



## Reports from January 23, 2008 Board Meeting

### FROM JEANNE DARROCA, PRESIDENT

In addition to joining our legislators at lunch today, we will hear from Doug Webber, Chief Counsel Indiana Department of Insurance. He has planned a presentation on Indiana's Patient Compensation Fund for us in addition to a state and national update.

Our counties have been busy with holiday activities and social events. Many of these have been combined with fruitful fundraisers. Allen/Ft. Wayne County and Co-Area VP Cami Pond raised approx. \$2000 for local charities and scholarships. Vigo County and Co-AreaVP Ellen Richter earned \$420 for their Stop America's Violence Everywhere (SAVE) program. Our AMA Foundation chair, Fran Foster, reported that in December the ISMA Alliance sent over \$5000 in monies collected to AMA Foundation headquarters, which includes funds designated for the Medical Scholars' Fund.

March will provide us with some unique leadership and personal development conferences. Legislative Chair Laurel Weddle, President-Elect Hallie Gorup and I will attend the North Central States Alliance Leadership Development Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. This annual meeting allows Alliance leadership to gather from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Included in the program this year are presentations by the Nebraska Attorney General's Office on Internet Predators and Identity Theft. We will then travel to Washington D.C. for the AMA Alliance Capitol Conference/AMA National Advocacy Conference to join forces to "Make a Difference for America's Health".

I was able to attend the Indianapolis Medical Alliance meeting in December to listen to a presentation by Lisa K. Robinson, Executive Director of Reach Out and Read Indiana. I participated in a meeting of the ISMA School Health Committee. I plan to attend the ISMA sponsored CME program at the Indianapolis Children's Museum in February.

While our membership numbers are still lower than past years', we have seen renewed interest particularly in Owen-Monroe County. Each and every member is valued! As always, the ISMA Alliance is proud to continue to serve the citizens of Indiana and we sincerely appreciate the work and support of the ISMA.

### FROM LAUREL WEDDLE, CENTRAL AREA CO-VICE PRESIDENT

**Meetings:** attended ISMA-A November Board Meeting and Bartholomew-Brown County Medical Alliance meetings

**Written Articles:** submitted several articles for MAM

**Email Correspondence:** responded to all VEEP emails

### FROM LAUREL WEDDLE, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS CHAIR

**Since the last meeting, I have:** Regularly emailed AMA and ISMA legislative news to all ISMAA Board members, county presidents and county legislation chairs.

**Meetings:** Attended all Commission On Legislation meetings and responded to email requests from the ISMA Legislative Affairs staff for opinions about legislation.

**In some other way, worked on my duties:**

- Emailed all ISMAA Board members, county leaders and county legislation chairs an invitation to attend Medicine Day.
- Contacted Tina Doug Webber, attorney for the Indiana Department of Insurance, to speak to the ISMAA on Medicine Day about the Patient Compensation Fund.

## FROM DONNA KRUGER, SOUTHEASTERN MEDICAL ALLIANCE PRESIDENT

Do we enjoy a good time, or what? SMA is on a schedule of 4 meetings per year from fall through summer. We established that two will be business meetings and the other two, "just for fun." Both our fall and winter meetings were the "fun" ones. That leaves us with our spring (April) and summer (July) meetings, needing us "to get down to business!" This schedule seems to bring out more of our members than our previous, monthly meetings. Also the switch to early, evening meetings has helped with attendance.

At our fall meeting we dined together at a local restaurant and caught up on news concerning one another. It was relaxing and enjoyable. Our winter meeting was our Christmas gathering at the home of member, Ann Ellis (designer of our ISMA-A quilt square). Actually we laughed until we cried at Ann's and a good time was had by all. We held a cookie exchange, a pitch-in and exchanged white elephant gifts (Can anyone use a "New Mommy Gift Set? It includes melon cologne and bar soap. That's what I went home with!). Plus we held a silent auction to cushion our treasury. We agreed that Ann's home and hospitality, has become a tradition for us. We hope she continues to agree.

