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pulse

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC PEDIATRICIANS

Spring Conference a Huge Success!

By Amy Sweigart
Student Trustee (outgoing)



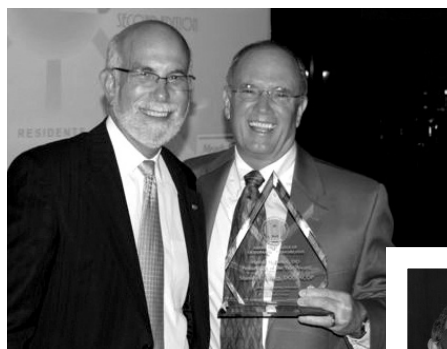
I wanted to send an update and wrap up of our Spring Conference in Savannah, GA! First, thanks to the 41 students representing 11 different schools for attending.

We unveiled the Second Edition of the *Conduit for Success* CD with 18 student chapters represented. A Third Edition is planned for Spring of 2009. Please start collecting photos and planning your Power Points now!! The submission deadline is October 15, 2008.

Student membership has increased 18% this year and we now have 24 official charters for student chapters. Please contact the membership office with your accurate mailing addresses so you are able to receive important information, membership cards, and your issues of *The Pulse*. Contact Kim Whitehead at acopmembership@acopeds.org or (877)-231-2267 with your updates. Also, please remember to send me your updates on Student Chapter Club Officers and their emails to sweigaam@umdnj.edu.

We had a great meeting with many informative lectures presented during the conference. We discussed depression among medical students, residents, and attending physicians. We had a pediatric OMT session in which we completed two modules.

ACOP has been hard at work for its membership. Many opportunities were taken to publicize our efforts in the name of our theme: *Stop Childhood Obesity*. Multiple letters have also been sent in defense of our profession, DO Pediatricians, and in



defense of immunization practices.

Our first Gala on Saturday night was a tremendous success – a great night was had by all! Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP was honored as Pediatrician of the Year. Our first annual Student Chapter of the Year was presented to the Oklahoma State University, College of Health Sciences. Honorable Mention was awarded to University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine and the Georgia Campus of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Upcoming national meetings include Las Vegas in October, 2008, with the AOA, and Anaheim, CA with the AAP in February 2009. Visit www.acopeds.org for more information.

Finally, the Board of Trustees selected a new Student Trustee. Congratulations and good luck to Cassidy Foley, OMS II from UNECOM. Her email address is cfoley3@mail.une.edu.

Thank you all for your tireless work for ACOP. It has been an honor to work with each of you and to serve as your Student Trustee. Best wishes for the future!!



More meeting highlights on page 6

2007-2009

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President's Message

Robert W. Hostoffer, Jr., DO, FACOP



What a wonderful year for the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians! The fruits of the Board of Trustees' labor have ripened and been harvested. Savannah was a blast!!! Nestled into a colonial niche on the banks of the Savannah River, the ACOP celebrated its 45th birthday. CME lectures were of top quality as a direct consequence of our Program Director, Nancy Beery.

The program reached its pinnacle with a Gala and Awards Ceremony. Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP, was named the first Harold H. Finkel Pediatrician of the Year, appropriately awarded by Dr. Finkel's son, Marty. Arnold Melnick, DO, FACOP, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for his dedicated service. Also receiving awards were Amy M. Zidron for Best Poster of the Meeting and Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine for ACOP Student Chapter of the Year. Honorable Mention Certificates for Student Chapter of the Year were presented to the Georgia Campus of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine.

The second edition of the Conduit for Success was released with fanfare. Its sponsor, Mead Johnson Nutritionals, was present for its unveiling. A copy of it is included with this newsletter in case you didn't get yours at the conference.

Although Obesity and Nutrition Awareness is our current theme for projects, a new theme was selected for 2009 by representatives of the College. The theme for 2009 will be Identification and Prevalence of Harmful Behaviors.

Our ACOP students have flourished. We are sad to say that Amy Sweigart will be leaving her position as Student Trustee, but pleased that she will become our Resident Trustee. Keep up the good work Amy!!! Cassidy Foley will pick up her spot as Student Trustee.

Our Let's Stop Childhood Obesity! pamphlet is still available online. A new pamphlet on Suicide Prevention is being developed. While you are on the web, check out the new ACOP website. WOW!!!!

