

ATOMA NEWS

JULY 2012

VOLUME I, NUMBER 1

ATOMA Shines in San Antonio



Advocates at the Tea Party. Front Row: Rita Baker, Linda Garza, Melinda Wright, Treasurer Deidre Froelich. Back Row: Pat Wheeler, Elaine Armbruster, President Kathy Brown, B.J. Czewski, Melinda Smith, Vice President Barbara Galarnau, AAOA President Sherri Martin, and Paula Gates.

“The Osteopathic Family”

By Kathy Brown, ATOMA President

I am extremely excited and grateful for this opportunity to serve as the next President for the Advocates for the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. I look forward to this upcoming year as we work together to accomplish the goals of this organization and those of our osteopathic physicians. I thank the members of ATOMA for the confidence they have in me to lead this organization in a manner that will successfully accomplish our mission. I recently reviewed the Mission Statement of ATOMA that is set forth in our bylaws. Our mission is to support the Osteopathic physicians in their efforts to deliver health care. The

osteopathic philosophy identified by Andrew Taylor Still comprises of several core principles. One of these core principles is the belief that the body is a unit, and the person represents a combination of body, mind and spirit. Body parts do not function separately but in fact all systems function as one unit. Just like the body, all of us are a unit, working closely to accomplish the overall goal of supporting the osteopathic profession. We cannot function separately; we must work together and function as one. We are one unit, one family. A family, not necessarily by blood, but by the friendship and common goals that binds us together. Our support for one another and the osteopathic

profession unites us in a way that cannot be found in any other group or union. This idea of support and family led me to choose the following theme for this year: “The Osteopathic Family: Celebrating our heritage, building our future.” I chose this theme because it expresses the essence and basis of what being a part of the osteopathic family is all about. As I lead ATOMA this upcoming year, I desire to continue to strengthen the legacy that our past presidents have established. I look to those past leaders to help guide and direct me as we move this organization forward. The future of ATOMA is being built on the unwavering foundation and vision that was set in place many, many years ago.

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ON THE CALENDAR

JULY 17
5:30 p.m. TCOM SAA BBQ

JULY 19
2:30 p.m. TCOM Student
Organization Fair

JULY 20-22
AOA Annual Meeting of the House
of Delegates, Chicago, IL

JULY 21
9:30 a.m. TCOM White Coat
Ceremony

JULY 28
8:00 p.m. Baker Pool Party for
TCOM Students, SAA, and
Physicians



Linda Cole ATOMA Golf Tournament Huge Success

By Wendy McDonald, R.N., Linda Cole ATOMA Golf Chair 2012

ATOMA would like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors and golfers who participated in the 2012 Linda Cole/ATOMA Annual Golf Tournament held on June 22, 2012 at The Resort Course at The Westin at La Cantera. The event was held during our annual TOMA/TX ACOFP Convention in San Antonio. This was truly an exceptional year for our annual fundraiser and the golf course was not only challenging but set in the Beautiful Texas Hill Country!!! ATOMA hosted 54 golfers and 36 t-sign sponsors! What a great event! The tournament kicked off at 7 am Friday morning and was set in a scramble format. A special thank you to our following sponsors:

\$100-\$150 Sponsor

Dr's Al & Nancy Faigin
Dr. David & Elaine Armbruster
Dr. John & Jan Bowling
Dr. Karen King
Dr. Monte & Mary Troutman
Dr. George Cole
Dr. Robert Prangle & Andrew Prangle
Patty Bell & Lucy Gibbs
Dr. Mark & Rita Baker
Dr. Christopher & Cesily Pratt
Dr. David & Linda Garza
Dr. Michael & Kathy Brown
USA Pallet & Logistics, Inc.
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Dr. Adam Smith
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Dr. Jim & Dede Froelich
Red River Regional Hospital
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\$600 Sponsors

Dr. John & Wendy McDonald
UNT Health Science Center

Bill Canipe
Tim Lowry

Dead Last

Dr. Bruce Maniet
Christopher Maniet
Jonathan Maniet
Robert Maniet

Closest to the Pin

Dr. Glenn Shipley

Longest Drive

Weston Selman

TOGETHER we raised over \$10,000.00 that will help ATOMA achieve its goals of providing TCOM Medical Student Scholarships, collaborating with TOMA in the purchase of White Coats for TCOM Medical Students during the White Coat Ceremony and Promoting and Supporting the Osteopathic Physician and programs throughout our state and nation.

