

THE OHFAMA JOURNAL



THE OHIO FOOT AND ANKLE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION + WWW.OHFAMA.ORG

VOLUME 65 | NUMBER 3 | SUMMER 2023



2023 OHFAMA Service Award Winners Chris Bohach, DPM, and Rich Kunig, DPM

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Adam Thomas, DPM



Adam Thomas, DPM

Greetings to all our members and I hope you are enjoying your summer.

I would first like to start off by thanking all of you who attended and sponsored our Annual Scientific Seminar this spring. It was good to see many of you in person and re-connect. I would also like to thank all our sponsors and our educational presenters who did an outstanding job, as well as our resident presenters for all their hard work and latest research.

The 2023 Annual Scientific Seminar featured a one-day virtual seminar on Saturday, April 22 and a two-day live seminar on May 18-19 at Columbus Hilton at Easton. Both events were successful, although in-person attendance continues to lag pre-COVID numbers. The new format was well received, and we will continue this meeting format in 2024, with the virtual meeting being held April 20 and the in-person event being held at Columbus Hilton at Easton on May 16-17.

I am also pleased to share a few advocacy victories for our profession this year. Ohio podiatrists will receive a 5% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates as part of the newly signed state budget. Through OHFAMA's successful lobbying efforts, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) budget request included a 5% increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rates for podiatrists. This request was adopted by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor DeWine. If you get a chance, please give special thanks to our OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy, who testified before the House Health and Human Services Subcommittee on March 22 and the Senate Medicaid Committee on May 11 in support of boosting Medicaid reimbursement rates.

We are also very excited to share that for the first time the Ohio state budget will now include funding for our Ohio podiatry College (KSUCPM). The two-year spending plan, for the first time, includes a total of \$6.8 million in State Share of Instruction (SSI). The funding, which represents the taxpayers' investment in higher education, will decrease tuition for Ohio residents attending KSUCPM resulting in a projected 30% decrease in debt upon graduation!

I would also like to thank each of our members who have generously donated to OPPAC so far this year. Your donations are crucial in helping achieve all these legislative advocacy victories and overcome more challenges as we go along. As a reminder, if you haven't yet done so, please continue supporting our efforts and make your contribution today. We can't do it without you.

We are also looking for your help in seeking qualified members to fill open board positions. OHFAMA members approved a change to the bylaws at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting that will change the composition of the OHFAMA Board of Trustees. The change will provide each Academy with one trustee on the Board of Trustees and create two at-large trustee positions to be voted on by members at future Annual Business Meetings. The change will enable OHFAMA to seek out at-large leaders who can bring unique skills and expertise to the Board of Trustees to advance the mission of our organization. We will have a call for candidates in August. If you're interested in an at-large Trustee position, please let me or Mike know.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the Academies I have had the privilege to visit so far. I have enjoyed traveling across the state this year and meeting with all of you. Mike and I have enjoyed your hospitality and fellowship, presenting you with our latest updates and we look forward to our scheduled upcoming visits as I finish out the year. If your academy hasn't scheduled a visit yet, please let us know.

Dr. Adam Thomas gathers with former OHFAMA presidents at the Silver Gavel luncheon at the Annual Seminar



State Budget Boosts Medicaid Reimbursement Rates, Provides KSUCPM Funding

New funding for Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine and a 5% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for podiatrists are highlights of the state budget signed into law July 3 by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine.

The two-year spending plan includes a total of \$6.8 million in State Share of Instruction (SSI) funding for Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine. The funding will decrease tuition for Ohio residents resulting in a projected 30% decrease in debt for graduates.

"Ohio natives who attend KSUCPM were previously the only in-state medical students who did not receive SSI funding," said OHFAMA President Adam Thomas, DPM, an Ohio native and 2006 graduate of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine. "The state budget addresses this disparity and will strengthen the pipeline of Ohioans practicing podiatry in our state."

KSUCPM is one of eleven podiatric medical schools in the country and over 80% of licensed Ohio podiatrists who live in Ohio graduated from KSUCPM (or its predecessor, Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine). Moreover, over 75% of the nearly 150 residents currently training in Ohio are KSUCPM graduates.

In addition to reducing tuition for in-state students, the SSI funding would allow KSUCPM to allocate resources to improve the educational experience for all students through upgraded technology, more adjunct clinical faculty, and enhanced learning spaces.

OHFAMA thanks State Senator Jerry Cirino (R-Kirtland), whose district includes KSUCPM, for his leadership in securing this vital funding for the college.



Dean Allan Boike, DPM, provides State Sen. Jerry Cirino (R-Kirtland) a tour of the KSUCPM Integrative Microbial Dynamics Lab July 14 with third-year students Austen Miller (left), Drake Lohanes, and Josie Galinis.

Medicaid Reimbursement Rates Increased

Ohio podiatrists will receive a 5% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates as part of the newly signed state budget.

