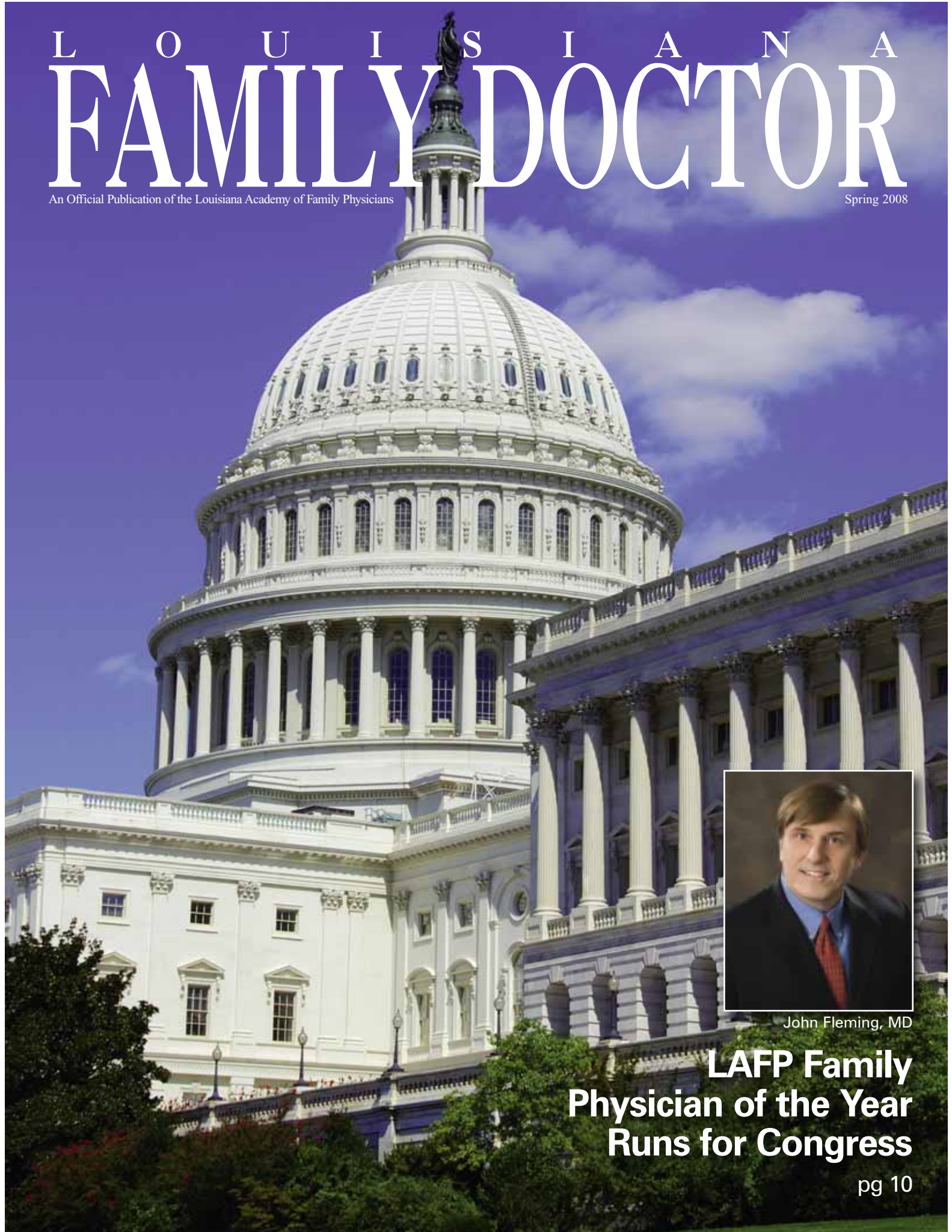


# L O U I S I A N A FAMILY DOCTOR

An Official Publication of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians

Spring 2008



John Fleming, MD

**LAFP Family  
Physician of the Year  
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pg 10

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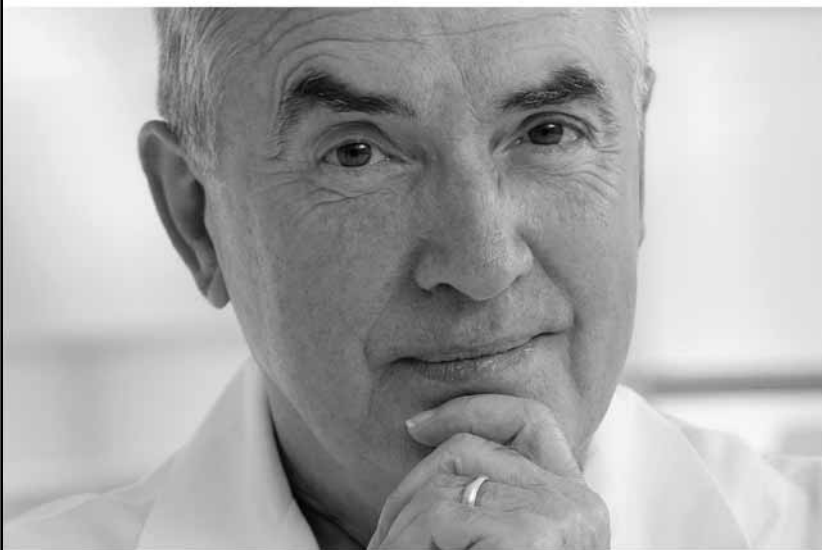


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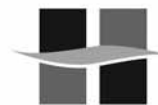
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John Fleming, MD, Editor

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*Louisiana Family Doctor* is the official quarterly publication of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians (LAFP). It serves as the primary communication vehicle to LAFP members.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

# LAFP Annual Assembly: Don't Miss Out!

For those of you not in attendance at this year's Winter Conference, who missed the informative educational program and the associated collegial interaction with kindred spirits, I have good news: another even more accessible opportunity for such activities awaits you this July 4 weekend at the 61st LAFP Annual Assembly at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort.

I encourage any of you who have given even passing thoughts to attending one of your Academy's conferences to log on to the [lafp.org](http://lafp.org) Web site and review the list of attendees of previous meetings, any of whom can tell you what you can expect to accomplish professionally and recreationally at the Assembly. Who knows — such a conversation could lead to a mutual decision for families to enjoy a shared vacation combined with excellent CME! You can register for the conference by contacting the LAFP office directly or submitting your information online at the Web site. And, while you're there, be sure to read the latest news and views of special interest to us family physicians ... and please consider supporting the LaFamPac with a donation — it will be money well spent!

