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Third Quarter, August 2008

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It is said that time flies by.

That statement has been very true for me this summer. I had the distinct pleasure of taking over this July as your Academy president. I am honored and excited by the opportunity to continue the tremendous work that my predecessors in this position have established.

As I write this, I am watching my son enjoy the accomplishment of climbing a large pine tree. I remember being that age and thinking what a beautiful sight it was to be able to see so far in every direction. I would propose to you that is how we as physician assistants should see the current state of our profession. We are fortunate to be in a state where our practice laws are some of the best in the country and our profession continues to see significant growth. I now ask you to take a few moments to remember or consider what it must have been like to forge this great profession in the early 1970s.

Could you imagine starting your PA career and wondering if you would get hired, and if you did, hoping you would get a salary offer that was at least \$14,000. What if your first day on the job you could not order a chest x-ray because you were not licensed to do so or found an officer threatening to arrest you for practicing medicine without a license. That is exactly what happened

to one of the founders of MAPA. Imagine how different our world would be right now if these hard working individuals did not forge ahead and start the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants. Think if we still could not sign for samples, write a narcotic prescription for that patient in pain or prescribe physical therapy.



John G. McGinnity MS, PA-C

With those issues in mind, I would ask you to help me in dedicating this year to our founding members of the Academy. We will host these individuals at our fall CME at Grand Traverse Resort on October 9-12th. We will have a special session on Saturday at 11am where we will hear some of these early stories of the profession and take a look at our roots. We will also honor these members at the presidential banquet that evening. So, if you can, please join us at this year's fall CME conference and extend a special thanks to these individual for what they have done for all of us.

As an Academy, we will continue to work on our established strategic plan (posted

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CMU Update

Central students have recognized this summer as a time for change.

As another academic year passes, another class graduates while a new class begins. The CMU PA class of 2010 began their PA school endeavors in May. We welcome them to the program. The class of 2009 finished their didactic year with pride as they ranked 4th in the nation for their PACKRAT scores. In addition, to celebrate their transition into rotations they participated in the traditional White Coat Ceremony on July 20th. Finally, the class of 2008 celebrated all of their achievements at their graduation ceremony July 26th. Central students look forward to another successful school year ahead.



Above: Class of 2009 White Coat Ceremony

Right: Keynote Speaker, John Lopes, PA-C at White Coat Ceremony



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on our website for your review) to ensure that we maintain and improve the working environment for the PAs in the state of Michigan. The board will also work to develop a public relations plan, with assistance from a public relations firm, to increase awareness of our profession. I encourage all of your suggestions and any involvement you may be able to provide. Just being a member of your state Academy does a significant amount for our profession, and we appreciate that support. We have come a long way from the few short years ago when this Academy almost had to consider dissolving because of a significant shortfall in revenue. MAPA is the sole organization that has dedicated itself to protecting and improving the working environment of PAs in the state of Michigan. Your Academy is now fiscally strong and hopefully will never get to those days of concern again. I am making a commitment to you that this board will work tirelessly to ensure YOUR Academy is improving daily and open to your input.

Like all great trees, we need a good root system. Our previous leaders have established that root system for us. Now, I ask that you consider being involved in your profession so we can all gain from your involvement. I feel becoming a PA is one

*Like all great trees, we need
a good root system.*

of the best choices I have made in life, and I am committed to seeing this profession grow. I hope that some day MAPA can represent significantly more than 30 percent of the PAs in the state. It would help support the many good things this Academy does by lobbying the legislature, working with health systems to improve practice environments and being an advocate for you .

I thank you for your vote of confidence in allowing me to serve as president, and I look forward to working for and with you this year. Please feel free to email me any time at jmcginnity@wayne.edu.

Respectfully,

John G. McGinnity MS, PA-C

“Eight Costly Job Hunting Mistakes”©

by Marcos A. Vargas, MSA, PA-C

Let's face it, job hunting for any PA can be a daunting task if not a downright stressful endeavor. Particularly, if you don't have an organized agenda that will assist you in maximizing your chances of landing that coveted position that you have dreamed of, since your last year in PA school.

Successful job hunting is more than just obtaining job leads or mass mailing resumes to would-be employers seeking PA services. In fact, it is about setting realistic expectations, conforming to some good “job hunting practices” and avoiding the 7 deadliest job-hunting mistakes often times committed by many in their job searches.

