

August 2008

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# CAOG

# NEWSLETTER

Central Association  
of Obstetricians and  
Gynecologists

## Meet us in New Orleans . . . .

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### Soulfully Inviting

The CAOG is proud to combine a long standing reputation for great science with the stately elegance of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in one of America's most exciting meeting cities. Located on Canal Street near the heart of New Orleans' famous French Quarter, no amenity or variety of cuisine has been overlooked.

The magic of the Ritz-Carlton venue is combining cozy and comfortable with world class hospitality. For a nostalgic CAOG reunion with colleagues, old and new, reserve these dates now:

**October 22-25, 2008**

This will be the 6<sup>th</sup> time that New Orleans has hosted the CAOG Annual Meeting. In the CAOG tradition this meeting will combine clinical and basic research, medical and surgical innovations and, most importantly, an opportunity to network with other members. The tourist areas of the city seem fully recovered from Hurricane Katrina.

We expect a sold out meeting so please reserve your rooms as soon as possible. Registrations are already running ahead of previous years. Be aware that some airlines have reinstated Saturday night stay over incentives and flights are being reduced in many markets. Plan wisely.

Although the Ritz is located on Canal Street,



**NEW ORLEANS: Enjoy the "Big Easy"**

the planned canal was never built. Instead a trolley runs down the center of Canal Street. It's just a few blocks to the French Quarter or Riverwalk, where you can enjoy the musical energy of New Orleans almost non-stop. Safety does not seem to be any more of a problem than in most big cities but common sense is always prudent. The Ritz-Carlton's location is exceptionally convenient.

### Special points of interest:

- New Orleans meeting information
- New member ballot insert: active members
- Committee interest survey insert (active)
- Update your E-mail and address
- Unpaid dues kindly requested STAT

#### Officers

Bryan D. Cowan, MD, President  
 Charles M. Stedman, MD, Vice President  
 Dennis J. Lutz, MD, President Elect I  
 Christine H. Comstock, President Elect II  
 Gayle L. Olson, MD, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Kirk D. Ramin, MD, Ass't Sec.-Treas.  
 Mark I. Evans, MD, Immediate Past President

#### Trustees

Vanessa Barnabei, MD (2005-2008)  
 Barbara Parilla, MD (2005-2008)  
 James Dolan, MD (2006-2009)  
 Nancy Fay, MD (2006-2009)  
 Stephen Fortunato, MD (2007-2010)  
 J. Coffy Pieternelle, MD (2007-2010)

#### Executive Director

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**rhickel@caog.org**

## Message from the President. . .



Dr. Bryan Cowan and wife Dr. Harriette Hampton will host the CAOG in New Orleans.

The CAOG Annual Meeting is set and we personally look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in New Orleans. My family lives close to New Orleans and we relish times when we can travel to the “Big Easy.” It’s my promise that you will ENJOY this trip and if you haven’t stayed at the remodeled Ritz... what a treat. The benefits of the Annual Meeting – education, socializing and networking – will pay many rewards going forward plus we get to visit again!

Being part of the CAOG fulfills my philosophy for living: Live Life to the Fullest and with Great Enthusiasm. We all must wrestle with tragedy from time to time and, as physicians, we are especially aware that every day in our lives is precious. I encourage you to act today because we cannot afford to lose moments tomorrow. Or in the words of George Washington, “Reason, too late perhaps, may convince you of the folly of misspending time.” Having a reason for what you do is half the battle toward getting something done – the other half is actually doing it. Space does not permit me to expound on 10 habits that help me to “seize the day.”

They are: Be cocky, Be a quick forgiver, Be optimistic, Be thankful, Be an encourager, Be spontaneous, Be a giver, Smile a lot and laugh at life, Live life with enthusiasm and Look to help. We have unlimited potential.

Without a philosophy for living, goals and purposes often get pushed aside by circumstances and schedules. But a philosophy for living that brings out your best and facilitates pathways for where you want to go empowers your productivity, personally and professionally. My basic philosophical points are: (1) A Positive Attitude, (2) No Worry, (3) Peace and Contentment, (4) Strength and Power to Achieve and (5) Stewardship. I would love to see you in New Orleans and share your thoughts on life and the Central Association. Thank you all for a great year heading the CAOG leadership team.

Bryan D. Cowan, M.D., President CAOG

## Meet Your CAOG Trustees



Dr. Barbara V. Parilla

**Barbara V. Parilla, M.D.** is a native New Yorker who is finishing her second three-year term on the CAOG Board of Directors. She completed both her undergraduate and medical education at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. After OB-Gyn residency training at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, New York, Dr. Parilla took her fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago. Currently a maternal fetal subspecialist on staff at Lutheran General Hospital in Chicago, she was also a former faculty member at Northwestern. A member of the CAOG since 1996, Dr. Parilla is widely published, very active in the private practice of perinatology and the mother of three sons. Her contributions to the CAOG Board of Directors these past six years have been most appreciated.



Dr. Vanessa Barnabei

**Vanessa M. Barnabei, M.D., Ph.D.** is a New Jersey native who completed her undergraduate training at Rutgers University before relocating to the University of Virginia in Charlottesville where she earned both a Ph.D. in Biology and her Doctor of Medicine. Dr. Barnabei did her OB-Gyn residency at the Northwestern University Medical Center in Chicago before entering academics first at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and for the last 10 years at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Dr. Barnabei currently is the Patrick and Margaret McMahon Endowed Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at that institution and serves as Director of the Division of General Obstetrics and Gynecology. The recipient of numerous academic honors and awards, she is a nationally recognized leader in menopausal health. She is widely published and a frequently invited lecturer on a wide variety of women’s health care topics. Her research has been continuously funded for the last 20 years. Elected to membership in 2000, Dr. Barnabei has donated her most welcome time and talent to the CAOG Board of Directors since 2005.

