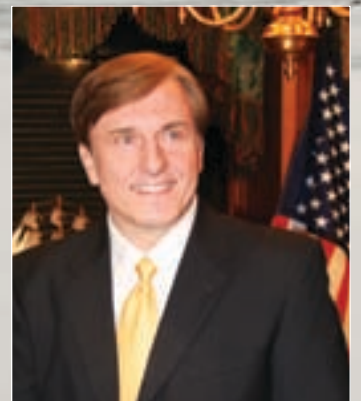


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**FAMILY DOCTOR**

An Official Publication of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians

Winter 2009



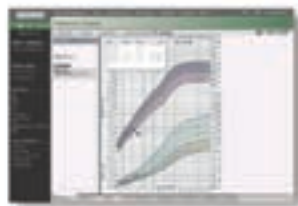
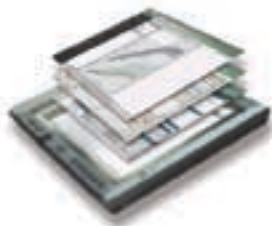
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Hits the Ground Running**

**PG 8**

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James S. Campbell, MD

## Revisiting Our History

As president of the LAFP, I had the recent good fortune to address the LSU-Shreveport Department of Family Medicine at its annual Cypress Bend Retreat, upon invitation from its department chair, Arthur Fort, MD. It was a heartwarming family event attended not only by departmental faculty and residents, but also by medical students and pre-med college students.

During its opening night dinner session, I took the opportunity to speak with the group about the events that chronicle the history of family medicine in America. As I prepared for my meeting, I became readily aware of how important it is to understand our history in order to plan the future direction of our specialty.

Looking back, one can easily argue that family medicine was, at one time, the only specialty in the United States, and prior to 1900, virtually all physicians were general practitioners, many of whom functioned as “horse-and-buggy” doctors. In those days,

most physicians cared for entire families, delivered babies, set fractures, did surgery and managed trauma.

*If family medicine were to disappear now, more than 50 percent of counties and parishes in the United States would meet the federal definition of a health manpower shortage area.*

Due to concerns about quality of care and lack of regulation in the early 1900s, the American Medical Association established objectives to eliminate quackery, promote scientific medical education and establish standards for public health. The outgrowth was a dramatic increase in physician specialization, and in 1917, the first specialty board was established for ophthalmology. By the 1960s, there were 19 different specialty boards, and the percentage of total physicians in general practice had dropped from 87 percent in 1900 to less than 20 percent. The American public began to experience the

pitfalls of case fragmentation and inaccessibility to primary care, leading the AMA and other health care organizations to call for a plan to replenish America’s supply of family doctors.



In 1969, the American Board of Family Practice became the 20th specialty board in the United States, and in 1971, the American Academy of General Practice became the American Academy of Family Physicians. As a specialty, we have seen tremendous growth since then. Family doctors now represent the largest delegation to the American Medical Association and see more patients than any other primary care specialty. If family medicine were to disappear now, more than 50 percent of counties and parishes in the United States would meet the federal definition of a health manpower shortage area. The United States is now more dependent on family medicine than any other specialty, but we still fight the problems that erode the doctor/patient relationship, including lack of insurance coverage, inadequate reimbursement and the ongoing challenge to regain the respect of the medical community.

Several years ago, the American Board of Family Practice changed its name to the American Board of Family Medicine in an effort to better reflect what we do and bolster the image of the specialty. I personally believe that a name change is not enough. In June 2007, at the Annual Nicholas Pisacano Memorial Lecture, Dr. John Saultz, who is professor and chairman of family medicine at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, stated

that “our value and our self-esteem depend on the credibility given us by hospitals and other specialists. Their approval matters greatly to us.” He insists that we break from that tradition and do everything within our power to establish our own credibility by building residency programs “on competence, not rotation modules.” During the last five to 10 years, there has been a tremendous shift toward competency assessment in medical education, but we need to take that concept a step further.

Family medicine is at a point in its history when each and every one of us should explore our own individual credibility and make certain that we have determined what is right for our patients. For those of us removed from training, that may require extra work, but if each of us takes the extra steps to ensure our own individual credibility, then no one can question the credibility of our specialty, and we can further build on the history of the last 40 years.



James S. Campbell, MD  
*LAFP President*

## Focusing on Our Efforts

The election process is over, and many issues concern us, as always. I urge everyone to be vigilant and do all we can to maximize care for all our patients and to achieve optimal reimbursement. We must collaborate with all of our organizations and focus our efforts, keeping our system as free and open as possible.

Each of the 10 physician lawmakers nationwide vying for reelection to Congress prevailed at the polls. They will be joined in January 2009 by at least three additional physicians who won seats in the House of Representatives. Louisiana’s Rep. Charles Boustany, MD, a cardiovascular surgeon, was among those re-elected, along with newly elected Rep. Bill Cassidy,



## FROM THE SECRETARY



Melvin Bourgeois, MD

MD. LAFP’s president-elect, John Fleming, MD, won his election to Congress on December 6, 2008. Congratulations, Dr. Fleming!

