



# Bulletin

of the Mahoning County Medical Society  
First Quarter 2009

## **DOCTOR JAMES E. MIGHT NAMED 2008 DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIAN**



Dr. James Might and Dr. Ray Duffett

Doctor James E. Might was named 2008 Distinguished Physician by the Mahoning County Medical Society and presented with a plaque commemorating the honor at the Annual Meeting of the Society on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at the Grand Lobby of Powers Auditorium. Presenting the award to Dr. Might was Dr. Raymond Duffett, standing in for society President Dr. Charles A. Crans. Dr. Might was joined by family members, friends and colleagues from the medical society.

Dr. Duffett, a long-time friend of Dr. Might and his family, told of his memories of Dr. Might attending all sporting events at Canfield High School where his children participated with Dr. Duffett. He noted that Dr. Might was always known as a kind, compassionate doctor and a true gentleman.

Dr. Might was born in Springfield, Ohio and graduated from Wittenburg College in 1949. He received his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1953. Dr. Might served as an enlisted man in the United States Navy during World War II and had to interrupt his residency at Youngstown Hospital Association to serve as a medical officer.

Dr. Might opened his practice of Internal Medicine in Youngstown in 1959. He was married to the former Ann Taylor, who passed away in 2004, and is the father of four children, Carol (Lucianno Lucero), Dr. Linda (Dr. Dennis Murphy), Kevin and James (deceased). Dr. Might retired in 2006 and resides in North Lima.

### *Nine Honored for Fifty Years in Medicine*

Nine members of the Mahoning County Medical Society and the Ohio State Medical Association, were recognized for completing 50 years in the practice of medicine at the Annual Meeting of the MCMS on January 27, 2009, held at the Grand Lobby of Powers Auditorium.

The recipients, all of whom graduated from medical school in 1958, practiced medicine in the Mahoning Valley until their retirements, and many still reside in the Youngstown area. The 50-Years-in-Medicine award is presented annually by the Ohio State Medical Association to physician members who have reached this milestone.

This year's awards, presented by Sixth District Councilor Marc Saunders, DO, went to: Fernando Carbonell, MD; Betty J. Klahr-Einfalt, MD; Joseph Mersol, MD; Herbert L. Queen, MD; Richard Roland, MD; Danilo Salcedo, MD; Frank Tiberio, MD; Karl F. Wieneke, MD; and Panos Zafirides, MD. Present to accept their awards were Drs. Wieneke and Zafirides. Dr. Carbonell's son accepted the award on his father's behalf.

# Bulletin

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Dean R. Ball, DO      Charles A. Crans, MD

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## CALENDAR

May 14, 2009	Women's Heart Day, Covelli Centre
June 12, 2009	Celtic Women, Covelli Centre
June 18, 2009	Annual OSHA Workshop, Antone's Banquet Center
June 19, 2009	Family Fun Night at Mahoning Valley Scrappers
June 25, 2009	Canfield Fair Exhibitors' Breakfast Canfield Fairgrounds
September 2 - 7, 2009	Canfield Fair

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### Redlined

While there may be some disagreement, there is no shortage of analysis out there on what caused the collapse of the economy. One thing that does seem clear is that a lot of things for a lot of reasons got way out of control. Without assigning blame or looking for a single cause – for one likely does not exist – there is no question that a huge bubble of money - real, imagined, or expected – was inflated, and then burst. The effects of this will be felt for a very long time, and it is unlikely many or any of us will ever see a return to the situation of just a few years ago. The basis of the economy was built upon an assumption of unlimited growth and an expectation of only positive direction. Unfortunately it was a house of cards, dependent upon money moving fast enough to stay ahead of any downside, which of course it could not do.