## In Memoriam

**Robert I. Pfeffer, M.D.**  
Irvine, California

**Richard M. Moore, M.D.**  
Des Moines, Iowa

Please promptly notify the CAOG office of any member deaths so they can be shared with the membership.

## Member Attendance Honor Roll

Special recognition is extended to the following members who have attended five or more consecutive meetings. An asterisk (\*) denotes perfect attendance since election to membership. [The 2001 Annual Meeting was cancelled following 9/11.]

Gilbert R. Wessel	28*	John Gianopoulos	8
Joel R. DeKoning	25*	Roger P. Smith	8
Tom G. Sullivan	24*	James T. Swindle	8
Dennis J. Lutz	23*	Armin M. Drachler	7*
Stephen H. Cruikshank	21*	Harriette L. Hampton	7*
Paul G. Tomich	21*	Gayle L. Olson	7*
Jeffrey N. Maurus	20*	J. Coffy Pieternele	7*
Howard T. Strassner, Jr.	17*	Karolina Adam	7
Michael Halpern	16	James A. Hall	7
Stephen R. Locher	14*	Michael R. Handler	7
Joseph M. Miller, Jr.	14	Gary H. Lipscomb	7
Fran Popper	13*	Virginia R. Lupo	7
Mark I. Evans	13	Susan M. Mou	7
John Garbaciak, Jr.	13	David F. Lewis	6*
Jerry J. St. Pierre	13	Sandip Sawardecker	6*
Norman A. Ginsberg	12	William J. Todia	6*
John C. Morrison	11	Brent W. Bost	6
Bryan D. Cowan	10	Everett F. Magann	6
Robert J. Sokol	10	Catherine S. Stika	6
Mary J. Cannon	9	Barbara V. Parilla	5
Neil I. Arnold	8		

## Bylaws Require Minimum Attendance

Provisional active members must attend one of the first two Annual Meetings following election to become a full Active Member. Active Members are required to attend at least one Annual Meeting every three years. These are minimum attendance requirements. The CAOG encourages everyone to strive for annual participation. Make CAOG your priority.



**Ritz: Inner Courtyard**

**Back by popular demand is an appreciative salute to CAOG members who regularly attend annual meetings. Add to your consecutive attendance record in 2008. Do not forget to sign the official green registration cards !**



**“All that Jazz”**

With airlines cutting back on flights, book tickets now to avoid problems.

## New Member Recruitment Essential to CAOG

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Even as active members review the enclosed ballot for new members for 2008, continue to think of someone who might be good for the CAOG and vice versa. Please help us to grow!

Application forms for both active and adjunct members are available at the CAOG Office plus both forms are on the web site. Because signatures of both applicants and endorsers are required, a hard copy must be mailed. The deadline for consideration at the 2009 Annual Meeting is **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**. Don't miss the deadline by waiting until the last minute to apply.

A special thanks to the following CAOG members who served as an endorser for one or more of the 20 active and 1 adjunct new membership applications this year. We would like to see your name on this list next year.

### Women's Health Care Leaders

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.CAOG.ORG](http://WWW.CAOG.ORG)



Mark I. Evans, M.D.  
Michael O. Gardner, M.D.  
Thomas M. Gellhaus, M.D.  
Michael T. Greves, M.D.  
Judith U. Hibbard, M.D.  
Raymond H. Kaufman, M.D.  
Douglas W. Laube, M.D.

Dennis J. Lutz, M.D.  
J. Coffy Pieternelle, M.D.  
Tony G. Puckett, M.D.  
John J. Sciarra, M.D.  
Maria E. Smith, M.D.  
Samuel C. Smith, M.D.  
George A. Van Buren, M.D.

## CAOG Management Report



**Rochelle Hickel**  
Executive Director

As the Annual Meeting is just two months away I would like to extend a special thanks to everyone who has been involved in the abstract/paper/poster process, including all the authors and discussants. There is more final detail work to do, so don't be surprised if you get a phone call from me requesting further information.

We are diligently trying to collect the last of the unpaid dues for 2008 and some still owing from 2007. If you are one of the few that are delinquent, please respond to the final dues notice you will receive about the same time as this newsletter. Credit card payments can be done over the phone if you prefer. The CAOG needs your membership support. Thank you in advance for your prompt payment.

If you have not already done so, I strongly urge you to reserve your room at The Ritz as soon as possible as we do expect a sold out meeting. I would also recommend that you make any arrangements for the spa or other event tickets so you won't be disappointed. We have an excellent program scheduled for October and I look forward to seeing each of you in New Orleans. Remember to meet and greet each new member (yellow ribbon name tag) and let them know they are a most welcome CAOG addition !

Please contact me with any questions or comments you may have. I always enjoy meeting new people and visiting with those I already know or have talked with on the telephone.

Thanks again. Rochelle

Adjunct members are encouraged to apply for active membership as soon as possible following ABOG certification.

## PTO "Endowment" Fund Recognition

As noted in previous newsletters, the endowment fund still needs to grow to augment current and future CAOG Awards. Contributions are continuously being solicited and donors will be recognized in both the quarterly Newsletter and the Annual Scientific Program booklet. Any amount is appreciated. Thanks this time to two esteemed past presidents :

**William B. Goddard, M.D.**

**George D. Malkasian, Jr., M.D.**