

TCMS Newsletter

March 2006

Blood and Tissue Center to host golfing event

Register now for the Blood, Sweat, and Tissue Charity Classic on Friday, May 5, at Onion Creek Country Club. Participants will enjoy superb rounds of golf while supporting The Blood and Tissue Center of Central Texas. Proceeds will fund outreach and educational programs, and help raise awareness of the need for life-saving blood and tissue donation. Sponsorship packages are available. Download the registration form at www.bloodandtissue.org. For more information contact Heather Parsons at 206-1246 or Nicolette Abernathy at 206-1125.

Volunteers needed for clinic in Bay St. Louis, MS

Immediately following Hurricane Katrina, the Loudoun Medical Group set up a clinic in Bay St. Louis, MS. The clinic remains one of the few sources of primary care for residents in the Bay St. Louis area. The clinic is in need of physician, PA, NP and nurse volunteers. The clinic sees about 90 patients per day, is fairly well stocked with meds and other supplies. Housing (in a trailer) and meals are provided to volunteers, however, volunteers are asked to pay for their own transportation to and from the clinic. The Loudoun group is able to provide rental cars to and from the airport. Interested parties may contact Nancy J. Adams, Executive Director of the Monroe County Medical Society, 585-473-4072 for more details.

TCMS, TCMA honored for Katrina relief efforts

TCMS and TCMA were named finalists for the American Red Cross Heroes of Central Texas Celebration. The recognition was for their work and “selfless deeds” at the Convention Center following Hurricane Katrina.

TMA Seminars: 20 Ways to Beat the Reimbursement Blues

TMA Seminars will present “20 Ways to Beat the Reimbursement Blues” on Wednesday, April 26, from 1-4 pm at the Norris Conference Center, 2525 W. Anderson Ln. Alan Tolleson, CPC, TMA Reimbursement Specialist, will give tips and practical approaches for common reimbursement dilemmas. Check-in begins 30 minutes prior to start of the seminar. Registration fees: TMA members or staff, \$149; nonmembers, \$219; Web registrants, \$119. To register by credit card call 370-1550 or visit the Practice Management section of TMA’s Web site (www.texmed.org) for more information or to register online.

2006 membership dues are past due

Over 1860 active members have paid TCMS dues for 2006. Thank you for supporting your profession and joining your colleagues in representing physicians in our community. If you are among the few who haven’t paid your dues, note that the delinquent date is March 15. Physicians who have not paid 2006 membership dues by March 24 will not be included in the upcoming Directory. If you have retired or have any questions regarding your membership status, call Darla Blasingame at 206-1221.

2006 Directory update

Information Update forms for the 2006 Directory were recently mailed to all members. Please take a moment to review and update your form. Mail or fax (450-1326 or 206-1135) your form to TCMS by March 24. You may submit a current professional photo by March 24 to have it included in the 2006 Directory. Photos taken by RCL will automatically be included. E-mail 300 DPI resolution photos to jnorton@tcms.com.

A digital directory on your Palm Pilot®

Introducing DigiDOCS®, a digital directory of TCMS physicians. Available for Palm OS Software, Version 3.1 and higher, DigiDOCS® is ready for download at www.tcms.com by clicking the Physician Resources icon. Contact Dana Frers, TCMS membership development coordinator, at 206-1252 or dfers@tcms.com for more information.

Benefits include:

- instant phone, fax and e-mail listings of active TCMS members
- updated every three months
- easy to download
- absolutely free year-round

DigiDOCS® sponsored by SNB Bank of Austin, financial services for health care professionals.

Meducation immersion program: April 29-May 7

The next one-week Spanish immersion program for health care professionals in the beautiful interior city of Querétaro, Mexico, is scheduled for April 29-May 7, 2006. Homestay with local families, academic and cultural classes at the Centro Intercultural de Querétaro, guided tours of clinic/hospital, special cultural events, day trip to San Miguel de Allende, overnight excursion to Guanajuato and much more are all included in the program cost of \$750. Round-trip airfare is a separate cost. For registration forms with additional information, contact program director Dr. Jill Snyder at jld@io.com and 835-7612.

TexMed 2006 highlights two exceptional speakers

Register today for TexMed 2006, May 4-6, in Houston. Registration is free to all TMA members. TMA is proud to offer two highly acclaimed speakers for the General Sessions at TexMed 2006 thanks to generous underwriting by TMLT and TMF Health Quality Institute.

Exploration, Leadership, and Medicine: A View From Inside the Ocean. Joseph MacInnis, MD, has led or participated in more than 50 major undersea expeditions and logged more time inside the Arctic Ocean than any other scientist. His work with decompression helped make possible deep-sea dives in cold oceans, and led him to design and build the first arctic dive station, which allowed men to explore below the polar icecap. Hear his amazing recap at the Opening General Session from 3:30-4:30 pm, May 4. Join your colleagues immediately after for a book signing with Dr. MacInnis. TMA members may purchase *Aliens of the Deep* for \$25 in advance.

Last Man Down. Everyone will always remember where they were on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. FDNY Chief Richard Picciotto surely will never forget. Caught between the sixth and seventh floors as the North Tower began to collapse, he braced himself for death in those harrowing moments as the building came crashing down around him. Chief Picciotto survived almost unscathed to become the last firefighter to escape the destruction. The Saturday General Session runs from 8-9 am. Join your colleagues immediately after for a book signing with Chief Picciotto. TMA members may purchase *Last Man Down* for \$20 in advance.

To register for TexMed 2006, visit <http://texmed06.texmed.org>, or go to www.texmed.org and click on the TexMed 2006 banner.

TMLT to award \$40,000 in medical student scholarships

TMLT will award one student at each Texas medical school with a \$5,000 scholarship from the 2006 TMLT Memorial Scholarship program. The program awards \$40,000 in scholarships annually to Texas medical students interested in finding creative and effective ways to enhance patient safety. The scholarship deadline is Monday, May 1, 2006. A list of eligibility and application requirements can be found at www.tmlt.org.

Volunteers needed to provide student athletic physicals

Austin Independent School District requires all students participating in competitive sports to have yearly sports physical exams. To meet the needs of students who have financial restrictions and other barriers to health care, the AISD Student Health Services assists in providing volunteer sports physical clinics for these students.

The TCMS Public Relations Committee needs volunteers to help with these physicals. Physicians and nurses will be assigned one portion of the physical (BP/WT/HT, Ortho/Neuro, etc.). The students will be guided from one station to another, until they have received a “complete physical.”

Please select the location(s) and shift(s) you would be willing to provide your services and return to TCMS offices (Fax: 450-1326, or mail: TCMS, PO Box 4679, Austin, Tx 78765).

Wednesday, April 26—Delco Center (183 and Manor Rd)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm
Thursday, April 27—Burger Center (South MoPac and 290 West)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm
Tuesday, May 9—Burger Center (South MoPac and 290 West)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm
Wednesday, May 10—Delco Center (183 and Manor Rd)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm

I will be unable to participate this year, but will see students in my office.

Name:

Specialty:

Maps and specific information will be sent to you in advance. Call Darla Blasingame, TCMS Membership Coordinator, if you have any questions, 206-1221.

Membership Applicants

These physicians have applied for TCMS membership. Under the provisions of the Bylaws, names of applicants are presented to the membership for review. Written objections to the applicant’s membership must be directed to the TCMS Board of Ethics within 30 days of publication.

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