Far wiser students of economics than I have written that all systems have limits, and most agree that downturns are natural parts of a cycle in which the system corrects itself to stay within those limits. These corrections however are felt to work best when systems are left to their own devices. When third parties intervene between the principals of an economic exchange, the system might not respond in the same way, which can have both good and bad consequences. Medicare is a perfect example, wherein such government financing has allowed tremendous advances in health care, to a point, but has resulted in a system of unrealistic expectation and entitlement. The case can be made that this is a predictable result of the disconnection of both patients and providers from the normal forces which should govern such an exchange of fees for services. Not unlike the happy recipient of a government allowed / mandated mortgage, who had no real hope or expectation of actually affording it, patients and providers alike are similarly living on borrowed time, perhaps only getting by on the store of capital banked over the last decades. To compound matters further, while the aforementioned illegitimate borrower can walk away from his repossessed house, the same individual who cannot afford health care will still expect to be treated as if he lived in a mansion, medically speaking.

I've said before that we don't have a problem with access to health care in the US, but we do have a huge problem with paying for it. Every solution currently being proposed involves giving more "coverage" away, which is analogous to buying those houses that have been foreclosed, and moving everyone back into them, with new furniture to boot. Such proposals will obviously cost a lot more money than no one has, and does nothing to address the disconnection between the cost of the product and its use, wherein anyone can have coronary bypass or dialysis but no one gets good primary care unless they seek it out – and ultimately pay for it - by themselves.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T S Boniface MD". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.



## From the President by Dean R. Ball, DO

Well, the country has a new president and I guess the Mahoning County Medical Society needs one too. Hopefully I can do as outstanding a job as our outgoing president Dr. Crans did. Time will tell.

We had a wonderful night of international food and wine last month - my condolences to any one that did not make it. I want to thank Dr. Yarab for his excellent choices for the wine taste. We also have some other events this summer that MCMS members should take advantage of. We have the circus and wrestling in May at the Chevy Centre and baseball with the Scrappers in June. As usual, buy one ticket and get another for free.

Alas, social events are just part of my upcoming tenure as president. Presidents need good ideas, especially if one is starting a new term. Yes, I could reference our new person in the White House. Agree with him or not, he has plenty of ideas. However as the new Medical Society president, I was without one. I needed a platform or issue that I could work on and lead the Society in some sort of direction.

As I was waiting for an epiphany, I was blessed with a phone call from fellow physician and friend Ron Dwinnells. Like a lot of phone calls I get as a radiologist, a physician needed help. Ron wanted some time with the Council in discussing an idea he had about physicians giving back to the community. Ron has had experience with MCMS as a former Council member. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of the Youngstown Community Health Center. I knew he has been doing fantastic work with the YCHC and has been expanding services. He has recently expanded the size of the health center at the Youngstown location on the North Side from 2,500 to 18,000 square feet, as well as adding new locations in Warren and Alliance.

So I guess he called the right person, me being the new incoming president. We scheduled time for him to present at the meeting in March. With Power Point and his assistant, Beth Haddle, he described the expansion of the YCHC from family medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, podiatry and health education. Recently the YCHC has expanded once more with pharmacy and an expanded dental clinic. What he wanted the Council to assist him in is his next step of providing specialty care, which has historically been difficult for YCHC patients to access. His vision (with the MCMS help) would be to build an 8,000 square foot specialty clinic. He was flying to Washington the next day to meet with representatives to put forth this new idea of community health centers offering specialty care. With some positive response and preliminary backing from the Medical Society and local specialty physicians, Ron could get this idea off the ground. There may even be some government help available for capital improvements for this specialty clinic.

The meeting was quite a success with the preliminary response from the council members, most of whom are specialists, a resounding yes! There's a lot of work to do, not only to start to get the funding but also to put this idea out to the physicians and to the community. We are in an economic downturn and there are too many people that need help, especially the uninsured and under-insured in our area. What better way for physicians to give back to the Youngstown area. I know I'm excited and will do everything I can to lead the Medical Society in this effort. I hope you will as well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dean R. Ball, DO". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



## Bits 'n' Pieces

The following doctors have moved:

Thomas Traikoff, DO  
Anthony Lattanzio, DO  
Chad Volovar, MD  
The new address is:  
PRIMA Healthcare  
7629 Market Street, Suite 100  
Boardman, OH 44512  
Phone: 330-726-7100  
Fax: 330-729-2377

Marc Ucchino, DO  
Homer Skinner, DO  
107 Royal Birkdale Dr., #A  
Columbiana, OH 44408

Michael Shultz, JD, DO, has been reinstated into membership.

