

To Keep In Touch

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“Boldly Embrace Our Future”

I am honored to represent the Alliance, as President for 2009-2010. I am excited for all the good things we will accomplish together this year. I know with vision, courage and persistence the Alliance can do great things and “**Boldly Embrace Our Future**” together!

I want to thank our outgoing State President Penny Combs for her dedicated leadership and fortitude this past year as our leader. She taught me many things and became a special friend. Her kindness and steadfast devotion to the cause of the Alliance will long be remembered. Her gentle spirit and understanding encouraged our members and guided us throughout the year. Thank you Penny for your time, commitment and resources as President for continuing the history of the Alliance with such dignity and grace. Since my Installation dinner

I have had the joy of inducting the officers at three counties: Lucas, Columbus, and Clark. I also have attended my first OSMA Council meeting to represent

“since we all love a doctor, we share a common bond”

the Alliance. All of these opportunities have made me even more aware of how hard the Alliance and the OSMA are working to help us as individuals and medicine at large.

Together we can face the challenges and ever increasing pressures on our Physician spouses, families, and communities. Being aware of the issues and learning how to effectively deal with them is what we are all about. Through the Alliance we can help one another grow through support, education, and training.

Increased communication and support from the state leaders to our county Alli-

ances is one of my goals this year. We all need to stay focused on our responsibilities and duties as leaders. In this way we can be as effective and united as possible as we boldly embrace our future as Alliance members. Belonging, making a difference in our communities, and growing as individuals, this is what the Alliance is all about.

Remember we are privileged to be a part of the medical family with insight into the difficulties that our “Doc” spouses face each day. Because we all love a Doctor we have much in common, a unique bond. Let us continue to reach out and encourage one another and our communities in ways that only the Alliance can. We will have a great year together and, again, doing it because “**We all love a Doctor!**”

Cindy Batie,
President of the
OSMA Alliance

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *OSMA Alliance Fall Focus, September 17-18, 2009*
- *AMA Leadership Conference, October 4-6, 2009*
- *OSMA Annual Meeting, April 9-11, 2010 at Hilton Columbus at Easton*
- *OSMA Alliance Annual Meeting, May 13-14, 2010 at OSMA Alliance Headquarters*

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The Lucas County Alliance received a First Place Award for their Website: “Top Ten Reasons to Join the Alliance”. I thought I’d share them with all of you.

Top 10 Reasons for Joining the Alliance

1. Be a part of the family of medicine
2. Meet new friends who are spouses of physicians
3. Have access to educational programs
4. Join interest groups
5. Contribute to the health of Ohio citizens
6. Support our health projects
7. Learn about legislative initiatives
8. Receive informative publications
9. Develop leadership skills
10. Have Fun and Get Involved

Thanks for a wonderful experience as President!!!!

Dear Alliance Friends,

THANKS! THANKS! THANKS!

For a wonderful Alliance experience for me; for your endearing friendships; and for continued Alliance growth for all of us. Your continued commitment to the family of Medicine in Ohio is motivating. And your spirit is contagious.

Convention was such an incredible ending for my year as your President!! I truly appreciate all of you that attended, sent in reports or helped contribute in any way to the success of our annual meeting. Its so reassuring to get together, network casually with friends and have fun too. Sometimes I think maybe we should have more meetings. Just because our numbers are down doesn't mean that we are. Your events, projects and meetings get larger and more profitable each year. Your enthusiasm is motivating. We all come away with new ideas to take back to our home counties. From your evaluations its

seems you enjoyed having the meeting at OSMA Headquarters. I certainly did and I want to thank the OSMA again for the opportunity to have our meeting at their fine facility. Its central location and money-saving possibilities make it a plus- plus for us.

"Just because our numbers are down doesn't mean that we are."

I especially want to thank Joy Myers and Mary Beth Ellison for leading us in a lively and enthusiastic discussion about our Alliance and its future. It was a great start for developing a strategic/ long range plan for us in the coming months and years. I hope many of you

will join us at Sue Dingle's home in June for a continuation of this discussion and to help form a strategy for the future. There's more about that meeting in this newsletter.

Cindy Batie is busy planning an exciting year for all of us and I know you will encourage and support her during her term as your President. She will be a great leader and role model for us all.

Finally I wish to thank you all for the very generous and thoughtful gift. The digital camera was a tremendous idea and something that I didn't have. I have used it many times already taking pictures of my new granddaughter Lily. Thanks again for a great year and God Bless you all.

Fondly,
Penny

Highlights of the 2009-2010 Annual Convention

At the OSMA headquarters, the 69th Annual OSMA Alliance Convention took place in Hilliard, Ohio. We conducted business, heard reports of officers, met Sandi Frost, our AMA Alliance President, and listened to her presentation on Medical Family Marriage.

We had delicious meals together and shared lots of fun and laughter at our

evening parties.

A highlight was the dinner and Installation for Cindy Batie at Scioto Country Club. With her family present, she became our new President and we learned about her goals for the coming year. Her clarity of purpose, her amazing vision for the Alliance, and especially her view that "since we all love a doc-

tor, we share a common bond" are truly inspirational and hold promise of a very special year. We honored Penny Combs for her hard work and dedication as our outgoing President.

This article was written by Nancy Burton, 2008-09 Lucas County President

Tips from Sandi Frost, 2008-2009 National Alliance President

Sandi Frost gave a wonderful speech at our Convention. She was such an inspiration that we thought we would share a few thoughts that she had for dealing with our medical families. The following medical family work/life balance tips are adapted for medical families from the Women Physician congress life balance web resource, "Making Every Moment Count:" (listed below are just a few suggestions)

When making a choice, ask yourself which event or activity you will remember one year from now.