So, be cognizant and avoid these job hunting blunders, all too commonly seen and committed either consciously or unconsciously during our careers:

Mistake # 1: Non-tailored Cover Letter:

Clearly, cover letters can be door “openers” or door “shutters,” depending on how they present you. As your calling card, it must set you apart from the rest. It should professionally be crafted to specifically speak to the needs of that employer and that employer alone. Much like an appetizer, it should entice the reader to further read about you, by continuing into the resume.

Mistake # 2: A Poorly Crafted Resume:

Sadly many may think that listing everything about themselves in a piece of paper constitutes a resume. Nothing could be further from the truth. While there are no right or wrong resume formats, some are best suited for particular individuals depending on their background and skill set—obviously.

Aside from the mechanical transgressions (i.e. typos, misspellings, etc) many resumes fail because of their contents, particularly if they are not substantive of your acquired knowledge, refined skill set and/or other supporting abilities for the position in consideration. Depart from this formula, and your resume will find itself in the wastebasket in no time at all.

Often times selling your credentials comes down to 30 seconds or less, the average accorded time by any employer or any Human Resource staff member involved in “weeding out” applicants from the selection process.

Mistake # 3: Un-researched Employer:

In many cases, job disappointments can be minimized if the individual researches potential employers beforehand. Often times, this task is left to be performed during the interview, which maybe go unchecked due to time constraints. Or because the interviewee feels uncomfortable about digging up information about the position under consideration.

Either through your contacts (networking) or through research, it is incumbent upon you to learn about how you two match up. Additionally, uncovering potential areas of affinity and discord that could sour a working relationship should be considered a must for a job seeker. Basically this is about gaining and gathering as much insight or information as possible before the preliminary or final interview if you want to make that “informed decision” easier.

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Mistake # 4: Unrealistic Compensation Benefits Expectations

In our working lives, we all seek and try to secure competitive employment packages when confronted with such issues. It is natural. Plus, employers expect that. Unfortunately, many individuals base their final decision on salary alone. Also to their detriment, some overlook other benefits provided or do not negotiate for other non-cash perks that potentially an employer may concede if the request is not too unreasonable.

In brief, don't lose sight of the big picture by zeroing on the paycheck.

Mistake # 5: Unsecured References

Another detrimental unsuspecting job-hunting behavior that many PAs engage is failing to secure references. Nothing can upset an employer more than contacting unsuspecting reference sources for a prospective candidate. An employer may reason that your lack of consideration to this detail may signal other potential professional shortcomings on your behalf. Thus, minimizing your chances of consideration when other more "attentive" applicants are vying for the same position you are. Confirm your references beforehand and you will stand to appear more professional.

Mistake # 6: Poor Interviewing Skills

Job interviews should be a two-way street. You are going to be assessed, but you should keep in mind, that you have the right to evaluate an employer just as much. In many cases, job interview disappointments can be minimized if the individual researches potential employers beforehand. But more over, presents his or her queries in a non-threatening and articulate manner. Often times, this task is left out because the interviewee feels uncomfortable or unsure as to what to or how to inquire about during the interview.

Worse yet, the interviewee does not "know thyself" in terms of what he or she expects and wants from the employer. In sum, the PA fails to show the value of their skill-set, all because they were unprepared.

Mistake # 7: Giving In Too Soon:

Accepting an employment offer should be a well-thought out decision. Not a rushed one. Quick acceptance of an employment offer has many repercussions. For instance, you may have accepted an employment offer with an employer that was not the right fit for you nor did you explore other opportunities to enhance the details of the would-be working relationship.

Sound employer selection is best when you have weighed the pros and cons and in many cases, the alternatives as well. Avoid hastiness.

Mistake # 8: Too Trusting:

Relying on contractual promises made over the phone or during the interview or by handshakes or even hearsay from other staff members has always led many to unpleasant career surprises. Avoid being one more statistic, get it in writing. Preferably a contract. At the very least, one drafted or reviewed by your attorney.

Not only will you be protecting your interests, you will be mitigating any legal hassles or disputes that may arise, should the business association become strained. Avoid getting allured by "pies in the sky promises." Or the "snake oil" vendors out there.

By remembering and reminding yourself of these job search shortcomings, you stand to gain the most, you stand to keep the doors open and ultimately avoid these 8 deadliest job-hunting mistakes.