Hope to see you in Sandestin!

Russel Roberts, MD  
*LAFP President*



Russell Roberts, MD



## FROM THE SECRETARY

# Governmental Reforms and Our Future

Whew, that was close! We were scheduled for a 10 percent cut in our Medicare payments (through no fault of ours), but Congress came to our rescue — for six months. Apart from using an insane method of determining physician pay, do you ever feel that Congress isn't looking out for the physicians in this country? It certainly feels that way at times.

After much fanfare, we have a new governor. He promised ethics reform, and he was not in office a whole month before calling a special session to pass reform. For the most part, the Legislature is cooperating so far. But it isn't over yet. Also, even if laws are put on the books, will they be enforced? I expect the coming year under Bobby Jindal to get "curiouser and curiouser" as promised governmental reforms are implemented.

John Fleming, MD  
*LAFP Secretary*



John Fleming, MD



## LAFP Adopts AAFP Logo

The AAFP recently unveiled a new logo that features a variation on the staff of Aesculapius, which is commonly used to symbolize the practice and profession of medicine. Where the traditional symbol features a serpent-entwined staff, referring to the ancient Roman god of medicine, the new AAFP logo replaces the staff with a torch. The torch is symbolic of life, knowledge, principle and leadership and represents the AAFP as the progressive, forward-thinking organization it is.

At the February 2008 Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians Board meeting, a final decision was made to embrace this new symbol and incorporate the logo, “Strong Medicine For Louisiana,” as the new official brand of the LAFP.



LOUISIANA ACADEMY OF  
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## LAFP Partners with National Procedures Institute

Enhance your practice and help earn revenue for the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians by attending a procedural seminar with the National Procedures Institute. The American Academy of Family Physicians, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and the Texas Academy of Family Physicians have teamed up to purchase NPI effective January 1, 2008. This collaboration will give NPI the resources to continue building on its 18 years of success serving primary care practices.

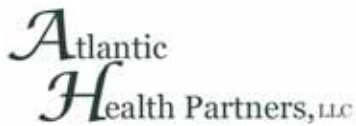
Our Academy is proud to partner with NPI to provide you the opportunity to bring new procedures to your practice and to generate revenue for your state Academy at the same time! When you attend an NPI course, NPI will send \$50 to the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians. All you have to do is enter “LAFP” in the Referral Code field when you register online at the NPI Web site so that our chapter receives credit for your attendance.

Since 1989, NPI has helped more than 45,000 primary care physicians provide quality, cost-effective patient care while broadening the range of services they offer and enhancing their practice revenue. NPI offers more than 100 CME medical seminars annually at many locations, covering a full range of office procedures, hospital procedures and emergency room procedures. Visit NPI online at [www.npinstitute.com](http://www.npinstitute.com) to view course descriptions, learn about their outstanding faculty and find a course in our area.

You can register for NPI courses online at [www.npinstitutue.com](http://www.npinstitutue.com) or by phone at 800-NPI-CME1. Don’t forget to enter “LAFP” on the online registration form or tell the NPI staff you are with the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians over the phone to ensure our chapter receives credit for your attendance.

We hope you will participate in a procedural course in the coming year and help provide non-dues revenue to our state chapter.

# LAFP Partners with Atlantic Health Partners for Vaccines Savings and Advocacy



(AAFP) and the LAFP have been working in recent years to identify how to assist our members in dealing with the ever-increasing costs of providing vaccines, along with addressing proper storage, ordering and payment problems.

LAFP is pleased to announce that it has found a strong new partner in this cause. This new partner, Atlantic Health Partners (AHP), can help our member practices save precious dollars and advocate on their behalf with payers and manufacturers.

AHP, a physician purchasing program, works directly with Sanofi Pasteur and Merck to obtain very favorable pricing and purchasing terms for a wide variety of pediatric, adolescent, adult and travel vaccines. Members of the Atlantic program make purchases directly from Sanofi Pasteur and Merck (as many of you do now) but typically

The very mention of immunizations can start debate among people who work in family medicine. The American Academy of Family Physicians

receive better pricing and purchasing terms. In addition, participation is voluntary, and there is no cost to enroll in the AHP program.

There are other vaccine purchasing programs, but AHP has made a special effort to engage family physicians. The benefits of deeper discounts and advocacy for LAFP members plus AHP's support of our programs were immediately attractive to the LAFP. AHP will direct a portion of its revenues to the LAFP and provide an additional unrestricted educational grant based on participation. Needless to say, a long-term partnership was the obvious next step.

There are a large number of LAFP members who participate with Atlantic, and they report strong satisfaction with the program, most notably for the savings, ability to make smaller purchases, customer support and how easy it was to enroll.

Jeff Winokur is the primary contact at Atlantic, and we encourage you to contact him at 800-741-2044 or at [jwinokur@atlantichelpartners.com](mailto:jwinokur@atlantichelpartners.com) for more information and details about how your practice can benefit from participation.



## 2008 Partners

Our many thanks to our partners, who see the value in a cooperative effort to promote the highest quality of continuing medical education for family physicians in Louisiana. Please express your personal appreciation to our partners when their representatives visit your office.

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# Legislative Report

*as of February 18, 2008*

by Jo Rose, LAFP Lobbyist



## Special Session on Ethics

The First Special Session has been underway since February 10. The purpose of the session is to make sweeping changes to Louisiana's ethics laws with special emphasis on legislators' and lobbyists' income, disclosure and reporting. A total, thus far, of 213 legislative instruments have been filed. The session must end by March 1, and it is generally acknowledged that Gov. Jindal will call a Second Special Session around March 10 to deal with lowering the cost of doing business in Louisiana by looking at specific taxes.

Although you may feel that this special ethics session will not affect you, if you serve on a board or commission that was enacted by the legislature, if you happen to be a member of a local governing body, if you plan on running for an elective office and/or you donate money to a state PAC, these proposed laws will affect you.

SB 29, by Sen. Marionneaux, requires the filing of campaign reports by PACs to include the contributors' names and addresses, the amount of contributions and the expenditures made by the PAC. In addition, if the contribution is more than \$250, SB 31, by Sen. Kostelka requires the addition of the contributor's employer to the report.

HB 1, by Rep. Tucker, mandates, among many other items, if you decide to run for public office, you must name your employer, your

job title and a brief job description of each full-time or part-time employment position held by you and your spouse. You must also state the name, the address, a brief description of the nature of association with and the amount of interest in each business in which you or your spouse is a director, officer, owner, partner, member or trustee or in which the individual owns an interest that exceeds 10 percent of that business. It affects how, or if, you can do business with the state or any of its political subdivisions.