A special thank you to **Dean, Jacobson Financial Services, LLC** for sponsoring this event. And thank you to our Gift Bag Donations from: Dean, Jacobson Financial Services, LLC., Longview Regional Medical Center and APR-Pro Assurance. Also, thank you for allowing me to serve as Chair for this wonderful event! What an honor to serve the Osteopathic Organization!

YOUR Membership Matters to the Overall Health and Success of our Organizations!



\$1000 Sponsors

TOMA District II
TOMA District V
QuestCare Partners

Congratulations to our winners:

First Place Team

Jeff Schmeltekopf
Student Dr. Robert Nichols
Dr. Rick Perry
Dr. Tim Coleridge

Second Place Team

Dr. Robert Prangle
Andrew Prangle





Advocate Spotlight: Dr. Mark & Rita Baker

Dr. & Mrs. Baker have been supporting ATOMA, TCOM Students, and the SAA for several years by hosting the annual Pool Party at their home. The party is a great opportunity for new student doctors to meet and get to know our D.O.s and their families. Rita also serves as the SAA Liaison for ATOMA to the TCOM spouses. She regularly meets with them to encourage, support, and guide them through the journey of medical school. ATOMA salutes Dr. and Mrs. Baker for their support and commitment to ATOMA and its mission.



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Let us not forget those who invested many, many hours as well money to help us accomplish our mission. We celebrate our rich heritage, and we also look forward to the bright future of ATOMA. So what is the future of ATOMA? With the help of the ATOMA officers, committee chairs, and members, I envision ATOMA as a recognizable and relevant force that



will make people want to be part of that movement. For this upcoming year, I have three goals I'd like to see ATOMA accomplish.

1. Support our osteopathic physicians. The first and most important goal is to continue supporting our osteopathic physicians. One way we can support our physicians is to study state and federal legislation that affects health care. Individually, we can take an active part in the legislative process, with our time and our votes. The MD idea at TCOM did not ultimately come up in the 2011 legislative session; no bill was introduced to change the law. But every indication is that they will try again in the 2013 legislative session.

We can help with that issue by staying in touch with our legislators and keeping them informed about new initiatives and changes that make any consideration of an MD program at TCOM even less appealing now and a waste of funds. We can tell our legislators that the focus should be expanding Graduate Medical Education (GME) in the state to keep our doctors in Texas. It is extremely important for TOMA and ATOMA members to unite and cultivate a relationship with our Senator and Representative. I also encourage all of us to attend Dome Day on February 27, 2012, in Austin, Texas, and make our voices heard.

2. Grow our membership. Our second goal is to grow our membership by building relationships. I'd like to see us triple ATOMA membership so that we will be three times as effective in our efforts on behalf of the osteopathic profession in Texas. We can do this by cultivating relationships at the local level within the districts. By doing this, I am confident we can build up our organization. I would like to locate and name at least one contact person per district. I will keep that contact person informed on all activities of ATOMA so that that person may report back his or her district. And we want to hear what the districts are doing and report all their activities back to ATOMA. In addition, we would like to see an increase in our physician members. Physicians don't necessarily have to attend meetings, hold offices or join committees unless it is their choice. What we are looking for are a unity of friends to meet, share and bond as members of our Texas Osteopathic Family. If you currently are a member of ATOMA, I

want to thank you for your membership. We are a charitable organization, and your financial support allows us to provide scholarships to TCOM medical students, donate white coats to all incoming students, support the Student Advocate Association at TCOM, and much more. Finally, in order to grow our membership, we must continue to support the Student Advocate Association. This group is our future. I think we currently do an excellent job supporting the SAA.

3. Participate in public health projects. Our third and final goal is to create a better understanding of osteopathic medicine by participating in public health programs in our communities. I will be leading ATOMA on a project that is near and dear to our hearts. As you may know, 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 project about preventing colorectal cancer through screening and early detection. We will assist in establishing the grass roots of this project by helping physicians gain access free patient materials. We will also provide speaker training at the Mid-winter conference.

To conclude, I ask that you all please join me as we continue to grow as an osteopathic family. I am confident we can join together and achieve these goals I described today. Thank you again for this great opportunity to serve as your President. I look forward to a great year!

