



# Missouri Chapter

E News - June, 2005

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## E-Newsletter – July, 2005

### A Message from the Governor



We continue to conduct Chapter activities in keeping with the Strategic Plan developed by the Council last summer. It has been awhile since I have communicated with you and I want to bring you up-to-date on Chapter and legislative activities that have taken place over the past several months.

Here is a recap of those activities:

#### **Joint Program with Members of the Missouri ACC and Missouri Emergency Physicians**

We had a successful continuing education effort, the first collaborative effort with the Missouri Chapter of Emergency Physicians, on February 5, 2005 in St. Louis. The subject was “Practical Issues in the Care of STEMI Patients.” The keynote speaker was **Dr. Eric Bates**, University of Michigan, who had a key role in writing the Clinical Practice Guidelines for STEMI. The symposium was created and directed by **Dr. Richard Bach**, Washington University, and **Dr. Michael Lim**, St. Louis University. Additional faculty members included me, **Dr. Marc Lewen** from Cardiology Diagnostics, Ltd., Inc. and **Dr.**

**Doug Char**, Emergency Medicine Residency Program Director, Washington University. We hope this is this first chapter in further collaborative programs with ER physicians in Missouri and regionally.

#### **Combined Kansas and Missouri Chapter ACC Meeting**

On April 11, 2005 we had a combined Kansas and Missouri Chapter meeting in Kansas City at Starker’s Reserve. Following a short business meeting the educational focus was by Dr. Inder Anand, Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School and Director of Heart Failure Program, VA Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota. His subject was “Ventricular Remodeling and the Progression of Heart Failure. What have we learned from clinical trials?”

#### **Diabetes Education Initiative**

At the annual ACC meeting in Orlando this Spring, it was announced to the Board of Governors that Pfizer has provided \$1.7 million to fund a Diabetes Education Initiative. The initial curriculum was created by an expert committee chaired by Dr. Alan Brown of Illinois. Faculty

were then recruited from all ACC Chapters and attended a program in Jackson, Florida, June 24-25. With the epidemic of diabetes, and the lack of endocrinologists, cardiologists are increasingly being asked to become more of a “diabetic cardiologist.” The attendees at the meeting, including four Missouri physicians, reviewed and discussed the suggested curriculum. The curriculum was created by a collaborative effort of cardiologists and endocrinologists. After further revision and simplification of the slides, state and regional meetings will be conducted around the country. I think the material will be stimulating for all cardiologists.

### **Lobbyist Hired by Missouri Chapter**

As most of you know, we hired a lobbyist for the first time to monitor the recent Legislative Session in Jefferson City. You should have received a thorough, readable report from Gamble & Schlemeier, Governmental Consultants via email. If you have not provided us with your email address you can access the report on our web page, [www.moacc.org](http://www.moacc.org).

In the meantime be prepared for a greater need for your support regarding the Imaging issue. The American College of Radiology has “drawn the line”, and said only radiologists are competent to read nuclear studies, PET scans, and especially MRI studies. National ACC and collaborative medical societies are responding with great time and effort to appropriately educate legislators about training and competence standards in all medical areas, not just radiology.

### **National Legislative Conference to be Held in Washington, DC this Fall**

I encourage all of you to attend the Legislative Conference in Washington, DC from September 18-20, 2005. The number one focus will be the imaging issue. The program will include national speakers, such as Dr. Tom Coburn, U.S. Senator for Oklahoma, and many interesting educational sessions. You may access additional information about the conference at the following web address:

[http://www.acc.org/advocacy/advoc\\_issues/2005\\_legcon.htm](http://www.acc.org/advocacy/advoc_issues/2005_legcon.htm)

### **MO-ACC Cardiologist Elected to Office**

Note that one of our own, **Dr. Jerry Kennett**, has been elected President-Elect of the Missouri Medical Society. We will continue to have excellent representation at MO Med. Congratulations, Jerry.

Alan Forker, MD, FACC  
Missouri Governor

