



MAY/JUNE 2004 * AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE

In my last column I informed you that efforts were underway to provide online access to the *Journal of Legal Medicine*, *Legal Medicine Perspectives*, and *Legal Medicine Q & A*. I am pleased to announce that these efforts have been successful and ACLM members may now review current and past issues of each of these publications online. This is readily accomplished by visiting the publications page of our website and selecting the particular publication you would like to read online. Access is password protected. However, you need only log in as a member to review the publication of choice.

Volumes 21 through 24 of the *Journal of Legal Medicine* are complete and full text access is available in PDF and HTML formats. Volume 25 (calendar year 2004) will become available to members concurrently with publication of each quarterly issue. March 2004 is already available online. The table of contents for each issue is conveniently accessible and will facilitate the search process. Moreover, the December 2004 issue will feature a five-year index that will further enhance the ease of online access to particular articles. This author/title/subject index will include all articles, commentaries, and book review essays published since December of 1999.

Nearly 40 issues of *Legal Medicine Perspectives* are available, beginning with the January/February 1998 issue. The table of contents for each issue is provided, again to facilitate convenient access for review. All issues are available as PDF files. Earlier issues are in the process of being scanned and will continue to be placed online throughout the course of this year. Similar online access to PDF files of *Legal Medicine Q & A* is available beginning with the December 2001 issue. Earlier issues are also in the process of being scanned and will be incorporated into the database as the year progresses. As with *LMP*, the table of contents for each issue of *LMQA* is readily available to help focus member searches.

ACLM members will continue to receive a hard copy of each of these publications through the regular mail while contemporaneously enjoying online access to current and past issues. We are indebted to the efforts of our journal editors, Marshall Kapp, JD, MPH (*Journal of Legal Medicine*), Tom McLean, MD, JD (*Legal Medicine Perspectives*), and Judith Gic, RN, JD (*Legal Medicine Q & A*), along with the excellent work of Bob Buckman, PhD (Chair of the Directory and Cybernet Committee), and the staff of Weiser and Associates, whose joint efforts have made this important member benefit a reality. Special thanks are also in order for Alison Heimburger, Communications and Publications Coordinator, and Mark Cakanic, IT/Web Developer, for their success in translating the ideas and goals of ACLM leadership into an impressive website success! I encourage ACLM members to take advantage of this new benefit and to let us know if you have any constructive feedback.

The 2004 mid-year meeting of the College is fast approaching and I hope you have had the opportunity to review the program in detail at our website. "Cancer and the Law" is scheduled for October 1-2, 2004

at the Bourbon Orleans Hotel in New Orleans and promises to be an excellent program in an outstanding venue. Registration brochures are being prepared as this issue of *Notes from the President* goes to press and I encourage you to save the dates. Under the leadership of Dale Cowan, MD, JD, Program Chair, the mid-year meeting brings together an outstanding and nationally renowned faculty to address a timely and interesting array of topics, with emphasis on legal medicine, medical ethics, and a variety of regulatory and social issues. If you haven't yet received the program registration brochure, please visit the ACLM website to more carefully review program topics and speakers. Kudos are in order for Gary Birnbaum, MD, JD, Chair of the Education and Professional Development Committee, and Mitch Nudelman, MD, JD, Chair of the Marketing & Public Relations Committee, in connection with their outstanding efforts in support of this terrific mid-year meeting.

Separately, we continue our commitment to reach out to students in an effort to showcase the College as an organization in which they may grow professionally. On Saturday, June 12, from noon to 3:00 pm, Dick Wilbur, MD, JD, who is the College's AMA Delegate and Treasurer, will participate in the first annual AMA Medical Student Section—Medical Specialty Showcase. This showcase, which forms part of the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago, provides an opportunity for specialty societies to interact with over 800 medical student leaders from across the United States. Among other things, Dick will be discussing the mission, programs, activities, and publications of the ACLM with these young leaders. He will encourage them to become members of the College, placing emphasis on opportunities for them to meaningfully participate in addressing important issues where law and medicine converge. We look forward to a very successful effort.

As a final observation, for members looking to enjoy an exciting international meeting, the preliminary program and registration materials for the 15th World Congress on Medical Law were recently distributed. The Congress program is impressive and offers an interesting blend of plenary and concurrent sessions. Moreover, the social program is excellent and the Congress venue, Darling Harbor, Sydney, Australia, is one of the most beautiful in the world. As you know, the American College of Legal Medicine is a Silver Sponsor of the Congress. Accordingly, I would like to encourage you to consider attending what promises to be a particularly worthwhile international meeting. Additional information about the meeting, with emphasis on specific topics for the various sessions, as well as optional social activities and tours, can be viewed in greater detail at the Congress website www.tourhosts.com.au/wcml/invit.asp. I am planning to attend this meeting and look forward to the opportunity of seeing friends and colleagues in Sydney.

Have a great summer.

Theodore R. LeBlang
President

2004 Mid-year ACLM Meeting

Cancer and the Law: A Program Primarily for Physicians and Their Advisors

October 1- 2, 2004
Bourbon Orleans - A Wyndham Historic Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

Look for meeting details
online at www.aclm.org!

Visit www.aclm.org today!

ACLM Foundation Corner

The Foundation would like to thank the College membership for their generous response to the news that the Foundation has been reorganized. The monies will go to good use. The Foundation has established the following list of priorities for the dispersal of its funds. Its first priority will be to continue to finance the National Health Law Moot Court Competition. An outlay of \$5,000.00 is currently budgeted by the College for this project. Relieving the College budget of this amount will be a big boost to the financial health of the College. Its second priority is to finance the College student writing competitions. At the present moment the College has no designated funds to provide ongoing support for the Bioethics Writing Competition. The Foundation hopes to be able to support this and other writing programs. Our final two ultimate aims are to provide paid speakers for the Annual Meeting and begin a program of awarding the ACLM Textbook to outstanding medical school graduates.

To help in these efforts, the ACLM Foundation intends to begin accepting contributions to honor an individual or group, in memory of a specific individual or to wish an individual a speedy recovery. A card detailing your contribution will be sent to the honoree, the ill individual, or the bereaved, and, we hope, listed on this page. Your contribution will be acknowledged by a card sent to you for your records. Your contributions, addressed to the ACLM Foundation in care of the College Headquarters, are tax deductible.

A bequest program is under development.

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Please visit the ACLM website regularly to update your member profile, particularly your mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Mark Your Calendars

45th ACLM Annual Meeting

Legal Medicine 2005: Confronting the Challenges

March 3 - 6, 2005

Paradise Point Resort

San Diego, California