



March 2009

Dear SPAP Members,

I hope you've all had a productive and rewarding 2009, so far. I have several announcements to make in this edition of my member letter. I will include the following:

- Student Scholarships - due April 20th
- Elections - Call for Nominations
- Membership Dues for 2009-10
- NEW Preceptor Database
- **SPAP's 4th Annual CME Conference - Baltimore, MD - March 11-14, 2010**

Spring is upon us which means it is time to start evaluating the excellent student members of our society. Last year it was a pleasure to present two \$500 scholarships to Kylie Fonteno and Bhavna Gvalani. Due to a record number, twenty-one, of outstanding applicants, we were fortunate enough to provide Heather Rocha-Gonzalez with an honorable mention \$100 scholarship. Please remind any student members or students that wish to join that these scholarships are available! Applications are available on our website.

It is also time to expose our members with leadership potential! Elections will begin on May 1st using an electronic ballot and terms begin July 1st. Prior to creating a slate of officers we need your input regarding who will take our society to the next level. You will receive an email with simple instructions to nominate members. Feel free to nominate any member that you feel has shown a commitment to pediatrics. Working in a pediatric specialty is not necessary nor is any past experience. Past SPAP leadership has gone on to do amazing things as leaders in AAPA and other organizations. *That reminds me...* that past SPAP President, Patrick Killeen, is a candidate for AAPA president...*don't forget to vote!*

SPAP Board of Director positions for the 2009-2010 terms include:

- **President-elect** - 3 year term
(1yr as President-Elect, 1yr as President, 1yr as Immediate-Past President)
- **Treasurer** - 2 year term
- **Member-at-Large** - 2 year term
- **Student Representative** - 1 year term

Please contact Joey Soward (president-elect) or me if you have any questions regarding these positions. A list of duties and responsibilities is also available on our webpage; however, with increase in management services from COMs, duties have been modified.

As stated above, we have increased our management services from AAPA's Constituent Organization Management Solutions (COMs), therefore, creating more expenses. In addition to these changes, we have a newly designed webpage, new logo, and the ability to

offer even more CME through our own SPAP Conference in March 2010. With these changes the board has voted to increase member dues by \$10. This will be reflected on our online application, newly designed brochure, and membership renewal letter.

Membership Categories are as follows:

- **FELLOW:** A PA who is a graduate of an education program and/or certified by an agency approved by the Board of Directors. Fellows shall be eligible to hold office and shall have full voting rights.
Dues \$45/year
- **STUDENT:** A student enrolled in an approved physician assistant program/residency with an interest in pediatrics as a career. Student members shall not be entitled to vote. They may serve on committees and serve as student representative.
Dues \$20/career (one-time)
- **ASSOCIATE:** A non-PA health care practitioner who desires to associate with the Society. Associates shall be entitled to privileges on the floor, but shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.
Dues \$60/year
- **AFFILIATE:** A non-health care practitioner who desires to associate with the Society. Affiliate shall be entitled to privileges of the floor, but shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.
Dues \$60/year

You will notice that the Student fee has also been increased but is now a "one-time" \$20 for the entire student career. I challenge each of you to recruit supervising physicians, fellow nurses and nurse practitioners to also join SPAP. Our society is for anyone who supports the physician-PA team and those who provide care to babies, children, and adolescents. Check out our new downloadable brochure on the website!

We often have students contact the society wanting to know how they can set up a clinical rotation in an area of pediatrics. We all know how difficult this can be! SPAP's Student Representative, Pamela Lambert, is working diligently to establish a "Preceptor Database" for our students. This will be an ongoing database updated at regular intervals throughout the year. Members can provide information to the student representative regarding their willingness to precept students from across the country. Look forward to hearing from her.

Finally, we are excited to announce that SPAP will be hosting its 4th Annual CME Conference. This year we will not be affiliated with any other organization! The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency on the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD. The dates are March 11th-14th, 2010. We plan to offer 24 CME (& CEU) hours which will include sessions on general pediatrics, sub-specialties, and workshops. Clear your calendars and plan to join us!

Don't forget to visit our website: www.spaponline.org

Thank you for your membership, your continued support, and your dedication to treating children of all ages! Feel free to contact me with any ideas or suggestions you may have to improve your organization. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Tami Dolphens MPAS, PA-C

President, Society for Physician Assistants in Pediatrics

dolphensSPAP@gmail.com