them the benefits of a bank built for doctors, by doctors.

Now, Panacea Financial is an Arkansas Medical Society corporate partner and has exclusive offerings to AMS members across the state. Dr. Jerkins explains, "Our physician community benefits from strong medical societies and the Arkansas Medical Society is no exception with its commitment to shaping the future of health care in Arkansas and beyond. That is why we are extremely proud to support AMS and its members by giving them the benefits of a bank built for doctors, by doctors."

Doctors have seen and appreciated their custom-made services as Panacea Financial has seen massive growth nationally. Every day, Panacea continues to help physicians across the country refinance student loans, pay for residency transitions, build surgery centers, or buy into their practice.

Dr. Jerkins is especially excited about supporting private practice in Arkansas saying, "Our commercial lending was specifically built for physicians to start, build, or grow their practice which benefits the health care community in Arkansas."

Want to learn how Panacea Financial helps AMS members? Visit <https://panaceafinancial.com/our-partners/ams-members/> today! ■

Medicaid Primary Care Provider Referrals

KELLIE CORNELIUS, MAP, CPHIMS - AFMC, SUPERVISOR, PROVIDER RELATIONS, OUTREACH SERVICES

Most Medicaid clients, including ARKids First-B clients, must enroll with a PCP to receive covered services. Medicaid clients may obtain services only from their PCP unless their PCP refers them to another provider or they receive a service that doesn't require a PCP referral.

Few services are covered without a PCP referral. Section 172.100 of all Medicaid provider manuals provides a complete list of services that don't require a PCP referral.

The PCP is responsible for referring clients to other Arkansas Medicaid providers and deciding whether a referral is medically necessary. PCPs accept co-responsibility for the ongoing care of clients they refer to other providers. Medical and rehabilitative professionals treating a referred client are required to report to or consult with the PCP so the PCP can coordinate care and monitor a client's status, progress and outcomes.

PCP referrals may only be made

for medically necessary services, supplies or equipment. A client's PCP determines whether it is necessary to see the client before making or renewing a referral. A PCP is not required to make a referral because it's requested, and PCPs aren't required to make retroactive referrals. Medicaid and ARKids First-B clients are responsible for any charges incurred for services obtained without PCP referrals except for those services listed in Section 172.100 of all Medicaid provider manuals.

PCP referrals expire on the date specified by the PCP, upon receipt of the number or amount of services specified by the PCP, or in six months, whichever occurs first. This requirement varies in some programs. Applicable regulations are outlined in the appropriate Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manuals.

There is no limit on the number of times a provider may renew a referral, but renewals must be medically necessary and at least every six months. This requirement varies in some programs. Applicable

regulations are outlined in the appropriate Arkansas Medicaid Provider Manuals.

A PCP referral can be given orally or in writing. When giving a referral in writing, the PCP completes the **DMS-2610 form** (<https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/DMS-2610.doc>). Written referrals may be faxed to the referred-to provider. Client free choice must be ensured by naming two or more providers of the same type of specialty when completing the PCP referral DMS-2610 form. Medicaid requires all referrals to be documented in the client's medical record.

Rural health clinics (RHCs) are clinics where a Medicaid-enrolled RHC provider employs licensed nurse practitioners or licensed physician assistants. They may not function as PCP substitutes. They may provide primary care for a PCP's enrollees, with certain restrictions. The PCP affiliated with the RHC must issue a standing referral, authorizing primary care services to be furnished to the PCP's assigned

clients by nurse practitioners and physician assistants in or on behalf of the RHC. The PCP must maintain a supervisory relationship with the nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Nurse practitioners and physician assistants may not make referrals for medical services except for pharmacy services per established protocol.

Single-entity PCPs are clinics where the facility is the PCP rather than individual PCP qualified providers in the clinic. Single-entity PCPs include Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), UAMS Regional Programs (formerly known as Area Health Education Centers (AHECs)), and family practice and internal medicine clinics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). Because the single-entity clinic is the PCP, PCP referrals given by single-entity clinics will list the clinic as the PCP. The entity's internal bylaws determine which licensed providers can sign a PCP referral on behalf of the clinic.

