



# President

JULY/AUGUST 2007 AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE

It's not how good you are, it's how good you want to be. We all have aspirations and I believe they should include a strong desire for improvement rather than being satisfied with a status quo situation. In my last message, I stated how excited I was just a few months into my presidency, during this 48<sup>th</sup> year of ACLM. I'm still excited, and probably even more so.

This president is not happy with status quo. I have aspirations to raise the bar and take this organization to a higher level than we have ever been. At present, here is where we are within my aspirations. I appointed several ad hoc committees; they are hard at work and will be reporting to the BOG in October. We are in the process of streamlining governance so we will not have to reinvent the wheel each year. We are currently investigating the development of an endowment program for named lectures and events. You will hear more about this at a later date. Marty Stillman is busy reviewing many new member applications. Marty and Chris White are busy working on the 2008 mid-year conference. Our ACLM informational brochure will soon have a new look. Anyone with the knowledge of a colleague or family member who is ill is requested to let Sue O'Sullivan know at [sueo@wjweiser.com](mailto:sueo@wjweiser.com).

Additional logo items will be looked at but right now we do have a good stock of items promoting the college. For you golfers, you can now order sleeves of golf balls and golf shirts. Hurry and don't let this season and opportunity slip by. We also have briefcases, brief portfolios, lapel pins and other items. Look on our web site for more information.

The Foundation, under President Dr. Bob Buckman, is growing. Their participation in Moot Court and other educational venues of ACLM will increase as their "kitty" of contributions increases. Dr. Bob and his board will investigate setting contribution categories allowing a time frame for the completion of a pledge payment. Don't be shy; make a pledge or contributions to the Foundation on a regular basis for any reason you feel appropriate, whether to honor someone or just to be used for educational purposes.

Gene Basanta has received numerous applications and submissions for the Moot Court this year. Our expectations are that it will be as big, if not bigger and more popular than previous years. In keeping with a continued tradition, this event has risen to the next level. The review process for all of our scholarship award papers is being reviewed and updated appropriately. Alan Hoffman (Bioethics) and Tom McLean (Student Writing Competition) are working with Dr. Bob and other committee members to make the alterations. A call for submissions will be forthcoming.

Marshall Kapp reported that the JLM has truly entered the modern era as recent JLM articles are being discussed in the blogosphere. He and his staff have continued to improve the quality of the journal – another step to higher level. JLM has enjoyed continued improvement of the journal impact factor, which is a measurement of how often a published paper is noted. We have been advised of an increase in citations, either on the internet or in other published refereed journals. Our other publications also continue to thrive and be informative under the editorships of Chris White and Judy Gic. The two text books are selling on schedule as anticipated.

## REGISTER NOW FOR UPCOMING EVENTS:

### 2007 MID-YEAR EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE ACLM: "MEDICAL IMAGING AND THE LAW"

October 13 – 14, 2007

Hyatt Regency Chicago

and

### MEDICAL MALPRACTICE BOARD REVIEW COURSE

Friday, October 12, 2007, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Chicago

Presented by the American Board of Legal Medicine

In Conjunction with 2007 Mid-Year Educational Conference of the ACLM

All ACLM Members and Non-Members are invited to attend

CME: 5 hours, Category 1

Fee: \$195 (includes study guide)

**Register for both the 2007 Mid-Year Educational Conference and the Medical Malpractice Board Review Course online at [www.aclm.org](http://www.aclm.org)**

The ABLM, under President Sandy Sanbar, is expanding its horizons. They are in the process of developing an American Board of Medical Malpractice. The new ABMM will differ from the established ABLM Board. The former is for all scientific fellows of ACLM and the latter will be for MD/JD's. The purpose of the new additional board is to allow all members, including the MD/JD's, a means of recognition for their exceptional knowledge and expertise in the medical and legal aspects of medical malpractice. Another benefit will be the opportunity to take continuing board review courses in medical jurisprudence aimed at compounding a knowledge base and keeping abreast of medical legal issues. The first Medical Malpractice Board Review Course will be given in conjunction with the mid-year meeting on Friday, October 12, 2007 in Chicago. The syllabus for the course will be our new "Medical Malpractice Survival Handbook". Check our web site for registration information. I encourage you all to attend.

