
MONTANA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Winter, 2018 | Don Grewell DO, Executive Director

A Word From Don:

Hope your new year is starting off in good stead. We are actually having good ole' Montana winters the last few years.



If you wonder why I'm the person always writing these newsletters and am the program director for CME, it is because I have been contracted by MOMA to be our executive director for about the last 8 years, MOMA having paid others to be our executive director prior to this. There are about 220 practicing DO's in Montana, hardly a large number. If this number grows, certainly MOMA can look at a part time employee as executive director, but for now, MOMA board has continued to stick with me.

If I can persuade any of you that have not been involved much in MOMA to consider this, I promise it would be with defined, limited tasks, so that you would not be taking on an unknown time commitment and volunteer duty.

Update on 2018 CME and AOA Policy Issues.

Our CME this year is **August 9-12, 2018 in Billings, MT**. You can visit our website at Montana Osteopathic Medical Association for details on this CME. Still co-sponsored by the Billings Clinic CME department, we have contracted with the Billings Clinic for about 8 years now, and believe it to continue to be a win-win for both parties. About 25 cat 1, AOA CME, and prescribed credits from the AAFP anticipated again this year. MOMA board and membership decided on this move to Billings at our last August/17 meetings, which co-inside with our yearly CME. MOMA will continue to look at locations, given our almost 30 years history of doing this CME, what works and what doesn't.



National policy discussion: The Principles of Osteopathic Medicine (O,P & P)

The Osteopathic profession should not think they are the only professionals that do their best to practice medicine with the above principles in mind. They are principles that any physician should, and does, understand is the cornerstone of the practice of medicine. So, why should we as DO's continue to talk about these principles? The reason is that the DO profession has done much more to structure our training to include these principles. OMT as a procedure is certainly a window into this philosophy, but there are countless examples of helping the patient help themselves, not overdoing treatment, having some humility in how we treat patients, remembering not to ignore the body's ability to heal itself, as being the best practice of medicine.

National policy discussion: The Principles of Osteopathic

Medicine (O,P & P) - continued

Structuring this into training occurs in Osteopathic medical schools, will continue in graduate medical education in the single MD and DO ACGME accreditation body with the Osteopathic recognition pathway- something that we can thank the AOA and board of trustees to insist be a part of any combined GME accreditation pathway, and we are continuing to do our best as AOA affiliate associations and the AOA to make it a part of CME going forward. My opinion is that this issue is mostly having any specialty receive some primary care as part of their training, **particularly Osteopathic primary care**. As we have specialized the practice of medicine, we have made it more difficult to incorporate generalist training into our disciplines, which, think, most of us understand, fragments patient care and has resulted in added cost and inefficiency our health care delivery system.

I have asked one DO neurologist that has been to our CME the last 25 years to comment on this and he agrees that Osteopathic primary care has been very beneficial in his practice of sub-specialized neurology. All of us know that Osteopathic CME presenters are at least 50% not DO's, and only about 4 hours of MOMA's CME is OMT. But we also understand that there is an underlying focus on Osteopathic principles that adds a valued tone to our CME. So, by structuring this into all of our training, this profession has a great chance to influence the practice of medicine in this country in a very positive way. Right now, the AOA board of trustees is reviewing policy on CME requirements, including whether to allow each DO specialty board to adopt their own CME requirements, or require all boards to have some Osteopathic CME (again, primary care) as part of their board certification. Most of us that have been involved with this hope they make the best choice, to allow our profession to continue some uniqueness and contribute positively to the practice of medicine, including our continuing medical education (CME). Please understand that these are my opinions, but are shared by most of us that are involved with AOA affiliates and CME. It is my opinion that primary care is the best forum to include Osteopathic principles into our CME. Also, if anyone has comments, a different perspective on this issue, please email me at MOMA and I will paste on our web site under "Newsletters" and add to our next newsletter.

A Word From Don - continued

I continue to thank those of you that have been our core members and officers for so many years.

We currently have an issue with the DO position on the board of medical examiners. **Bruce Hayward, DO is in his last year of a 2nd 4 year term, ending in September of this year.** This position certainly does require a large amount of time commitment, probably 6- 8 hours per month, and then 2 days in Helena every 3 months, and more time if you are a board officer. But, this is an extremely rewarding experience, and gives great insight into the practice of medicine. I believe the Osteopathic profession has been well represented by DO's for the last 30 years or so, including Dr. Hayward and Dr. Art Fink, who were both board presidents during their 8 year terms.

If anyone has an interest in doing this, please contact me at

montanaosteopathic@gmail.com. The position is filled by the governor's office, and this office has used MOMA's recommendation in filling this position the last 24 years, at least.

Hope to see you in Billings in August for our CME, and please do not hesitate to contact me at MOMA's email address or phone number. Keep warm this winter, enjoy all of what Montana has to offer.

Don Grewell, DO
Executive Director, MOMA

MOMA's dues cycle is July 1 to June 30, **our membership dues are 200.00 per year.** Hopefully as the number of DO's continues to grow in Montana we will continue to have an association base for them to go to for support, and be a part of promoting the values of Osteopathic medicine. You can go to our website at **<http://www.mtoma.org/>** for a link to a dues notice. We appreciate any support you can provide.