Current Job Postings

August 2008

ST. JOHN HEALTH • Physician Assistant

Location: Providence Hospital in Southfield, MI and Providence Park Hospital in Novi, MI

Department: Hospitalist

Standard weekly hours: Full-time, 12 hour shifts with some weekend, night and holiday rotation

Pay Range: \$40.53 - \$53.76/hour

\$5,000 Signing bonus for daytime shifts

\$10,000 Signing bonus for dedicated midnight shift only

Department Description: The Hospitalist PA Service ensures excellent patient care and timely response to patient needs while supporting the private practice of medicine at Providence Hospital. The Hospitalist PA's also provide services to physicians admitting patients to the hospital. Through this service we are able to provide quality care as well as improve patient safety through immediacy of response.

Job Summary: Provides reasonable, efficient and professional medical care to unassigned patients. Conducts admit note, orders tests, consults with primary care providers, evaluates hospitalized patients, assesses disposition of patients evaluated in the emergency department, Rapid Response and Stroke Team members.

Requirements:

Completion of education and training required for PA licensure in Michigan

Current License as a Physician Assistant by the State of Michigan, or eligible for licensure

Must successfully complete SJH credentialing process

Preferred: Experience as a Hospitalist Physician Assistant

St. John Health is comprised of seven hospitals plus more than 125 medical facilities in southeast Michigan. Every year at St. John Health, we touch thousands of lives in southeast Michigan through services such as heart, cancer, obstetrics, neurosciences, orthopedics, physical rehabilitation, behavioral medicine, surgery, emergency and urgent care.

We are called to:

Service of the poor - generosity of spirit, especially for persons most in need

Reverence - respect and compassion for the dignity and diversity of life

Integrity - inspiring trust through personal leadership

Wisdom - integrating excellence and stewardship

Creativity - courageous innovation

Dedication - affirming the hope and joy of our ministry

Please email resumes to irene.wintermyer@stjohn.org

For more information, please see our website at: www.stjohn.org/careers

SJH is an equal opportunity employer

August 2008

Pediatric practice seeking an experienced PA to work in high volume office as a physician extender. Please reply to:

Lansing Pediatric Associates

2414 Lake Lansing Rd, Lansing, MI 48912

Attn: Jan Schwartz

August 2008

We are looking to expand our hours and add a PA into our two person practice. We are located in Berkley, MI located just north of Detroit. We have a one year old new medical facility with state of the art equipment, including digital x-ray. Paul Benson, DO has been in practice for 27 years in Berkley. In addition to being certified and practicing as a Family Medicine physician, he is credentialed as an HIV specialist. Jeffry Rochlen, MD has been in practice for 5 years and is dual board certified as a Pediatrician and Internal Medicine Specialist.

We have a great practice with a dedicated staff and diverse patients making it a fun place to work. We are willing to train the right person to learn HIV medicine, as well as incorporate any special talents you may possess. Please call Paul Benson for further information at 248-544-9300. Visit our website at www.DoctorBeWell.com to see what we are all about.

July 2008

Two busy Cardiologists in Monroe, MI are seeking a dynamic PA. Cardiology experience advantageous. Participate in all aspects of Inpatient, Outpatient, History & Physicals, Consults, Cardiac Catheterization, Stress testing, etc.... Will provide training.

Competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Excellent opportunity for a highly motivated candidate. Send resume/CV to:

PO Box 1352, Monroe, MI 48161

or email heartcenter@comcast.net

July 2008

Position available for NP or PA to join a D.O. physician (19 years in present location), two PAs and an NP in a well-established, growing practice in southwest Michigan. Small town "country" setting 8 miles from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI; 10 miles from Notre Dame/South Bend, IN; 1.5 hours from Chicago, IL; and 20 minutes from Lake Michigan Beaches. The majority of patient care is rendered in the office setting, however, it also includes "rounding" at hospital and nursing homes located 5 miles away. We see the full spectrum of family care - adult, pediatrics, and geriatrics. Practice includes urgent care, well care, minor surgeries, some industrial medicine, and care of chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, etc. - it does not include OB. Send your inquiries and resume/CV to:

Dr. Roy B Parke

Buchanan Family Medical Center

Attn: Kathy Parke, Administrator

1045 East Front St., Buchanan, MI 49107

kjp@qtm.net or call Dr. Parke or Kathy Parke at 269-695-5540 (office) or 269-695-9329 (home)

July 2008

Critical Care Pulmonary Medicine, PC is currently seeking a full-time candidate to work with the hospitalist program. Competitive salary and benefit package. Must work well under pressure. Clinical experience preferred. Candidate to contact by calling Erikka at 269-969-6100 or email CV to ccpmaa@yahoo.com