We also began dues collection, as our by-laws state that our fiscal year is the calendar year. To date we have 9, unified members (one is a young, new member), one dental spouse, and an honorary member. Plus there are more to rejoice in various categories in response to requests sent out on 1/18.

Our *Early Age Literacy Project (EAL)* continues to do well. It is the umbrella project for our *Reach Out and Read Program (ROR)* together with the multiple ways we continue to give out both new and used books to the children of our community. We now have two donated rooms in one of Madison's medical clinics, in which to store them. The end of the year brought the expiration of our *Reading is Fundamental/Target* book grant. We are flush with books for this next year. It has been heartwarming to see the change in our doctors participating in the ROR Program. They have moved from initial reluctance to participate (time constraints, etc.) to now, frequently reminding us that they dare not run out of the books we give them to give away.

We continue to have an excellent rapport with the *IN Reach Out and Read* central site in Indianapolis and they are most helpful in all aspects of our literacy program. We have curtailed the scope of our EAL Program somewhat based on lack of volunteer time. We continue to have excellent ideas for our Alliance, its reading program, plus other ideas. But we have grown and accepted that we can only do so much. First and foremost we want to do the job that we have come to expect of ourselves and do it well, while deepening our friendships with one another.

## FROM ELIZABETH CANAVATI, FORT WAYNE MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE PRESIDENT

### Meetings:

**Nov. 28, 2007:** Had a successful Holiday Luncheon with more than 40 people in attendance. Silent auction and vendor sales contributions raised over \$2400 to help fund a SuperShot site.

**Dec. 14, 2007:** Tania Boyd, Health Professions Scholarship Chair, and her committee reviewed applicants and selected three people for \$1000 scholarships to apply for second half of this school year. The winners included a nursing, radiology technician, and surgical technician student, all three attend the University of St. Francis.

**Jan. 2, 2008:** Maria Krach, Doctor's Day Chair, had a discussion with the new director at Science Central. They are requesting that we pay per person, instead for the day. Last year, we had 1450 participants and we paid them \$3000 to rent Science Central for the day. If we paid them \$6/person, it would have cost us \$8700 for the day, minus any one that came with a family membership. We had not budgeted that much of money for this event. I suggested that several of us meet with them and discuss further as we need to stay within our budget.

**Jan. 14, 2008:** Attended the FWMS Board Meeting.

**Jan. 15, 2008:** Marta Wroblewski, Cinderella Dress Day Chair, had a meeting to organize this year's event.

**Jan. 18, 2008:** Had an Executive Board Meeting to discuss slate of officers for 08-09.

### Written Material:

**Nov. 19, 2007:** I submitted my article and photos from the Holiday Luncheon for the Winter Quarterly.

**Nov. 19, 2007:** Jerri Sidel, AMA-A Foundation Chair, submitted the results of her fundraising project to the Winter Quarterly.

**Dec. 15, 2007:** Tania Boyd wrote notifications to the winners of the Health Professions Scholarships.

### Special Projects:

**Nov 16, 2007:** Jerri Sidel collected \$3907 from 32 donors (more than \$1400 was designated for IU Fort Wayne). In addition, we collected \$565 for AMA-A from dues.

**Nov. 29, 2007:** Andrew Davis had their Matthew 25/Holiday event. They raised \$606. from customers and contributed \$500 for a total of \$1106, which is part of their 3 year \$3000 commitment to Matthew 25.

The Alliance had given them membership information as we were co-sponsors for this event.

**Membership Update as of Jan. 18, 2008:**  
154 members (20 more than last year) and 3 donation only  
11 new members and 38 semi-new members  
17 people from last year did not renew

**FROM LAUREL WEDDLE, BARTHOLOMEW-BROWN COUNTY MEDICAL ALLIANCE**

**December:** held a Holiday Brunch and Cookie Exchange.

**February:** will host with Columbus Regional Hospital the annual Winter Gala for physicians and their spouses

**March:** planning a month long Doctor's Day Blood Drive with Columbus Regional Hospital and the Indiana Blood Center

Membership is down 14 from 2006-07.