It was good to see the AOBP in Savannah. We hope to continue our working relationship in the future. They are a hard working group of people that deserve our respect and thanks.

Let's keep up the spirit! One group can lead the osteopathic pediatric world. That one is the ACOP. Stay tuned and turned on to ACOP!

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC PEDIATRICIANS
AOA/ACOP PEDIATRIC TRACK
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MELNICK at large

By Arnold Melnick, DO, FACOP

What an Honor!

My column this issue will be totally personal.

Last month, there was a bittersweet moment in my life. An aggravating highlight, an annoying pleasure – if you will. Those of you who attended the ACOP Annual Meeting in Savannah know that the ACOP extended to me its highest honor – the Distinguished Service Award. That very week-end a brief, non-threatening health matter kept me from attending the ceremonies. I am simultaneously so very honored and, yes, terribly sad that I could not be there.

The ACOP has been so much an important part of my life that this award – the 15th in my career and the second one from ACOP – is probably one of the most significant events of my life. When I received the AOA's Distinguished Service Certificate a couple of years ago, I said that it was probably expected that I would feel humble, but I did not – I felt proud.

I feel proud now, rather than humble. Proud of this ACOP honor. Proud that my beloved organization honored me once again. Proud that over the years ACOP offered me the chance to develop my organizational skills. Proud that the ACOP tolerated many of my organizational experiments and innovations – and gaffes. Proud that – and maybe this is the best of all – ACOP nurtured for me some great friendships, tremendously important and loving relationships, with so many outstanding osteopathic pediatricians and fine human beings..

As I look back on many fond memories, I recall very, very few sad or disappointing moments in my activities in ACOP. But I do remember a number of real thrills and great moments. And I recognize that in my 60 plus years of membership, ACOP has done far more for me that I ever did, or could do, for the ACOP. For honoring me for the things that I loved doing and enjoyed

so much, I am eternally grateful.

I have come to realize that each of us – without exception – stands on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. They produced for us increasing stages of acceptance, legal recognition, societal advancement, community standing and professional development. I am forever indebted to them -- to those I knew and to those I didn't know and to those with whom I was a personal friend and colleague. If I tried to name them – and all those who have specifically helped me – the list would read like a great honor role of osteopathic physicians and pediatricians and I am sure I would forget some names.

So, to all members of ACOP – past, present and future -- for this great honor you have bestowed on me, Thank you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, Thank you so very much.



First Fellowships Approved for Pediatric Allergy

The first fellowships in Pediatric Allergy/Immunology - two slots - have been approved by the AOA. Announced as the first two appointees for the Fellowship are Amy L. Marks, DO, and Nathanael S. Brady, DO, who are finishing their DO residencies.

The initial program will be based at University Hospitals/Richmond Medical Center and will be a part of the Lake Erie Consortium for Medical Training, which is the OPTI for the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The fellowship will be directed by ACOP President Robert Hostoffer, DO, FACOP, who is also Program Director of the Pediatric Residency at UH Richmond Medical Center and Rainbow. Dr. Hostoffer is also President of the Cleveland Academy of Osteopathic Medicine.

Key faculty will be drawn from the University Hospital System, UH Case Medical Center, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital and Case Western Reserve University. ACOP Past President Michael E. Ryan, DO, FACOP, of Geisinger Clinic, will be part of the fellowship staff.


Starting in July, 2008, two fellowships will be available every other year. Further information is available from Jennifer D'Astolfo, Coordinator of Medical Education for the UH system, at 216-585-4821.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Future of Pediatrics


2009 JOINT AAP/ACOP CONFERENCE

February 27 - March 1, 2009
Marriott Anaheim • Anaheim, California



2009 Joint AAP/ACOP Conference

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Cyril Blavo Receives Double Honors

Cyril Blavo, DO, FACOP, a past member of the ACOP Board of Trustees, was doubly honored recently.

He was voted the prestigious 2008 Living Tribute Award of the Alumni Association of Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He received his award for distinguished service as a faculty member and for his role in international health promotion.

At about the same time, the Miami Herald recognized him with a major story about his service to Ghana, his home country.

The NSUCOM citation noted that during his 20 years as a professor of pediatrics, Dr. Blavo – a seven time winner of the Golden Apple Award for outstanding teaching – has been recognized as a dedicated and compassionate individual who truly cares about the plight of his students, colleagues – and the world at large.