House Bill 59, by Rep. Fred H. Mills Jr., will require the same disclosure being pushed on lawmakers for members of Louisiana's various state boards and commissions. The House and Governmental Affairs Committee shot down the proposal, although there were signs it had strong support. The bill intended to rein in some of the power of boards and commissions. Members can issue contract and reject permits. He will add an amendment to the disclosure legislation sponsored by House Speaker Jim Tucker.

During this Special Session, several House and Senate committees have been meeting to establish procedures and inviting appointed department secretaries to present an overview of their departments. In addition to the new "freshmen" legislators, many of the "old" legislators are serving on different committees that they are not familiar with. Otherwise, most of these legislators would be waiting around for the House and Senate Governmental Affairs committee to process all the ethics bills.

Dr. Alan Levine, the newly appointed secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, testified in front of both the House and Senate Health and Welfare committees last week. He introduced his department heads and gave a brief introduction of what services and responsibilities DHH has. He also explained the difference between Medicaid and Medicare and, most importantly, advised the legislators what expenses could and couldn't be adjusted because of federal rules and regulations.

Dr. Levine stated that his initial agency priorities would be:

- Continuing evolution of human service districts and associated funding, accountability, evaluation and monitoring issues
- Louisiana consumers' right to know transparency initiatives
- Medical Home Model implementation
- Accountability/outcomes
- Accountability/costs
- Mental health infrastructure and crisis response
- Home- and community-based waivers; growth/cost/access
- Privacy-protected electronic medical records
- Provider reimbursement levels presenting challenges to maintaining sufficient network
- Children's health initiatives
- Private insurance market

## LAFP Family Physician of the Year John Fleming Announces His Candidacy for the 4th Congressional District

Dr. Fleming's Web site, [www.flemingforcongress.com](http://www.flemingforcongress.com), is up and running. The LAFP legislative subcommittee recommended at its most recent meeting that the LAFP supports Dr. Fleming in his bid to be elected to Congress to replace the retiring Jim McCrery. The committee further recommended to its political arm, LaFamPac, to support Dr. Fleming's candidacy to the maximum, both financially and through any other methods that are legal under the Federal Election Commission. Dr. James Taylor (Livingston) stated, "If ever there was a time for our membership to become active in the political process, it is now."

Dr. Fleming stated in one of his recent discussions that, since 1984, Congress passed a series of Medicare laws that have made the health care industry the only part of our economy that remains under strict governmental price controls. Family physicians have been the worst victims of these controls, as we have no lucrative procedures to off-

set the deepening financial crisis caused by these price controls and our inability to keep up with inflation.

Furthermore, in 1986, Congress decided that Americans should never be denied health care, in spite of their ability to pay. However, this became an unfunded mandate on hospitals and doctors, as the EMTALA laws put the financial burden squarely on providers. "Congress abdicated its responsibility to its citizens by taking this cowardly step," Dr. Fleming said. Today, 47 million Americans have no insurance, which leads to good people being unable to afford routine health care, showing up at the emergency department at the point in their illnesses when the cost of care is the highest and the outcomes are the poorest.

According to Dr. Fleming, "It is high time for the government and the private sector to begin working together to provide basic private insurance to all Americans so they can get preventive care and early diagnosis, which will not only improve the quality of their care, but it will cost much less over time. In fact, as a society, we are already paying a hidden tax through cost-shifting a portion of this cost to patients already under some type of medical insurance."

Please consider contributing to LaFamPac and sending a campaign contribution directly to Dr. Fleming. He needs your support now.

## 2008 Regular Legislative Session Begins March 31

During the Session, check the LAFP Web site regularly for updates on bills being heard in committee or on the floor. Know who your legislators are so you can contact them when we need help to get information to them fast. The LAFP needs your assistance more than ever. We can make our presence felt even more at the Capitol if you would consider becoming active in the Academy's Legislative Committee or becoming a key contact. We need doctors who are willing to commit some time to being able to come to Baton Rouge to testify on legislative bills that affect the way you practice medicine and conduct business. Please call the LAFP office today and let them know that you would like to become a part of our lobbying efforts.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact Ragan Canella at 225-923-3313, or e-mail at [rcanella@lafp.org](mailto:rcanella@lafp.org).

### LEGISLATURE AT A GLANCE

- **Convenes:** Monday, March 31, 2008 at noon. Gov. Bobby Jindal to address a joint meeting of the House and Senate at 1:30 p.m.
- **Length of Session:** 60 legislative days during a 85-calendar-day period
- **Adjourns:** No later than 6 p.m. on Monday, June 23, 2008.
- **Legislators:** 145 House seats, 39 Senate seats (although one House seat is vacant)
- **For Information on Bills:** PULS line toll-free 800-256-3793, OR
- **Web Site:** [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us) – this site will enable you to listen to the proceeds of both the House and Senate committee and floor debates

### CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

- **To Find Out Who Your Legislator Is Online:** [www.senate.legis.state.la.us](http://www.senate.legis.state.la.us) or [www.representative.legis.state.la.us](http://www.representative.legis.state.la.us) – click on "Find Your Senator/Representative" and type in your address
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- **By Telephone:** Representatives: 225-342-6945; Senators: 225-342-2040
- **By Mail:** Representative, P.O. Box 94062, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; Senator, P.O. Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804
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## It Is Time to “Run to the Sound of Guns” *LAFP Family Physician of the Year Runs for Congress*

by John C. Fleming, MD

As a family physician from the early days of the beginning of our specialty, I have been committed to the tenets of our profession. Just like my family physician colleagues, I have also been frustrated over the very same issues — lack of respect from other specialties, low reimbursement rates and misunderstanding of our role among patients. Nonetheless, I have never regretted my choice of profession and the fulfillment it offers.

Though I would not want to change the basic function of family practice, I have longed to do my part to change attitudes about us for many years. However, I could never find a vehicle from which I could make such fundamentally positive changes on our specialty — that is, until now. With the retirement of Jim McCrery, the celebrated congressman from the 4th Congressional District of Louisiana, an opportunity has emerged that could change everything.

I have been interested in public service for some time, but to me, a true family physician’s life priorities begin at home with his own family. Entering the political arena with a wife and young children was never an option for me. Now that our youngest child is solidly fixed in college, my wife and I feel we can respond to the need for public service without harming our family life in any way. For instance, my wife has been volunteering to serve as a CASA worker to assist with problem families and children in foster

homes. It has been most rewarding for her, and I know she has made a positive impact on foster kids in our community.

