
Honolulu County Medical Society Presidential Report

Aloha Colleagues and HCMS Friends!

So here we are almost half way through the year—and what a year it has been. A special thanks goes out to Editor Norm Goldstein, MD and his capable staff for providing this forum to address our membership and the medical community at large.

Membership Meetings

So far this year we have had two General Membership meetings both of which were well attended. The first, held at St. Francis-Liliha, featured Senator Susanne Chun-Oakland and Insurance Commissioner J.P. Schmidt. Both stressed the importance of physician activism in these times of dynamic change in healthcare. The second was held at the Queen's Conference Center home of the recently restructured Mabel Smyth location.

In case you didn't know HML has undergone significant change recently as well as our members' ability to access information and services. We have an ongoing discussion with Queen's as well as the other community library participant, John A. Burns School of Medicine, in our attempt to maintain membership participation in this important information resource for community physicians.

I will have more, hopefully good news, at my next contribution to The Journal. In the meantime please let our Executive Director know if you are having trouble accessing information that is important to your ability to deliver care to your patients.

Staying on Message—and Mission

One of the most promising endeavors being pursued by your HCMS Executive Committee is its quest to distill our goals as a physician organization in both width and breadth. To that end I have appointed Dr. Glenn Pang to head-up the HCMS Long Range Planning Committee. Its goal is to prioritize the many needs of HCMS and the community it serves so that continuity of purpose is achieved from year to year—in spite of changes in presidents, executive committee, etc.

In addition Dr. Inam Rahman, President of the Hawaii Medical Association, and I, are working to integrate HMA's long range planning process so that we are working as one unified entity. This only makes sense from an efficiency and efficacy standpoint.

The Mini-Internship Is Back—and More!

Of the many community outreach programs HCMS has executed, the Mini-internship, is arguably the best. By the time this goes to print, we will be well on our way with the 2005 effort. Politicians, healthcare regulators and media people are already lining up for the experience. Perhaps you have already volunteered but, if not, give us a call NOW!

Also, in September, we will be working together with our professional colleagues at the Hawaii Bar Association to deliver a strong anti-drug message to the children of Oahu. Acting in association with the Board of Educations, attorney-physician teams will go into the classroom and "tag team" the students with both the medical and legal realities of the consequences of drug abuse. Time for all of us to stand up and do something about a problem we all, as members of the community, are concerned about.

Mix It Up With The Residents and Students!

Don't miss this great opportunity to meet, greet and inspire the residents and medical students of John A. Burns School of Medicine. We have a great evening of fun and merriment planned at Dave and Busters Roof Top Lanai, August 19, 2005 6-9 pm. Events in the past have been well attended by residents, students and HCMS members. What better way to inspire fledgling doctors to get involved in their profession and the Society that represents it? Or, as they say, "start with fun and start 'em young!"

Blogging Anyone?

HCMS is proud to announce significant web upgrades at our home website www.hcmsonline.org. In addition to previous information available we are soon to have a whole host of interactive services designed to enhance member value and strengthen our bonds with other healthcare sites as well as patients. New services include:

- Internet links to the websites and blogs of professional organizations we support or those that offer information the public may find useful,
- Links to "Friends of HCMS"—vendors and service associates interested in providing support to our profession.
- An ability to donate money directly to HCMS for those who believe in our Mission.
- An ability to create an "e-newsletter" distributable to members or others.
- Finally, and most exciting in my opinion, a public access section that enables patients looking for a physician to find one of our members. This web-referral concept allows each member to describe his or her practice using up to 250 words—something people really appreciate when looking for doctor who suits their health and personal care.

The Power of Physician Volunteerism

With our capable Executive Director, Julie Kinhult, and an extremely talented Executive Committee consisting of Drs. John Rausch, Roger Kimura, Vince Yamashiroya and David Young, HCMS is positioned to "move the ball forward" in a number of areas important to both its members and the community we serve. But we cannot accomplish and achieve this alone.

Please give Julie a call at 536-6988 to participate in any and all of the above programs and parties—anytime. If not you, then who? If not now, then when?

Scott McCaffrey MD, President

Editor's Note

Attention, presidents of our neighboring island county medical societies. When you read Scott's report, you will see how effective the Hawaii Medical Journal can be in getting your message to your membership and physicians throughout Hawaii. Please send regular reports to the Journal, in care of Drake Chinen, Editorial Assistant.