The following doctors have left the area:

Pyongsoo Yoon, MD  
Andrei Gursky, MD  
Bruce Ziran, MD

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES**

A few members have not yet paid 2009 dues. If you are one and you are participating in any of the member benefit programs such as Accu-Medical Waste, Workers Comp Group Rating, or Member One Health Care, please pay your dues immediately or risk losing your benefits. **All delinquent members will be dropped from benefit programs at the end of May.**

## Alliance Gem of the Year Honored at International Dinner

Susan Berny was named the 2009 Mahoning County Medical Society Alliance Gem of the Year at the International Dinner and Wine Taste on March 27, 2009. The dinner, a joint meeting of the Society and the Alliance, was held at Fellows Riverside Gardens in the Davis Center.

The award, created in 1993, honors an active member of the Alliance who gives to both the organization and to the community. Mrs. Berny, wife of Dr. James Berny, served as president of the Alliance in 1995. During her term she helped to raise \$11,500 for Sojourner House. In 1994 she founded the Survivors' Tea and the Youngstown Coalition for the Race for the Cure. Since that time the Mahoning Valley has received \$1.45 million dollars in grants from the Susan G. Komen Northeast Ohio Race for the Cure. Susan is currently in the second year of a two-year term as president of the Youngstown Symphony Guild, and has been a member of the Junior League of Youngstown since 1991. She also serves on the board of Angels of Easter Seals and the YWCA.

Susan received her BS in nursing from the University of Texas at Austin and attended graduate school at YSU in the school nurse licensure program. She was a captain in the Army Nurse Corps serving five years of active duty at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. In 1981 she was selected as an inaugural nurse for president Ronald Reagan.

Susan resides in Boardman with her husband who is chairman of Columbiana Anesthesiology Consultants. They have four daughters, Meghan, Kathleen, Colleen and Lauren.



## NEW MEMBERS

### **Indra Limbu, MD**

Infectious Diseases

Northeast Ohio Infectious Disease Assoc.  
540 Parmalee Ave.  
Suite 610  
Youngstown, OH 44510

Medical Education: Tribhuvan University, Kathmadu, Nepal  
Internship: St. Elizabeth Health Center, Youngstown  
Residency: Medical College of Wisconsin

### **Munir P. Shah, MD**

Infectious Diseases

Northeast Ohio Infectious Disease Assoc.  
540 Parmalee Ave.  
Suite 610  
Youngstown, OH 44510

Medical Education: BJ Medical College Gujarat University, India  
Internship: Western Reserve Care System  
Residency: University of Toledo Medical Center

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The OSMA endorsed TDC because the company was able to offer our members affordable medical liability insurance with an additional discount. This additional 10 percent premium reduction is available to active OSMA members who meet certain criteria. Exclusive discounts available for members include a 5 percent premium discount and a 2.5 percent claims-free credit. In addition, a 2.5 percent credit is available for those members who use the OSMA EHR Standards of Excellence Program, the OSMA Patient Satisfaction Program or other approved patient safety programs.

At the OSMA, we know it is imperative that we find the best products and services to meet our members' needs. After thoroughly researching numerous companies and their products, we believe we have found a solution that is one more step toward providing OSMA members with affordable medical liability insurance. TDC is the largest national insurer of physician and surgeon medical liability and has a sizeable market share in Ohio. With \$2.8 billion in assets, financial strength ratings of A (Strong) by Fitch Ratings, A- (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company, The Doctors Company has the strength and stability to protect OSMA members for years to come.

For more information on The Doctors Company medical liability insurance program, contact the OSMA at (800) 766-6762, send an e-mail to [info@osma.org](mailto:info@osma.org).

**Excuse My Absence** Charles A. Crans, MD

To My Fellow Colleagues:

I would like to offer my sincere regret and apology for my absence at our Annual Meeting. I appreciate your understanding and feel an explanation is in order.