After consulting with my family, my pastor and a congressman/physician, I made the decision to run for Congress to replace Rep. McCrery. I am building a team of experienced professionals to assist with the campaign. One of my trusted advisors, however, warned me that doctors are notoriously “absent without leave” (AWOL) when it

comes to becoming involved, politically. He said that is why our profession is always getting “scraps at the table,” while the trial lawyers have a seven-course meal!

I have also received tremendous moral support and encouragement from fellow physicians, patients and friends. However, that will not be enough. It is going to take an “all-out” effort among those who support my candidacy. By that, I mean networking, planning fundraising events, calling friends, volunteering, making donations and, most of all, voting for me if you live in District 4.

At this point, you are probably wondering what my plans are relative to medicine that I will advance when I get to Washington. The details of my platform are beyond the scope of this article, but I will hit the high points here:

- Medicare reimbursement reform to improve reimbursement, especially for family physicians
- Reform of the Medicare/Medicaid structure by moving the administration of these programs into the private sector where primary care services will receive higher reimbursement and coverage will be more efficient
- Making private medical insurance available to the 47 million uninsured Americans through insurance reform, including portability, large risk pools, use of HSAs and sliding-scale subsidy for low-income working Americans
- Supporting the Family Practice Medical Home concept as the major portal of medical care entry for Americans with additional reimbursement to doctors for this value-added service
- Grants and/or tax credits to give strong incentives to doctors to implement EMRs

As a conservative Republican, I would be remiss in not mentioning my stance on the other important Federal issues of our time. They are listed below:

- Pro-life
- Pro-Second Amendment (the right to bear arms)
- NO new or increased taxes; renew the expiring Bush tax cuts
- Secure borders and no sanctuary cities
- Support the sanctity of marriage
- Fiscal responsibility
- Strong military

In closing, I would like to welcome your input to these important conditions and issues that affect us all. NOW is the time to “run to the sound of the guns.” Prove the experts wrong! Don’t be politically AWOL! Get involved! Support me! Please consult my Web site at [flemingforcongress.com](http://flemingforcongress.com).

# Let Your Voice Be Heard

## Sign Up for the Key Contacts Program TODAY!

The LAFP needs you! In this day and age, state and federal lawmakers are making decisions that directly affect your patients and your practice.



As the legislative session draws near, legislators need to hear from family physicians about issues that impact their practices and their patients. LAFP’s Key Contacts program serves to create and maintain an open dialogue with both state and federal legislators across Louisiana. If you are a family physician and interested in effecting change, please consider participating. The program has a low time commitment and does not require you to advocate for issues that you don’t believe in professionally. Please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org) to become a Key Contact today!



## Get Involved with LaFamPac Today!



Thanks to all who have contributed to LaFamPac in 2008. We are still in need of contributions that will be used to strengthen the voice of the LAFP and family medicine in Louisiana. Family physicians need the support of legislators that are focused on solving issues that impact your practices and the health care of the patients you serve. LaFamPac will allow the opportunity for the LAFP to have its voice and political goals heard and to make contributions to candidates who support issues important to family physicians and your patients. If you are not currently a member of LaFamPac, we encourage you to become a member today. We have a long road ahead with many, many obstacles. As our match numbers dwindle and our present family physicians age, we need to be more vocal than ever.

Make your voice strong by supporting LaFamPac, and make your contribution today by visiting [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org).

## Family Medicine Congressional Conference Open to All AAFP Members

The 2008 Family Medicine Congressional Conference (FMCC) is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, May 19-20, in Washington, D.C. The conference is now open to all AAFP members wishing to attend. There is no one more qualified than you to speak up for health care. Let us show you how to do it.

Sponsored by the AAFP and the Academic Family Medicine Advocacy Alliance (AFMAA), the FMCC educates participants on family medicine's legislative priority issues, trains attendees on how to lobby on Capitol Hill and allows participants to put these skills to use with federal legislators and their staff. Advocacy is a high priority of the AAFP and the AFMAA; every family physician and educator can learn how to be effective in Washington and at home.

Gain advocacy skills that will help you work with your hospital CEO, DIO or GME office. Learn from and interact with senior level AAFP, AFMAA and influential U.S. government officials.

For more information, please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org)



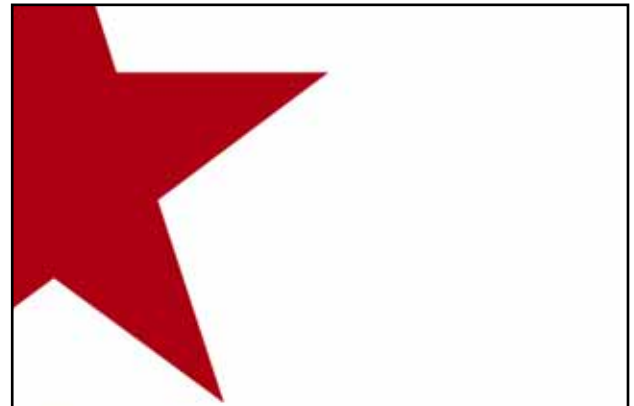


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# The LAFP Foundation Gears Up for Tar Wars® Poster Contest

2007 state poster contest winners! Congratulations to Zachary Hyde, Copper Mill Elementary, Zachary, Louisiana, who won first place in the state Tar Wars® Poster Contest! He represented our state at the national contest held in Washington, D.C., in July. The other winners were as follows: second place, Campbell Sullivan from Prien Lake Elementary of Lake Charles, Louisiana; and third place winner, Blaine Edwards of Prien Lake Elementary from Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Family doctors must help children make the right choice to stay tobacco-free. Without your help, tobacco companies will seduce more young people and make them tobacco addicts. Tar Wars® mission is to keep kids tobacco-free for life.

The 2008 campaign of Tar Wars® in Louisiana has commenced. The state's four Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), Baton Rouge General and other groups are organized for Tar Wars® classroom presentations and the poster contests.

Please help by presenting Tar Wars® at your local school. Learn all you need to know at [www.tarwars.org](http://www.tarwars.org). We are winning many battles, but need more presenters and more warriors. We need you.