May you and your families have a blessed Christmas holiday season.



Melvin Bourgeois, MD  
*LAFP Secretary*



# LAFP Family Physician of the Year

**Who Can Submit Nominations?**

Anyone can nominate a physician for the honor of Family Physician of the Year. Please confirm the physician’s willingness to be honored and to serve.

**Criteria**

The nominee must:

- Be an “Active” member, in good standing, of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians;
- Be active in his/her field and conform to the pledges made to the Academy;
- Be an active participant in his/her parish medical society and support all progress in the medical profession;
- Have made some outstanding contribution in his/her community in the social, religious or medical fields;
- Have high morals;
- Have worthy ideals and practice them;
- Be a leader in civic development;
- Favor good schools in the community and have an interest in his/her community affairs.

**Documentation and Support**

Complete a nomination form. (Note: You must complete the “Reason for Nomination” section of this form explaining why you feel your nominee is special to our state and to the specialty of family medicine.)

**Please include:**

- One letter from a colleague and two letters from patients should be attached to the nomination form. (Additional letters of endorsement and support materials are recommended.)
- Current CV of the nominee and an outline of the physician’s activities and involvement in the community and the medical field. (Other outstanding contributions to civic or professional organizations should be included.)

**Award Presentation**

The LAFP Family Physician of the Year Award will be presented to the winner at the Installation & Awards Luncheon, during our Annual Assembly.

**Deadline**

Nominations and supporting documents are due in the Academy office no later than March 15, 2009.

**Special Note**

The Louisiana Academy Family Physician of the Year will automatically become the LAFP’s nominee for the AAFP Family Physician of the Year award in the following year.

**Mail Your Entry To:**

Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians, 919 Tara Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**Need Additional Information?**

Contact Jade Verret at 225-923-3313 or 800-375-5237, by fax 225-923-2909 or e-mail [jverret@lafp.org](mailto:jverret@lafp.org).

To submit nominations online, please visit [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org).

## LAFP Family Physician of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee Information: (Please print or type.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical School (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Residency Program (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Practice (if known):  
 Solo     FP Group     Multi-specialty Group     HMO     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Years in Practice (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for nomination: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return by March 15, 2009, with all required documentation to: LAFP, 919 Tara Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806 • Fax 225-923-2909



# Nominees for LAFP Board

*Please Help the LAFP Identify Academy Leaders for 2009*

The Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians Nominating Committee is seeking quality leaders who are willing to serve on the LAFP Board of Directors. Board members are expected to attend meetings and take part in the decision-making process. They are also required to exercise a reasonable degree of knowledge, skill and care in bringing their best judgment to the performance of their responsibilities. The Board meets four times a year, with meetings scheduled during the spring (March/April), summer (Annual Assembly), fall (September/October) and winter (January/February).

It is the duty of the Board members to keep informed on the problems of the LAFP, study the materials that are distributed to

them and exercise sound judgment in arriving at decisions. The Board of Directors exercises the ultimate executive responsibility and authority of the LAFP. The duty of the Board is to act in the interest of the Academy.

The Nominating Committee will select a slate of officers and directors for 2009-2010. We encourage your input. If you have recommendations for consideration of the Nominating Committee, please submit them by March 15, 2009. To do so, please visit our Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org). For a list of the specific positions and their responsibilities, please contact Jade Verret at 225-923-3313 or by e-mail at [jverret@lafp.org](mailto:jverret@lafp.org).

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For more information, contact Sondra at [sgoodman@aaafp.org](mailto:sgoodman@aaafp.org) or (800) 274-2237 ext. 4457.

Support for this program is made possible by the AAFP Foundation, through a grant received from Wyeth Vaccines.





LAFP President-elect John Fleming, MD



## Congressman-Elect John Fleming, MD, HITS THE GROUND RUNNING



On Friday, November 21, 2008, LAFP's Executive Director Ragan Canella attended a brunch reception in honor of Dr. John Fleming. The special guest was Vice President Dick Cheney. The reception was held at the home of Lori and Dr. Larry Allen in Shreveport, Louisiana. From left to right: Marguerite (Cissy) Picou, MD; Vice President Dick Cheney; LAFP Executive Director Ragan Canella; and Bryan Picou, MD.



December 9, 2008 — After defeating Paul Carmouche in the race to replace Jim McCrery in the 4th Congressional District of Louisiana, Congressman-elect John Fleming has hit the ground running to be ready for when he takes the oath of office on January 6, 2009.

Fleming's top priority will be the economy and working toward long-term solutions that will bring America back from the recession it finds itself in. "We need to get businesses on solid footing so that they can continue to grow and create good paying jobs," Fleming said. "We also need to create an environment where entrepreneurs can see their ideas come to fruition. Small businesses cre-

ate seven out of every 10 new jobs, and I am going to be an advocate for these companies to have what is necessary to be viable and maximize their full potential."