Through OHFAMA's successful lobbying efforts, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) budget request included a 5% increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rates for podiatrists. This request was adopted by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor DeWine.

OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy, who testified before the House Health and Human Services Subcommittee on March 22 and the Senate Medicaid Committee on May 11 in support of boosting Medicaid reimbursement rates, hailed the much-needed increase for podiatrists.

"Podiatry has always been an important part in the team concept of care in Ohio's Medicaid system, but like other providers, costs to administer care have significantly gone up for our members while reimbursement levels have remained flat," said Mathy. "This reimbursement increase will help Ohio's podiatrists remain an important part in delivering quality, cost-effective services to our state's Medicaid recipients."

OHFAMA would like to thank our partners at ODM, legislative leaders, and Governor Mike DeWine for recognizing a need to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for providers in the state budget. A special thank you to our lobbyists, Dan Leite and Courtney Saunders, for their guidance and hard work to secure this victory.



Alycia Lewis, MS-III, gives a tour of KSUCPM to Chancellor Randy Gardner (right), Sen. Matt Dolan (second from right), Bruce Blank, DPM, and Rep. Phil Robinson (left) on October 10, 2022.

Ohio's Biennium Budget Impacts State Medical Board of Ohio

Ohio's biennium budget includes changes that will impact State Medical Board of Ohio (SMBO) licensees. Below is a summary of the law changes that become effective October 3, 2023. The SMBO will continue to provide updates on these changes leading up to the effective date.

Upcoming changes for all license types:

- The board will create a new Confidential Monitoring Program for licensees impaired with substance use disorder, mental illness, and physical conditions. The newly created Confidential Monitoring Program will be managed by the Ohio Professionals Health Program (OPHP). Licensees currently participating in One-Bite or the Board's confidential monitoring program for physical or mental impairment will receive detailed information about transition into the new program. House Bill 33 also authorizes the Board to transfer both the ongoing monitoring of board ordered probationers and the approval of treatment providers to OPHP. The Board will engage in an information campaign to give you more information on these important changes over the next few months.
- Licensees will have the ability to change their licenses to a retired status. Eligibility requirements will include a voluntary retirement from practice, a paid application fee, and no pending investigations or disciplinary actions. Retired status prohibits practice but continues the use of any title authorized for the license and allows the reactivation of the license if certain conditions are met.
- The SMBO's active license roster will only include the business address of the licensee. Watch for more information on how to make sure your address is up to date in the SMBO system.
- House Bill 33 included changes to administrative procedures.
- The SMBO will be authorized to use additional document service methods through email, facsimile, or domestic commercial delivery service and allows for alternative methods to complete service if initial attempts fail, including using alternative addresses, before publishing notice in a newspaper of general circulation.
- The maximum number of days within which an agency generally must hold an administrative hearing after a party to an adjudication requests one will increase from 15 to 60.
- Certain notices and orders that must be served to a party in an Administrative Procedure Act adjudication can be provided to the party's attorney or other representative rather than requiring the notices be mailed.
- An agency's rejection of an application for registration or renewal of a license will not be effective until the 15th day after notice of the rejection is mailed to the licensee.



Thank you to our 2023 OPPAC Contributors:

as of 07/07/2023

Please consider financial support of our state legislative efforts by contributing to the Ohio Podiatric Political Action Committee (OPPAC).

Central Academy

Sarah Abshier, DPM
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Northwest Academy

Thomas McCabe, DPM
Pamela Sheridan, DPM

Southern Academy

Brian Ash, DPM
Ruth Ann Cooper, DPM
Amy Masowick, DPM

Additional Contributors

Michael Brody, DPM
Mike Mathy, CAE
Luci Ridolfo, CAE

Your colleagues are giving back to podiatry; ***Are YOU?***

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike Mathy, CAE, OHFAMA Executive Director

State Budget Victory Years in the Making



Mike Mathy, CAE

Success in the world of legislative politics oftentimes takes years to achieve. You must have a good idea, mobilize support, find legislative champions, and overcome a plethora of policy, fiscal, and political obstacles as legislation travels through the process. It's just the nature of the beast.

When you have a substantial legislative victory, it's nice to reflect on all the time and hard work it took to achieve a goal. Lessons come from the journey, not the destination, after all.

As detailed on page 3, OHFAMA joined forces with Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) to secure \$6.8 million in State Share of Instruction (SSI) funding for KSUCPM students through the recently enacted state budget. This critical funding will help reduce tuition for Ohio residents who attend KSUCPM, reducing debt load for our homegrown students by up to 30%.

This is a critical victory for several reasons. First and foremost, it's an issue of fairness. Up until this year, KSUCPM students from Ohio were the only in-state students who did not receive a tuition break at state-affiliated medical, dental, and veterinary medical colleges.

And this was not for a lack of effort. KSUCPM has been fighting for a share of SSI funding for years – an effort that began shortly after Kent State University, a public university, acquired the private Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine in 2012 – but had been stymied by lean budgets and a reluctance of other medical schools to risk giving up a portion of their funding.