Present Tar Wars® and tell children about the area poster contest and its prizes. Following is contact info for the contests, which are organized by areas and parishes:

## POSTER CONTEST CONTACT AND SPONSOR

Kelly Edminson  
318-443-2855  
[kelly@clahec.org](mailto:kelly@clahec.org)  
Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center  
5615 North Jackson Street, Alexandria, LA 71303  
Parishes include: Ascension, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, East Feliciana, Grant, Iberville, LaSalle, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, St. Helena, Vernon, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana and Winn  
**Deadline to submit posters: Monday, April 14, 2008**

Richard Burroughs, MD  
225-287-7434  
[richard.burroughs@brgeneral.org](mailto:richard.burroughs@brgeneral.org)  
3601 North Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
Parishes include: East Baton Rouge  
**Deadline to submit posters: Monday, April 14, 2008**

Robin Hanson  
318-746-4644  
[hanson@nlahec.org](mailto:hanson@nlahec.org)  
North Louisiana Area Health Education Center  
1513 Doctors Drive, Suite 2, Bossier City, LA 71111  
Parishes include: Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Claiborne, De Soto, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, Madison, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Ouachita, Red River, Richland, Sabine, Tensas, Union, Webster and West Carroll  
**Deadline to submit posters: Tuesday, April 1, 2008**

Elizabeth Tamor  
985-345-1119  
[ahecetw@i-55.com](mailto:ahecetw@i-55.com)  
Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center  
1302 JW Davis Drive, Hammond, LA 70403  
Parishes include: Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne and Washington  
**Deadline to submit posters: Monday, April 14, 2008**

Rene Stansbury  
337-989-0001  
[tobaccocontrol@swlahec.com](mailto:tobaccocontrol@swlahec.com)  
Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center  
103 Independence Boulevard, Lafayette, LA 70506

# the 2008

Parishes include: Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Iberia, Jeff Davis, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermillion

**Deadline to submit posters: Monday, April 14, 2008**

Area poster contests will precede the state-wide poster contest in Baton Rouge in May. The LAFP Foundation Tar Wars® Poster Contest has been scheduled for **Friday, May 9, 2008**. This year's deadline to submit the winning posters to the LAFP is **April 30, 2008**. The national Tar Wars® Poster Contest will be in Washington, D.C., on July 21. At every level, there are great prizes for contest winners.

Note that Dr. Burroughs, at Baton Rouge General, will again host the contest for East Baton Rouge Parish public schools. He has done this for about 20 years, making him Louisiana's Tar Warrior with the longest tour of duty. He's inspiring and continues to lead. Congratulations Dr. Burroughs.

If you are not already one, become a Tar Warrior. We need more than a few. Contact any of us identified in this article as desired.

Join up! It's the right (and easy) thing to do!



## One Hour = Healthier Kids

**Present the tobacco-free message at a local school.**

In just one hour, you can give kids in your community the gift of longer, healthier lives.

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**Make a positive impact in your community.**

**Learn more at [www.tarwars.org](http://www.tarwars.org)**

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Supported in part by a grant from the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation.



## 2008 Family Medicine Externship Program

Are you interested in working with a practicing family physician to conduct clinical or educational research? Apply to receive \$2,000 to conduct important research in primary care.

The LAFP's Family Medicine Externship Program is a four-week summer clerkship that exposes rising second-year medical students to the daily activities of family physicians. It gives the student a better understanding of the role that the family doctor plays in his or her community. Students who participate in externships are given the opportunity to visit

hospitals, nursing homes, continuing medical seminars and physicians' practices.

After completion of the four-week externship, the student will receive a stipend of \$2,000. This program is funded and sponsored by the LAFP Foundation. Housing and travel arrangements are the responsibility of the student. For more information on the guidelines, eligibility and application process, please contact Jade Verret at 225-923-3313 or e-mail at [jverret@lafp.org](mailto:jverret@lafp.org).

## Research Poster Contest

A call for posters is being issued for presentation at the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians 2008 Annual Assembly and Exhibition. We are particularly interested in practice-based research, but presentations may address any topic relevant to family medicine. Work in progress may be submitted. Submissions must be of original work not yet published or presented at regional or national meetings. The

research must be of interest and educational value to the specialty of family medicine and conducted by a Louisiana family medicine resident or a Louisiana medical student. **PLEASE NOTE: Only LAFP student or resident members are allowed to submit a poster presentation.** For more information or to download an application, please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org).

## 16th Annual Silent Auction



You can help support medical students and residents interested in family medicine by contributing items to the LAFP Foundation's 16th annual Silent Auction. Last year's auction raised more than \$3,000 to support family medicine interest groups in Louisiana. The 2008 auction luau will be held at the LAFP's 61st Annual Assembly on July 3, 2008, Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, in Destin, Florida. This event will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. on the Grand Lawn. We welcome all contributions. Contribute today, and plan to attend the auction to bid on a wonderful array of items. To make a donation, please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org) for a contribution form.

## Thank You to Our 2008 LAFP Foundation Contributors!

Albert Rees, MD  
James Taylor Jr., MD  
Bryan Picou, MD  
Michael Madden, MD  
John Bernard, MD  
Michael Haas, MD

*If you would like to make a donation to the LAFP Foundation, please visit our Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org).*

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Early-Bird Registration Rates Through June 3, 2008

## Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians 61st Annual Assembly & Exhibition

*CME: This activity has been submitted for approval for up to 24 hours of AAFP-prescribed credits. This includes evidence-based credits.*

### EARLY REGISTRATION

Early Bird discount available! For more information or to register, please go to [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org), and visit our CME Conferences page. A complete brochure including social events will be sent to you at a later date.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Please go to the [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org), click on "CME Conferences," then "Housing Request." Complete the form and fax to Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort at 850-267-8221 prior to June 3, 2008, as room block drops on that date.



### BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

Any five or more members may propose bylaws or amendments of bylaws. Such proposals must be submitted to the executive vice president or the secretary at least 60 days prior to any regular or special meeting of the General Assembly, and notice shall be given to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which the proposals are to be voted upon. An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting shall constitute adoption. Amendments shall take effect immediately upon adoption unless otherwise specified.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

Any member can submit a resolution for vote by the General Assembly (July 3-6, 2008, Destin, Florida). If you wish to submit a resolution, it must be submitted, in writing, to LAFP Executive Vice President Ragan Canella at least 30 days prior to the General Assembly.

Resolutions cannot be submitted from the floor except by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the General Assembly present and voting. Any resolution submitted from the floor and accepted for presentation must be submitted in written form to the Speaker of the General Assembly.



