

**58TH ANNUAL CLINICAL MEETING**



NJ,ACS Officers:  
Drs. Frank T. Padberg, Paul J. Carniol, Lewis Wetstein,  
Fred Weber and Ronald Chamberlain



The Sheen Award Luncheon  
Dr. James Alexander, Mr. John Reed, Mrs. Michelle Jameson  
and Dr. J. Larry Jameson

**MEDAC**

MedAC is the political arm of the Medical Society of New Jersey. MedAC advocates on behalf of physicians on issues that directly effect them. It is important to keep MedAC strong. MedAC's purpose is to help elect legislators, regardless of party affiliation, who are concerned about physicians and their patients. We need your help to maintain medicine's power at the healthcare bargaining table. Monies donated to MedAC are used for state legislators.

Please consider making a contribution to MedAC and be part of the solution. MedAC contributions (\$150) can be written on either a corporate or personal check. A donation in the amount of \$1,000 is required to be included in the Capital Club. Please mail your checks to the Chapter office, 51 Elm Street, #A7, Morristown, NJ 07960.

**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
SOCIO-ECONOMIC MEETING  
SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2010  
THE CROWNE PLAZA, MONROE  
R.S.V.P.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am attending the **Socio-Economic Meeting**, March 13, 2010
- \_\_\_\_\_, I am a member, enclosed is my check in the amount of \$50.
- \_\_\_\_\_, I am not a member, enclosed is my check in the amount of \$65.

**Mail RSVP with check to:  
New Jersey Chapter, American College of Surgeons  
51 Elm Street, Suite #A7  
Morristown, NJ 07960**



**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER  
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS**

**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 2; Issue 1

Winter, 2010

**ANNUAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC MEETING  
SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2010  
The Crowne Plaza Monroe  
Monroe & Jamesburg Rooms  
390 Forsgate Drive, Monroe Township**

	<b>MORNING PROGRAM</b>		
		<b>11:50 a.m.</b>	<b>Senator Loretta Weinberg (D)</b> Senate, 37th District Chairman, Senate Health Committee "Legislative Priorities of the Senate Health Committee"
<b>7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>REGISTRATION COFFEE &amp; DANISH</b>		
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>WELCOME Paul J. Carniol, M.D., President</b>		<b>AFTERNOON PROGRAM</b>
		<b>1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>LUNCHEON/WELCOME Paul J. Carniol, M.D., President</b>
<b>8:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Steven Shikiar, M.D.</b> "How To Thrive Outside of Managed Care"		<b>Joseph H. Reichman, M.D.</b> President Medical Society of New Jersey MSNJ Update
<b>8:50 a.m.</b>	<b>David B. Hoyt, M.D., F.A.C.S.</b> Executive Director American College of Surgeons "ACS Healthcare Reform Update"		<b>John W. Poole, M.D.</b> 2010 Legislative Update Chairman, MedAC Board Member, AMPAC
<b>9:35 a.m.</b>	<b>Theodore L. Passineau, J.D.</b> Senior Clinical Risk Management Consultant Medical Protective "Dealing with Litigation Stress"		
		<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>
<b>10:35 a.m.—11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>		<b>CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING (All are welcome to attend)</b>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Senator Jennifer Beck (R)</b> Senate, 12th District "Effectively Communicating with Legislators"		

# PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wanted to thank all of you for electing me President of the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Surgeons last year. It was a great privilege representing you, and I am truly honored. I learned a lot being in this position this last year, most importantly how truly devoted the leadership really is. The Executive Committee, Councilors, Governors and myself are your true advocates. They/we work tirelessly to protect your interests. Be it financial concerns, government interference or attempts at physician extenders or other professionals i.e. optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors, etc. from treading on our practices, we have been continuously vigilant.

But we can't do this alone. There is more power in numbers, so we need your support, your input, your intellect, obviously your membership and your dollars. Although we all work voluntarily, we have been extremely successful developing important relationships with our legislators and other government officials. This, however, costs dollars. A previous member and also a legislator who, unfortunately, recently passed away, used to always say: "The two most important things in politics are money, and I forget the other thing....." Anyone gaining experience in dealing with political issues knows that you can't meet with a government official without a campaign donation.

I am delighted to say that we have been very successful this last year. I will briefly cite a few major accomplishments:

**TORT REFORM:** Last year we realized that the state/federal government was acting expeditiously with tort reform. So after meeting with State Senator Jennifer Beck it was obvious to me she was sensitive to our issues. We developed a working group: Drs. Fletcher, Goldfarb, Moritz, and Scott together with Senator Beck and her staff and met monthly writing tort reform legislation. Subsequently we were fortunate to add Drs. Carniol and Rough to help recruit other legislators to co-sponsor this legislation. I am happy to state that this legislation has been reintroduced in the new legislative session.

**PHYSICIAN REIMBURSEMENT:** Last year the private insurers attempted to pass policy in which physicians would be reimbursed the same regardless if they were participating or not in their plans. We had multiple emergency meetings and with the help of the Medical Society of New Jersey were able to defeat that proposal. Of note, is that we have a fantastic relationship with the medical society and frequently work together on these issues.

Aetna was fined almost \$10,000,000 (ten million dollars) for attempting to cheat physicians on their reimbursement.

PIP (personal injury protection) insurers i.e. motor vehicle accident (MVA) attempted to tie their reimbursement to Medicare rates. Again we worked tirelessly with our legislators to defeat that proposal.

**NEVER EVENTS.** Our state legislators were about to extend federal law in not reimbursing physicians for some processes patients experience while hospitalized i.e. pneumothoraces, deep venous thrombosis, decubiti ulcers, etc. Federal law had already been enacted not to reimburse hospitals when these events occurred. Again we scrambled and emergently met with our legislators explaining that frequently these problems arise, regardless if everything is done appropriately, and not to reimburse the physician was just WRONG! Again we have been successful in defeating that bill.

**LOAN FORGIVENESS:** Many of you know this, but this was new to me: our residents are finishing training with exorbitant loans, many in excess of a quarter million dollars. Simultaneously there are areas in our state with a significant shortage of surgical providers. Dr. Goldfarb is presently working on a plan for resolution of these astronomical loans if these new surgeons work in these indigent/ needy areas.

**Sincerely,  
Lewis Wetstein, M.D.  
President,  
2008-2009**



# PRESIDENT'S FORUM

The NJACS continues working for all of the surgeons in New Jersey. As you are probably aware we have been working on a tort reform bill with Senator Jennifer Beck for a few years. I am pleased to report that Senator Beck has reintroduced the tort reform bill into the legislature this year. NJACS and MSNJ are working for passage of this bill.

Saturday, March 13, 2010 is our annual socioeconomic meeting. Some of the highlights of this meeting include presentations by: David Hoyt, MD, Executive Director of the American College of Surgeons. Senator Jennifer Beck, Senator Loretta Weinberg, Chairperson of the NJ Senate Health Committee, Theodore Passineau, Senior Clinical Risk Management Consultant for Medical Protective, Joseph Reichman, M.D. President of the Medical Society of New Jersey, John Poole, MD Chairman of MeDAC, and Steven Shikiar M.D., NJ,ACS Council Member. The topics which will be discussed include: ACS Healthcare Reform Update, Dealing With Litigation Stress, Effectively Communicating with Legislators, Legislative Priorities of the Senate Health Committee, and How to Survive Outside of Managed Care.

We have also started working on the annual meeting, Saturday, December 4, 2010. Frank Padberg MD, is chairing the meeting. Please contact him if you have any suggestions for this meeting.

**Paul J. Carniol, M.D.  
President, 2010-2011**

## NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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