July 2008

Pedi-care Pediatric Clinic, P.C., is seeking a PA for part-time employment at our growing pediatric practice. Pedi-care offers competitive salary and benefits. Interested candidates should apply for position by faxing resumes to 734-427-1483 Attn: Karla Moore, Office Manager or email resume to pedicareclinic@gmail.com



Exclusive Offer:
Great Wolf Lodge
daily water park passes
available for
\$10.00



33rd Annual Fall CME Conference

October 9 - 12, 2008

Grand Traverse Resort

It is time for the 33rd Annual Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants Fall CME Conference!

MAPA has been working very hard to bring you an exciting and educational program for this year's Fall CME Conference. We are back at the wonderful "Grand New" Grand Traverse Resort. This year we have secured speakers who will address issues that are not the "typical topics" such as how to improve a PAs value to a practice through billing and coding and a discussion on the "Value of Medicine" with a top national pharmaceutical executive who will explain exactly what is driving the cost of medicine! As always, workshops will be available for some "hands-on" and small group experiences.

When you're not learning about the latest advances in medicine, there will be many opportunities this year to mingle, meet new people and catch up with old friends. The fun begins with Thursday's Family Night "Arts and Crafts for Kids" and continues to Friday's PA program receptions, wine tour option, and a Friday Night Family Movie on the big screen complete with munchies. The networking camaraderie extends to a special session, "A Struggle for Legality: The Foundation of MAPA," which will be held on Saturday from 11:00 a.m.-Noon and the Silent Auction and President's Banquet on Saturday evening. We are encouraging everyone to attend both the special session and the President's Banquet to pay tribute to our founding members whose struggle forged the way for some of the best PA practice laws in the country.

If you plan to vacation in the fall, there is no better place than the Grand Traverse Resort during the peak of fall color changes. With an indoor pool, outdoor hot tubs, Spa facilities, or the many local golf courses, the resort is full of opportunities for the family. In addition, MAPA has made arrangements with the Great Wolf Lodge Water Park to offer Day Passes for our members. Of course, a visit to Traverse City for shopping or just a scoop of ice cream is always in order! And, we can't forget the many vineyards and wineries this area boasts!



Be one of the first 25 to sign up for the childcare option offered for the Saturday evening President's Banquet, and we will pay ½ of the expense! Get more information at 1-888-YES-MAPA and call the Grand Traverse Resort to arrange for childcare.

So, please join us this October 9-12th, for education, fellowship, and relaxation with the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants!

Conference Highlights

- Wine Tour is back by popular demand – seats are limited so register now. **Friday, Oct 10**
- Onsite daycare available – During the President's Banquet on **Saturday, Oct 11**. MAPA will pay ½ of childcare expenses for the first 25 people to sign up.
- Golf discounts
- Spa services discounts
- President's Banquet with great entertainment – Soulstice will be performing. **Saturday, Oct 11**
- PA Foundation Silent Auction
- Family Fun Night Arts & Crafts **Thursday, October 9**
- Family Fun Night Movie & Munchies **Friday, October 10**
- 5K Run/Walk – \$50 cash prize awarded to first place male and female.
- Hands on workshops to include: suturing, casting, slit lamp, EKG, billing and coding.
- Three AAPA Product Theatres will be offered during lunch and breakfast on Thursday and Saturday.
- PA Week – Goodwill donation drive. Bins will be onsite for collection items. A list of needed items is available online: www.michiganpa.org



Kids Night Out Options – MAPA will cover ½ of childcare expenses for Saturday for the first 25 people to sign up for the child care options, to allow parents to attend the President's Banquet. Please call the Grand Traverse Resort directly to schedule child care.

The kids programs are Friday and Saturday nights from 6pm-10pm (\$28/child) or 6pm-11pm (\$33/child) for children ages 6-12. Be sure to bring swimsuits and tennis shoes! Activities include swimming, tennis, board games, and arts and crafts. Pizza and ice cream included. Outdoor activities - weather permitting.

In-room babysitting: \$15/hour for one child. \$2 additional charge for each additional child with a maximum of 4 children. Available for children of all ages. Available 24 hours. Need at least 24 hours notice. Children will be supervised in the parent's hotel room. They may be taken out of the room for swimming, tennis, and/or dinner with parent's permission.