It took some new approaches, the right political winds, and some perseverance to secure this crucial legislative victory.

New Approaches

OHFAMA partnered with KSUCPM to hold a legislative outreach event October 10, 2022, at the college. The successful event highlighted the importance of podiatric medicine to the wellbeing of Ohioans, showcased KSUCPM's campus to legislative leaders, and educated key policymakers about podiatric education, training, and scope of practice.

The event featured Ohio Department of Higher Education Chancellor Randy Gardner and Senator Matt Dolan and Representative Phil Robinson.

Kent State University President Todd Diacon, PhD, KSUCPM Dean Allen Boike, DPM, and then-OHFAMA President Sarah Abshier, DPM, gave presentations after a networking lunch and several leading KSUCPM students led a tour of the college and answered policymakers' questions about their education, training, and career aspirations.

The event not only educated key policymakers but brought together key

college and association leaders – including longtime KSUCPM advocates Karen Kellogg, DPM and Bruce Blank, DPM – to form a strong, united front.

The Right Political Winds

Legislation that calls for new state funding is highly unlikely to advance in dire financial times. Thankfully, the Ohio Budget Stabilization fund, the state's "rainy day" fund, began the year with a nearly \$3.5 billion surplus. This made our funding request far more palatable.

Similarly, the Kent State University government affairs team, working with Senator Jerry Cirino (R-Kirtland) prepared a budget amendment that included KSUCPM students in the Medical 1 SSI funding line, which was divided among Ohio's public in-state veterinary and dentistry students at Ohio State University.

This change in strategy alleviated previous concerns from the state's allopathic and osteopathic medical schools that including KSUCPM in their SSI funding pool would adversely impact their funding levels. This calmed the headwinds KSUCPM faced in the past.

Moreover, the amendment modestly increased funding for OSU veterinary and dentistry students, which enabled us to make the argument the amendment would "hold harmless" other Medical 1 SSI students while providing \$3.4 million annually to reduce tuition for Ohio's podiatric medical school students. It proved to be a winning argument.

Perseverance

The state budget process begins with the governor's budget proposal before the bill weaves its way through the House of Representatives and Senate before heading to a conference committee to iron out differences between the House and Senate versions of the budget.

Neither the governor's budget nor House's version of the budget included funding for KSUCPM. However, thanks to the tireless work of the OHFAMA and Kent State University government affairs teams, the Senate's version of the budget included the KSUCPM funding amendment. The final budget bill was ultimately signed into law by Governor Mike DeWine on July 3.

Thank you to OHFAMA lobbyists Dan Leite and Courtney Saunders who held countless meetings with legislative leaders and staff throughout the process to stress the importance of the amendment to the future of our profession.

Also, we would like to thank Sen. Jerry Cirino (R-Kirtland), KSUCPM's new state senator, for sponsoring the amendment and ensuring it made it into the final version of the budget through his work on the Senate Finance Committee and conference committee.

Finally, I would like to thank all the OHFAMA members who contacted their legislators to encourage them to support the KSUCPM funding amendment through the APMA eAdvocacy tool. Your efforts to ensure a strong future for our profession are appreciated!

APMA Achieves Advocacy Victory on -59 Modifier

Aetna has informed APMA that effective July 23, it will drop its external review program regarding use of -59 Modifier and 25- Modifier when submitted with CPT 11719-11721, G0127, and 11055-11057.

This development follows more than two years of APMA's advocacy through multiple communications and meetings with Aetna leadership.

Aetna had been inappropriately applying an edit to certain foot care claims. APMA's Health Policy Committee formed a 59 Modifier workgroup more than two years ago to address this issue. Thanks to the work of that group, other APMA members, staff, and consultants all contributed to this latest victory.

APMA encourages members to continue to follow NCCI guidelines and only submit callus paring codes when the calluses pared are not on the same distal phalanx of a toe that had a nail debrided. Members can learn more about how to lower the chances of denials related to the 59 Modifier by reviewing APMA's -59 Modifier Claims Tool Kit.

2024 MPFS Proposed Rule Released; AUC Rescinded

Initial Analysis Offers Positive News for Podiatrists

On July 13, CMS issued the calendar year 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule and Quality Payment Program Proposed Rule. APMA is still in the process of reviewing this almost-2,000-page document. APMA will complete this review in conjunction with consultants and committee members and submit comments to CMS on these proposals. The 2024 Final Rule is expected sometime in November. Some of the proposals include:

CMS proposes a CY 2024 conversion factor of \$32.7476, down about 3.4 percent from 2023

Despite this change in the conversion factor, which will impact all physicians, podiatric physicians on average should see no additional aggregate decreases across the codes they typically use. While this outcome is better than recent proposals that decreased payment to podiatrists, APMA—along with other medical societies—will seek relief on the cut to the conversion factor, as has been the case in recent years.