Effective February 18, 2022, Arkansas Medicaid allows up to ten behavioral health counseling level services each state fiscal year (SFY) before a PCP referral is required. The eleventh and subsequent visits in the same SFY require a PCP referral. Crisis intervention does not count toward the ten counseling level services. No services, except crisis intervention, will be allowed to be

provided without the appropriate PCP/PCMH referral. Crisis intervention is unscheduled, immediate, short-term treatment activities provided to a Medicaid-eligible client experiencing a psychiatric or behavioral crisis. A PCP referral requirement for services received in a hospital emergency department (ED) is dependent on the type of services rendered to the client in the ED. Arkansas Medicaid is the only insurance carrier in Arkansas that reimburses for three different ED service types provided to an Arkansas Medicaid client. The three service types are outlined below.

Assessment is an evaluation of the client's complaint or presenting condition. **Emergent** treatment is based on the prudent layperson's

definition of "emergency medical condition." A prudent layperson has an average knowledge of health and medicine who would expect the lack of immediate treatment to cause significant deterioration of the client's health. Neither an assessment nor emergent treatment requires a PCP referral to the hospital ED for the hospital to be reimbursed by Arkansas Medicaid.

Non-emergent treatment occurs after an assessment has been performed and the client is deemed non-emergent, but the client wants to receive treatment in the ED rather than being seen by their PCP after being discharged from the ED. A PCP referral is required for the hospital ED to be reimbursed by Arkansas Medicaid. ▲

Ms. Cornelius is the supervisor for the provider relations outreach specialists for AFMC. She earned a Master of Applied Psychology degree and a health information-technology certification as a Certified Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems (CPHIMS™). Ms. Cornelius has worked with the Arkansas Medicaid system for 25 years and currently assists Arkansas health care providers with Medicaid issues and policy including those pertaining to the patient-centered medical home program and other initiatives.

ARCOM: 139 GRADUATE ARCOM IN MAY

The Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (ARCOM) celebrated 139 graduates with a commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 21.

The ARCOM Class of 2022 celebrated an excellent match rate in March. Rance McClain, DO, Dean of ARCOM shared, “This was a very successful match. The overall match placement of the Class of 2022 is 99.3%. We had students matching from Hawaii to New York, and from Chicago to New Orleans. Thirty-three students placed in residencies in Arkansas. Overall, the vast majority of students placed in our service area. In addition, we had several students place in some of the most competitive specialties.”

In other news, students and faculty from the Arkansas College of Osteopathic

Medicine recently oversaw the provision of 2,077 annual preparticipation examination sports physicals for three local school districts. The events were

conducted as part of the expanding collaborations that ARCOM has with local school districts. ■



NYITCOM: STUDENT PROFILE - TAYLOR RUTHERFORD



May 25 marked the culmination of a lifelong dream for Searcy native Taylor Rutherford as she was one of 108 newly-hooded physicians who earned their medical degrees from New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine at Arkansas State University.

Now, Rutherford will continue her medical education in her home state as the Ouachita Baptist alumna begins her Internal Medicine residency NEA Baptist Health System in July.

“When I was weighing my options for medical school, I remember someone asking me, ‘Where do you want to practice medicine?’ Rutherford recalls. ‘I quickly responded, ‘Arkansas,’ and my friend said, ‘Then why would you even think about going somewhere else?’ They were right, and I’m so grateful for that conversation

that led me to an incredible experience at NYITCOM and now an outstanding residency program in Jonesboro.”

Rutherford’s dream of becoming a physician started after a pediatrician visit when she simply thought the doctor was “cool,” and grew after receiving an opportunity to shadow health care professionals through a program her high school offered.