- Make sure you laugh often.
- Forgive yourself for not getting things done and congratulate yourself for doing as well as you did.
- Don't wait for vacation time. Plan a short get-away now and then to get a change of pace.
- Keep things in perspective. "There is a proper balance between not asking enough of oneself and asking or expecting too much." (May Sarton)

Valuable Live and Virtual Education Courses Available for OSMA Physicians and Their Staff Members

The OSMA has been a trusted source of education for both members and non-members over the years. We still offer classes for both physicians and their staff members to help with coding, billing and documentation. We also provide the opportunity to get answers directly from both private and government payers at the Payer Update and the Medicare and Medicaid Update for Physician Services. But, as both the economy and technology have changed, we have adapted and expanded our choices for education with audio conferences and Webinars on timely topics such as revenue cycle management and electronic health records. Please consider trying or recommending one of these new options or attending one of our live classes. We would love to see you and your spouse at these upcoming education events!

Revenue Cycle Management Audio Conference Series

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on June 10; June 17; and June 24

Only \$39 each session or \$99 or the series

– live or CD

Physician Documentation of E/M Services: The key to quality patient care and maximum reimbursement
June 24 (Kettering), August 19 (OSMA) and October 21 (Independence)

5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

2 AMA PRA Category 1 credits

2009 Medicare & Medicaid Update for Physician Services

All sessions are held from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Date

Tuesday, July 21

Holiday Inn — Fairborn

Wednesday, July 22

Holiday Inn Eastgate — Cincinnati

Tuesday, July 28

Holiday Inn — Mansfield

Tuesday, August 4

Doubletree Crossroads — Worthington

Thursday, August 6

Ramada Inn — Zanesville

Tuesday, August 11

Holiday Inn — Boardman

Wednesday, August 19

Friends of the SOMC — Portsmouth

Tuesday, August 25

Courtyard Marriott — Canton

Thursday, September 10

Holiday Inn — Westlake

Tuesday, September 15

OSMA — Hilliard

Friday, September 25

Hilton Garden Inn — Toledo

For more information, visit

www.osma.org and click on education.



OSMA

The power of many. The voice of one.

Bylaws Changed at Convention

In the March 2009 TKIT Newsletter, we announced a proposal for a bylaws change. During the 2009-10 OSMA Alliance Convention, we voted on this and it passed. The new bylaws will read as follows: **ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIPS**, Section 3. Dues, C. Receipt; **1. Dues shall be receivable at the OSMA Alliance Headquarters December 15.**

KNOW! Update

The OSMA Alliance has decided to endorse the **Know!** Program again this year. **Know!** Parent Tips' is a program that provides parents tips on substance abuse prevention information and to assist them in raising their children substance-free. This publication is sent out twice per month with a current fact about teenage drug use and action steps they can take to help protect their children. **Know!** Parent Tips' serve as a reminder for parents to maintain on-going conversations with their children about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

This publication is very easy to imple-

ment in your community. County Alliance members will work with the **Know!** Project Director, Michelle Morse, to contact the local middle school. From there, the **Know!** Project Director works with the middle school to get approval, gather mailing addresses and start sending the Parent Tips. The cost of the project is: A. **Know!** Parent Tip postcard messages cost \$10 per family for one calendar year (24 Parent Tips) or B. **Know!** Parent Tip emails range from \$500 for 350 families to \$1,000 for 1,000 families for one calendar year (24 Parent

Tips).

Depending on the size of your local middle schools, **Know!** Parent Tips' may be made available to all parents or to a select group of parents (such as all 7th grade parents). If you would like your County Alliance to apply for a grant to provide **Know!** Parent Tips' to a local middle school, please contact: Mary Beth Ellison at: phone: (330) 670-0055, email: mbe@neo.rr.com; or Michelle Morse at 614-540-9985 or email: mmorse@DrugFreeActionAlliance.org.

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www.osmaalliance.org

“Physicians’ spouses
dedicated to the health
of America”

Calendar of Events and Deadlines

*Important
DATE!*

Sept 17-18, 2009

2009 OSMA Alliance Fall Focus is going to be held in Clark County in downtown Springfield at the Courtyard by Marriott. Mrs. Ellen Tressel and many other speakers will encourage and challenge us to continue our mission as Alliance members. We will also be touring Frank Lloyd Wright's Westcott House in Springfield plus have a lovely dinner at the Springfield Country Club along with entertainment you can't miss.

October 4-6, 2009

2009 National Leadership Development Conference

April 9-11, 2010

OSMA Annual Meeting to be held at the Hilton Columbus at Easton

May 13-14, 2010

OSMA Alliance 70th Annual Convention, to be held at the OSMA Alliance Headquarters, 3401 Mill Run Drive, Hilliard, OH 43026.

June 13-15, 2010

2010 National Annual Meeting at the Marriott in Chicago, IL



Headquarters News

New dues deadline

NEW DUES DEADLINE for turning in county membership paperwork and \$\$ to headquarters—**DECEMBER 15, 2009**. Let's all do our best to meet (*or precede!*) the new deadline. Thanks!

Exciting news!!

The OSMA has granted us permission to process **credit cards** through their Finance Department at no additional charge to the OSMA Alliance. They will accept **VISA, MasterCard and American Express**. You can use this service to pay for your dues and/or meeting registrations. If you would like to use this service, please call: Cindy Wolfe, 614-527-6750 and she will take your information over the phone. **THANK YOU, OSMA!!!**

Email Addresses

Please make a special effort to give me your email address. We are trying to 'GO GREEN!'

If at any time you need assistance, please give me a call. I look forward to working with all of you. My contact information is as follows: Cindy Wolfe, OSMA Alliance, 3401 Mill Run Drive, Hilliard, OH 43026; Phone: 614-527-6750, Fax: 614-527-6763, Email: alliance@osma.org