This proposal to reduce the conversion factor is a result of a reduction in the temporary update to the conversion factor under current law and a negative budget neutrality adjustment. This decision coincides with ongoing growth in the cost to practice medicine as CMS projects the increase in the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) for 2024 will be 4.5 percent. Physician practices cannot continue to absorb these increasing costs without corresponding increases in payment

rates. For these reasons, APMA strongly supports H.R. 2474, the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act, which would provide a permanent, annual update equal to the increase in the MEI.

CMS proposes to rescind the Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) for Advanced Diagnostic Imaging program.

This decision is a tremendous victory for podiatrists following APMA advocacy in the form of letters and live meetings with CMS representatives during which APMA asked that this program be rescinded.

G2211

CMS proposes to implement a separate add-on payment for HCPC code G221, recognizing the inherent costs clinicians may incur when longitudinally treating a patient's single, serious, or complex chronic condition.

Skin Substitute Services

CMS proposes to not move forward with its previous proposal to bundle payment for the application procedure and skin substitute product in the private office setting. This is a tremendous victory for podiatrists following APMA communications to CMS asking that this proposal not move forward.

MIPS

CMS proposes to raise the MIPS score needed to avoid a penalty in 2024 from 75 to 82. APMA will strongly oppose this proposal.

Rep. Brad Wenstrup, DPM (R-OH), Provides Testimony at US House Committee on Armed Services



Rep. Brad Wenstrup

One of podiatry's strongest advocates in the US House of Representatives, Rep. Brad Wenstrup, DPM (R-OH), recently provided testimony expressing the need for physician parity in the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act.

During a recent hearing at the US House Committee on Armed Services, Rep. Wenstrup expressed his support for an amendment offered by Rep. Lisa McClain (R-MI) that would review the Defense Health Agency's policy regarding credentialing and privileging under the military health system. This amendment would include certifying boards recognized by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME): the American Board of Podiatric Medicine (ABPM), and the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS).

If included in a large package, this amendment is another step toward improving the ability of podiatrists to participate in armed services related care as physician providers.

Throw Away Those Old ABN Forms

By Cindy Pezza, PMAC, Pinnacle Practice Achievement, LLC



Cindy Pezza, PMAC

On April 4, 2023, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved an updated Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN) form which took effect on June 30th, 2023. The previous form could be used up until June 29th.

Just to review, here is an overview of the ABN and when you should be filling it out, having your patients sign and keeping it on

file. This one is good until 01/31/2026 (at least that's what it says).

Providers, physicians, practitioners, and suppliers (notifiers) of Medicare (fee-for-service "FFS") beneficiaries must issue the ABN Form in scenarios when the Medicare payment is expected to be denied. Medicare requires notifiers to disclose to beneficiaries before providing an item or service if the notifier anticipates that Medicare will deny payment for services (rendered for any of the reasons listed below) which would shift the financial responsibility for payment to the beneficiary. If Medicare rejects the claim, the ABN is a mechanism for notifiers to show that (1) the beneficiary knew about the potential non-coverage in advance of the services being rendered, and (2) the beneficiary agreed to accept financial responsibility for these items or services. Providers must comply with the ABN requirements, or they could be financially liable or at risk for possible sanctions.

The notifier should use an ABN when:

- Items or services are not reasonable or necessary
- Items or services violate the prohibition on unsolicited telephone contacts

- The medical equipment and supplies supplier number requirements are not met
- The medical equipment or supplies are denied in advance
- Items or services are custodial care
- It is a hospice patient who is not terminally ill
- The home health services requirements are not met (they are not confined to the home or their home, or there is no need for intermittent skilled nursing care)
- Items and services that are covered under a personalized prevention plan services that are performed more frequently than indicated under the coverage guidelines which are not reasonable and necessary for diagnosis or treatment or to improve functioning
- When a noncontract supplier provides an item included in the DMEPOS CBP for a CBA; and
- If Medicare considers the item or services to be experimental.

In my experience, the most common reasons to complete an ABN and have your patient sign is for frequency limits of Routine Foot Care (when a patient insists that you bill for nails and calluses even though it hasn't been 61 days) and for same and similar when dispensing DME.

Contact me at pinnaclepa.com or visit the GGS website for more information.

FOUNDATION NEWS



2023 Annual Seminar a Success

The 107th Annual Ohio Foot and Ankle Scientific Seminar took place May 18-19 at the Columbus Hilton at Easton. 235 physicians and 28 assistants attended the event, which featured 83 exhibitors.



Platinum Seminar Sponsor: Bako Diagnostics



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Seminar co-chairman Bob Mendicino, DPM, presents with Ashley Mychak, DPM, during the Reconstruction, Flaps, and Trauma session.



Dr. Said Atway (left), Dr. Windy Cole, and Dr. Richard Schilling presented a three-part lecture on Improving Wound Care Outcomes Through Evidence Based Practices.



Amy Masowick, DPM, demonstrates suture removal during the Assistant's Program at the Annual Ohio Foot & Ankle Scientific Seminar.