“I vividly remember one day in the emergency department when a patient was having a heart attack,” Rutherford said. “The physician was as calm and collected as making breakfast on a Sunday morning as he orchestrated the nurses and staff on what needed to be done while they were stabilizing the patient. Out of all these people in this room, I knew I wanted to be that one.”

That led Rutherford to pursue a biology degree from OBU. She earned a Master of Biomedical Sciences from William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Miss., before returning Arkansas for medical school.

NYITCOM opened its Arkansas campus in 2016 with a mission of training physicians to help alleviate the significant physician shortage our state and region are facing. Additionally, the medical school actively leads health education initiatives to that aim to help Arkansans receive a better understanding of how they can improve their personal health. That mission resonated with Rutherford and solidified her desire to practice in Arkansas.

“I love Arkansas,” Rutherford said. “There’s such a need for physicians and for patient education and engagement. I know the reason we rank so poorly in so many areas is in large part because of the physician shortage. There are so many patients you come across that don’t even know why they should take insulin and what would happen if they don’t or they don’t understand the significance of their cardiovascular disease. I feel like just one more physician that cares to get to the core of patient issues can make a difference, and I’m committed to doing just that.” ■

UAMS: NEW DEAN’S SCHOLARSHIP AT UAMS INVESTS IN HIGHLY PROMISING MEDICAL STUDENTS

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Medicine has awarded its new Dean’s Scholarship to five incoming freshmen with a wide range of aspirations, including the care of vulnerable and underrepresented patients and communities.

The inaugural recipients of the full-tuition, four-year scholarship are Sabrina Jones of Russellville and Suzette Lopez of Van Buren, both of whom plan to address barriers faced by many Latino patients in Arkansas; Sam Mullinax of Little Rock, who intends to practice addiction medicine; Andrew Igbokidi of Hot Springs, who hopes to improve health care in underserved regions; and Kara Smeltzer of Mountain Home, who is interested in practicing rural medicine. Lopez and Mullinax will attend medical school at the UAMS Northwest Regional Campus.

“We are elated that these exceptionally promising students will be pursuing their medical degree in Arkansas,” said Executive Vice Chancellor and Dean Susan Smyth, MD, PhD. “All five have excelled academically and through service and have a vision for improving the lives of others. They exemplify how scholarships like this can help us keep the very best students and future physicians in Arkansas.”

“As a Latina physician, I hope to instill trust in my future patients by serving as a familiar face and guiding light in their most vulnerable moments,” said Lopez, who majored in chemical engineering at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and was the first in her family to graduate from college. She explained that she has seen firsthand how language and cultural differences can exacerbate distrust in physicians and contribute to disparities.

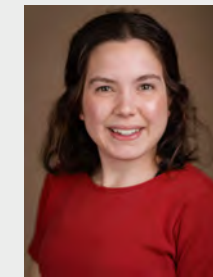
The pandemic drew Igbokidi closer to medicine. When some of his academic and research opportunities as a biology major

at the University of Central Arkansas were halted, he became a certified nursing assistant and went to work in a hospital. The son of Nigerian immigrants also noted that he lost a loved one in Nigeria to COVID-19 and lack of proper medical care.

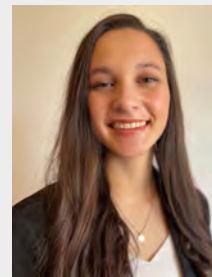
“It made me realize that more people who truly care about the well-being – not just physical, but also the mental well-being – of those in need have to be the ones at the forefront of the health care system,” Igbokidi said. ■



Andrew Igbokidi



Sabrina Jones



Kara Smeltzer



Sam Mullinax



Suzette Lopez

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JERAKAYCIA SMITH, MD

OWNER, FIRST CHOICE FAMILY CARE



CITY: Camden

SPECIALTY: Family Medicine, Obstetrics

AMS MEMBER SINCE 2017: Currently serves as trustee for AMS District 5.