# Membership Report

## New Active Members

Steven McCrae Brazeel, MD, Monroe  
 Colvin J. David, MD, Shreveport  
 Laura Crump Fairbanks, MD, Pineville  
 Antoinette Theresa Harvey-Fields, MD, Metairie  
 James Robert Patterson, MD, New Orleans  
 Sarat Raman, MD, New Orleans  
 Jay Jared Vega, MD, Larose

## New Student Members

### LSUHSC-Shreveport

Fallon Strother McManus, Shreveport  
 Kristin Marie Wortman, Shreveport  
 Lainie J. Jorns, Shreveport

### Tulane University

## Membership Recap

*As of January 31, 2008*

Type	Count
Active	751
Inactive	9
Life	73
Student	361
Resident	162
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>1,358</b>
Prospective Residents	9
Pending Approval	2

Daniel Murariu, New Orleans  
 Rachel Victoria Pearline, New Orleans

## Transfers Out from Louisiana

Behzad Haghi, MD, California  
 Hyoungsup Park, MD, Connecticut

## Transfers Into Louisiana

Yamen Saade Korab, MD, Crowley  
 Sara A. Rinck, MD, Mandeville

Wayne Gravois, MD  
*LAFP Legislative &  
 Membership Issues  
 Committee Chair*

Jade M. Verret  
*LAFP Membership  
 Coordinator*

## In Remembrance



Rafael Sanchez, MD

The Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians staff and the Board of Directors would like to express their sympathy to the family of Rafael Sanchez, MD. We have lost a valued colleague and friend. Dr. Sanchez was a member of both the LAFP and the AAFP. He served as president of the LAFP in 1978 and received the Thomas Johnson Award in Medical Education from the American Academy of Family Physicians.

The Academy was honored those many years by his support and dedication to Louisiana's family physicians, and he will be remembered with great admiration. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Please consider donations to Edmundite Missions, 1428 Broad Street, Selma, AL 36701; or AAFP Foundation Archives, 11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway, Leawood, KS 66211-2672.

# Committee Appointments 2008

Are you eligible to serve on an LAFP committee? If you are a Resident or Active member, you are! Please review the committee summaries below and decide where you'd like to be involved.

**Education Committee:** Conduct, develop, assist and evaluate programs, lectures, courses or other means of continuing medical education for the benefit of family physicians in Louisiana. Evaluate topics for medical education courses available to family physicians in Louisiana to determine if they are of interest to our members.

**Legislative/Membership Issues Committee:** To promote membership interest in the Academy and to initiate, coordinate and subsidize membership services made available through the Academy. Evaluate and advise the Board of Directors on issues of concern to minority physicians, women in medicine, new physicians and Resident and Student members. Formulate and advise the Board of Directors on plans and programs that expand, maintain and improve health care services and standards. Investigate and recommend such actions to the Board to ensure that the LAFP shall have an active voice on all issues concerning legislation and governmental affairs. Recommend to the Board such campaigns of public enlightenment or education as it may deem appropriate. Evaluate such issues of ethics as may come before the Academy and make recommendations to the Board on such ethics issues as the Board shall deem appropriate. Evaluate and advise the Board on ethical issues and public health issues of immediate concern to family physicians in Louisiana.

**Operations Committee:** Supervise the financial transactions of the Academy by supervising the keeping of the Academy's accounts and operational costs and approving all expenditures incurred in maintaining the LAFP headquarters office building, including all property. Periodically make a study of the Bylaws and make recommendations for changes, deletions or modifications in order to maintain the integrity and consistency of the Bylaws. Evaluate Academy projects and recommend to the Board of Directors any initiative that would aid in the long-range planning of the Academy.

To join a committee, please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org).



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**Marksville** - This facility has undergone an ER construction project with more than 5,600 feet of new space for emergency services. It has two triage rooms for a total of 6 beds in the ED and a specialized cardiac trauma/isolation room. Annual ED volume of 14,000. Call Jheri Bellard x 1241

**Morgan City** - Experience the wonderful people as well as this community's charm. This facility has a 14-bed ED, cares for 18,000 patients annually, and provides a broad range of healthcare services important to the residents of the area. Call Carl Kelly x 1217

**Hospital Medicine Opps - Winnfield and Sulphur** - Eliminate overhead, manage on-call time, and enjoy a lifestyle that only a Schumacher Hospitalist role can offer. We are actively recruiting qualified FP's for our Hospitalist programs throughout Louisiana and East Texas. Our Hospitalists enjoy competitive compensation plus reasonable workloads and schedules. Call Carl Simmons x 1393

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ACLS Workshop

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Kenneth Cooper, MD, MPH, Dallas, TX  
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# Residency Reports

## Baton Rouge General Family Medicine Residency Program

Stacy Jones, MD, Chief Resident

A new year brings new beginnings as we welcome a new addition to our team, Dr. Shilpa Reddy. She joined our intern class during the month of January. We are glad to have her on board. She is a wonderful asset to our residency program, and she will certainly do well. We also brought in the New Year by hosting a second look for our prospective recruits. It is an opportunity for our interviewees to meet with the residents in a relaxed environment, tour the campus again and speak with some of our hospital and clinic administrators. We appreciated those students who were able to take the time out to visit with us again. We enjoyed having you, and good luck.

The residents, faculty and staff participated in Louisiana's annual Tar Wars® Poster Contest. If you are not familiar with this, it is an anti-smoking campaign targeting fifth-graders. The mission of Tar Wars® is to educate students about being tobacco-free, provide them with the tools to make positive decisions regarding their health and promote personal responsibility for their well-being. The fifth-graders are allowed to enter their own individual anti-smoking posters into the contest. Three winners are selected out of the state. This was a very exhilarating day, as we were able to get away from the clinic and hospital for a short while and hang out with these kids. I think we learned more from the children than they learned from us.

We are currently embarking on starting another piece of our electronic medical records. We completed training and went with e-scripts recently. This is a very exciting time for our residency. Everyone has been working hard to update all the patients' medication lists, and now we finally get to see the fruits of our hard labor. I know this is just the beginning, and we still have a little ways to go until everything is finalized, but I am proud to see how far we have come. I would like to thank the faculty, the staff and residents for their patience and hard work.

Well, my time is winding down here at the BRG Family Medicine Residency Program, as there are only four and a half months left for the third-years before we are set free to manage our own careers. It has been a pleasure updating you on the happenings at our residency. I will miss my family at BRGFMRP, as they have helped to mold me into the physician I am today. I wish everyone good luck in their future endeavors and all residency programs the best in the upcoming match. Farewell, and God bless.

## East Jefferson General Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program

Lisa A. Casey, MD, Chief Resident

Things are moving along smoothly at East Jefferson.

Our EMR is in the works, and we are still looking forward to its implementation.

Our strengthened lecture schedule is turning out to be extremely beneficial to our residents. Many thanks to our added speakers and to those who continue to dedicate their valuable time to our education. Guidelines lectures given by the residents have also proven to be a valuable learning tool.

