

ATOMA NEWS

AUGUST 2012

VOLUME I, NUMBER II

ATOMA Welcomes New Students



Students enjoyed meeting TOMA physicians at the Baker Pool Party on July 28th

ATOMA Awards Scholarships

By Kathy Brown, ATOMA President

One of the highlights of Orientation Week for incoming TCOM students is the annual pool party held at the home of Dr. Mark and Rita Baker. The class of 2016 enjoyed a relaxing and fun evening that included a complimentary barbeque dinner and swimming for the students and their families. TOMA physicians and ATOMA members were present to greet the new students and welcome them into the osteopathic family. During the night's festivities, ATOMA awarded a total of \$1,000 in scholarships to five TCOM students. In addition to the scholarships, ATOMA also gave away a stethoscope to one of the students in attendance.

ATOMA thanks everyone who helped make this night a successful event. Much appreciation goes out to the Bakers for graciously hosting the party. Thanks to the TCOM SAA members for helping spread the word about the event and for helping set up for the event. Finally, ATOMA thanks **YOU** for your membership. Your membership allows us to provide scholarships throughout the year to future osteopathic doctors and their families.

Advocate Spotlight: Beth Beckwith



ATOMA salutes Beth Beckwith for her continuous support of our Osteopathic physicians. Jim Froelich, D.O., ACOFP, recognizes her contribution as an Advocate because of the tremendous job she has done assisting physicians on the TCOM Taskforce. Her ideas, organization, and hard work have been a huge asset as the Taskforce tackles the issue of the proposed MD Option at UNTHSC/TCOM. Beth is a Past President of ATOMA, serving in 2005-2006. Beth is married to Dr. Jay Beckwith and resides in Fort Worth. ATOMA appreciates Beth for her support and commitment to ATOMA and its mission.

ON THE CALENDAR

AUGUST 7

First Meeting of the TCOM Student Advocate Association

SEPTEMBER 28

TOMA/ATOMA 3rd Quarter Board Meeting, TCOM

DECEMBER 1

TOMA/ATOMA 4th Quarter Board Meeting, TOMA Building

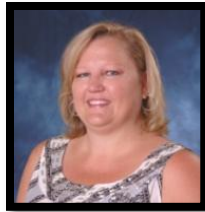
ATOMA has a NEW Website! Visit www.atomatexas.org!



MEET OUR ATOMA OFFICERS



Kathy Brown, President
Bonham, Texas
Married to Michael Brown, D.O.



Trina Elwell, Past President
Corpus Christi, Texas
Married to Daniel Elwell, D.O.



Barbara Galarneau, Vice President
San Antonio, Texas
Married to Howard Galarneau, D.O.



Deidre Froelich, Treasurer
Bonham, Texas
Married to Jim Froelich, D.O.



Heidi Cook, Secretary
Bryan, Texas
Married to Joel Cook, D.O.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Susan Selman, Fundraiser Chair

ATOMA thanks the following individuals for their generous donations to our fundraiser at the annual convention in San Antonio in June:

Dodi Speece
B.J. Cwzeski
Dr. George Smith
Danny Jensen
Dr. Don Peska
Lois Mitten
Dr. David Hill
Dr. Randy Rogers

ATOMA raised over \$2,000 with this fundraiser. The purpose was to raise funds for scholarships we award to TCOM students throughout the year. Thank you also to everyone who purchased tickets. We appreciate your support!

ATOMA Members Represent Texas in Chicago



Several ATOMA members attended the AOA meetings in Chicago on July 20-22. During the meetings, AAOA President Sherri Martin gave a report at the AOA House of Delegates encouraging membership and involvement, and reminding everyone that the Advocates are "The People Behind the Profession". Mrs. Martin also encouraged everyone to attend the AAOA events at OMED 2012 in San Diego in October, including the Fore You Golf Tournament and Still Fit For Life Fun Run/Walk. Deidre Froelich, AAOA 1st Vice President and ATOMA Treasurer, is chairing the golf tournament this year. Please visit www.advocates4dos.org to learn more about the golf tournament and other AAOA events at OMED 2012 in San Diego.





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ATOMA Launches Colorectal Cancer Prevention Campaign



ATOMA is in the process of launching a colorectal cancer prevention campaign called, "Linda's Way". The purpose of the campaign is to raise awareness about colorectal cancer and to educate the public on preventing this disease through regular screenings. We lost Linda Cole this past spring after she battled with colon cancer. Linda was highly involved as an advocate, serving as both ATOMA President and AAOA President. In remembrance of Linda, ATOMA will join forces with TOMA physicians to launch a public education campaign about preventing colorectal cancer through screening and early detection. Dr. George Cole and Dr. Monte Troutman will be involved in this project by recruiting physicians to speak on this topic in their communities.

Colon cancer is often beatable when caught early, yet it is still the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States. Despite its high incidence, colorectal cancer is one of the most detectable and, if found early enough, most treatable forms of cancer. Regular screenings are especially important for the early detection of colorectal cancer, which is preventable, treatable and beatable when caught early through screening. Colorectal cancer almost always develops from

precancerous polyps (abnormal growths) in the colon or rectum. Screening tests can find precancerous polyps, so that they can be removed before they turn into cancer. Screening tests can also find colorectal cancer early, when treatment works best. If everybody aged 50 or older had regular screening tests, as many as 60% of deaths from colorectal cancer could be prevented (Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Through this project we urge people to get out and get everyone talking about this disease.



To increase screening rates, this campaign will:

- 1.) Increase awareness among adults aged 50 and older that of cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States.
- 2.) Increase awareness of the benefits of being screened for colorectal cancer.
- 3.) Help to motivate patients to talk to their doctor and get screened for colorectal cancer.

We are looking for volunteers and speakers to help raise awareness through education. If you are interested in participating in this campaign, please contact Kathy Brown, ATOMA President, at 903-505-9409, or email atoma@txosteo.org. We will be offering training to speakers at Mid-Winter in February 2013.

Visit the Linda's Way website at www.lindasway.org.