Although he has served the college with distinction in a variety of key positions, including his current role as director of the Master of Public Health Program, it is his altruistic nature, which he modestly downplays, that truly merits recognition. In his desire to help others, he co-founded International Health Initiatives (IHI), dedicated to charitable service, including bringing health care to remote and underserved areas of Africa.

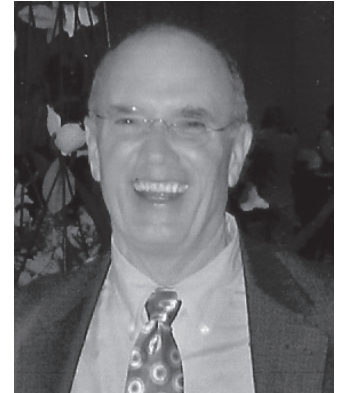
He was born in Ghana and educated in England and America, including earning a DO degree from the University of North Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and a degree in tropical medicine from Tulane University.

The Miami Herald traced his dream of bringing health care to Ghana. His group has targeted an impoverished village – Tafi Atome, in the Volta region. For miles, there are no doctors or pharmacies. Together with local natives – and with the direct and personal involvement of Cyril – they are building a clinic and hope also to add a pharmacy. With tetanus the number one killer of women there, the IHI recently immunized 1,170 women. Other great health plans are on the way.

Cyril spends his spare time producing African performances and cultural arts, and leading a gospel choir.



Stanley E. Grogg Breaks New Ground



Past President Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP, broke new ground in osteopathic recognition recently when he served as Liaison for the AOA and the ACOP at the February meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice in Atlanta.

This was the first time there has been osteopathic representation to the ACIP, even though the AOA has lobbied for the past several years to get a liaison. Stan, Professor of Pediatrics at Oklahoma State University-College of Health Sciences, issued complete minutes of the meeting that will appear on the ACOP website.

The ACIP consists of 15 national experts in the field, selected by the US Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide advice and guidance to the CDC on the most effective means of preventing vaccine-preventable diseases. The committee develops written recommendations about vaccines periodically and is the only entity in the federal government that makes such recommendations.

In addition to the voting members of the committee, there are ex-officio members (many government agencies) and a number of liaison representatives. In fact, said Stan, “I sat between the representatives from the AMA and the American Pharmaceutical Society, and had an opportunity to comment on every proposed recommendation prior to the official voting.”

Student Club Recognized

The Pediatrics Club of the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine was recognized recently with a major feature story in the Tulsa World, followed by a story on NewsOn6 (KOTV) that included video pictures.

Spearheaded by its president, Binh Phung, the club staged their traditional Mini Med School for Kids, this time for 115 students at the Eugene Field Elementary School.

The students spent 20 minutes at five different stations learning about various ways to combat obesity. Topics included healthy eating and the food pyramid, eating and fun, human anatomy, staying healthy through sports and exercise, and appropriate stretches, aerobics and Yoga exercises.

Special sessions were held for teachers to give them follow-up materials for the classroom including worksheets, puzzles, group activities and learning resources designed to emphasize the importance of proper nutrition and staying active.

President Binh Phung, a second-year student at OSU-COM, emphasized for the group the importance of avoiding obesity, a national problem. The Pediatrics Club is sponsored by the university and by the ACOP.

For Membership Questions or to Join ACOP

Contact Kim Whitehead - kim@ACOPeds.org - (804) 565-6311

ACIP Immunization Update

By Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP

AOA/ACOP Liaison Member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice of the National Institutes of Health

Influenza Vaccine

Recommended for all children aged 6 months-18 years annually. Implementation should be as soon as feasible and no later than the 2009-10 influenza season.

Menactra Vaccine (MCV4)

ACIP does not recommend the routine use of MCV4 among 2-10 year olds except for children who are at increased risk for meningococcal disease. If providers or parents elect to vaccinate their patients or children against meningococcal disease, ACIP recommends that MCV4 be used rather than Menomune (MPSV).

MMRV (ProQuad)

Post-surveillance review of Measles Mumps Rubella Varicella Vaccine (MMRV) detected a “signal” of an increased risk for febrile seizures in children aged 12-23 months after MMRV, compared with MMR and varicella vaccines administered separately at the same visit, during the 7-10 days after vaccination. ACIP will continue to monitor this..

