

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

ELECTED OFFICERS*President*

Brian Bohner, MD, FCCP, ABSM

President-Elect

Christen Spencer, RPSGT

Past-President

Jessica Schmidt, MA, RPSGT, RST

Secretary

Steven Scherr, DDS

Treasurer

Kala Davis-McDonald, MD

Board of Directors

Pat Dempsey, R.EEGT/EPT, RPSGT, RST

Jeanne Geiger-Brown, PhD, RN

Michelle Guzman, RPSGT, RST

Susheel Patil, MD, PhD

Emerson Wickwire, PhD

I want to start by thanking you all for your time and support in this first quarter of the year. We had a tremendous response in our member survey with a record participation. The results of the survey can be viewed by clicking on the link at the bottom of this page. We will next be developing an action plan for the initiatives that are most important to the society. We also have added many new members to our roster, and this will improve our ability to discern our most important initiatives, and move forward more effectively in reaching our goals.

Our focus this month is getting everyone registered for our Annual Conference April 25 and 26! Besides the educational aspect of the conference, we hear from many members that this forum is a great opportunity to network in the market, and I predict that many of you will find a pearl or two in the lectures, research presentations, and vendor interaction that may change the direction of your career.

“Times they are a changing” (as Bob Dylan said), and we want all our members to be best informed about what changes are next. Some of these new changes pertain to AASM accreditation requirements and Medicare requirements for our centers... much of this will be presented at the conference, and yes ...another feedback questionnaire will be generated.

We have a great lecture series set up, will be recognizing the recipient of our annual service award, and have some great workshops in home sleep testing and behavioral sleep medicine. Our sponsors are also supporting our list of raffle prizes, Friday cocktail party, as well as great meals and refreshments. For those of you bringing research posters, be sure to contact Pat White so that we can accommodate your entries. We will also have a job board posted if you want to post your ad.

Look forward to seeing you later this month!

Brian Bohner, MD

REGISTER NOW**THE FIFTH ANNUAL
EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE****APRIL 25-26, 2014****Conference Center
at Sheppard Pratt****See page 2 for details...****EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT****REGISTER BY
APRIL 4TH
TO SAVE \$50****Check out the results of our ‘Voice of the Membership’ Survey:**http://marylandsleepsociety.com/images/mdss_vom_2014.pdf

5TH ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Enjoy Wonderful Speakers...Network within the Sleep Community... Fulfill all of your Continuing Education Credits.....

APRIL 25-26, 2014

**Conference Center at Sheppard Pratt
Towson, Maryland**

The Conference is a two-day event...full day Friday and half day Saturday.....and includes interesting topics presented by exceptional speakers:

The Honorable Mark Rosekind, PhD
National Transportation Safety Board

Carolyn Marcus, MBCh
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Christopher Lettieri, MD
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Judith Owens, MD, MPH
Children's National Medical Center

Mark Pressman, PhD, D.ABSM
Lankenau Medical Center &
Institute for Medical Research

Vivek Jain, MD
The George Washington University

Philip Smith, MD
Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine

Deniz Somel, RPSGT, RST, CSE
Pulmonary & Critical Care Associates
of Baltimore

Emerson Wickwire, PhD
Howard County Center for Lung & Sleep Medicine

Brian Bohner, MD, FCCP, ABSM
Sleep Medicine Associates of Maryland

Steven C. Scherr, DDS
Baltimore, MD

CLICK HERE FOR CONFERENCE DETAILS AND A REGISTRATION FORM

<http://www.marylandsleepsociety.com/images/conference2014/2014mdssbrochure.pdf>

YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER ONLINE

<http://www.marylandsleepsociety.com/index.php/conference/registrationconference>

Members who pay their 2014 dues enjoy a discount on Conference Registration

**** REGISTER BY FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH FOR A \$50 DISCOUNT ****

GET TO KNOW THE BOARD of DIRECTORS . . .

KALA DAVIS-McDONALD, MD



Kala Davis-McDonald, MD is the Chief of Pulmonary Medicine and the medical director of the Sleep Center at St. Agnes Hospital. She established the St. Agnes Sleep Clinic and has conducted educational forums and programs on sleep in the Baltimore City area. She is the Treasurer and one of the founding board members of the Maryland Sleep Society.

Dr. Davis-McDonald's clinical practice focuses on pulmonary and sleep medicine. She has also received formal training in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for treatment of insomnia (CBT-I) as part of her sleep medicine fellowship at Stanford University.

Dr. Davis-McDonald is married. She and her husband had a recent addition to their family of a baby girl.

Dr. Davis-McDonald can be reached by email: info@marylandsleepsociety.com

CHRISTEN F. SPENCER, RPSGT

Christen Spencer has been in sleep for 10 years and is currently the manager for the Center for Interdisciplinary Sleep Research and Education (CISRE) at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. Christen started off her sleep career in Richmond, VA and has also worked in Delaware. She served as an instructor for the first CAAHEP-accredited Polysomnography program in the Mid-Atlantic (the Community College of Baltimore County).

Since her desire is to stay local to the Mid-Atlantic, Christen became actively involved with the Maryland Sleep Society in 2010. She has served on the Board of Directors and as Secretary for the organization. She is currently the President-elect for the society and is dedicated to continuing to promote the importance of sleep as a profession in Maryland. In addition to her role as a research sleep manager, Christen will complete her RN this May. Her plan is to add the RN to her sleep portfolio in order to continue increasing our knowledge of the science of sleep and be on the forefront of new methods for treating sleeping disorders.

Christen currently spends her time between Baltimore and Richmond, VA. Christen's family includes an energetic two-year old son (Henry) who is her pride and joy. Christen also enjoys running and cycling and will be completing her fourth marathon in November 2014. Ms. Spencer may be reached by e-mail: info@marylandsleepsociety.com.



FROM MED CHI . . .

STEP THERAPY REFORM TAKES ANOTHER STEP TOWARD PASSAGE

The passage of Senate Bill 622/House Bill 1233 would be the successful culmination of a two year effort by MedChi to regulate step therapy practices of insurers and PBMs. For a more detail summary of the legislation see my op-ed that ran in the Baltimore Sun recently at http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2014-03-24/news/bs-ed-patient-protection-20140324_1_patient-therapy-good-health

Gene M. Ransom, III
CEO, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society

DID YOU KNOW . . .

There are currently 461 licensed techs in the State of Maryland?