I had a series of mishaps which totally prevented my being there. Believe me, I tried with all my worth to participate.

On the morning of January 19, at 01:00, I arose from sleep to let the dog out. After letting him in, I picked up a small bathroom chair which we brought downstairs for my wife who is recuperating from a knee replacement. As I turned to return to bed, I tripped on the electrical cord to her CPM machine, striking my head against an entertainment center, allowing the chair to impale against my abdomen. I sustained a rather severe laceration of my forehead and scalp, for which I was taken to the emergency room where I received 19 sutures.

I seemed to tolerate that OK, but a few days later I began to have mid-epigastric pain. I returned to the ER where a CT revealed a duodenal hematoma and a possible hepatic hematoma.

I returned home, but the pain progressed in severity and duration, and became accompanied by fever and shaking chills. On the night of our annual meeting, I was taken to the emergency room by ambulance, this time totally decompensated and comatose. On admission to the emergency facility, I'm told my BP was 66 and my temp 104.8.

My astute physicians realized I was in gram negative shock and immediately instituted resuscitation. As you probably have diagnosed by now, the hepatic hematoma became infected and I had a hepatic abscess. I went on to have the abscess biopsied and drained and was placed on IV antibiotics. At present I have a main line IV in place, get antibiotics daily, and am somewhat quarantined and restricted to the house. At my most recent CT the abscess is getting smaller but is still present. (This was written in February - Dr. Crans is off the antibiotics.)

Forgive the gruesome details, but I did want you to understand the situation behind my absence.

I would like to congratulate the physicians for their 50 years of service, and Dr. James Might for being named the Distinguished Physician of the year. I want to thank Dr. Ray Duffett and Dr. Marc Saunders, our 6th District Councilor, for substituting in my absence, the outgoing council members for their hard work and attendance, and Dr. Tom Boniface for being the Bulletin Editor. It is with sincere congratulations I offer the gavel to Dr. Dean R. Ball and can only hope that you offer him the cooperation and support you offered me during the past two years.

Most certainly I would like to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to our Executive Director Karyn Frederick without whom this wonderful society could never exist.

*continued next column*

**Mark Your Calendar for These Important Events in June!**

The Mahoning County Medical Society has a busy June in store for members. Mark your calendar now so that you don't miss these.

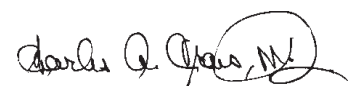
On **Friday, June 12th**, Celtic Woman is coming to the Covelli Centre. The performance is at 8:00 P.M. and tickets are \$54 each. Members get ONE free ticket with the purchase of at least one ticket at full price. Limited to a total of four tickets per member.

**Thursday, June 18th**, the Annual OSHA Update will be held at Antone's Banquet Center in Boardman. Registration opens at 8:30 A.M. and the program begins at 9:00. Cost is \$25 per participant for members and their office staff. Non-members pay \$50 per participant. A continental breakfast will be served. Jim Parks from Accu-Medical Waste Service will be the presenter.

**Friday, June 19th**, is Opening Day for the Mahoning Valley Scrappers and the MCMS third annual Family Fun Night. Tickets are \$20 per person and include an all-you-can-eat picnic prior to the game, game tickets and a Scrappers hat. As usual, MCMS members get one free ticket with the purchase of one or more tickets at full price. There is no limit to the number of tickets you may purchase for this event. The picnic area opens at 5:30 P.M. and game time is 7:05 P.M.

Flyers for all three of these events will be mailed shortly. If you do not receive one by June 1st, call the Society office at 330-533-4880 and one will be sent to you.

Lastly, and certainly not least, I would like to publicly thank all the wonderful people who aided in my care - my physician, the ER people, hospital personnel, and most importantly my wife and family, my friends and my colleagues who offered their undivided support and prayers. I feel confident that without their help I would not have survived. I am forever indebted to your kindness and involvement.



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## *In Memoriam*

*Rafik H. Boutros, MD*

*December 10, 1945 ~ March 25, 2009*

*Edward A. Shorten, MD*

*December 13, 1916 ~ April 4, 2009*



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