WHY ARE YOU AN AMS MEMBER? I'm a member so I can stay up-to-date and active in policies affecting my patients and practice.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT BEING A DOCTOR IN YOUR SPECIALTY? I love delivering babies and providing care for whole family.

WHAT INSPIRED YOUR CAREER IN MEDICINE? Financial independence with social and science emphasis.

WHAT IS THE MOST CRITICAL HEALTH CARE ISSUE FACING ARKANSAS TODAY? Tort reform.

DO YOU HAVE A PERSONAL MOTTO OR FAVORITE QUOTE? "The people who mind don't matter and the people who matter don't mind" – Dr. Seuss

WHAT IS AN IMPORTANT CAUSE TO ME? I am passionate about decreasing maternal mortality and improving specialist access in rural areas.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM CAR? An electric Mustang. ■

TIM PADEN, MD

OWNER, LINCOLN-PADEN MEDICAL GROUPS



CITY: Mountain Home

SPECIALTY: Family Medicine, Geriatrics

AMS MEMBER SINCE 2014: Currently serves as trustee for AMS District 9.

WHY ARE YOU AN AMS MEMBER? I joined AMS to get involved in the legislative process, learn about the profession, and further our goals. We desperately need every practicing physician in the state to join and support AMS since a handful of legislators could alter our profession. If not now, then when?

WHAT INSPIRED YOUR CAREER IN MEDICINE? My father, Robert Paden, was a small-town pharmacist in the 1960's and 1970s in Yellville, plus my love of biology, helped lead me to my career. My love for anatomy and chemistry molded together was a driving force, and I wanted the opportunity to live any place in the country and earn a living.

WHAT WAS THE BEST ADVICE I EVER RECEIVED? "Do what's right, not what's expedient. It works every time" was the advice I received from my good friend Dennis Ives. What's right for the patient, what's right for the system, and what's right for the profession are questions I still consider daily.

WHAT IS THE MOST CRITICAL HEALTH CARE ISSUE FACING ARKANSAS TODAY? Arkansas faces physician shortages and health care coverage issues for medications and procedures. Legislation to enforce health care plans to cover prescription needs and costs are paramount to patient care. Another issue is access to treatment or options for therapy that our patients deserve.

WHAT DO I LIKE TO DO ON MY DAY OFF? An Arkansas weekend includes time on the White River trout fishing, cookouts, and hammocks on the boat docks. Then church outings, long runs on river trails, and St. Louis Cardinals games rounds it out! Connie, my spouse, is my greatest support and role model for our family and home – she is a bedrock companion.

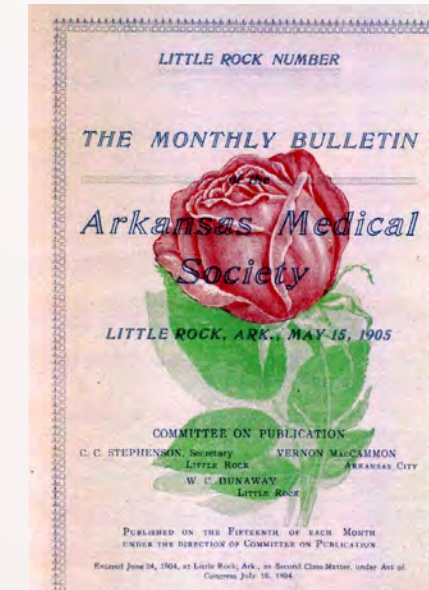


WHAT IS AN IMPORTANT CAUSE TO ME? An important cause to me is mission-based medicine in Belize through Boldhope.org. Physicians should consider these short, one-week down and back trips because it will change your life. Are you in a rut or burned out? Go to Boldhope.org and book a trip!

