

ACLM Notes from the President

Jan/Feb 2013



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Notes from the President:

Kent E. Harshbarger, MD, JD, MBA, FCLM

Dear ACLM Colleague,

I would like to thank the College for their support and recognize the members who serve on the Executive Committee/Board of Governors. They have made this past year enjoyable and productive. Sue O'Sullivan, our Executive Director, and all the staff of WJ Weiser & Associates seamlessly focus on the details of our daily operations allowing for the College leadership to focus on developing, improving and creating ways to fulfill the mission of the College. This year has been rewarding to me personally and professionally as a result of my interactions, but it continues to astonish me how fast time seems to move. I hope that in some small way my contributions have allowed the College to develop some needed momentum toward mobilizing our greatest asset, the membership.

Furthermore, I want to express my respect and admiration for the current Immediate Past President Gary I. Birnbaum, MD, JD, FCLM, who I have had the privilege of serving next to these past years. I also thank the many other members who serve the College in multiple ways including the committee chairs and committee members, all joining to build the College and add value to the membership.

The College continues to develop and improve the process of granting joint sponsorship accreditation for CME activities. Through the assistance of WJ Weiser & Associates, the College remains a popular option with their other organizations and this service has bolstered the bottom line of the College. That being said, it has become clear the College must create a new fee structure. The College must dedicate significant effort and the necessary paperwork continues to grow. Planning for the new rates also allows us to enter into the market of "enduring materials" for the ACLM website or partner online platforms.

In that light, in case you are not aware, the ACLM website has been recently updated to bring a fresh new look and add capabilities for new services and member benefits. The Members Network tab found at www.aclm.org houses legalmednet as well as the other new programs the Board is hoping to implement. At this point, we are eager to add content to the site that will really make the ACLM a step above other similar organizations. We are looking for members who are interested in getting involved in developing the following web-based programs:

- Online CME/CLE programs
- Expert Witness Directory
- Health Law Speakers Bureau
- Health Law Fellowship Opportunities
- Banner Ads (solicit organizations looking to advertise to our unique membership)
- Members Blog (need volunteers to monitor and initiate messages)

If you are interested in becoming involved please contact either myself at acmpresident@gmail.com, Website Chair Dr. Bob Buckman at drbobbuckman@sbcglobal.net, or the office of the Executive Director at sueo@wjweiser.com.

Tom McLean, MD, JD, FCLM, has put together an outstanding program comprised of nine plenary or general sessions beginning Friday, February

22, 2013, and concluding at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, February 24, 2013. Additionally, Bruce Seidberg, DDS, MScD, JD, FCLM, and past president of the ACLM has arranged for a parallel program for dentists on Friday, February 22, 2013. The dentists will join the other attendees for the remainder of the program. Among the features will be the Cyril Wecht Luncheon on Saturday, February 23. Cyril has arranged for the luncheon address to be given by Anne Bremner from Seattle, Washington. Another feature is the S. Sandy Sanbar Lecture. This year Sandy has arranged for Nicolas P. Terry, BA, LL.M., to deliver a lecture on "Assessing Whether Information Technology Can Be a Positive, Disruptive Force for Healthcare Reform." This promises to be an outstanding program and one that should be of special interest to all.

The College needs your help to get the word out with regard to this fantastic program, particularly with individuals in Nevada. Our program contains two hours of ethics CME credit required for Nevada medical licensure and the ACLM is offering specific registration for that portion of the program.

On an exciting note, the College has partnered with the Chinese Health Law Society (CHLS) to expand our international reach. The delegation is hoped to include up to 23 members and a meeting is planned to explore ways the two organizations can cooperate and develop mutual interests. In addition, it is an honor to announce that at the College annual meeting, on February, February 22 at 5:00 p.m., brief presentations will be made from selected members of the CHLS. Special thanks to Program Chair Tom McLean and Professor Wu from CHLS for their efforts.

At the time this is published, the Nominating Committee will have considered potential candidates for the Board of Governors and the Executive Committee and the slate can be reviewed by the membership at www.aclm.org. As you are aware, the voting occurs at the meeting of the fellows during the 2013 ACLM Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

Sincerely,

Kent E. Harshbarger, MD, JD, MBA, FCLM
President
American College of Legal Medicine