Fleming is also looking forward to working with the other two doctors in the Louisiana delegation to be leaders on meaningful health care reform that will allow more citizens to have access to quality, affordable health care. "I look forward to joining Congressman Boustany and Congressman-elect Cassidy and working to solve the difficult health care financing problems we have in this country," Fleming said. "We have all spoken and agree that with three physicians in one delegation, we are going to roll up our sleeves and go to work for the health of our people and our economy."

Fleming has been assigned an office in Washington, D.C., and has chosen office space within the district. The 4th Congressional District offices' addresses are as follows:

- 6425 Youree Dr., Suite 350, Shreveport, LA 71446
- Southgate Plaza Shopping Center, 1606 S. Fifth St., Leesville, LA 71446

Fleming's Washington, D.C., office will be located in the Longworth Office Building, Suite 1023. Fleming was the 2007 Louisiana Family Physician of the Year. He won election to Congress on December 6, 2008, defeating Democrat Paul Carmouche 44,497 to 44,141.

# Dr. John Fleming Thanks His Supporters!

On Friday, October 31, Dr. Russell Roberts presented Dr. John Fleming with a check from FamMedPAC, the AAFP's Political Action Committee. "We were honored to receive another check from FamMedPAC. I have received lots of support from fellow physicians, and I want to sincerely thank each one who has helped my campaign," Fleming said. The following LAFP members contributed to Dr. Fleming's campaign:



Russell Roberts, MD, presents John Fleming, MD, with a check from FamMedPAC.

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# Legislative Report

*as of October 30, 2008*

by Joe Mapes, LAFP Lobbyist

Louisiana's tax revenue is at a standstill, while expenses continue to climb from hurricanes Gustav and Ike. The state set its current budget estimating oil at \$85 a barrel. It seemed to be a conservative estimate at the time. At this writing, oil has fallen below \$50 per barrel. Louisiana rode the wave for a while at around \$140 per barrel, but any surplus gained there has fallen. Every \$1 drop in the average price of oil over one year decreases state revenue by \$13 million. This isn't the first time the state has banked on higher oil prices to carry the day only to be disappointed. Now, Gov. Bobby Jindal is telling his cabinet to prepare for a **30-percent** cut in discretionary spending next year and suggested that reductions could begin much sooner.

In an e-mail sent to agency directors this month, Commissioner of Administration Angele Davis said the state faces a projected shortfall of \$1.3 billion in the 2009-10 fiscal year, which would have to be taken out of the \$4.4 billion general fund revenue that is not protected from cuts by state statute or by the state constitution — e.g., health care and higher education.

That means **health care** and higher education programs would be particularly vulnerable. According to a detailed budget analysis by the Louisiana State University System, those two areas **can expect to absorb 63 percent of any cuts**. Much of the state budget includes constitutionally mandated expenses. Thus, state law requires that those areas be funded. Two areas that are not mandated are higher education and health care. They are typically the areas that face cuts whenever there's a budget crunch.

One of the main budgetary concerns regards cuts for the Department of Health and Hospitals. Since workforce development is Jindal's primary issue, education may not suffer the same level of cuts as health care.



If DHH is able to withstand some cuts without the administration going too far, DHH will most likely attempt some Medicaid reform. For example, DHH is pursuing a statewide waiver under Section 1915B with plans to include all enrollees living in DHH regions 1 (New Orleans), 2 (Baton Rouge), 5 (Lake Charles) and 7 (Shreveport) initially. Section 1915B waivers allow states to implement managed-care delivery systems that limit patient choice of provider. DHH and Jindal are proposing such a system that will be reviewed by the legislature in the spring. The speaker of the House has called a meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the House of Representatives to review the plan on December 1.

Jindal has been holding a series of meetings at which department heads are asked

to identify where money can be saved and whether any of the savings could be implemented in the current fiscal year.

A rumor has lawmakers being asked to make midyear spending cuts in the current fiscal year, which ends June 30. This would be a worst-case scenario and would be based on what the fourth-quarter numbers look like.

In my third-quarter missive, I stated that we were expecting a special session on health care in early 2009. I also stated that by the fourth quarter, we would know more and articulate such. With a potential 63 percent cut threatening health care and education, I think the only reason to hold a special session would be to throw tomatoes at someone. One reason I don't now predict a

special session on health care is that the session would be one regarding health care reform. If Jindal cuts as much as we're hearing from the health care budget, there's your reform for now. A second reason to hold no special session is that time is running out on getting the Bush administration to agree to fund its share of a new LSU hospital in New Orleans and to approve a revamp of the state health care system. This was to be the major issue in any special legislative session on health care reform.

State health secretary Alan Levine told *The Times-Picayune* editors that there may not be enough time left in the current federal administration to get FEMA to agree to pay the \$493 million LSU claims is due to replace Charity Hospital in New Orleans. FEMA reimbursement is essential to LSU's plan to build a \$1.4 billion teaching facility in conjunction with a new Veteran's Administration hospital.

