



President

Melvin A. Shiffman, MD, JD, FCLM

MARCH/APRIL 2009 * AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE

As the new president of ACLM, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead the College this year. Despite the economic downturn, ACLM will be continuing all of the annual programs and adding others without exceeding the budget limits. There have been enthusiastic responses to my requests by members of the College who I have contacted to be active on committees. The committees have already been formed, but any member can request to be placed on any committee on which he or she might be interested by contacting me. Please check the committees lists for 2009 - 2010 on the ACLM website to see if you are on any of the committees.



ANNUAL MEETING

The very successful meeting in Las Vegas at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino had many extremely interesting lectures that will affect our thinking and, perhaps, our practices.

The resort was situated next to a shopping mall, as well as Las Vegas Boulevard, making it readily accessible to other hotels in the vicinity. The restaurants at the resort were international and excellent, the staff was very helpful and the meeting rooms were more than adequate. The entertainment at the annual banquet was exceptional with the Rat Pack (“doppelgangers”) singing all of the well-known songs that were so popular. It was a very nostalgic time.

ACLM GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT

Marshall B. Kapp, JD, MPH, FCLM, was the 2009 Gold Medal recipient at the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. The March 6, 2009 issue of the *Saluki Times*, the Southern Illinois University news publication, included an article on this event in which SIU Dean Peter C. Alexander stated that Kapp’s Gold Medal Award is, “. . . certainly well deserved. He is a very talented colleague and I am not surprised at all the American College of Legal Medicine has recognized him with its Gold Medal. . .”

NEW COMMITTEES

The Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative and Executive Affairs has been formed in order to expand our contact with governmental agencies. The purpose is to introduce the College and its purpose, actions, and goals to governmental legislative and executive individuals. The talents of our membership will be offered to these individuals and our willingness to help advise in areas of medicine and medical law.

ACLM HISTORY

The Ad Hoc Committee on the History of ACLM has been formed because the 60th Anniversary of ACLM will be at the next ACLM Annual Meeting in 2010 in Orlando, Florida. It has been decided to put together a complete history of ACLM from various past presidents and other members of ACLM. We will attempt to have this information published in a prominent newspaper in an effort to notify the public of the purpose and goals of ACLM. Anyone with information on the history of ACLM should get in touch with me as soon as possible.

MEMBERSHIP

As with every organization, ACLM has had a slight reduction in membership above what was ordinarily expected in the annual loss. Right now, individuals are looking at the various organizations to which they belong and deciding which memberships to keep and drop in order to reduce costs. The Membership Committee is committed to retaining members and bringing in new ones. All ACLM members should be cognizant of the fact that there are many physicians, lawyers, dentists, nurses, and health care personnel in their community who should be introduced to the purposes and qualities of ACLM and should be given applications to the College.

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF MEDICINE AND LAW (WAML)

ACLM is now associated with the World Association of Medicine and Law (WAML) giving us an international presence. WAML has requested that those members of ACLM who may be interested in joining WAML should contact Jonathan Davies (chair of Council of Presidents) at jdavies@davieskorn.co.il or davies@med-law.co.il for applications. Meetings of WAML are held every two years in many interesting countries. The next meeting is in November in Zagreb, Croatia. The purposes of WAML include:

- To encourage the study of health law, legal medicine, and bioethics and to explore ways in which these can be used to benefit humanity and advance human rights.
- WAML offers the opportunity for like-minded people to come together on an international scale to meet the needs of the societies, which they represent, and to share their experiences and wisdom to assist each other.

INTERNET

Legal Medicine Q & A is now being published online ONLY and *Legal Medicine Perspectives* and the *Notes from the President* will follow being with the next issue, set to come out in June 2009. Thousands of dollars are saved by placing these publications online ONLY and there is less paper to file. ACLM is "going green".

Melvin A. Shiffman, MD, JD, FCLM
ACLM President

Plan to Attend . . .

2010 ACLM 50th Annual Meeting
March 4 - 7, 2010
Caribe Royale Suites
Orlando, Florida



Back by popular demand a concurrent Dental Symposium will be included as part of the 2010 annual meeting!

ACLM HISTORY PROJECT FOR THE 2010 50TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 2010 annual meeting of the American College of Legal Medicine will be the College's 50th annual meeting. To celebrate this milestone, we would like to request from the membership their help in a project that will catalogue the history of the ACLM. Please send any photos, anecdotes or information that you feel would assist the ACLM executive office in its efforts to compile the history of our great College. Hopefully with your help, we will be able to create something truly special to present at the meeting.

Please send any materials and questions to:

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