



The

# Roadrunner

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## President's Column

By Greg Koury, MD

Greetings NMAFP Members,

I hope this letter finds all of you doing well. I am currently between soccer matches. My youngest daughter is celebrating her 18th birthday today by playing soccer for Silver High School. My youngest son is playing for Silver High School in a soccer tournament in Taos. My wife is holding down the fort in Silver City, and I am answering patients on the phone, by text and calling in prescriptions. I believe this exemplifies the life of a Family Physician; we do everything, anywhere, anytime and all the time. I am very proud to be a Family Physician and feel very strongly we all chose family practice not simply as a career but a vocation.

I would like to share with you my personal goals as president of the NMAFP:

1. Meet with Governor Martinez this fall to discuss healthcare in NM from the perspective of a Family Physician and member of the NMAFP, thus establishing an ongoing dialogue with the Governor. Then meeting at least twice a year with the Governor, passing this on to my successor and continuing this into the future.

2. Promote and encourage all of you, our membership, to get involved in the leadership of the NMAFP. Family Physicians are the future of quality healthcare in NM, and we must be involved in all areas that impact healthcare.

3. Continue to support the growth and effectiveness of our Board. I am humbled and proud of our previous leadership: Stephanie Benson, Dolores Gomez, Karen

Phillips and Melissa Garcia, just to mention a few. They have all done a great service for our membership.

4. Increase attendance at the Winter Refresher and our Annual Conference by bringing in strong speakers, relevant topics and introducing the 'FUN' back into the practice of medicine.

5. And finally, help our members realize you are not alone in the practice of Family Medicine, especially our rural members. Also, to remind all our members that you are appreciated, you are significant, and we are a remarkable specialty in medicine. Example: I had a patient in the office this past week that simply came in to be assured she was still a person, not just a disease. After months of seeing specialists, being given powerful and very expensive medications, she was exhausted, depressed and still had no relief. She came to realize that everyone was treating the disease and NOT her as a person. At the conclusion of her visit with me, she left with a smile on her face and a confidence that she lacked 30 minutes before. This is what Family Medicine has taught all of us: the patient comes first, and the patient is a whole (not parts). Listening to the patient is far better than talking to the patient allowing us to treat and heal our patients like no other specialty.

So here is your 'Task' list...

First task as a member of the NMAFP: go to your smart phone, your laptop, your PC or (the old fashion item) a real paper calendar and write down the dates for the Winter Refresher in Albuquerque (FEBRUARY 20, 2016) and the Annual Conference in Taos (JULY 28-31, 2016). Then decide, now, to attend!!

Second task: go to our website, [www.familydoctornm.org](http://www.familydoctornm.org), check it out, now and often. Our site is a great place for information and resources (Thank You Sara Bittner!!).

Third task: keep delivering quality healthcare to our families and our communities in the great state of New Mexico.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve you as President of the NMAFP. I look forward to visiting with many of you in this upcoming year. Please contact me to say 'Hi', ask questions, offer ideas and/or submit requests.

I pray for blessings, good health and happiness for you and your families.

Gregory Koury, MD

## Chronic Kidney Disease Improvement Project

Today 26 million American adults suffer from Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) with millions of others at increased risk. As the prevalence of diabetes and hypertension rise so does the prevalence of CKD. Progression of CKD leads to dialysis and kidney transplant and patients with CKD are at increased cardiovascular risk, risk of stroke and premature death.

High-risk groups include those with diabetes, hypertension and family history of kidney failure as well as African Americans, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Seniors. The Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) guidelines provide evidence-based recommendations for detecting and treating CKD in primary care and in partnerships with nephrologists.

Want to work to improve the care you and your team provides to patients with chronic kidney disease? And, want to complete an ABFM Maintenance of Certificate Part IV module as well? "Chronic Kidney Disease" was developed by the CAFP, the National Kidney Foundation of Wisconsin and Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association to save kidneys in your patient population by improving care for your patients with stage 3 CKD.

This Part IV is FREE of charge to you between now and December 1. You'll receive both 20 prescribed credits and MOC completion. To register, go to: <http://www.ckdmoc.org>. Questions? Please feel free to call Shelly Rodrigues, California AFP, 415-345-8667.



# Minutes - NMAFP BOD Meeting - July 18, 2015 Ruidoso Convention Center - Ruidoso, NM

Present: Kresta Antillon, MD; John Andazola, MD; Meredith Barlow, MD; Sara Bittner; Val Carrejo, MD; Emily Cohen, MD; Dion Gallant, MD; Melissa Garcia, MD; Irene Gutierrez, MD; Virginia Hernandez, MD; Greg Koury, MD; Jimmy Le; April Leonardo, MD; Rick Madden, MD; Melissa Martinez, MD; Molly McClain, MD; Michael McKinney, MD; Katie Ogawa; Karen Phillips, MD; Frank Ralls, MD; Rachel Seltzer, MD; Linda Stogner, MD; Lisa Stolarczyk, MD; Karen Vaillant, MD; and Dan Waldman, MD. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Melissa Garcia.