Levine said it may also be too late for the state to gain approval from legislative committees for changes to the state Medicaid system before seeking a waiver from federal officials. Federal officials indicated that the two issues are linked. U.S. health care secretary Michael Leavitt has pushed the state since the Blanco administration to come up with a new health care model that would extend coverage to more of the uninsured.


Prospects could be better next year with congressional Democrats discussing sending more money to the states for public works projects in order to stimulate the faltering economy. In any case, the governor must align his plan with what the Obama administration and Congress does, and he has to find a way to pay for it at a time when the revenue base is at its most volatile in Louisiana.

Mapes & Mapes, Inc. and the LAFP staff continue to work closely with AAFP, as we did recently when we traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, November 14-15 to attend the AAFP legislative seminar. We interacted with other attending chapters who have had, or are still having, similar

issues regarding primary care practice. We gained more insight into developing and evolving LAFP as an expert resource for its members as well as the Legislature and other related professional associations.

By all accounts, LAFP's October Board meeting went very well. Ragan Canella and her staff are to be commended. It is incumbent upon me to let the membership know how well Ms. Canella is directing LAFP's office and general affairs. As governmental relations consultants, planning is very important to our effectiveness, and Ms. Canella has been helping us lay plans for 2009 since this past legislative session ended on June 23. Not all of our other clients begin planning so far ahead. This will be crucial when we are up to our butts in alligators during the legislative session trying to figure out how to drain the swamp.

Begin to look at your calendars for 2009. LAFP needs to staff the nurses' station at the Capitol with volunteers. This presence of family physicians at the Capitol is very impressive to the legislators. As stated in the third-quarter magazine, if you know who your state legislators are, convey this information to the LAFP HQ. We must strengthen our grassroots network pairing family physicians with legislators and vice versa. Sign up to be a key contact, as we need witnesses at the Capitol to give testimony in committee and help lobby legislators. I know y'all are busy, and I know sometimes the legislative process can be intimidating, frustrating and maddening. As long as I've been in governmental relations, volunteerism still impresses me beyond words. We are all busy, but we must take the time for what is important. Come man the nurses' station, come be a witness, and get to know your local legislators. It's a valuable use of your time and reputation. With your help, LAFP can continue to deliver quality patient care while simultaneously improving working conditions for the practicing family physician and his or her staff.



**DO YOUR LEGISLATORS  
KNOW WHAT KEEPS  
YOU UP AT NIGHT?**




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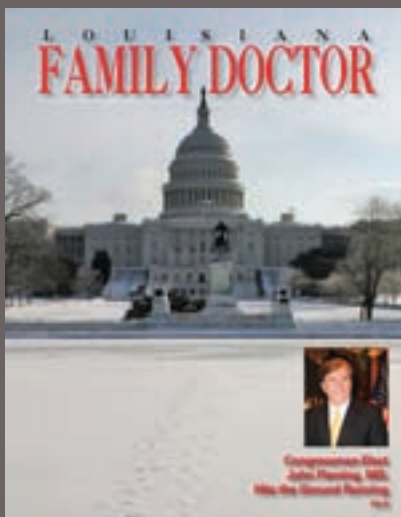
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The LAFP's Political Action Committee has helped put family medicine on the "political" map. Contributions from our members have kept family medicine issues firmly in the driver's seat. **LaFamPac** is part of a deliberate strategy to drive the LAFP engine and take family medicine where it needs to go. There's a lot of traffic out there, but you can make sure we have the fuel to stay on the road.

If you have not contributed to **LaFamPac**, I encourage you to do so. Your contribution will help to support legislators who are informed and committed to family medicine's business and practice management issues. And the results? Family medicine interests are much more likely to receive greater attention among the many competing interests and constant stream of proposals put forward for consideration.

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For information on making a contribution, visit [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org) or contact the LAFP office at 225-923-3313.

## THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS!

The LAFP would like to express its deepest thanks to the following members, who have donated to **LaFamPac** in 2008. The money you have contributed has worked hard for family medicine and will continue to do so!

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# LAFP Foundation Donors Make a Difference in 2008

The LAFP Foundation relies heavily on membership support for the continuance of Foundation-supported programs within the Academy. Because of our generous donors, the LAFP Foundation was able to provide continued support to the following programs and awards in 2008:

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Recipients:

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- E.J. Mayeaux, MD – Preceptor

## Annual Assembly Student Scholarships

Recipients:

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- Daniel R. Herleth – Tulane University

## Michael O. Fleming, MD, Award

Recipient: Chrisadel Rema Gaburel – LSUHSC-Shreveport

## Gerald R. Geringer, MD, Award

Recipient: Dana Mays – LSUHSC-New Orleans

## Tulane Family Medicine Excellence Award

Recipient: Catherine Elizabeth Jones – Tulane University

## F.P. Bordelon, MD Lectureship Fund Award

Recipient: Michael O. Fleming, MD

## Tar Wars® Program and Poster Contest Scholarship and Awards

Recipients:

- First Place – Emilee Leger – Received Honorable Mention at National Contest
- Second Place – Ali Chataignier
- Third Place – Kilyn Trahan

## Jean Aitken Memorial Fund

## Payment of Student Membership Dues

The LAFP student membership reached its highest in 2008 with more than 400 student members!