Our two endorsed partners, Treloar & Heisel and Zarin's Jury Verdict allows members to investigate areas that were not before available. Both have non-dues revenue income for ACLM. Information about both appears on our web site. T&H is our third-party insurance administrator and can advise and sell individuals all types of insurances needed, from life and disability to long-term health care, business insurances and just about any other type you may need. Zarin's will allow our members access to Jury Verdict and other newly developed programs to allow searches for case reviews and expert witnesses. They are embarking on a new program for expert witnesses. Every member who subscribes to Zarin's helps improve non-dues income painlessly to the college. Everyone involved in case reviews or with alleged malpractice clients will benefit from this source.

On the educational front, you all know that we have returned to the single topic mid-year meeting format. This year the meeting will be held in Chicago on October 13 and 14, 2007, and will be about "Medical Imaging and the Law". Our President-elect, Michael Raskin, has done a fantastic job designing the program and obtaining top-notch, nationally-recognized speakers. I urge you all to attend, because no matter what your specialty is, radiology interplays somewhere in your practice.

Darren Mareiniss has really gone the extra mile with the development of the annual meeting to be held February 28 – March 2, 2008 in the space city of Houston, Texas. The theme is "Standards of Excellence in Legal Medicine" and he, too, has been able to obtain nationally-recognized speakers. The Sanbar lecture and Wecht luncheon lecture will be highlights as usual.

Karin Zucker is our chairperson for the poster session, which will complement the entire meeting. As co-chairperson last year, she gained a wealth of information and ideas to implement in Houston. Anyone interested in presenting a poster is encouraged to contact Karin at [karin.zucker@amedd.army.mil](mailto:karin.zucker@amedd.army.mil) or [ameddja@aol.com](mailto:ameddja@aol.com) and Sue O'Sullivan at [sueo@wjweiser.com](mailto:sueo@wjweiser.com). The topics for posters are open ended. All members of all phases of health care interest are encouraged to prepare and present.

For the very first time in the history of ACLM we have scheduled a concurrent "Legal Aspects of Dentistry Conference" to be presented Saturday, March 1, 2008 and Sunday, March 2, 2008. The Chief Counsel of the ADA, three dental school Deans and many faculty and private practitioners will update the dental community on current legal aspects to take under consideration. This is the first time in over a decade that an organized conference on this topic will be held in the US and ACLM is at the forefront. To date, Treloar & Heisel, Tulsa Dental and Global Microscope have registered as industry partners, sponsoring and underwriting parts of the meeting. More vendors are expected to join in.

Our web site [www.aclm.org](http://www.aclm.org) has a plethora of information; much of it is new, as we add to it daily, as appropriate.

Our staff just completed a move to new offices without missing a beat. New address (Two Woodfield Lake, 1100 East Woodfield Road, Suite 520, Schaumburg, IL 60173) but same phone numbers. I have to compliment them again on their efficiency and managerial skills.

Yes, colleagues, I am not satisfied with status quo, I am working hard to reach another level, and with your help, we will do so together. As our mission states, we are at the crossroads of where medicine and the law merge, continually monitoring controversial issues as they arise. We will take all recommendations under consideration and act appropriately in the best interests of the college. It is not prudent for us to get involved with every issue, but it is prudent to get involved with those that are appropriate.

Do not hesitate to email me at [acmpresident@aol.com](mailto:acmpresident@aol.com) with any input you may have. Remember the dates: October 12, 2007 for the ABMM review course and October 13-14, 2007 for our mid-year "Medical Imaging and the Law Conference", both in Chicago. Save the dates of February 28 – March 2, 2008 for "Standards of Excellence in Legal Medicine" and "Legal Aspects of Dentistry" conference at our 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Houston.

God bless you all, our country and professions, the American College of Legal Medicine, and any of our colleagues or family members who may be ill.

Bruce H. Seidberg, DDS, MScD, JD, FCLM  
President, ACLM

### ACLM Foundation Corner

The ACLM Foundation is proud to offer the membership of ACLM a way to honor, memorialize, or wish a speedy recovery to friends, relatives and fellow members while contributing to the educational goals of ACLM. Each contribution will be acknowledged to both the honoree and donor, and hopefully will become a regular listing in the *Notes from the President*. Such contributions are considered tax deductible by the IRS and will go to finance such projects as the National Health Law Moot Court Competition at Southern Illinois University School of Law, Annual Meeting speakers, Legal Medicine and Bioethics writing contests, and textbook awards to outstanding medical and law students. The donation form is available at:

[www.aclm.org/resources/print\\_donationform.asp](http://www.aclm.org/resources/print_donationform.asp).

Let us make this a growing part of ACLM's collegial life.