WHAT IS SOMETHING SURPRISING OR INTERESTING ABOUT YOU? In 1984, I started medical school in a third-world country, which turned out to be the best experience of my life (outside of marrying my wife Connie, of course). St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies, is where I started my career, and in 1985 I transferred to UAMS as a second-year student. I have never forgotten my time in Grenada and would recommend this school to anyone. ■

UPDATES FROM THE AMS MONTHLY BULLETIN IN MAY 1905

BY RAY HANLEY



In May 1905, The Arkansas Medical Society had just turned 30 years old and was celebrating the one-year anniversary of its Monthly Bulletin. Contained in that publication was a host of updates on Arkansas physicians, including lawsuits, honors, and shocking deaths. The blue sections below contain actual text from that issue of the Bulletin, with some background information found online. When put together, it makes an interesting snapshot into the world of Arkansas doctors.

“Dr. Belknap, who fell off a passenger train at Sulphur Springs several months ago while it was standing on the bridge north of the depot, sued the company for damages and was awarded \$750 at the recent session of circuit court in Bentonville.”

Dr. Julis Belknap was born in 1855 to immigrant parents from France. When he was 10 years old, his mother was widowed and became a hotel keeper to support her family. Dr. Belknap graduated from medical school from the University of Missouri in 1873 and practiced in

Arkadelphia and Little Rock before settling in Texas in 1890. He died in 1923 and was buried in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

“Dr. G.W. Hayman (Colored) of LR elected to a commissioner for Arkansas to the Douglas memorial exposition in DC Sept 1905.”

The planned exposition was to honor Frederick Douglas who had helped lead the abolition movement to free the slaves before and during the Civil War. Dr. Hayman was the only black physician mentioned in the Monthly Bulletin that month. He was born in 1868, three years after the Civil War, and died in 1943 where he was buried in Little Rock's historic Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery.

“Dr. J.A. Freeman Slain. Marked Tree, May 1—the renewal of a family feud between Charles Boyt and Dr. J.A. Freeman at Jacksons Island has resulted in the death of Freeman and wounding of Peter Schultz, a bystander who intervened between the two men. Several years ago Freeman killed Boyt's brother as a result of a quarrel over a woman.”

The AMS Monthly Bulletin didn't shy away from this shocking news, which also made newspapers nationwide. It was Mr. Schultz who drew his pistol and shot the doctor after being stabbed by the doctor, who reportedly made a disparaging remark about Mrs. Shultz. A week later, the distraught Mrs. Shultz took her own life.

To read more Preserving History, visit ARKMED.org ■

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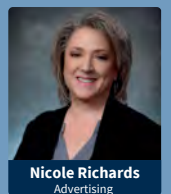
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IN MEMORY: JIM CITY, MD

Dr. Jimmy "Jim" Charles City, passed away on May 23, 2022, one day shy of his 83rd birthday. Born and raised in Oklahoma, Dr. City graduated from Harding University in 1961 and then from the University of Tennessee Medical School in 1965. After residency training in family medicine and obstetrics with the Army Medical Corps in Texas, Dr. City and his family moved to DeQueen where he established his private practice.

In 1975, Dr. City moved to Searcy to become the team physician for the Harding University football program. His example of dedicated leadership in the competitive arenas made him an exemplary mentor for the athletes of his alma mater and resulted years later in

his induction into the Harding University Sports Hall of Fame in 1990.

In addition to his private practice in family medicine and obstetrics at Searcy Medical Center, he taught as an adjunct instructor for several years in the Harding University College of Nursing. He was the Chief Medical Officer for the Great Physician Clinic, an outreach to the underserved in the Searcy community. For 30 years, he traveled to Central America to lead medical mission teams to the San Blas Islands. His collective experiences made him an invaluable asset to numerous boards and volunteer organizations. Dr. City was also a Life member of the Arkansas Medical Society.