## National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students Scholarships

Resident Delegate – Cullen Omond, MD, East Jefferson General Hospital Family Medicine Residency

Student Delegate – Lacey Millet, LSUHSC-New Orleans – Received the Tomorrow's Leader Award

Tulane University Representatives

- Emily Donaldson Fletcher – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award
- Claire Fund – Received the Student Community Outreach Award
- Nicole Gilg – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award
- Katie Hall – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award

- Daniel R. Herleth
- Chris Kroner
- Shuchin Shukla
- Randi Sokol – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award
- Carolyn Tajirian – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award
- Mithu Thajirian – Received the First Time Student Attendee Award
- Vanessa Vanderpool
- Lua Walter
- Mehul Sheth – Received the Minority Scholarship for Family Medicine Residents
- Ka-Yan Tong – Received the Minority Scholarship for Family Medicine Residents

## AAFP Foundation 2008 Pfizer Teacher Development Award

Recipient: Charles Humphries, MD

The LAFP would like to thank all of our members who have made this possible. Remember, a new year is approaching fast, and your continued support is very important. To make your 2009 Foundation contribution, please visit the LAFP Web site at [www.lafp.org](http://www.lafp.org), or you may contact Jade Verret at 225-923-3313. Thanks again!



# Tar Wars® Update!



The LAFP Foundation Tar Wars® State Poster Contest has been scheduled for **Friday, May 15, 2009**. The deadline to submit your winning posters to the LAFP for display and judging is **Friday, May 1, 2009**. The location of the Louisiana State Poster Contest judging will be announced at a later date. The state poster contest winner and his or her family will be eligible to attend the annual Tar Wars® National Conference, sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians. This event is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students to receive recognition for their tobacco-free efforts. For information on the poster contest guidelines, please visit the Tar Wars® Web site at [www.tarwars.org](http://www.tarwars.org), or contact Jade Verret at [jverret@lafp.org](mailto:jverret@lafp.org).



## Thank You to Our 2008 LAFP Foundation Contributors!

Albert Rees, MD  
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John Bernard, MD  
John Walker, MD  
Michael Fleming, MD  
Michael Haas, MD  
Michael Madden, MD  
Michael Williams, MD



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



## Membership Recap

*As of November 30, 2008*

Type	Count
Active	764
Inactive	10
Life	71
Student	410
Resident	187
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>1,445</b>
Prospective Residents	6
Pending Approval	2

## New Resident Members

Michael Drew Proctor, MD, West Monroe  
Madhumita Banga, MD, Alexandria  
Jevin Marc Bordelon, MD, Lake Charles  
Jessica Nicole Chaudary, MD, Lake Charles  
Kamran M. Chaudary, MD, Lake Charles  
Tejal Jetha, MD, Lake Charles  
John Albert Morrison III, MD, Mandeville  
Manhhai H. Nguyen, MD, Lake Charles



Joy Odeta, MD, Alexandria  
Jennifer L. Pippin, MD, Lake Charles  
John Paul Stewart, MD, Lake Charles

## Members Transferred In

Marilyn Dianne Marshall, MD, Abbeville  
Emilio A. Russo, MD, New Orleans

## New Student Members

Jill Fruge, Shreveport  
Rebecca Saale, Bossier City  
Kimberly Tran, Gretna  
Elizabeth R. Francis Rose, Metairie  
Jennifer Kelley, Benton  
David Montgomery, Bossier City  
Sarah Granier, Des Allemands  
Philip J. Chandler, Destrehan  
Kevin Carlisle, Downsville  
Aldo V. Mejia, Kenner  
Megan Matheme Hartman, Luling  
Jill McCall, Metairie  
Kristin Jenkins, Metairie  
Stewart Greathouse, Metairie  
Amanda E. Bray, New Orleans  
Anthony Hudson, New Orleans  
Ashley Doucet, New Orleans  
Chukwuemeka Ibekwe, New Orleans  
Devan Szczepanski, New Orleans  
Jacob Breaux, New Orleans  
Jordan Chaisson, New Orleans  
Karion J. Stofira, New Orleans  
Michelle Knecht, New Orleans  
Rhonda Strickland, New Orleans  
Kimberly Hoffpauir, Rayne  
Kenneth Habetz, Shreveport  
Lauren Elder, Shreveport  
Liliana Meskill, Shreveport  
Margut Bell, Shreveport  
Ryan Tuttle, Shreveport  
Shannon Gayle Gammill, Shreveport  
Stephanie James, Shreveport  
Tracy Wallace, Shreveport  
Shavnouda Biley, Washington

*Wayne Gravois MD*

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

*Jade M. Verret*

Jade M. Verret  
*LAFP Membership Coordinator*

# Thank You to Our 2008 Educational Partners for Support of Our 61st Annual Assembly

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## **Upcoming Event**

2009 Summer Meeting:  
62nd Annual  
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Mark your calendar and plan  
to be in Lake Charles, Louisiana,  
**July 9-12, 2009**, at  
LAuberge du Lac Casino Resort.