OHFAMA President Adam Thomas, DPM (middle) and Treasurer Tom McCabe, DPM announce a winner during the Exhibitor Marketplace Luncheon while The Podiatry Foundation's Alyssa Loveless supervises.



OHFAMA leaders Tom McCabe, DPM; Karen Kellogg, DPM, MBA; and Adam Thomas, DPM, gather for a photo in the exhibit hall.

By the Numbers – Annual Seminar

235

**Physician
Attendees**

21

**Educational
Sessions**

28

Speakers

83

Exhibitors

25

**Available
CME Credits**

Residency Competition Winners Announced

The 107th Annual Foot & Ankle Scientific Seminar featured the annual Gerard V. Yu Scientific Paper Competition and the 8th annual Scientific Poster Competition on May 18.

This year's paper competition featured 6 total submissions from Grant Medical Center, The Jewish Hospital, and St Vincent Medical Center. The initial papers were distributed to a panel of judges, who evaluated the papers blindly and selected the finalists:

- Lucas Adams, DPM – St Vincent Medical Center
- Alex Bischoff, DPM – Grant Medical Center (presented 2 papers)
- Joey Brown, DPM – Grant Medical Center
- Ryan Stone, DPM – Grant Medical Center

The five finalists presented to a five-judge panel of physicians, who scored the presentations. The winning paper, based on a combination of the blind judges' scores of the papers and the judges' scores, was Ryan Stone, DPM of Grant Medical Center.

Thank you to our 2023 Resident Paper Competition Judges:

Paper Submission Judges:

- Dr. Mark Gould
- Dr. Amy Masowick
- Dr. Eric Miller
- Dr. Amanda Quisno
- Dr. Richard Weiner

Paper Presentation Judges:

- Dr. Mitch Dalvin
- Dr. Whitney Holsopple
- Dr. Karen Kellogg
- Dr. Rich Kunig
- Dr. Scott Littrell

This year's poster competition featured 14 total submissions from Grant Medical Center, The Jewish Hospital, Mercy Health – St. Rita's Medical Center, UC Medical Center, and University Hospital. The posters were distributed to a panel of judges, who evaluated the posters and selected the finalists:

- Tung Dao, DPM – Grant Medical Center
- Alex Pilkington, DPM – University of Cincinnati Medical Center (presented 2 posters)
- Ryan Stone, DPM – Grant Medical Center (presented 2 posters)

The winning poster, Treatment of a Posterior Calcaneal Defect in the Multimorbid Patient: A Description of the Orthoplastic Approach, was submitted by Ryan Stone, DPM of Grant Medical Center.

Thank you to our 2023 Resident Poster Competition Judges:

- Dr. Renee Ash
- Dr. Tatyana Hamilton
- Dr. Tim Holmes
- Dr. Todd Loftus
- Dr. Sadie Wylie

A special thank you to competition sponsors ACFAS, Cleveland Clinic Imaging, Gill Podiatry, Keystone Medical, and The Tetra Corp.



Ryan Stone, DPM, Chief Resident at Grant Medical Center, is congratulated by Bob Brarens, DPM, for winning the 2023 Gerard V. Yu, DPM Scientific Paper Competition and Resident Poster Competition.



Tung Dao, DPM, Chief Resident at Grant Medical Center, speaks during the 8th annual Scientific Poster Competition on May 18.

KENT STATE COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE NEWS

KSUCPM to Induct Two New Hall of Fame Members During Alumni Reunion Weekend

Each August at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) brings the tradition of Alumni Reunion Weekend and with it, a new class of alumni award winners that are nominated by the community, then hand-picked by a committee of prestigious alumni.

This year, the college is proud to present two new Hall of Fame Society inductees and two alumni awards:

- Bruce Saferin, DPM, Class of 1981 – 2023 Hall of Fame Inductee
- Mark Hofbauer, DPM, FACFAS, Class of 1989 – 2023 Hall of Fame Inductee
- Georgeanne Botek, DPM, FACFAS, Class of 1994 – 2023 Alumni Service Award
- Nilin Rao, DPM, PhD, AACFAS, Class of 2017 – 2023 Young Physician Professional Achievement Award

The group will be honored during the annual Hall of Fame & Alumni Awards Dinner, which takes place Saturday, August 19 at the KSUCPM campus in Independence. Additional honored guests of the evening include a total of eight KSUCPM students that will be receiving

scholarships, calling back to the heart and soul of the weekend – to raise crucial funds for the KSUCPM Student Scholarship Fund, which ensures current students have the support they need to graduate and become the next generation of podiatric medical professionals.

Ticket sales for the Hall of Fame & Alumni Awards Dinner are available now at www.kent.edu/cpm/2023ARW.



Bruce Saferin, DPM



Mark Hofbauer, DPM, FACFAS



Georgeanne Botek, DPM, FACFAS

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND NOTES

Drs. Kunig, Bohach Awarded OHFAMA Service Award

The OHFAMA Service Award was bestowed to **Richard Kunig, DPM**, and **Chris Bohach, DPM, MBA**, May 18 at the 107th Annual Ohio Foot & Ankle Scientific Seminar.

