

AOOA BULLETIN

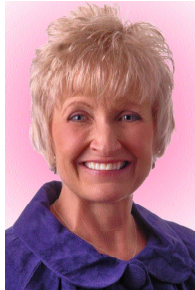
Advocates for the Ohio Osteopathic Association

Fall 2014

President's Report

by Barb Wills, President

After nine years, **Mary Schreck** has stepped down as our president. So I, Barb Wills, greet you as president. I am proud to be a part of such a wonderful group as the AOOA--now called the Advocates to the Ohio Osteopathic Association. We met five times this year - once in early April, three times at the OOA Symposium in late April and once in September. Unfortunately, at this time, we have not heard from any active districts in the state, although SAA is active at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM).



With the opening of the new Dublin campus of OU-HCOM and the future planned opening of the OU-HCOM campus at Cleveland, we have so much to celebrate and advocate for this profession.

There is an active group of people on the board and serving as committee chairs. They include the following committees with their current chairperson: *Bulletin* newsletter (Nancy Kuns), By-Laws (Linda Raub), Convention (Amy Wills), Membership (Amber Norman), Nominating (AOOA Board), Osteopathic Spirit Award (Jane Routh), Parliamentarian (Terry Martin), Public Education (Becky Marx), SAA Advisor (Mary Schreck), Webmaster (Barb Wills) and Yellow Ribbon (Mary Schreck).

We would love to see members become more involved in whatever way you can. Our questions to you are:

- How would you like to see this organization grow?
- What things are important to you as an Advocate?
- What projects would you like to see implemented?

It would be great to hear from you. My cell phone number is 614-329-5110 and my e-mail address is barbwills@att.net.

Please take a minute and let us (me) know. As Advocates of this great profession, let's make our voices heard and promote it the best we can. •

Ohio Family Physician Wins Osteopathic Spirit Award

by Jane Routh, Awards Committee Chair

Michael E. Dietz, DO, was awarded the AOOA's Osteopathic Spirit Award, April 25, 2014, during the Ohio Osteopathic Symposium in Columbus.

Dietz, a family physician from the Cincinnati area, has been a strong advocate for osteopathic medical education and serves as a valuable mentor, preceptor, and role model for students. He embodies the spirit of osteopathic medicine. The medical student who nominated him said: "Dr. Dietz is the definition of an osteopathic physician. His passion for teaching students, the love he has for his patients, and the endless hours he devotes to causes and organizations across the state are only a sliver of the things he does. He has taught us (osteopathic medical students) the importance of truly embracing our profession and giving back every chance we can."

Dietz currently serves as president of the Ohio Society of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and was installed in the Ohio Osteopathic Association Mentor Hall of Fame earlier this year. •



Michael E. Dietz, DO, accepts the Osteopathic Spirit Award, April 25, 2014, from Awards Chair Jane Routh.

End of an Era... Thank You, Mary Schreck!

by Becky Marx

Our Advocate board roster has a list of all AOOA past presidents and the years they served, and for nine of the past twelve years, **Mary Schreck's** name has been entered as a president. One of those years, she served with a co-president. **Linda Raub** served as president for two years in the middle of Mary's long tenure, and the Board as a whole served as president for one year and divided the presidential duties. By that time, Mary's name was synonymous with the Ohio Advocates, and she took care of the lion's share of the correspondence and other duties even though she wasn't officially our president.

During Mary's tenure as president, she built up Ohio's Yellow Ribbon Teen Suicide Prevention Program so that it is now serving most of southeast and east central Ohio. She has given presentations to thousands and thousands of young people, mostly high school and college students, about how to recognize signs that they or someone they know is at risk for attempted suicide and how to get help before thoughts of suicide become reality. She has worked closely with Athens and Hocking Counties' Suicide Prevention Coalitions and the survivors' support groups in Athens and Logan. As a result of attending training sessions in Ohio and at Yellow Ribbon headquarters in Colorado, she has brought home new

ideas and techniques to help make her presentations more effective. Who knows how many people are alive today because of Mary's passion for helping to prevent both attempted and completed suicides?

One of the first things Mary did as president was to streamline our Board meetings so that we were able to accomplish more objectives in a shorter amount of time than we had in the past. We all appreciate her efficiency, especially those of us who traveled two or more hours each way to attend Board meetings! In addition, she provided a detailed agenda for the secretary at each meeting, which helped simplify taking minutes. Mary also traveled around the state helping new Board members learn how to perform their jobs effectively and giving support whenever it was needed. She was instrumental in helping me as Scholarship chair to establish our AOOA Scholarship at OU-HCOM.

Mary represented the Advocates at most of the OOA Board meetings, OOF Board meetings, and Symposium House of Delegates meetings during her tenure and kept their members informed about our activities and projects. She also served as a delegate at the yearly AAOA House of Delegates at national convention. She has served as Student Associate Advocates (SAA) advisor for many years and has helped SAA members in their transition to the Advocates.

On behalf of everyone whose lives Mary has touched, I would like to extend heartfelt appreciation and a huge **THANK YOU** that could never be big enough to express our gratitude for all her service, not only to the Advocates and osteopathic physicians, but to so many Ohioans as well. We are all fortunate to have her in our midst. •



Mary Schreck at the 2014 Ohio Osteopathic Symposium, April 25, just before she was surprised with a Trillium Award from OU-HCOM Executive Dean Ken Johnson, DO.

