

MONTANA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Spring 2019 | Don Grewell DO, Executive Director

A Repeat 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 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 9-10 years, MOMA having paid others to be our executive director prior to this. There are about 280 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's 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.

MOMA Primary Care Roundup CME
August 1-4, 2019
Billings, Montana
at the Bighorn Resort

Hello From MOMA!

Another year, some new stories, some old, but all about Osteopathic Medicine in and around Montana. This spring's newsletter is coming a little later in the year because of events at the AOA level that developed over the winter. The bigger issue for us here in Montana over the last year given the single GME (graduate medical education) accreditation of ACGME and AOA that started in 2015 and will end in 2020, was what Osteopathic board certification will look like going forward. For the AOA to continue its mission of promoting the distinctiveness of Osteopathic medicine, there was much discussion by involved parties: the AOA, Board of Osteopathic specialists, state and other affiliates tasked with providing CME for Osteopathic board continuous certification, to name a few. The final format announced this March was summarized by Dr. Mayo, the current AOA president.

Dr. Mayo stated: "The AOA Board of Trustees (BOT) has approved the creation of two initial board certification pathways: 1) to become board certified in the Osteopathic practice of their specialty, and, 2) to become board certified in their specialty only, taking an exam without formal Osteopathic content. The first pathway will continue to serve DO's who wish to validate their expertise of Osteopathic principles and practice. The second pathway will embrace Osteopathic medicine's holistic thinking, but will not evaluate candidates' skills in the principles and practice of Osteopathic medicine", which we can assume is in reference in large part to OMT skills (the procedure of Osteopathic manipulative treatment).

Dr. Mayo went on to say that "these two pathways were designed to realign and enhance board certification in response to changing demographics and the evolving needs and expectations of a new generation of DO's." This approval certainly was stimulated by the ever-increasing number of DO's who have, or, after 2020, will be in ACGME programs, but will allow the Osteopathic profession to continue to develop and educate physicians in the Osteopathic approach to patient care. As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the DO approach is simply good patient care: involving the patient as best we can in their own care, making sure not to over treat and overwhelm the body's ability to heal itself. Again, this is what all physicians hopefully try to do, DO or MD, but must remain a part of our educational experience at all levels of education or it will not continue to influence the practice of medicine into the future. Most of us who have been involved in one way or another with this understand that this used to "just happen" when all DO physicians did rotating internships before going into any specialty, colleges of Osteopathic medicine taught (and will continue to teach) this, osteopathic CME required 50% DO speakers, and other factors.

Hello from MOMA! (continued)

Going forward it certainly needs to be reinforced in GME and CME in new ways that emphasize the distinctiveness of osteopathic medicine. At MOMA, we will continue to strive to provide CME that emphasizes this, thru instruction to our speakers, both DO and otherwise. There were many opinions on this issue over the last 2 or 3 years-how do we define and promote Osteopathic distinctiveness. My personal experience is that an overwhelming majority of DO's and others embrace this approach when it is explained, and also when discussing a specific patient's care. So, many details to follow, but the profession is alive and well.

2019 CME Information and Dates

This year, MOMA's CME will be August 1-4, 2019, in Billings, at the Bighorn Resort-same venue as last year, providing again about 25 1-A credits. We also have received AAFP prescribed credits for most all of our hours for many years. I would encourage DO's with ACGME certification, particularly family medicine, to join us. You receive AAFP credits, and I believe you will find our CME to be a quality educational experience, and maybe will re-ignite your interest in your Osteopathic background, and maybe do your CME a little closer to home. We also usually have a few FM MD's and mid-levels that join us. You can go to our website: <http://www.mtoma.org> for details as they become available, or to the Billings Clinic's educational tab at their website. Look for the "Montana Osteopathic Medical Association Primary Care Roundup" at this site. We have contracted with and Billings Clinic has co-sponsored our CME for probably 9 or 10 years of the 29 years we have been doing this conference, and their CME department has done a wonderful job helping us to provide a great educational experience. Also, for those of you who have difficulty finding live CME for whatever reason, MOMA, for the first time last year, participated in an online CME program that included our talks from last year, and we will be doing this again this year. It's called DOcme.org, you can search by topic, there are quite a few other DO associations that are involved. But if you are from Montana, or access CME from our program, MOMA receives part of the proceeds from its use. This platform is working well, and can at least supplement your needed CME.

Northwest Osteopathic Medical Foundation and Shirley Carpenter Scholarship

The Northwest Osteopathic Medical Foundation (NWOMF) continues to support MOMA, financially and otherwise, and has done so for at least the last 25 years. This foundation was founded with monies from the sale of Eastmoreland Osteopathic hospital in Portland, Oregon. It has for most of it's existence supported the associations' of the 5 northwest states: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. One of its other major contributions to Osteopathic medicine is the scholarship fund it started many years ago for Osteopathic medical students. Students apply for this with references, a video, and essays-including their perspective on what Osteopathic distinctiveness means to them. One of these scholarships is the Shirley Carpenter endowment scholarship, funded in large part by contributions from MOMA, and individual donors. The total amount of all the scholarship funds, including the Shirley Carpenter fund, is about \$100,000.00 per year. No small amount, given the increasing cost of medical education. Students that list Montana as their home state have been given and will continue to be given preference for the Shirley Carpenter scholarship. You can view details of this scholarship, and find other information about the NWOMF at their website: <https://www.nwosteo.org/>

MOMA will continue to do the best we can to provide support to Montana's DO's. As I have mentioned in the past: We will continue to grow and be able to provide more support as times goes by and more DO's move to this great state. Please go to our website and email us or call me with any questions, concerns, comments on any issue.

Our dues cycle is July 1 to June 30, and I am including a form and return envelope for any of you who would like to support us. Dues are again \$200.00 for the year starting July 1, 2019. You can also go to our website at <http://www.mtoma.org/> for a link to a dues notice. As always, MOMA dues paying members receive a discount on our CME fee. But we would appreciate any support from all of you, and will continue to do our best to support the Osteopathic profession and it's distinctive approach to patient care.

So long for now,



Don Grewell, DO
Executive Director, MOMA