The Service Award is given to deserving recipient(s) who have demonstrated commitment to fulfilling the mission of OHFAMA by devotion to the association through dedicated leadership and volunteerism at the academy and state level.



Dr. Kunig with his wife, Barbara, and son, RC, following the award ceremony

Dr. Bohach celebrates earning the OHFAMA Service Award with his wife, Lisa.



Dr. Kunig addresses the audience at the OHFAMA Service Award Ceremony.

Butler Participates in APMA Emerging Leaders Program

Dr. Nick Butler, a podiatrist at Erie Foot and Ankle Center and Assistant Professor of Foot & Ankle Surgery and Biomechanics at Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine, participated in a panel discussion at the APMA Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) in July at the APMA National Conference in Nashville.

Dr. Butler is Ohio's representative at the ELP, a leadership-intensive program designed to support an exclusive group of young physicians with a vested interest in future leadership opportunities.

Emerging Leaders Program and Young Physicians Leadership Panel has been working with APMA leadership to identify barriers to young physician involvement Podiatry and APMA.

"We have identified the barriers and have come up with some solutions for young physician involvement," said Dr. Butler. "This was a great opportunity for me personally to be more involved with the APMA and to represent Ohio on the nation level. I look forward to attending the APMA National next Summer in Washington, DC and 2024 APMA House of Delegates."



Dr. Nick Butler attended the APMA National Conference in Nashville.

From left: OHFAMA Past President Kelly Whaley, DPM, Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation Executive Director Luci Ridolfo, CAE, OHFAMA President Adam Thomas, DPM, and OHFAMA Past President Karen Kellogg, DPM, MBA at the Northeast Academy TopGolf Outing on April 29.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND NOTES

Arnold to Represent Ohio at APMA State Advocacy Forum



Thom Arnold, DPM

OHFAMA 1st Vice President Thom Arnold, DPM, will represent OHFAMA at the 2023 State Advocacy Forum August 25-26 in Albuquerque, NM.

The forum, hosted by APMA Center for Professional Advocacy (CPA) in partnership with the New Mexico Podiatric Medical Association (NMPMA), is an invaluable opportunity for state association leaders and representatives to meet and discuss the most pressing state legislative issues affecting our members today.

This year, the meeting will cover topics such as effective advocacy with limited budget, Medicaid, engaging young physicians in advocacy, and addressing ongoing concerns related to physician extenders. The meeting will also give attendees a chance to collaborate and solve problems together through group activities.

OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy will also attend the event and provide attendees with an update on how OHFAMA leveraged an APMA Center for Professional Advocacy (CPA) Innovation Grant to fuel our successful advocacy efforts. The grants are designed to help state components with their scope-of-practice and physician definition advocacy efforts and their efforts to educate and build relationships with MD/DOs, policymakers, and payers.

The grants may be used to assist state components to update their scope law to better align with APMA's Scope-of-Practice template, change state law to define DPMs as physicians, or educate payers, policymakers, and MD/DOs about the podiatric medical profession.

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COMPLIANCE

OCR Highlights HIPAA Enforcement Actions under Right of Access Initiative

By: Dan Zinsmaster, Dinsmore & Shohl



Daniel S. Zinsmaster

As the latest signal in the priority of the Duty to Report in Ohio, the State Medical Board has updated its Duty to Report video. The video is offered by the Board for physicians to fulfill the mandatory continuing medical education (CME) component of the license renewal process in Ohio.

Introduced in a new regulation on May 31, 2021, the Board began mandating one hour of CME on the topic of the legal duty to report misconduct. This CME requirement was enacted from recommendations made in the March 21, 2021, Closing Report from the Working Group on Reviewing of the Medical Board's Handling of the Investigation Involving Richard Strauss, which Governor Mike DeWine initiated with an executive order in 2019.

The revised video is comprehensive and features interviews and statements from Ohio Board members and the Board's investigative, legal, and administrative staff concerning the role of the board, and the reporting and investigative process. In contrast to the original video, which focused on reporting instances of patient sexual abuse, the

revised video emphasizes the broad scope of the reporting obligation under Ohio law.

This law mandates reporting all violations of the Medical Practice Act that are believed to have occurred — starting with patient abuse, and extending to all misconduct including, but not limited to, prescribing issues, practice below the minimal standards, impairment concerns, poor documentation, false statements, and more. The video addresses many of these areas in detail and presents "Knowledge Check" segments featuring questions for the viewer.

The revised video acknowledges that reporting colleagues is not easy, but also stresses the ethical role of reporting as a professional duty. The confidentiality and immunity aspects of reporting are reviewed, and the video reminds licensees that failure to report is itself grounds for discipline. Licensees face the risk of license sanctions up to permanent revocation and/or imposition of fines of up to \$20,000, if they do not report. The video and more information is provided under the Duty to Report tab on the Medical Board's newly refreshed website!