We will pay ½ of your on-site hotel child care expenses!

Be one of the first 25 to sign up for the child care option and we will pay ½ of the expense.

This is only good for Saturday evening during the President's Banquet. We are focusing and recognizing the founding PAs; hence, "Remembering our Roots" and are encouraging all registrants to attend. Please call Elicia Bell, 231-543-6775 or email ebell@gtresort.com at the Grand Traverse Resort to sign up for child care.

To register for the conference, please visit www.michiganpa.org, or you may call the MAPA office 517-336-1498. The conference brochure will be available online and mailed out on August 25.

Is it legal for a PA sign a DNR (do not resuscitate) order?

The short answer is yes, a lot of us do it frequently. The rules call for the “attending physician” to sign the DNR. The definitions below both include us. “Attending physician” means the physician who has primary responsibility for the treatment and care of a declarant “Physician” means an individual licensed to engage in the practice of medicine or the practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery pursuant to article 15 of the public health code, MCL 333.16101 to 333.18838.

Can a PA who is in one specialty work for another doc in a different specialty who is employed by the same group? The supervising physician is not licensed in ID and Internal medicine, but the other doc is and wants the PA to help her out too.

Yes, a PA can work for as many physicians in as many different practices settings / specialties as they would like.

What they cannot do is perform a procedure, or care for a patient that is outside of the scope of practice of the physician that they happen to be working with that day. If they are in the family practice office today, then they cannot perform a bone marrow aspiration if the physician they are working with that day does not do them, where the PA may do plenty of these for another physician group on a different day. Everything the PA does must be delegated to them from the physician whom is supervising them. The physician cannot delegate something that he/she does not do himself.

Can a PA refer for speech pathology and therapy?

A PA can refer to any specialty / subspecialty of medicine. The only issue we had in the past was that

the Physical Therapists’ rules required a physician order. That has been changed and thus there are no current restrictions.

Do PAs need a co-signature when ordering x-rays pertaining to Medicare?

A PA without a PIN from CMS would not have been issued a UPIN and therefore would not be identifiable as the provider ordering any testing. It may be for that reason a doc’s signature is needed. Otherwise, MAPA is unaware of CMS requiring co-signatures for ordering tests. There are some hospitals or other entities that may have a more restrictive policy but with PA 248 enacted, no co-signature is required for PA orders.

Can a PA do Osteopathic manipulation and bill for it?

If OMT is taught to a PA and if the PA is supervised by a DO who performs OMT, then the PA, under our delegatory laws, is able to perform and bill for the service.....if covered by the patient’s insurance.

Is there any type of modifier required when a PA is billing a service for Medicaid? Is the modifier needed to alert Medicaid that a PA provided service?

There is no modifier needed when billing Medicaid. Medicaid “Traditional” does not credential PAs at this time and expects physician services provided by PAs to be submitted using the supervising physician’s PIN. There are some Medicaid HMOs that credential PAs and PAs can be the PCP for a panel of patients but this is not a uniform policy across the Medicaid product line.

33rd Annual Fall CME Conference

Earn CME credits while having fun in your home state! There will be a wine tour, family night, President’s banquet, spouse/guest activities, 5K run, and more!

October 9–12, 2008 at Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City

National Physician Assistant Week, October 6-12 will coincide with MAPA's conference in Traverse City.

As we celebrate 41 years of the physician assistant profession the Michigan Academy invites all of you to get involved in a community activity by bringing a food donation for the Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan. Food and pantry items are always needed and appreciated at the Goodwill Inn Homeless Shelter.

Goodwill is a 501(c)3 non profit organization who strives to develop programs and services that improve people's lives by fostering self-sufficiency, a hand up, not a hand out.

Today, Goodwill offers a comprehensive and unique package of vocational, housing, transportation, nutritional, family strengthening and retail services designed to serve the whole person; the whole family.

Goodwill's goal is to assist individuals and families overcome barriers to employment and independence.

Join the Celebration!

To find out more about Goodwill Industries of Northern Michigan see their website <http://www.goodwillnmi.org/>

Collection carts will be at the conference registration area Thursday – Saturday for drop off of donations.

Celebrate National PA Week by making a difference in the local community.

Thanks so much!