From left to right: James Campbell, MD; Marguerite Picou, MD; and Russell Roberts, MD

# LAFP Attends the 2008 Congress of Delegates Meeting in San Diego...

The 2008 AAFP Congress of Delegates was held September 15-17 in San Diego.

Representing the LAFP at this year's meeting was LAFP's delegate, Marguerite "Cissy" Picou, MD, and alternate delegate Russell Roberts, MD. Dr. James Campbell, LAFP president, also participated in the Congress meeting.

In all, some 50 resolutions were considered by this year's COD. Twenty-four resolutions were adopted, 16 resolutions were referred to the AAFP Board of Directors for further review and consideration, and 10 resolutions were not adopted. A few noteworthy resolutions passed by the 2008 Congress include:

- The AAFP advocates with Congress to include as a covered Medicare benefit the immunizations recommended by the AAFP without co-payments or deductibles
- The AAFP supports development of payment systems such as standardized magnetically activated or barcoded insurance cards that facilitate point-of-service claims adjudication
- The AAFP develops a policy statement to address fair methods for physicians resuming hospital-related privileges after a period of outpatient-only medical services
- The AAFP works to abolish the payment rules among all payers that deny or reduce payment for the delivery of more than one service to a patient in a single day

New AAFP officers elected by COD are as follows:

- President-elect: Dr. Lori Heim of Vass, North Carolina
- Speaker of the Congress: Dr. Leah Raye Mabry of San Antonio, Texas



- Vice Speaker: Dr. John Meigs of Centerville, Alabama
- Directors: Drs. Jeffrey Cain of Denver, Colorado; Tom Felger of Granger, Indiana; and George Shannon of Columbus, Georgia
- New Physician Board Member: Dr. Jason Dees of New Albany, Mississippi
- Resident Board Member: Dr. Jennifer Bacani of Wichita, Kansas
- Student Board Member: Amy McIntyre of Cranston, Rhode Island

All Congress of Delegates resolutions can be viewed online at [www.aafp.org/congress](http://www.aafp.org/congress).



## Residency Reports

### LSUHSC-Shreveport at Alexandria

Katheryn Burnaman, Residency Coordinator

Thanksgiving 2008 and we had so much to give thanks for...

Our patients are thankful for our newly remodeled clinic waiting room. Our smallest patients love the new children's corner, complete with child-size sofas, ottomans and safe but educational toys.

Physicians and staff members are very glad to have new chairs throughout the clinic and refurbished exam and preceptor rooms. Staff members are excited about construction plans underway for the addition of a large lecture room that can be utilized for both residency and community educational events, as well as a new medical records office. Residents are especially glad to have the November In-Service Training exam behind them. We are all pleased to have a bevy of well-qualified applicants for the 2008-2009 recruiting/interview season. And absolutely EVERYONE is glad that the October ACGME site visit is over! Special thanks to LSUHSC-Shreveport Department of Family Medicine, Rapides Regional Medical Center and The Rapides Auxiliary for their support of the much-needed and greatly appreciated updates.

A welcome reprieve from all this activity was the 2008 LSUHSC-Shreveport Department of Family Medicine & Comprehensive Care's Third Annual Departmental Education and Recruitment Conference, November 7-9 at Cypress Bend Resort in Many. The combined CME/recruiting opportunity included a poster contest for residents, with three Alexandria residents receiving awards. Congratulations to Dr. Trung Le and Dr. Dametria Sinegal for their poster on "Giant Cell Myocarditis," and Dr. Jeffrey Tan's poster, "Syphilis: The Great Imitator." Educational sessions by faculty members included "Diagnosis and Management of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding" by Dr. Brian Elkins, "COPD" by Dr. Tuncay Ertan and "Recognition and Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis in Primary Care" by Dr. Kiranmaye Balapala. Numerous recreational events included golf, spa time, a family picnic and magic show, the Chairman's tea and an LSU tailgating party for the LSU versus Alabama game. A wonderful weekend was had by all.

Our annual Halloween costume party was spooktacular with creepy music, ghoulish decorations and costume contest prizes. Celebrities attending the event included Joe the Plumber, Lucille Ball, Charlie

Brown's Great Pumpkin, both the green AND blue M&Ms ... and yes, even Elvis!

The months of November through January will include applicant interviews, two upcoming educational events and a host of holiday celebrations.

**Happy holidays to everyone from the Alexandria program.**

### LSUHSC-Shreveport at Monroe

Darla McKee, Residency Coordinator

Everything is running relatively smooth here in Monroe. The Joint Commission has been here and with all the hard work from everyone, we passed with flying colors!

The incoming residents appear to be adjusting nicely to their new roles as interns. We would like to welcome our new interns: Sreekanth Depa, Anila Ghaffar, Gwen Holdiness, Will Hudson, Naseer Khan, Rishi Pathak, Prashanth Pothem and Drew Proctor.