Vaccine supplies

MMRV – expected to be available in 2009. Presently adequate supply of Varivax. Continue present ACIP recommendations.

Hep A – no Vaqta available but adequate supply of Havrix. Continue present ACIP recommendations.

Hib-PedivaxHIB – not available and limited supply for ActHIB. ACIP recommends not giving booster dose at 12-15 months except to high risk groups such as American Indians.

Agency updates

5200 autism claims are pending (no disbursements at present). May 2008: test case based on thimerosal as cause. September 2008: test case for MMR as cause.

Measles in US (2008)

In San Diego, 12 cases (10 months – 9 years of age) in unvaccinated children (8 due to personal-belief exemption). Started with unvaccinated child returning from Switzerland. Seventy children have been quarantined without evidence of immunity.

(For the complete minutes of the ACIP, please visit www.acopeds.org. ACOP members may direct questions to Dr. Grogg at sgrogg@travelmedicine.com)

IN MEMORIAM

Myron S. Magen, DO, FACOP 1926 - 2008

By Arnold Melnick, DO, FACOP

Among his many achievements, Myron “Mike” Magen will always be remembered as an icon of osteopathic education. And ACOP will recall his activities with us.

He trained as a pediatrician at Des Moines Still College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, after receiving his DO degree from that school in 1952. Following the pattern of DO pediatricians in that day, he began private pediatric practice. Soon after, he joined ACOP.

He became quite active in our college and was elected president of ACOP in 1965. He was inducted as a Fellow of the ACOP in 1966, and had the distinction of being one of only two individuals invited twice to become the James M. Watson Memorial lecturer, in 1970 and 1986.

But it was in osteopathic education that he achieved great fame. Involved when Michigan osteopathic physicians created a new osteopathic college in Pontiac, Mike served as Dean from 1966 to 1970. With his typical foresight and tenacity, he soon moved it to East Lansing and connected it to Michigan State University. It was the first osteopathic school associated with a major university and the first to garner public support.

Innovative, demanding and decisive, his drive soon elevated the school to one of the finest osteopathic colleges in

the country, considered by many a keystone of the osteopathic profession. When he retired in 1991, he had served as Dean for 25 years. Over those years, he broke down many of the barriers to osteopathic progress by forging liaisons with multiple government agencies, and the scientific community.

Mike was a dean’s dean, and many subsequent deans came to him for advice. I sought his input when I was invited to help start Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine and even after that. Many others did, too. He was a true giant. His founding of MSCUCOM was a turning point from the “old” to the “new” osteopathic education.

He served also as President of the American Association of Osteopathic Colleges (twice) and received an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 2004 from MSU. He was the first osteopathic physician to be elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine.

Thank you, Mike, for what you did for osteopathic education, for the ACOP and for a generation of well-trained DOs throughout the country.



Ben Cohen Comments

As a young pediatrician, I met Mike Magen in the 1960s. It only took me 15-20 minutes to realize that this short man was a giant in reality. When Mike spoke, you listened. He was informative, articulate, humorous, and a pediatrician. He was one of those rare individuals that we all hope to meet.

In 1977, I joined the ranks of a state university’s osteopathic medical school, and Mike became a strong collegial friend and political ally. No matter how deep our conversation, Mike was able to inject his unique sense of humor. I always looked forward to our opportunities to exchange dialogue. Mike’s innate ability to walk through minefields unscathed was as much a part of his success as his mighty brain. Deaning for a host of individuals who used Mike as their guidepost ultimately contributed to the profession’s growth and importance in our country’s healthcare system. The beacon was not dimmed with Mike’s passing, it continues to illuminate the advances and contributions of osteopathic medicine. Wherever in heaven that Dr. Magen resides, you can be sure that he is in the company of angels.

This tribute to Dr. Magen was written by ACOP Past President Benjamin L. Cohen, DO, FACOP, Provost of Western University of Health Sciences and a close personal friend of Dr. Magen.

2008
Annual Spring Conference

April 10-13, 2008

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Savannah, Georgia

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Conference Highlights



2008 Annual Spring Conference Awards

Distinguished Service Award

**Arnold Melnick, DO, MSc,
DHL (Hon.), FACOP, FACOOG**

Arnold Melnick, DO, MSc, DHL (Hon.), FACOP, FACOOG, was the recipient of the ACOP 2008 Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor of the College.