Professional Corporation Update

By Phil Schafer, PA-C • Legislative Affairs Chair

MAPA leaders continue to work with Senator Stamas, the Bureau of Health Professions, the Department of Labor and the major physician groups to advance Michigan's Professional Corporation (PC) rules for PAs. Michigan has been denying applications for PCs that include PAs and physicians as partners, based on the rule that requires that all partners provide the "same professional service." MAPA Executive Director Michael DeGrow recently met with the physicians to gain their support for this effort. MAPA has called for a summit meeting with all these groups to be held this summer ahead of the fall legislative session. Currently, there is draft legislation that has been written to fix this, and it is being reviewed by all concerned parties. Our hope is that this legislation will be introduced promptly in the fall when the legislators return.

Michigan Physician Assistant Foundation

The Michigan Physician Assistant Foundation is a charitable organization that is operated exclusively for educational and research purposes. The affairs of the Foundation are managed by a Board of Trustees.

One of the activities of the Foundation is the awarding of scholarships to second year PA students at each of the five Michigan PA programs. These are \$1000 awards. The deadline to apply each year is August 1st and the scholarships are awarded at the fall Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants conference. This year they will be awarded on Friday October 10th at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, MI near Traverse City.

The scholarship announcements will be made during the Student Quiz Bowl, which is another activity of the PA Foundation, and is open to teams from any of the PA programs in Michigan. A trophy is awarded to the winning team. Check with your Program Director if you would like to enter a team in the Quiz Bowl.

Another fund raising activity of the Foundation is the Silent Auction held prior to and during the Saturday evening President's Banquet at the MAPA conference October 11th. Funds raised are used for next year's scholarships.

There is a web site for the Michigan PA Foundation at www.mipaf.org which has more information and an application form for a scholarship. You may also donate items for the Silent Auction on the web site. If you have other questions, you may contact me by email at VaughnPAC@aol.com or phone at 989 686-0578.

Free Clinics Stay Open When PAs Volunteer

By Ronald X. Stavale, PA-C

Former MAPA president Jack Kircher was recently featured in the AAPA news, along with several local papers, regarding his volunteer efforts at The Helen M. Nickless Volunteer Clinic in Bay City.

MAPA Board member Sue York volunteered her time at the Thea Bowman Health Center in Highland Park, which provided free medical care, until it recently closed. Sharon Moser, PA-C and Amy Abdelnour, PA-C also donated their time at the free clinic over the past few years.

MAPA would like to acknowledge Jack, Sue, Sharon, Amy and all PAs in Michigan who donate their time and efforts to providing medical care for those who are uninsured and cannot afford health care.

Michigan's economic downturn has created an additional patient population of families who are uninsured and cannot afford the cost of health care. The recent economic situation we find ourselves in only adds to the burden of trying to care for the nearly 17 percent of Americans who are uninsured, and that figure continues to grow.

We would like to create a list of clinics where PAs can volunteer their time to provide this much needed care. If you know of a free clinic where volunteer help is needed or would like to acknowledge PAs who donate their time at these clinics, please contact the MAPA office. If you would like to help out at the clinic where Jack works, please contact clinic manager Joyce Hardy at (989) 895-4664.

PAs Meeting the PAMPAC Challenge

By Ronald X. Stavale, PA-C
PAMPAC Chair

The Physician Assistants of Michigan Political Action Committee (PAMPAC) would like to thank all PAs who have taken the time to donate to PAMPAC. Your PA colleagues who volunteer their time with MAPA and PAMPAC strongly feel that donating to PAMPAC is a way for you to be involved in the decisions that will shape the future of your profession. Don't delegate that responsibility to those who do not have your professional interests in mind.

PAMPAC thanks the following PAs who have donated since our last newsletter was published:

Suzanne York
Andrew & Kristy Booth
Karl Wagner, Jr.
Lydia Rising
Rene Hernandez

Royal Oak
Byron Center
New Hudson
Bloomfield Hills
Alma

If you have recently donated and your name is missing from this list, we sincerely apologize. Please notify the MAPA office to add your name to this acknowledgement or if you have any questions. You may email me at [HYPERLINK "mailto:rxstava@comcast.net"](mailto:rxstava@comcast.net) rxstava@comcast.net.

PAMPAC challenges all PAs in the state to donate at least one hour's worth of your salary a year to PAMPAC. Certainly, we appreciate and encourage those who donate more, but, at a minimum, this is a reasonable request considering what is at stake. **Donate to PAMPAC in order to preserve and protect your practice environment for your future. You may send a personal check made out to PAMPAC to the address below, or call 1-877-YES-MAPA.**

PAMPAC • C/O MAPA • 120 W. Saginaw St. • East Lansing, Michigan, 48823

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of

Clyde Yencer

Clyde was an excellent PA, a model for the profession.