If you have questions regarding Ohio's Duty to Report or are concerned with compliance, please contact your Dinsmore health care attorney.

Our Relationship with OHFAMA

Since 2014, Dinsmore has held the distinct honor of serving OHFAMA as its outside general counsel. Daniel Zinsmaster, a partner in the Corporate Department and Health Care Practice Group, is proud of to continue his service as the primary contact and resource for the Association. We have greatly appreciated the trust OHFAMA and its members have shown in us to guide the revision of Association and Foundation bylaws, advocate for enhancements to the podiatrist scope of practice, and help ensure compliance with APMA standards and procedures all while supporting OHFAMA regional academies.



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Partner · 614-628-6949
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Daniel and Dinsmore attorneys have been a continuous presence at OHFAMA annual meetings and conferences, authored articles for the OHFAMA seasonal journal, and timely alerts for its website. Whether working with OHFAMA's executive staff, elected leadership, or its members, Dinsmore continues to advocate on behalf of the profession of podiatry and advance its interest to the betterment of its practitioners and their patients.

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MEMBER BENEFITS

Increasing your Retirement Benefits through Plan Design

By Peggy N. Slaughter, CFP®, CRPS®, AIF®, CPFA



Peggy N. Slaughter

Many small employers, who are concerned about the cost and complexity of retirement plans, opt for a SIMPLE IRA for themselves and their employees. In doing so, they are greatly limiting the flexibility and contribution amounts available through the more formal structure of a 401(k) or Cash Balance Plan.

A SIMPLE IRA has only two options for employer contributions. Either all eligible employees receive a contribution equal to 2% of compensation, or all contributing employees receive a matching contribution of 100% up to 3% of pay, without restriction. The maximum employee contribution in 2023 is \$15,500, plus \$3,500 catch-up if the employee is age 50 or older. All employer contributions must be 100% vested and employees may withdraw funds at any time (though penalties are higher in the first two years of participation).

By contrast, a 401(k) plan can have nearly any matching formula. And the employer can put restrictions on the match, such as requiring employment on the last day of the year and/or completing a certain number of hours of service. Maximum employee contributions increase to \$22,500 with a \$7,500 catch-up amount. The employer can limit the amount of match a terminated employee can keep by applying a vesting schedule of up to 6 years and withdrawals are very limited for those still employed. These features reward and encourage continued employment.

The employer may also make profit sharing contributions to a 401(k). Total contributions for a single employee can be up to \$66,000, not counting the \$7,500 catch-up. And with the right plan design, the bulk of the profit-sharing contribution can be given to key employees who the employer most wants to reward, including owners.

Now, if you are saying, "Yes, we have all of that, but I only have a few years to retirement and I really need to reduce my business taxes and increase my retirement savings", it may be time to add a Cash Balance plan to your retirement arsenal. A key employee at age 52 could receive an employer contribution of over \$200,000 and a 60-year-old could receive over \$300,000. By coupling the Cash Balance plan with a properly designed 401(k) profit sharing plan, all this can be accomplished with a minimal contribution for younger, lower paid employees.

If you are ready to up your retirement plan game, contact me at peggy.slaughter@salingsimms.com or call 614-841-1881 for details. And don't forget the OHFAMA Members' 401(k) Exchange Plan. It is a great way to join forces with your fellow members to reduce the expense and fiduciary liability of operating a 401(k) plan. I look forward to hearing from you!

Peggy Slaughter is a retirement plan specialist at Saling Simms Associates and has been working with Associations for over 20 years.

Investment advisory services offered through Saling Simms Associates, 7965 North High Street, Suite 130, Columbus, Ohio, 43235, 614-841-1881

Membership Renewal Packets to be Distributed in August

OHFAMA leverages the collective buying power of our members to offer affordable, practical solutions to help your practice thrive.

In August, you will receive a comprehensive packet featuring information about our suite of exclusive member benefits. In this packet, you will find information about a few of the many member benefit programs available to you, including:

- The Ohio State Medical Association's health benefits plan, a flexible, self-funded group health care plan developed for Ohio physician practices
- An exclusive OHFAMA Members' 401(k) Retirement Exchange Plan offered by Saling and Simms
- Discounted malpractice liability insurance through PICA
- Sedgwick (formerly CareWorks Comp), a Workers' Compensation program that reduces business risks to achieve premium discounts and refunds
- A new credit card processing partnership with i3 Merchant Solutions

OHFAMA is not only committed to providing our members with top quality member benefits, but also timely information about issues impacting you and your practice. As your profession continues to evolve and change, OHFAMA will be there for YOU!

Thank you for your membership in the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association. Please contact Mike, Luci, or Carol in OHFAMA office at 614-457-6269 if we can ever be of assistance.