Arnold retired in 1998 as Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost of the Health Professions Division of Nova Southeastern University. He was the Founding Dean of Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine, and, after the merger, assumed his role with NSU. He is also Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health at NSU. He has earned five fellowship degrees, and presidency or chairmanship of eleven regional or national professional groups. In 2002, he received his 14th DSA – this one from the American Osteopathic Association.

Arnold served as President of the ACOP, as Chairman of the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics and has been on the Pediatrics faculty of four medical schools. He has also been Chairman of Pediatrics in two hospitals and Associate Pediatrician in two other hospitals, including Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Arnold is now in his third career – writing and editing. He has had six books published, including: *Pediatrics: Some Uncommon Views on Some Common Problems*, *Professionally Speaking: Public Speaking for Health Professionals*, *Medical Writing 101: A Primer for Health Professionals*, *Parenthood: Laugh and Enjoy Your Child* and *Ethical Problems in Pediatrics*. He has 160 professional articles published and is a past president of the American Medical Writers Association.

As the Editor of *Pulse*, he has written and developed many articles of interest, spent many hours editing and planning the content and has worked directly with the *Pulse* graphic designer to produce the most effective layout. This is his second ACOP Distinguished Service Award.

Harold H. Finkel Pediatrician of the Year

Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP

Stanley E. Grogg, DO, FACOP was named the Harold H. Finkel Pediatrician of the Year at the ACOP Annual meeting in Savannah. He is a Professor of Pediatrics and the Medical Director of the Osteopathic Medical Consortium of Oklahoma (OMECO) at the OSU-Center of Health Sciences.



Stan, an ACOP Past President, was selected for the award because of his outstanding activity and service in community affairs relating to children. He is a past-director of the Parent and Child Center of Tulsa, formerly the Rainbow House Crisis Nursery, which allows potential child abusers “time out and counseling.” He is on the Advisory Board of the McDonald House in Tulsa, and has been a court-appointed member of the Special Advocate Board of Directors (CASA). He has also served on the Board of Emergency Infant Services, which provides formula, food and clothing to families in need, and, as part of Rotary International, he helps in planning and implementation of their “Be Wise – Immunize” campaign in Tulsa. Among his other community involvements are: volunteer physician for Good Samaritan Medical Missions Van, an active volunteer of the Key Club level for the Tulsa United Way and, very important to Stan himself, a graduate of the Tulsa Citizen's Police Academy.

Totally committed to ACOP before his presidency, he has remained active since. His present service is as representative of ACOP and AOA at the federal Advisory Committee for Immunization Practice (ACIP).of the Center for Disease Control.

The award is now given annually and named for Harold H. Finkel, a very active ACOP Past President until his recent death.

Watson Memorial Lecture

Martin A. Finkel, DO, FACOP

Martin A. Finkel, DO, FACOP, FAAP, delivered this year's James M. Watson Memorial Lecture at the ACOP Annual Meeting in Savannah. His topic was “Child Sexual Abuse: Understanding Victimization & Responding.”



Martin, who is an ACOP Past President, serves as Professor of Pediatrics at the UMDNJ School of Osteopathic Medicine. When he joined the pediatrics faculty at UMDNJ, he established a new field for osteopathic physicians by becoming a distinguished authority in the little-explored field of child sexual abuse. His own practice and investigations led to his appointment as consultant in these matters to the State of New Jersey and ultimately to world-wide recognition as a leader in the field. He is in constant demand around the world as a speaker.

He has contributed many articles to the literature and the textbook, *Medical Evaluation of Child Sexual Abuse*, of which he is senior author, and published in its third edition by the AAP, is the standard for this important subject.

He founded and is the medical director of a nationally recognized Institute: Child Abuse Research Educational & Service (CARES) Institute. The Institute diagnoses and treats abused children and conducts NIMH funded research. As an Institute, they often receive international visitors. Recently a team of 15 government officials from China spent time at CARES to take back some of their important findings.

Martin became part of only the second father-son team to deliver the Watson Address. His father, the late Harold H. Finkel, DO, FACOP, presented the honor lecture in 1967, and also served as ACOP president in 1960.

The award is named in memory of Dr. Watson, the first president of ACOP.