He was especially known for his work and acceptance in the local Amish community and an article was published by AAPA on his work there a few years ago. I had the pleasure to serve with him in DMAT where his knowledge and expertise were well known. He will be missed.

Clyde Joseph Yencer of Hersey lost his long battle with esophageal cancer on July 28, 2008 at age 57. He will long be remembered for his quick wit, kind heart, sharp intellect and medical expertise.

Clyde was born January 3, 1951 in Warren, Ohio, to Charles Louis and Gretchen Gypsy (Sullivan) Yencer. He spent his early years in Mount Blanchard, Ohio, and Sarasota, Fla.

Clyde enlisted in the U.S. Navy in June 1969 at age 18, and during his 12 years of service traveled almost all the way around the world. He served as a hospital corpsman stationed on various ships, including the USS Austin, Gilmore, Nashville and a three-week tour on the HMS Sovereign. Clyde was also stationed at various ports and bases in the United States and Europe, including three years at La Maddalena, Italy, and in the Vietnam War, where he flew with helicopter crews, transporting patients from battlefields to definitive treatment areas. He was proud to be part of Operation Baby Lift, the international rescue effort in 1975 of hundreds of war-orphaned children from the massacre ordered by the Cambodian dictator. Also while in the Navy, Clyde earned an associate's degree from

Mohegan Community College and earned various awards, medals and commendations.

After his honorable discharge from the Navy and while working for the Hancock County, Ohio, Sheriff's Office, Clyde married his best friend, Ketha Diann (Fairbanks) Cruz on May 8, 1982. He adopted her son, Isaac, in August 1984. After a few years with HCSO and later with the Findlay, Ohio, Police Department, Clyde realized his true calling was in the medical field. He graduated from the Physician's Assistant program at Kettering College of Medical Arts (Kettering, Ohio) in 1989 and worked at clinics and hospitals in Cuba; N.Y.; Onawa, Iowa; and in Michigan at Houghton Lake, Reed City, Big Rapids, Manton and Cadillac. While working full time, Clyde earned his bachelor's degree from Regents College of New York and his master's degree from the University of Nebraska in Omaha. Additionally, he earned a graduate certificate from Duke University.

Clyde represented physician's assistants on the Iowa Governor's Rural Health Task Force in 1992 and twice served on the executive board of Michigan Association of Physician's Assistants as the District Two Representative. Clyde wrote a few articles that were published in the magazine "Advance for Physician's Assistants." Beginning in 1995, he volunteered to serve with the Michigan-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team, a division of the National Disaster Medical System of the U.S. Public Health Service, a non-combat branch of the uniformed services. While with DMAT, he was deployed to the Olympics in Atlanta in 1996, Hurricanes Floyd, Georges and Isabel and Ground Zero at

the World Trade Center for two weeks in October 2001, providing primary care for personnel injured during rescue efforts. He was also deployed to Operation Provide Refuge at Fort Dix, N.J. to assist with health care screening of hundreds of Kosovar refugees in 1999.

In 1999, Clyde was certified as an instructor by the U.S. Department of Justice in chemical, ordinance and biological warfare in order to train local first responders in bomb and terrorist weapons response. In 2000, he received his commission as Lieutenant with USPHS Reserve. Clyde also served Osceola County as the District Seven Commissioner on the Board of Commissioners from 2003 through 2004, and most recently as a 4-H judge.

With great regret, Clyde retired from Great Lakes Family Care due to health complications in January 2008, after many happy years working at both the Manton and Cadillac offices. He loved his work, co-workers, patients, friends, family and dogs - not necessarily in that order.

Clyde leaves behind his wife, Ketha; son, Scott Matthew (April) Yencer; daughter, Christine Denise (Fran) Swain; granddaughters, Sabrina Lynn Tyndall and Paige Nicolette Yencer of Inkster, Mich., Shawna Maria Yencer-Rodriguez of Rota, Spain, Renae Michelle Yencer of Tea, S.D.; as well as his dear friends Jeanette Hays and Ellen Schwach.

He was preceded in death by his parents and infant twin sisters.

Clyde's cremated remains will be interred at sea by the U.S. Navy. The family requests that donations be made to the Salvation Army Disaster Relief Fund in lieu of flowers.



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