Dr. Lisa Casey (PGY-3) recently attended the chief residents' summit on diabetes, a national conference that was held in New Orleans. Dr. Luis Arencibia (PGY-3) attended the Better Bones Conference in Austin. Both of them will be giving lectures to pass on the cutting-edge information they learned to their colleagues. Dr. Casey and Dr. Arencibia also teamed up to present city-wide Grand Rounds.

Dr. Ka-Yan Tong (PGY-2) and Dr. Jason Fuqua (PGY-2) are hard at work to make our new and improved and, most importantly, updated Web site.

We raised funds for the American Heart Association Heart Walk by raffling off a quilt sewn by Dr. Danielle Angeron's (PGY-3) mother. Many thanks for such a valuable prize!

Our costume party for Halloween was a great success. We all participated in a photo scavenger hunt and a "Scary Movie Game" as part of the festivities.

Everyone enjoyed Mexican fare at a local restaurant as we unwound after our in-service exam. As usual, the gift exchange at the annual Christmas party was a blast, with the most sought-after gift being a racy photo of Dr. Jason Fuqua (PGY-2) — our self-appointed "McSteamy." We also recently enjoyed a fair-weathered Mardi Gras season.

The last of the class of 2007 has officially passed the Board exam, which makes a 100 percent pass rate for their class. Congratulations to them!

After a successful interview season, we look forward to a great incoming class.

Our current third-years are busy solidifying their post-graduation positions. Dr. Arencibia and Dr. Clayton Mazoue will be remaining in the area as part of a successful urgent-care clinic. Dr. Kevin Guillory will be returning to his neck of the woods as part of a private group in Opelousas. Dr. Danielle Angeron will be returning to Houma to join a group there. Dr. Kelly Fuqua will likely be splitting her time between urgent care, occupational medicine and her two daughters. As for me, I'll be remaining in the New Orleans area, location to be decided. However, this will likely be the last article I write. So, I bid you farewell and wish the best of luck to the new chiefs next year.

## LSUHSC-New Orleans at Kenner

Tuan Nguyen, MD, Chief Resident

The last remnant of Hurricane Katrina's effects to the residents in our program finally faded away when Dr. Brandon Hider and Dr. Nabil Keith were promoted to join the class of 2008. Losing a few residents after the hurricane had compounded many extra tasks for the residents who stayed behind to help with the recovery effort. We were fortunate to have Dr. Hider and Dr. Keith join our program in December 2005 and February 2006 respectively. Their promotions to the third year have strengthened the 2008 class and improved scheduling flexibility.

The clinic staff has made a big impact on our patient care improvement by making small adjustments, such as the fact that each resident has a specific nurse assigned to work with during clinic and that nurses discharge patients. These changes have made our clinic experience more personal and efficient and given us the ability to reemphasize discharge instructions before patients leave the clinic. All of the residents are very pleased with this new idea. Credit goes to Peggy McSpaddin, RN (clinic head nurse), and her staff for their dedication to improved residency training. We anticipate increasing patient satisfaction and compliance and decreasing no-show rates for the clinic.

Since the new Labor and Delivery Department reopened at Ochsner Medical Center-Kenner in October 2007, our obstetric experience has become significantly enhanced. Dr. Kevin Work and Dr. Adrian Coleman, our OB/ GYN supporting staff, provide backup in managing high-risk obstetric cases.

Osei Prempeh, MD, our program co-chief, presented a case report on erythropoietin stimulating agent in sickle cell disease and end-stage renal disease to the Southern Society of Clinical Investigators at their annual conference on February 21. His hard work

with Dr. Efrain Reisin (chairman of LSU Nephrology) and Dr. Erwin Aguilar (head of our program research department) has paid off. We are proud of and would like to congratulate Dr. Prempeh.

As Mardi Gras madness ended, the Vietnamese New Year celebration started to roll in. A group of residents went to New Orleans East to submerge ourselves into the Vietnamese community. The "TET" festival was a blast, and we enjoyed their big concert while sampling many traditional and exotic Vietnamese cuisines.

Our interview season has ended, and it seems to have been successful. Thanks to the entire faculty, the residents and the supporting staff members who were involved in making this important process exciting and fun. Good luck to everyone with the match.

## LSUHSC-Shreveport at Alexandria

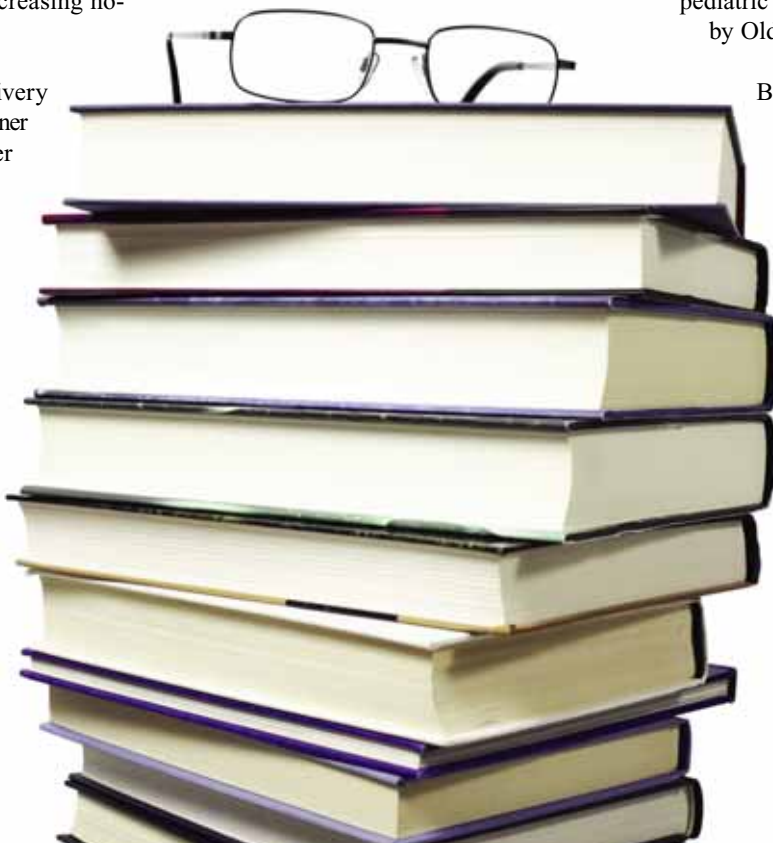
Katheryn Burnaman, Residency Coordinator

In homage to Thanksgiving, the educational component of our Residency Program Luncheon & Awards Ceremony on November 20 focused on the health benefits of being thankful. The behavioral health presentation by Dr. Bradley Touchet, associate program director, reminded us how much we all have to be grateful for. Among our blessings are 11 clinic employees and two faculty members who received five-year service pins at the event.