Introductions of new Board Members: Dr. Valerie Carrejo, NMAFP Vice President; Dr. Kresta Antillon, NMAFP Resident Delegate to the National Resident & Student Conference & Resident Rep from UNM; Drs. Molly McClain, Emily Cohen, & Meredith Barlow, UNM Resident Representatives and Dr. April Leonardo, Southern NM Resident Rep.

Old Business: Drs. Melissa Garcia and Frank Ralls, along with Sara, attended the Annual AAFP Chapter Leader Forum in Kansas City in April. Melissa shared information she learned in KC about Board size and functionality. Perhaps this topic will be addressed during the Strategic Planning Session in November. Direct Primary Care Initiative by AAFP was also addressed in KC, giving doctors options since one size does not fit all. Frank shared his thoughts from KC regarding legal issues involving Board Support. Board Members must always be well aware of how the Board actually feels about a particular topic first.

New Business: Dr. Dan Waldman passed around a handout as he gave an update on the Scholarly Activity Committee. The project this Committee has been charged with is to showcase Family Medicine Resident Scholarly Activity posters at the Feb. 20, 2016 NMAFP Winter Refresher in Albuquerque. Dan is working with Dr. Alex Rankin, a faculty member at UNM on this project as well as Drs. Darrick Nelson, John Andazola and Luis Rigales, the other three FM Residency Directors. The Feb. Conference aligns better with the Resident schedules than the summer conference. Perhaps there will be an award for audience favorite. It was suggested that the Medical Students research posters could also be viewed in the Lecture Hall but clearly marked as Med Student Poster. Their posters could also be peer-reviewed but with a different bar. One of the next steps is to create some kind of infrastructure as to where the presentation applications will go and how they will be distributed to the reviewers.

Med Student Reception: Dr. Frank Ralls will be the moderator for the 10th Annual Med Student Reception, Friday, Sept. 18, 2015, 6-9 pm, Hotel Albuquerque, Old Town. A sign-up sheet was passed around and returned to Sara.

Resolutions for AAFP COD, Sept. 28-30, Denver: Dr. Dion Gallant, NMAFP Delegate to the AAFP COD, informed the Board that NM has not submitted a resolution for a few years. Deadline for submission is August 29th. Dr. Rick Madden suggested a resolution should be written to establish a review board for all requests for expansion of Scope of Practice. It was determined that Rick will write this resolution and email to the Board for a vote. Dr. John Andazola would like to learn more about writing resolutions as a Board, and he would like to see NMAFP participate more on the National Level. Dion suggested that the list of Resolutions for 2015 be forwarded to the entire Board once NMAFP receives them. When the COD ends, a list of all the Resolutions that passed will also be sent to the Board. Dr. Melissa Martinez, NMAFP Delegate to the COD, suggested that if any board member feels strongly about one or more of the Resolutions for 2015 to let the Delegates know so they can lobby during the COD. A motion was made by Dr. Madden to have the NMAFP Delegation form a process to expand our capability to write resolutions to the AAFP COD. It passed unanimously.

Strategic Planning Session: Nov. 6-8, 2015, Hotel Encanto, Las Cruces. A sign-up sheet was passed around. The SPS will take place from 8 am -12 pm and the Board Meeting will take place from 12 pm - 2 pm. Sara will send to the Board the 2012 Strategic Plan.

Resident Report: Irene Gutierrez, MD - UNM - new class of interns. Several Residents are going to KC to R&S Conference to recruit. Rachel Seltzer, MD - Silver City - all slots filled. 2 are going to National Conference to recruit. The first two graduates from their program stayed in NM. Michael McKinney, MD - Santa Fe - 3 graduates all stayed in NM. Redesigning the structure of some of their rotations. April Leonardo, MD - Las Cruces - Just had graduation and new class of 6 interns are awesome. Talking about expanding their program. Started an ER Fellowship. Have an Anthropologist on Board in their program. Dr. Greg Koury suggested that the Board send out a thank you to the preceptors that work so hard in NM. Dr. Darrick Nelson has started sending out a thank you to the volunteer preceptors in Silver City. Members can get up to 20 hours of CME a year for precepting. Dr. Gallant suggested that we write a thank you letter signed by the President and sent electronically to each Residency Program for their use so a motion was made to write an NMAFP Appreciation letter for anyone who trains our students and residents. It passed unanimously. Dr. Koury offered to write the letter.

Student Report: Katie Ogawa gave a FMIG Update to the Board. They had a prep for PIE. Just had their first year's coming in, and they will have a luncheon for them in August. Katie thanked the NMAFP for their donation to Shave the Date in support of one of the Med Students that was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 25.

Future Board Meetings:  
November 6-8, 2015  
Strategic Planning Session/Board Meeting  
Hotel Encanto, Las Cruces

Feb. 19, 2016  
NMAFP Office - 5:30 pm (dinner served)  
Night Before Winter Refresher

April 23, 2016  
NMAFP Office - Noon (lunch served)

July 30, 2016  
Sagebrush Inn - 12:30 pm (lunch served)



NEW MEXICO ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
STRONG MEDICINE FOR NEW MEXICO

## MISSION STATEMENT

The New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians exists to improve the health of the people of New Mexico by supporting and advancing the specialty of Family Medicine and serving the needs of our members.

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