

Psychiatry

November/December, 2005

a publication of the Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association

Patients 1st Coalition elects leadership

Representing more than 6,500 Oklahoma physicians, members of the **Patients 1st Coalition** held their first formal meeting November 1, 2005. Elected to serve as co-chairs for the group were **Art Rousseau, M.D., Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association** and **Dennis Carter, D.O., Oklahoma Osteopathic Association**. The Board of Directors will be composed of the presidents of the participating medical societies and organizations.



The mission of the coalition, *"To work together as medical and osteopathic doctors (M.D.'s and D.O.'s) to ensure patient safety and access to quality medical care for all Oklahomans"* was formally adopted, as well as a new logo for the organization. (See above logo)

Help our Lobby Fund today!

Enclosed in this issue of *Oklahoma Psychiatry*, you will find a donation envelope for the OPPA Lobby Fund. Our fund desperately needs your help. Please take a moment and make a contribution today.

New Mexico and Louisiana have passed legislation allowing psychologists to prescribe. We need to be ready in 2006 if legislation is introduced in Oklahoma.

Don't let a "prescription for disaster" happen in our state!

"The primary focus of the Patients 1st Coalition is to provide a unified defense against any untrained individuals from practicing medicine without a license which jeopardizes patient safety," Dennis Carter, D.O., Coalition Co-Chair, said.

"We are alarmed by proposals to lower the standards of medical care in Oklahoma," Art Rousseau, M.D., Coalition Co-Chair added, "This is not a turf issue. We are unanimous in our positions that medicine is concerned about the safety, accessibility and quality of patient care in Oklahoma."

"We will be holding a press conference in the Oklahoma State Capitol building after the first of the year to inform our legislators about the new coalition and its goals," Dr. Rousseau said. "As soon as the date is set, we will inform our membership as each of you are invited to participate in this news event."

Membership in the coalition continues to grow. Current coalition members include the **Oklahoma State Medical Association; Oklahoma Osteopathic Association; American College of Physicians; American Academy of Family Physicians, Oklahoma Chapter; American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Oklahoma Chapter; Oklahoma Society of Anesthesiologists; Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology; Oklahoma Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery** and the **Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association**. ❖

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Area V Council meeting

The Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association, a district branch of the American Psychiatric Association, is a medical specialty society recognized world-wide. OPPIA's member physicians specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional illnesses and substance abuse disorders. Oklahoma Psychiatry is a bi-monthly publication of the Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association. Please address all correspondence to Oklahoma Psychiatry, P.O. Box 1328, Norman, OK, 73070-1328, or email to oklapsychiatry@yahoo.com.

Art Rousseau, M.D., Editor

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Hashib Faruque, M.D.
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Committee Chairmen 2005-2006

Budget – Jim McAdams, D.O.
Child Psychiatry – Brent Bell, D.O.
Constitution/By-Laws – Joe Ruffin, M.D.
Continuing Education – Shree Vinekar, M.D.
Disaster Task Force – Brent Bell, D.O.
Early Career Psychiatry – Asha Raju, D.O.
Economic Affairs – Katherine Klaassen, M.D.
Ethics – Stuart Simon, M.D.
Impaired Physicians – Richard Trautman, M.D.
Indigent Care/Homeless – Robert Nisbet, M.D.
Legislative – Jenny Boyer, M.D. and Hashib Faruque, M.D.
Membership – Katherine Klaassen, M.D.
Public Information – Art Rousseau, M.D.

2006 Chapter Presidents

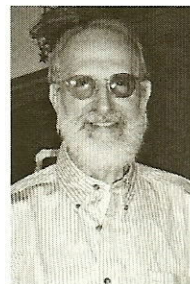
Robert Nisbet, M.D., *COPS*
Mark Elkington, M.D., *TPA*

Staff

Renee' Mixon, *Executive Director*
Claudene Channell, *Consultant* ❖

by Mark Kelley, M.D., Council Delegate & Jenny Boyer, M.D., Alternate Delegate

The Area V Council meeting was held November 10-13, 2005 in Washington, D.C. Routine business included a presentation by Dr. Steven Sharfstein regarding the APA position on interrogation of prisoners in Guantanamo Bay. The Assembly approved an action paper stating psychiatrists would not participate in prisoner interviews if torture were involved.



Mark Kelley



Jenny Boyer

APA Treasurer, Dr. Caroline Robinowitz reported the financial state of the APA had consistently improved over the past five years and Dr. James Scully, Jr., APA Medical Director, reported the Pennsylvania Supreme Court had ruled in favor of psychiatrists in the bankruptcy of Legion Insurance Company, a carrier of malpractice insurance for some psychiatrists.

Instead of distributing funds to district branches through the revenue sharing process as in the past, current funds available were distributed through a grant process. Area V was successful in competing for this grant money including the Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association which was awarded \$6,000 for an educational program for college and university students. The OPPIA grant will be administered by the Public Information/Legislative Committee.

Next year, it is anticipated legislation regarding psychologist prescribing will be introduced in 17 states. The APA has joined a new American Medical Association coalition which will focus on scope of practice including the expansion to those not qualified to deliver the service. It was recommended psychiatrists become familiar with the new Medicare Part D. Information is available on the APA's website, www.psych.org. ❖

Do you know me?

During a recent file cleaning spree, the following two photos were found in a file labeled "*History*." The photos were not marked in any manner. If you know either of these gentlemen, please contact Renee Mixon, OPPIA Executive Director, 405-360-5066 or oklapsychiatry@yahoo.com.