The interns got their first taste of what the in-training exam is all about. Just as soon as the exam was over, many people were headed to the annual Cypress Bend event in Many, Louisiana. We had 13 residents and their families attend this year's event. The residents have been working very hard on their poster presentations. Dr. Gyanendra Sharma and Faculty Advisor Dr. Deardre Chao presented "Septic Arthritis of Knee Joint with Pasturella Multocida." This poster won the Achievement Award. Congratulations to Dr. Sharma and Dr. Chao! Other presenters were Syed Afzal, Daisy Benigno, Sandhya Grandhi, Suresh Gundaji, Verilyn Juan, Yubaraja Bhattarai and Joseph Walters. Faculty advisors who helped to guide the residents with these posters were Dr. Deardre Chao, Dr. Donald Givler, Dr. William Kintzing, Dr. Fulvantiben Mistry and Dr. Robert Parker.

**Tar Wars®** is up and running again, and our residents are helping AHEC out with this endeavor. Second-year residents Dr. Samina Fakhr and Dr. Sandhya Grandhi put on two presentations at JS Clark Magnet Elementary School. I decided to go with the residents, and we had lots of fun! If you haven't had the opportunity, I challenge you to participate in Tar Wars®. This is a good program, and the children found it to be fun while learning something new. We pre-



*Dr. Deardre Chao stands with Dr. Gyanendra Sharma (PGY-3 resident) and his poster, which won the Achievement Award at the Third Annual LSUHSC-Shreveport Department of Family Medicine & Comprehensive Care Education and Recruitment Conference.*

sented this to 120 students in less than two hours. We are planning to hold more Tar Wars® events in the near future.

We have four baby girls to brag about. Third-year resident Dr. Verilyn Juan and her husband welcomed home Carmela Juan. She was born July 7, 2008, and she is already being recruited to play volleyball or get ready for residency

like her mom. Her dad, Jay Jay Juan, is an assistant volleyball coach at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston.

Shreya Wunnava is the first of many to fill the big house of Dr. Bhanu and Sri Wunnava. Shreya was born on September 5, 2008, and you can still find Dad in the hospital with a big smile on his face.

Dr. Azhar Kazi and his wife welcomed home their fourth child, Khadijah. Their oldest son was hoping for a baby brother, but his little sisters were thrilled for another girl. So, Dr. Kazi ... maybe you can try again ... you'll either get a baby brother for your son or be closer to having a girls basketball team.

After graduating in June, Dr. Lesly Varghese and his wife, Seema, moved to Lake Charles. After riding out Hurricane Ike in Houston, a few days later, their first daughter, Anjali, was born. Fortunately, they returned home with the baby and found everything okay.

Now, after reading about all the babies, wouldn't you agree there is definitely something in the water around here?

Now speaking of hurricanes ... Dr. Richard Cavell, Dr. Euil Luther, Dr. Dearde Chao and two of our residents, Dr. Rubeena Anjum and Dr. Cesar Gonzales, had the pleasure of working at the Special Needs Shelter. This shelter was set up at the University of Louisiana at Monroe to house evacuees from south Louisiana and Texas during hurricanes Gustav and Ike. This shelter met the needs of evacuees with mild to moderate medical conditions requiring a higher level of care than that available at regular shelters.

***With Thanksgiving and Christmas right around the corner ... "Happy Holidays" from Monroe!***

## East Jefferson General Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program

Maria I. Cartagena, MD, PGY-3, Chief Resident, and Jason Fuqua, MD, PGY-3, Chief Resident

Things are moving along at East Jefferson General Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program. Our interns are adapting well to their new surroundings, the weight of taking their first in-training exam is behind them, and they are doing an excellent job!

Fall recruiting is in full swing at East Jefferson Family Medicine. Within the last six months, we have attended several recruiting activities, such as the Shreveport Residency Fair in September and the National Conference in Kansas City in July/August. We are very excited to see such an increase in students interested in family medicine than in the last couple of years. Students and applicants alike whom we have either talked to, rotated here and/or interviewed with us are enthusiastic, confident and have much to offer to our field of medicine. It looks like a very promising recruitment year for us and a bright future for family medicine! Good luck to all of the programs during this exciting (and stressful) time.

Dr. Gordon Magonet, EJGH faculty physician, is striving diligently to strengthen and broaden our curriculum. He has expressed interest in alternative medicine. He recently attended a workshop in this area and is planning on participating in a fellowship in this field next year. Dr. Magonet has been meeting with several key personnel at East Jefferson General Hospital in the field of alternative medicine and wellness programs. He intends to equip the program with educational information and resources to help our patients utilize alternative medicine in a safe manner.