Advocates for the Ohio Osteopathic Association COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS 2013-2014

BULLETIN

Nancy Kuns reported that we published two issues of the *AOOA Bulletin* this year with articles submitted by several board members. The raffle tickets for our state convention were printed in the spring issue.

BY-LAWS

The By-laws Committee, led by **Linda Raub**, will update our by-laws after the 2014 national convention if there are any changes to the AAOA by-laws.

CONVENTIONS

State:

Our state convention was held April 23-27, 2014, at the Hilton Easton in Columbus. **Amy Wills** served as convention chair. **Dee Angel** installed officers for 2014-2015: President – **Barbara Wills**, Vice President – **Amy Wills**, Secretary – **Merry Beth Vargo**, and Treasurer – **Becky Marx**. We sold \$3,295 in raffle tickets and, after convention and prize expenses, netted \$1,250.

National:

Terry Martin and **Dee Angel** served as delegates from Ohio to the national convention held in Seattle October 2014. We donated \$200 to the AAOA convention charity, Art 2 Heart.

MEMBERSHIP

Amber Norman has completed converting our membership data from notecards to a spreadsheet. We have 832 paid members, and out of these, 366 are new members. Currently, we have a total of 138 awarded life members and 16 are up for potential life membership.

OSTEOPATHIC SPIRIT AWARD

Jane Routh presented the 2013-2014 Osteopathic Spirit Award to Michael Dietz, DO, at the state convention in April. He was nominated by a former medical student, Trent Milligan. Currently, Dr. Dietz is medical director for Health Source of Ohio. He practices family medicine at the New Richmond Family Practice. He is actively involved as a preceptor and teaching medical students.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

We received \$450 in donations and spent \$2,030 to print and distribute 3,100 Safety Activity Books to several Children's Service Boards, schools, police departments, and other organizations for their safety education programs. We have received a \$3,000 AAOA Special Projects grant to help pay for distribution of the books in 2015 to all 88 Children's Service Boards in Ohio. The 2015 edition will be updated before publication and distribution. We are looking to other sources for additional funding. If you'd like to make a donation, please send a check payable to AAOA to Becky Marx 5198 Sampson Drive, Youngstown, OH 44505 and note in the memo line that it is for safety activity books.

STUDENT ADVOCATE ASSOCIATION

SAA at OU-HCOM has ten members and has had three get-togethers this fall. SAA Advisor **Mary Schreck**, **Lynda Johnson**, wife of OU-HCOM Executive Dean Ken Johnson, DO, and **Jessica Reed**, wife of an Athens orthopedic surgeon, also attended. **Melissa Brobeck**, SAA president, had a picnic at her house with five SAA members and families attending. The SAA members have formed a book club and have had very successful OU-HCOM sportswear sales at the new Dublin campus.

SCHOLARSHIP

We received \$1,835 in donations from three inactive districts' dues and contributed \$10,380 to the AAOA Scholarship Fund at OU-HCOM. If you'd like to donate to the AAOA Scholarship Fund, send your check to OU Foundation, PO Box 869, Athens, OH 45701 (write AAOA Scholarship on the memo line).

YELLOW RIBBON SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Mary Schreck has given ten presentations this fall to high school and university students. She distributed Yellow Ribbon cards and "What is a DO?" pamphlets at these presentations. She also co-facilitates two suicide bereavement support groups in Athens and Logan. We received \$5,200 in donations this year to help cover program expenses. If you'd like to make a donation, please send a check made out to AAOA to Becky Marx 5198 Sampson Drive, Youngstown, OH 44505 and note in the memo line that it is for Yellow Ribbon. •

Ohioan Installed as AOA President

Robert S. Juhasz, DO, a past president of the Ohio Osteopathic Association, was installed as the 118th president of the American Osteopathic Association, July 19, 2014, telling more than 600 members of the AOA House of Delegates, "I am so incredibly proud and humbled to be your AOA president at this historic time for our profession."

Juhasz, an internist, currently serves as president of Cleveland Clinic's South Pointe Hospital, where he started as a dishwasher, working his way through numerous jobs until he was accepted to osteopathic medical school at Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1978.

A pioneer in the adoption of electronic health records (EHRs), Dr. Juhasz was actively involved with the implementation of EHRs at Cleveland Clinic. In 2005, he participated in a panel on the topic with President George W. Bush. He was also instrumental



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Juhasz

in developing the OU-HCOM Cleveland campus, which opens July 2015.

Juhasz has made a difference in his community as well, working with the United Way and as a Medical Reserve Corps volunteer. He is also a member of Tri-City Chamber of Commerce and St. Gabriel Parish.

He has been named a "Top Doc" by *Cleveland Magazine* for several years and appeared in the former *Northern Ohio Live* "Best Doctors in Cleveland" listing. In addition, he was awarded the Phillips Medal of Public Service by OU-HCOM, received the OOA Trustees Award and was named an OU-HCOM Honorary Alumnus in 2008.

Juhasz and his wife **Donna Juhasz** live in Concord Township. •

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2015 OHIO OSTEOPATHIC SYMPOSIUM

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