Thanks for your help! ❖



Photo 1



Photo 2



Highlights from the OPPA Council meeting held Saturday, November 5, 2005 at the home of Dr. Ondria Gleason, Tulsa and the home of Dr. Joe Ruffin, Oklahoma City.

Treasurer's Report – Third quarter income and expenditures in the General Fund were discussed. To date, the income is at 90% of budget and the expenditures are 78% of the budget. However, the members' dues income is only 56% of budget. Dr. Rousseau noted the lack of donations from members to the Lobby Fund this year. To date, only \$2,100 has been donated from OPPA members. The new donation envelope will be included in the November/December 2005 issue of *Oklahoma Psychiatry*.

Constitution and Bylaws (Dr. Joe Ruffin) – The APA will ratify our bylaws at the Assembly meeting November 11, 2005.

Continuing Education (Dr. Shree Vinekar) – The dates and location of the annual meeting have changed to April 7-8, 2006 at the Waterford Hotel in Oklahoma City. Dr. Vinekar reported it was becoming increasingly difficult to make arrangements for the annual meeting due to the new pharmaceutical company rules and noted he was negotiating topics for the annual meeting including sleep disorders, cyberonics and ethical/legal issues relating to psychiatric practice.

Delegate Report (Dr. Mark Kelley) – Dr. Kelley and Dr. Jenny Boyer will be attending the upcoming Assembly meeting in Washington, D.C.

Ethics Committee – Regarding the question raised at the last Council meeting, Renee Mixon, OPPA Executive Director, read from the **APA**

Principles of Medical Ethics: *"Upon completion of the investigation and any internal review procedures required by the district branch's governing documents, the district branch will render a decision – a) that the respondent did not act unethically; b) that the case should be concluded without a finding; or c) that the respondent acted unethically, and what sanction is appropriate...The three (3) sanctions in order of severity are as follows: a) reprimand; b) suspension (for a period not to exceed five (5) years; c) expulsion."*

Legislative – Council approved the motion to renew the contract with our lobbyists, Pat Hall and James Dunlap.

Membership – 2006 dues' statements are being mailed by the APA. Next year, two OPPA members will reach Life status: **Paul Lanier, M.D.**, Vinita and **Dominic Losacco, M.D.**, Tulsa. **Congratulations.**

Public Information (Dr. Art Rousseau) – OPPA submitted a grant to the APA to fund a college and university *"Speaker's Bureau."* OPPA has been notified that **\$6,000.00** of our \$9,200.00 grant request has been awarded. The Public Information/Legislative Committee will begin work on this project at the next meeting.

Scope of Practice (PatientsFIRST Coalition) (Dr. Art Rousseau) – Dr. Rousseau reported the second meeting of the coalition was held November 1 and he and Dennis Carter, D.O. was elected as co-chairs. The Board of Directors of the coalition will be composed of the Presidents of all the participating medical organizations. The coalition is set to send out a news release the week of November 14 to announce the formation of the coalition

and its mission. November 30, 2005 is the date set for a news conference at the Capitol building with representatives from all the coalition member organizations scheduled to participate.

Executive Council Membership – Council approved adding the current Presidents of **Tulsa Psychiatric Association (TPA)** and the **Central Oklahoma Psychiatric Society (COPS)** to the Executive Council membership effective January 1, 2006. ♦

Medicare Part D

Medicare's new prescription drug benefit, Medicare Part D, will start January 1, 2006 and will mean changes for many people receiving treatment for mental illness. That's why the American Psychiatric Association has joined forces with several other leading mental health organizations to create www.mentalhealthpartd.org an essential source of information on the new drug benefit.

Mental Health Part D partners include: American Association of Community Psychiatrists, American Psychiatric Association, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, National Mental Health Association, and Treatment Effectiveness Now. ♦



OPPA welcomes new and returning members

The Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association welcomes the following **new members**:

Abila Awan, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Sergio H. Castillo, M.D., General Member, *Lawton*
Jeffrey Cates, D.O., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Paul Cochran, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
Gabriel Cuka, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Reshma Deeba, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
Charles Dukes, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Yan Feng, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Andrew Foote, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Elizabeth Foote, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Stephen Harnish, M.D., General Member, *Tulsa*
Tami Hearst, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Edmond*
Will Holloway, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Bethany*
Thomas Hopkins, D.O., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Syed Hozair, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
Fayz Hudefi, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Edmond*
Stevan Lahr, D.O., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Zuorong Lin, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
Jerry Makin, D.O., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Lawren A. Merideth, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
Abdul Mohammed, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Edmond*
Lonnie Morris, M.D., General Member, *Tulsa*
Rupa Peddireddy, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Norman*
M. Lane Peyton, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Jonathan Skonicki, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
Hazem Sokkar, M.D., General Member, *Sapulpa*
Laura Jean Webb, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*
Essam Yousef, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Oklahoma City*



The OPPO welcomes the **reinstatement** of the following members:

Adonis S. Al-Botros, M.D., General Member, *Oklahoma City*
Patricia Allison, D.O., General Member, *Tulsa*
Thang Do, M.D., General Member, *Oklahoma City*
Merli Fermo, M.D., Life Member, *Tulsa*
Theresa S. Garton, M.D., General Member, *Oklahoma City*
Darryl Kabins, M.D., General Member, *Lawton*
Jay Lensgraf, M.D., General Member, *Oklahoma City*
Tracy Loper, M.D., Member-in-Training, *Tulsa*
John Mallgren, D.O., General Member, *Claremore*
Mark Medlin, M.D., General Member, *Tulsa*
John M. Rahhal, M.D., General Member, *Midwest City*
Peter Rao, M.D., General Member, *Tulsa* ♦



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