



President

JULY/AUGUST 2004 * AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE

Registration brochures for the Mid-Year Educational Conference of the American College of Legal Medicine are now in the mail. This conference, entitled "Cancer and the Law," will be held on October 1-2, 2004 at the Bourbon Orleans—A Wyndham Historic Hotel, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Chaired by Dale H. Cowan, M.D., J.D., this program features 38 nationally and internationally recognized commentators who make up an exceptional conference faculty. Among other things, the program will focus on the standard of care for use of new technologies in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer; recent trends in malpractice litigation, including liability issues pertaining to cancer of the breast, colon, lung, and prostate; truth-telling and informed consent; end-of-life issues; medical legal and ethical aspects of experimental treatment and innovative practice; and current regulatory and social issues, with emphasis on insurance and employment discrimination, genetic testing and counseling, the Americans with Disabilities Act, fraud and abuse, HIPAA compliance, and e-medicine in oncology practice. I encourage you to make plans to attend this excellent Mid-Year conference in a most enjoyable venue. For your convenience, on-line registration (with early registration discounts) is now available at the ACLM website.

Richard S. Wilbur, M.D., J.D., ACLM Treasurer and Delegate to the AMA Specialty and Service Society, recently attended the June, 2004 annual meeting of the American Medical Association. Among his varied activities, Dick participated in the first annual Medical Specialty Showcase of the AMA Medical Student Section on Saturday, June 12. The Medical Specialty Showcase provided an opportunity for organizations such as ours to meet with medical students from nearly every medical school in the country. The ACLM was provided an opportunity to introduce the specialty of legal medicine to medical students with compatible interests and to offer promotional materials to assist career decision-making. ACLM staff provided membership applications, copies of the *Journal of Legal Medicine*, *Legal Medicine Perspectives*, and *Legal Medicine Q & A*. During the three-hour showcase, Dick had the opportunity to interact with quite a few students, some of whom were interested in taking membership applications and signing up to receive materials. Most students did not plan to pursue a J.D. degree. However, because of their interest in issues where law and medicine converge, they may well choose to become Medical members of the ACLM. This would enhance their access to networking opportunities, as well as publications and other important information regarding the field of legal medicine. Dick indicated that he enjoyed the opportunity to interact with students during this session and I congratulate him for his efforts in this important context. You will find his complete report about the AMA meeting (Reports of ACLM Delegate to AMA) on the ACLM website.

The 15th World Congress on Medical Law is scheduled to occur August 1-5, 2004 in Sydney, Australia. The ACLM is a Silver Sponsor of this biennial Congress and a number of ACLM officers, governors, and members will be attending the Congress and delivering scientific

papers. The meeting is sponsored by the World Association for Medical Law (WAML) and hosted by the Australian College of Legal Medicine. On July 31, 2004, at the direction of the ACLM Board of Governors, I will be making a formal presentation to the WAML Governing Council, proposing that the 17th World Congress on Medical Law be held in August 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago, and that the Congress be hosted by the American College of Legal Medicine, in close cooperation with W.J. Weiser & Associates. Complementing my oral presentation to the WAML Governing Council, will be a printed, bound portfolio that conveys the substance of the ACLM's proposal. This portfolio, which is being completed as this issue of *Notes from the President* goes to press, is the product of extensive efforts on the part of Wendy Weiser, Sue O'Sullivan, Jennifer Kehle, and numerous other talented staff members at W.J. Weiser & Associates. I am pleased to have had the opportunity during the past couple of months to work closely with all of them in finalizing this most impressive written proposal. I am confident that it will represent the American College of Legal Medicine quite favorably and I look forward to competing successfully against several other nations vying to be selected as the host for the 17th World Congress. A special expression of appreciation is in order for Tom Noguchi, M.D., a member of the ACLM Board of Governors and a vice-president of WAML, who has provided invaluable guidance as our proposal has been developed and finalized.

In the May/June 2004 issue of *Notes from the President*, I called your attention to the fact that ACLM members may now review the *Journal of Legal Medicine*, *Legal Medicine Perspectives*, and *Legal Medicine Q & A* online. I hope that you have taken advantage of this excellent member benefit to enjoy convenient review of our publications online. In this regard, I am pleased to announce that we have now added *Notes from the President* to our website, with a view toward allowing both College members and non-members to conveniently review highlights of activities about the College. I recommend that you take a moment to visit the ACLM website and click on either the "About" link, or on the "Hot Links" listing, where you will be able to access and view the six most recent issues of *Notes from the President* online. These issues provide highlights of activities of the College during the past 12 months. Staff will regularly update this page to ensure that the most recent information about the College is available to members and non-members. I am hopeful this will serve not only as a valuable member benefit but also as a potential new member recruitment tool. I want to thank Dr. Bob Buckman, ACLM governor, for his support of this important endeavor, as well as the excellent technical assistance provided by Mark Cakanic and Alison Heimburger, at our headquarters office.

Warmest personal regards.

Theodore R. LeBlang
President

2004 Mid-year ACLM Meeting

Cancer and the Law:

A Program Primarily for Physicians and Their Advisors

October 1- 2, 2004
Bourbon Orleans - A Wyndham Historic Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

Look for meeting details online at www.aclm.org!

Visit www.aclm.org today!

Help us Stay in Touch with You!

Please visit the ACLM website regularly to update your member profile, particularly your mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

ACLM Foundation Corner

The ACLM Foundation continues to explore fund raising possibilities. Various plans for testamentary bequests, memorial and honorary gifts are being explored. However, the lack of an established Foundation administrative infrastructure has prevented any of the plans from being implemented to date. The Foundation hopes to have that problem solved within the next quarter. The Foundation will keep the College Membership informed of new developments as they occur.

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Mark Your Calendars

45th ACLM Annual Meeting

Legal Medicine 2005: Confronting the Challenges

March 3 - 6, 2005

Paradise Point Resort

San Diego, California