He is survived by his wife, Maralyn, and four children: Kellee City Blickenstaff (Kyle), Kent City, Dr. Kris City (Jenny) and Dr. Kyle City (Camie); grandchildren: Karli Blickenstaff Bradley (Ben); Kohl Blickenstaff (Anna); Kizzie, Jimmy, Jack City; Kage, Caroline, Calle and Claire City; and great-grandfather to Beau Bradley. In addition, he is survived by his brother, Michael Binns (Kay). ■



Welcome New Members

- Felicia Dawn Allard, MD** - Anatomic Pathology - Little Rock
- Joshua R. Blaylock, MD** - Obstetrics and Gynecology - Rogers
- Theodore Brown, MD** - Anatomic and Clinical Pathology - Little Rock
- Aaron K. Carson, MD** - Psychiatry - Little Rock
- Robert Dixon, MD** - Radiology - Little Rock
- Laura Dunn, MD** - Psychiatry - Little Rock
- Roger D. Hill, MD** - Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease - Jonesboro
- Justin Michael Hire, MD** - Orthopedic Surgery - Little Rock
- Brian Kirkpatrick, MD** - Psychiatry - Little Rock
- Sridhar Reddy Madgula, MD** - Family Medicine - Little Rock
- Brandon Baker Morshedi, MD** - Emergency Medicine - Hot Springs
- Rajeev Samuel, MD** - Anesthesiology - Rogers
- William Steinbach, MD** - Pediatric Infectious Diseases - Little Rock
- Collin Swafford, DO** - Child Neurology - Springdale
- Shi-Ming Tu, MD** - Medical Oncology - Little Rock

ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES: MEETING MINUTES

BY **DANNY WILKERSON, MD**
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The August 2021 minutes were inadvertently left out of the previous issue of the Journal.

The Arkansas Medical Society Board of Trustees met at 4:30 pm. on Wednesday, August 25th, 2021, via Zoom. Members attending the meeting were Ors. Seth Barnes, Brad Bibb, Dale Blasier, Willard Burks, Josh Chance, George Conner, Anthony Davis, William Dedman, Jacob Dickinson, Matthew Haustein, Michael Hickman, James Hunt, Jim Ingram, Tony Johnson, Nirvana Manning, Gail McCracken, Amanda Novack, Darrell Over, Carolyn Reeves, Chad Rodgers, Shane Smith, Garry Stewart, Shannon Swift, Toby Vancil, Nannette Vowell, Randy Walker, Danny Wilkerson, Stacy Zimmerman, and student Ms. Sarish Lone. AMS Past Presidents present were Ors. Omar Atiq, Eddie Bryant, Amy Cahill, Scott Cooper, David Jacks, Larry Lawson, Gene Shelby, and Dennis Yelvington. AMS staff present were David Wroten, Mary Ann Mansfield, Scott Smith, Laura Hawkins, Laura Haywood, Penny Henderson, and Tereasa Holmes. AMS Legal Counsel present was Mike Mitchell. Guest present was Jennifer Lee.

Chairman, Dr. Danny Wilkerson called the meeting to order, reminded members of the AMS conflict of interest policy, and the following business was received and transacted:

1. The board approved the minutes of the following meetings:
 - May 14, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting
2. David Wroten presented the membership and budget report which were accepted for information.
3. The letter to the Governor from 15 members of the Arkansas House of Representatives re: Covid was discussed and accepted for information.
4. David Wroten referenced the Subpoena involving the Cherokee Nation vs. McKesson Corporation that was included in the board packet. He

and AMS legal counsel Mike Mitchell explained the lawsuit and how AMS has responded to the requests made in the subpoena.

5. The article titled "Analysis Aims to Separate COVID-19 Facts from Fiction" was accepted for information.
6. Act 626 Legal Action -- At its last meeting the BOT voted to support AMA legal action seeking to overturn Act 626 of 2021 (prohibits providing any gender affirming medical treatment to minors). The action was contingent on providing the BOT an opportunity to review the legal arguments being made by the AMA. Summaries of the arguments being made by plaintiffs and the brief filed by the AMA and 19 other medical organization were provided for discussion. The BOT approved adding AMS's name to support this going forward.
7. Dr. Danny Wilkerson made the following appointments:

- **Finance and Audit Committee:**
 - **Dr. Toby Vancil** - term ending in December 2023
 - **Dr. Stacy Zimmerman** - term ending in December 2023
 - **Dr. Jennifer Doyle** - term ending in December 2025
- **AMS Constitution and Bylaws Committee**
 - **Dr. Randy Walker** - term ending in December of 2024
- **Committee on Legislation**
 - **Dr. Scott Cooper, Chair** - term ending in December of 2024
 - **Dr. Cole Peck** - term ending in December of 2024
 - **Dr. E.J. Jones** - term ending in December of 2024 Dr. **Randy Walker** - term ending in December of 2024
 - **Dr. Chad Rodgers** - term ending in December of 2024
 - **Dr. Tim Paden** - term ending in December of 2024
 - **Dr. Anthony Davis** - term ending in December of 2024

- **ArkMed-PAC Board**
 - **Dr. Steve Magie, Chair** - term ending in December of 2023
 - **Dr. Stacy Zimmerman** - term ending in December of 2023
 - **Dr. Joseph Miller** - term ending in December of 2023

8. The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to adopt the AMS Policy Statement: COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement for Health Care Workers and no one spoke against approval.

9. Dr. Omar Atiq gave an update of the AMA.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

The Board of Trustees meeting minutes from November 4, 2021 can be found in the previous issue of the Journal.

The Arkansas Medical Society Board of Trustees met at 5:30 pm. on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, via Zoom. Members attending the meeting were Drs. Seth Barnes, Brad Bibb, Jacob Dickinson, Chad Rodgers, Danny Wilkerson, R. Dale Blasier, Sam Bledsoe, Willard Burks, Joshua Chance, Kay Chandler, William Dedman, Jennifer Doyle, Gina Drobeno, Matthew Haustein, Michael Hickman, James Hunt, Anthony Johnson, Mimo Lemdja, Nirvana Manning, Amanda Novack, Darrell Over, Naveen Patil, Mark Ramiro, Carolyn Reeves, Shannon Swift, Tobias Vancil, Nannette Vowell, Randy Walker, Stacy Zimmermann and Student Trustee Sarish Lone. AMS Past Presidents present were Drs. Scott Cooper, Scott Ferguson, Larry Lawson, Gene Shelby, Dennis Yelvington, Jeremiah Rutherford, and Alan Schumacher. AMS staff present were David Wroten, Mary Ann Mansfield, Scott Smith, Laura Hawkins, Laura Haywood, Tereasa Holmes and Nicole Richards. AMS Legal Counsel present was Mike Mitchell. Guests and speakers present were Dr. Jennifer Dillaha, Dr. Michael Jerkins and Jen Lee.

Chairman, Dr. Danny Wilkerson called the meeting to order, and the following business was received and transacted:

1. The chair reminded everyone in attendance to make any necessary disclosures.
2. Following disclosures, the board approved the minutes of the November 4, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.
3. Dr. Jennifer Dillaha, Chief Medical Officer, Arkansas Department of Health, gave a COVID briefing.
4. Dr. Michael Jerkins, President and Co-Founder of Panacea Financial, gave a presentation on a banking solution designed by physicians. Following a discussion, the board voted in favor of the Executive Vice President exploring a partnership with the company and reporting back to the Chair and the Executive Committee.
5. David Wroten, Executive Vice President, presented membership and budget reports which were accepted. Additional topics presented included the upcoming Fiscal Session, the Doctor of the Day program, the AMS Journal, and an issue with the Pulaski County Medical Society. Mary Ann Mansfield, Director of Operations, presented an updated report on the COVID-19 grant received from the Arkansas Department of Health.
6. Dr. Danny Wilkerson, acting as Chairman of the Arkansas Medical Foundation Board, presented a request for pilot funding for the Arkansas Medical Foundation (AMF) to participate in a one-year trial of an interactive screening program run by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The board approved funding half of the cost with AMF funding the remainder. The cost to AMS will be \$7,000.
7. In the context of other business there was brief discussion about the 2022 annual meeting. It was recommended that a decision about having an in-person gathering versus a virtual meeting will be made at the end of February. AMS executive staff will confer with the Chair of the Board and the Executive Committee.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Arkansas Medical Society Board of Trustees met on Friday, May 6, 2022 at 4:00pm at the Chenal Country Club in Little Rock, AR. Members attending the meeting were Drs. Seth Barnes, Brad Bibb, Dale Blasier, Sam Bledsoe, Lyle Burdine, Willard Burks, Anthony Davis, William Dedman, Jacob Dickinson, David Dobies, Jennifer Doyle, Candace Franks, Matthew Haustein, James Hunt, Anthony Johnson, Simon Mears, Nirvana Manning, Darrell Over, Tim Paden, Naveen Patil, Mark Ramiro, Carolyn Reeves, Jeremiah Rutherford, Courtney Sick, Shane Smith, Jerakaycia Smith, Shannon Swift, Tobias Vancil, Danny Wilkerson, Stacy Zimmermann. AMS Past Presidents present were Drs. Omar Atiq, Amy Cahill, Scott Ferguson, Stephen Magie, Gene Shelby, and Dennis Yelvington. UAMS student present was Zainab Atiq. AMS staff present were David Wroten, Mary Ann Mansfield, Scott Smith, Laura Hawkins, Laura Haywood, Tereasa Holmes and Nicole Richards. AMS Legal Counsel present was Mike Mitchell. Guests and speakers present were Drs. David Radcliff (via zoom), Rhys Branman, Greg Bledsoe and lobbyists Mr. Lance Johnston and Mr. Cale Turner.

Chairman, Dr. Danny Wilkerson called the meeting to order and the following business was received and transacted:

1. The chair reminded everyone in attendance to make any necessary disclosures.
2. Following disclosures, the board approved the minutes of the February 2, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting.
3. The chair presented the request for annual AMS membership dues exemption. There was a motion to approve; it was seconded and approved.
4. The chair adjusted the agenda to introduce Dr. David Radcliff, Chief Medical Officer of Washington Regional Medical Center. Dr. Radcliff gave an overview of the NWArkansas Health System Project, a project combining the efforts of the Walton Foundation, the Cleveland Clinic, and Washington Regional Medical Center. Following a brief question and answer period, the chair thanked Dr. Radcliff for his presentation.

5. The chair introduced Rhys Branman, MD, board member of the Arkansas State Medical Board. Dr. Branman discussed in detail Acts 829 and 503. Following a brief question and answer period, the chair thanked Dr. Branman for joining the meeting.
6. David Wroten, Executive Vice President, presented his report and referred the board to additional information included in the board packets. Mr. Wroten distributed an agreement with Panacea Financial. Following a discussion about the agreement, there was a motion to accept the agreement; it was seconded and approved.
7. The chair called upon Scott Smith, AMS Director of Governmental Affairs to report on the PAC meeting. Mr. Smith introduced Lance Johnston, Partner, and Cale Turner, Consultant from Bi-Partisan Strategies. They presented an overview of the current legislative efforts leading up to the 2022 elections and the 2023 legislative session.
8. Mr. Wroten was invited to introduce special guest Greg Bledsoe, MD, Arkansas Surgeon General. Dr. Bledsoe, a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, gave an introduction of himself and his views.
9. The chair invited all in attendance to briefly introduce themselves.
10. In the context of other business Stacy Zimmerman, MD, presented an email from an AMS member in reference to the AMS Vaccine Policy. A copy of the policy was distributed for discussion. There was a motion to reaffirm our commitment to what the policy states; it was seconded and approved.
11. Following the conclusion of regular business, it was moved, seconded, and approved to elect Danny Wilkerson, MD, as chair of the board of trustees.
12. Dr. Wilkerson, chair, adjourned the meeting inviting all to join the reception in the lobby followed by dinner and the inauguration of Seth Barnes, MD as the new President of the Board of Trustees. ■



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