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CALENDAR

2023

August 10-11, 2023
GXMO - Didactic Course
Virtual

August 12, 2023
GXMO - Clinical Course
Virtual

September 18, 2023
Executive Committee Meeting
Teleconference - 7:00 PM

September 23, 2023
2023 Holy Toledo Seminar & Autumn Golf Outing
Brandywine Country Club, Maumee

September 28, 2023
Lower Extremity Skin Cancer Review: 2023 Update

GoToWebinar – 1 hour Category 1 CME
12:00PM – 1:00PM

September 30, 2023
2023 Quickie Seminar
Hilton Garden Inn Dayton South -
Austin Landing

October 12, 2023
Budget and Finance Meeting
OHFAMA Executive Office – 9:00 AM

October 12, 2023
Board of Trustees Meeting
OHFAMA Executive Office – 10:00 AM

November 3, 2023
Budget and Finance Meeting
Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

November 3, 2023
Board of Trustees Meeting
Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport
3:00 PM – 5:30 PM

November 4, 2023
2023 Wound Care Seminar
Embassy Suites-Columbus Airport
7:00 AM – 2:00 PM

November 4, 2023
OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting
Embassy Suites-Columbus Airport
2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

November 16-17, 2023
GXMO - Didactic Course
Virtual

November 18, 2023
GXMO - Clinical Course
Virtual

For more calendar information
please visit the Events webpage at
www.ohfama.org

OHFAMA CLASSIFIEDS

North Central Ohio – Associate Wanted, Opportunity for Future Ownership

Seeking associate for growing practice with three office locations in North Central Ohio. Comprehensive care - office, surgical, wound care, hospital work; must be personable, hard-working, independent, prefer BQ/BC with prior private practice experience. Opportunity for future ownership. Please send CV and questions to shane@sheffieldfootandankle.com

Austintown/Columbiana - Employment Opportunity/Practice for Sale

Podiatrist needed for a busy established private practice of 35 years. Looking to sell or employ for these busy offices. Strong physician patient referrals, daily new and routine patients. Excellent location with good traffic flow and visibility. The candidate must be BE/BC. Candidate must have all aspects of podiatry and surgery. Please send CV or questions to janice@advancedpodiatry.com.

Practice For Sale - Toledo, OH

Rare turnkey opportunity. Established practice located in the Toledo area. Excellent location with an established patient mix. Currently the provider shares time between other locations and is unable to keep up with the growth potential. Doctor is willing to stay and help transition with patients and insurance. Doctor is willing to help with practice management for any new graduating doctors. This practice is ideal for any individual that wants to open up days, and add surgery. The room for growth is unlimited. Serious candidates only, please reach out to dpmtledo@gmail.com.

Podiatry Chairs

- Podiatry chair #1 MTI: Burgundy - \$3000 Inspected and certified #6123
- Podiatry chair #2 Midmark #414: Burgundy - \$3000 Inspected and certified
- Podiatry chair #3 Midmark #647: Beige - \$7000 Inspected and certified
- Podiatry chair #4 M3000: \$3000 Inspected and certified
- Podiatry chair #5 Midmark: Gray - \$2800

Storage Cabinets, Display Racks

- Large 6 shelf HON 600 series metal cabinets - Beige - 6 available - \$250 each
- 4-drawer custom-made wood storage cabinets - 12 available - \$250 each
- Large wooden supply storage cabinet - \$100
- File cabinet 6 shelf - Black \$250
- Brochure rack 24-pocket - \$100
- Brochure rack 20-pocket - \$75
- Wood roller cart - \$40

Waiting Room & Patient Room Chairs

- Waiting room chair set Burgundy - 10 seats - \$75 each
- Patient room chairs Black - 6 available - \$80 each
- Stools x 6 - \$70 each

Treatment Equipment

- Metron Physical therapy table - \$1000
- Treadmill - \$400
- Physical therapy rebounder - \$200
- Massage table - \$100
- Wheelchair - \$100

X-ray, Ultracave, Vascular Testing Machines

- PAD Net vascular testing machine - \$10,000
- Digital X ray A2D2 - \$8500
- Xcel Xray - \$1500
- Ultracave M9 Inspected and certified - \$2500
- Ultrasound machine for physical therapy - \$250

Other

- Presentation/projector pullout screen wall-size - \$150
- Podiatry wall education dry erase board x 4 units available - \$40 each
- Foot models \$100 total for all
- Pioneer receiver - TSX -523 for office - \$150
- Magic chef fridge for office - \$100
- Vissani Fridge - \$100

If Interested please contact
columbuspodiatry@yahoo.com

WOUND CARE SEMINAR ONE DAY CME EVENT | ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING TO FOLLOW

Wound Care Seminar

Hosted by the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation

Saturday November 4, 2023 | 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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Annual Business Meeting | 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM

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REGISTRATION FORM

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This seminar has been approved for 6 CME Category I Hours and registrants may attend the seminar, the annual business meeting or both. Please register accordingly.

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2886 Airport Drive | Columbus, Ohio 43219

Wound Care Seminar

Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Wound Care Seminar

Please mark one (add \$25 late fee after October 30, 2023)

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