We are fortunate to have numerous opportunities to fellowship and celebrate throughout the year. The holiday season brought the Chairman's Holiday Conference and Reception at the Alexandria Museum of Art on December 4, hosted by Dr. Arthur Fort. Special thanks to Dr. Jill Rush and Debbie Henry for making the event a huge success. Our annual holiday luncheon and "dirty Santa" gift exchange on December 18 netted more LSU merchandise than the Tigers Gift Shop. We were able to share our blessings by conducting a toy drive for hospitalized pediatric patients, complete with delivery by Old Saint Nick himself.

But our loyal Tigers fans were most appreciative of all on January 7 for LSU's 38-24 victory, making the Tigers the first two-time BCS champions. Go Tigers! Energized fans from our program continued to celebrate by participating in a wide array of local Mardi Gras festivities, culminating with the 15th annual AMGA parade on February 3. The future "Krewe of LSU" hopes to join the parade "floatilla" in 2009.

Plans are underway for an ALSO provider course April 25-26. The Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics course was developed through



the AAFP to prepare health care providers for obstetrical emergencies. Faculty members Dr. Brian Elkins and Dr. Kiran Balapala will serve as teaching faculty, and Dr. Michael Madden will act as the course director.

We are also grateful that our recruiting efforts resulted in both quantity and quality of applicants and a fantastic interview season. We anxiously await Match Day results in mid-March and look forward to welcoming our 2008-2009 intern class. We also see our third-year residents focusing on future practice sites and report only mild cases of senioritis.

As we approach the annual match dance, may all of you leave with the partners you want!

## University Medical Center – Lafayette

David Reehmann, LCSW

As this is being written and spring is rapidly approaching, we are nearing the end of “Interviewing Season” with regard to applicants to the residency program. We in Lafayette have enjoyed meeting and interacting with the applicants who have come our way and have been impressed with the overall quality of the people we have seen. Some of those USMLE scores are almost off the chart! People will now begin directing their attention to formulating our rank order list of applicants we would like to have in the program next academic year, '08-'09. We wish success to all the family medicine programs in the state of Louisiana in achieving a good outcome in “the match.”

Although it seems a while back now, we have fond memories of the relatively recent and very pleasant Christmas party at Doctors Kathleen and Jody Rossons' home. I, for one, was happy that Jody and Kathleen's son, Conner, revealed the “secret ingredient” for the kettle of jambalaya that he helped prepare. It was about the best I've ever had. This from someone who has been in and around south Louisiana most of his life...

University Medical Center's Annual Research Day, which was held in November, was a huge success. Teams of residents from both the Family and Internal Medicine Residency programs, along with respective faculty advisors, completed projects that resulted in posters that were displayed in UMC's Voorhies Auditorium on November 9, 2007. The following posters were represented: “Mallory Weis Tear: A Case Report,” by N. Ares-Valdez, N. Pedroso, P. Conolly and R. Vu; “Pulmonary Aspergillosis,” by C. Pillette, J.

Landry, K. Janeczek, J. Heinen, A. Shitta-Bey and K. Humble; “Spinal Cord Tumor,” by A. Viator, S. Gunda, A. Sadeghi, K. Melancon, L. Janeczek, P. Rafael and A. Rees; “Staghorn Calculi in a Patient with Recurrent Urinary Tract Infections,” by A. Duplantis, A. Tinubu, M. Menard and K. Rosson; “A Case of Hammon-Rich Syndrome in a White Female,” by J. Templet, W. Cestia, S. Arceneaux, B. Girouard and K. Rosson; and “Investigation of a Septic Joint in a Pediatric Male,” by M. Bodin, A. Varnado, E. Pruna and A. Broussard. Another poster, “A Case of Hypokalemia,” was presented by Family Medicine Geriatric Fellow Wendy Latunik. Research-loving Nixella Ares-Valdez participated in a second project with her Internal Medicine team members M. Martinez, M. Espinel, V. Simon and R. Saenz to help produce a poster entitled, “Acute Parvovirus with Effusion Associated with Human Parvovirus 19 Infection: A Case Report.”

The results of the judging were as follows: Wendy Latunik's poster was the overall winner. Among the Family Medicine entries, Jenny Templet and team won first place, and Cassandra Pillette and team won second place. We congratulate all these groups of residents and faculty for their fruitful efforts and wish them continued success with future research and scholarly activities. One such related activity pertains to Geriatric Fellow Wendy Latunik. Her case report was accepted for presentation at the May '08 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Wendy was, by the way, also selected for the Futures Program at the March '08 American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) meeting in Salt Lake City. Through this program, she will receive an expense paid trip to this national conference (including the pre-conference day pertaining to medical directorship of nursing homes) and a one-year membership to AMDA.

To finally conclude what seems to be a poster extravaganza, we should mention that yet another poster was displayed at the LSUH-SC 11th Annual Conference on Healthcare Effectiveness January 15 in Baton Rouge. That presentation, “Impact of a Smoking Ban on a Substance Abuse Treatment Unit,” reported results of a study at University Medical Center that looked at effects of banning smoking among patients on UMC's First Step Detoxification Unit. Al Rees, MD, and David Reehmann, LCSW (both of the Lafayette Residency), along with Glen Jones, PhD, clinical psychologist at Earl K. Long Hospital, collaborated on the project. A similar project will be displayed at the Society of Behavioral Medicine's 29th Annual Meeting and Scientific Session in San Diego this March.

Finally, we have only one personnel addition to report this issue, but that one is significant. Jade Heinen, second-year resident, and his wife, Emily, welcomed Blair Elise to their family on December 11, 2008. Blair joins brothers Avery and Samuel as the latest member of the Heinen group, and we congratulate them all!



## Family Medicine

The Department of Family Medicine at Ochsner Health System is seeking outstanding BC/BE Family Medicine physicians for outpatient opportunities in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and the North Shore. Ochsner physicians enjoy great call schedules, are generously compensated, and receive earned recognition. Our benefits package includes malpractice coverage, paid vacation & CME benefits, 401(k), and tax-free spending accounts. We offer our physicians an opportunity for a satisfying professional practice as well as personal lifestyle.

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Southeast Louisiana offers superb quality of life, affordable housing, mild temperatures, and an abundance of recreational activities. We also enjoy the advantage of practicing in a favorable malpractice environment in Louisiana EOE.

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