We also would like to encourage our fellow residents in other programs — if you have an opportunity to attend one of the AFMRD Workshops on diabetes and or osteoporosis, please do so. Drs. Omond, Cartagena, Tong, Sheth and Jaladanki attended both workshops in various locations of the country. All have found them to be very useful and insightful. They will be presenting the knowledge and information they've gathered to their colleagues at future Noon Conferences and will be implementing some of the ideas with our clinic patients. All agree this is an excellent educational opportunity you won't want to miss! Go to the [www.afmrd.org](http://www.afmrd.org) Web site for more information.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the addition of Dr. Paula Rhode, EJGH Family Medicine's new director of behavioral medicine to our faculty. Dr. Rhode comes to us with a wealth of experience in the field of clinical psychology. She is presently an assistant

professor at the University of Houston and is ready to begin her new role with us on January 5, 2009. We are truly delighted to have her join us.

As you may already know, we have very fertile water here at EJ, and we wanted to update you in that regard. Dr. Omond's wife is expecting and is close to welcoming the couple's second child in the next month or weeks. Dr. Pivach and I are also expecting — she is expecting her second child, and I'm expecting my first in the month of March. We are looking forward to welcoming the new members of our family.

Time goes by so fast. Holidays are around the corner. We are looking forward to the Thanksgiving lunch and our traditional Christmas party. From our family to yours, we wish you all, Merry Christmas! May you have a HAPPY and SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON.

## University Medical Center – Lafayette

David Reehmann, LCSW

Things are relatively calm at the Family Medicine Residency in Lafayette, as we appear to have finally settled somewhat into the rhythm of the current academic year. Conditions were not so much that way a couple of months ago, as we, like most everybody, found ourselves scrambling to get out of the way of or assist others who were trying to get out of the way of seemingly sinister weather systems; AKA hurricanes Gustav and Ike. During the storms, residents and faculty helped staff portable emergency clinics (LEMUs — Louisiana Emergency Medical Units), which were placed at various locations near hospitals in Lafayette and also helped staff a special-needs shelter temporarily located at the Heymann Performing Arts Center. UMC was closed for Gustav, and patients who could not be discharged were evacuated to Huey P. Long Hospital in Pineville. Our entire team of family medicine residents was sent along with those evacuated patients. The team's presence was needed to help care for these additional patients because of understandable strains on local health care resources. One PGY-3 resident, Paula Conolly, eventually stayed at HP Long for several days to help care for UMC patients who had been transported there.

When Ike arrived two weeks later, a reopened UMC had already gotten back some of the patients that had been transferred earlier and had received additional patients from other sister institutions damaged in the first hurricane. Things were quite busy!

Residents and staff members who participated in those emergency activities were grateful to have been able to be of assistance during such crises. Everybody's hearts have gone out, however, to the victims of those storms whose communities east, west and south of here were ravaged — some for the second time in three years.



## LSUHSC Rural Scholars Track

The AHEC Program Office at the LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport held the Annual Rural Scholars Program during the Department of Family Medicine's Third Annual departmental educational and recruitment event at Cypress Bend Resort, Many, Louisiana.

There were 12 college students representing both North and Central Louisiana AHEC parishes. The students attended the Friday buffet with Dr. James Campbell as speaker. Afterward, Dr. Campbell spoke briefly to the students about medicine in Louisiana, and the students then asked questions.

On Saturday morning, the students listened to four hours of CME topics presented by various faculty members and, in the afternoon, participated in a suture workshop and a basic vital signs workshop.



On a more uplifting note, some very positive things have been happening around UMC and the Family Medicine Residency Program. The Family Medicine Geriatric Fellowship recently received continued accreditation for the maximum period of five years, and it might be noted that there were no citations. Congratulations to Dr. Lainie Moncada, director of that program, and all the other staff members of the geriatric fellowship, who have contributed so much to that well-deserved outcome!

Also, with regard to the geriatric fellowship, we are happy to report that Amer Aladin, MD, started here in October as a new fellow. Amer went to medical school in Dohuk, Iraq, and completed his family medicine residency in Monroe, Louisiana, this year. We are very happy to have him with us!

A two-day Obstetrics Workshop was held at the Lafayette Residency on October 7 and 8. The workshop was organized and co-presented

by faculty member Leanne LeBlanc, MD, and was attended by interns from this program, as well as from the Rural Family Medicine Residency in Bogalusa. Various attending faculty members and nurses from the new labor and delivery unit in Bogalusa were also able to attend.

Finally, some of our personnel did a bit of traveling on behalf of the program. UMC Family Medicine Department Chairperson Linda Ogé, MD, attended the National Institute of Program Director Development in Dallas, Texas, October 23-26. Chief Residents Jade Heinen and Ali Sadeghi attended the AAFP Chief Resident Leadership Conference September 17-19. That meeting was held in conjunction with the AAFP Scientific Assembly in San Diego. Jade and Ali seem to feel the meeting was very worthwhile but maintain that they didn't mind spending time in San Diego, either!

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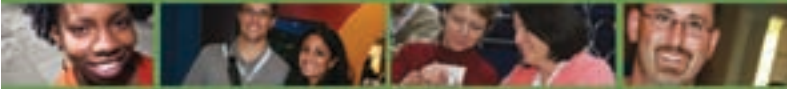
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