



GEORGIA
SOCIETY OF
ANESTHESIOLOGISTS, INC.

e-News



April 30, 2013

CMEs by the beach

The GSA 2013 Summer Meeting will be held **July 19 - 21, 2013**, at the [Omni Oceanfront Resort](#) in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

The Omni's ideal beachside location allows attendees to obtain CME hours while also enjoying a family vacation.

Activity Co-Directors are Ratna Vadlamudi, MD and Sona Arora, MD.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

GSA 22 walk "Hill"

More than 20 physicians representing practices throughout Georgia will walk Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., tomorrow, May 1. GSA members will visit the offices of Georgia's 13 Congressmen and two U.S. Senators to discuss priority federal health care issues related to anesthesia practice and patient safety. The visits are a part of the three-day Washington Legislative Conference conducted each spring by the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

Among the instructors and speakers at the Legislative Conference is incumbent U.S. Rep. Andy Harris, R-Maryland, who is the only Anesthesiologist to have served in the U.S. Congress. Other presenters include Patrick Conway, MD, MSc, the Chief Medical Officer of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Rep. Dan Benishek, MD, R-Michigan, a general surgeon, who spoke of the frustration of serving in Washington. Benishek described the nation's health care system as serving policy makers in the federal bureaucracy rather than serving the needs of patients.

The top issues discussed with the top legislative staff during Congressional visits include the following:

- Ensuring fair anesthesia payment
- Improving rural access through improved pass-through policy
- Easing drug shortages to raise quality care
- Empowering patients through accurate, transparent provider information

- Protecting quality through physician supervision of anesthesia

GSA pays the registration fee for any GSA member who attends the ASA Washington Legislative Conference.

GSA Member Renewals at 98 percent

The lifeblood of all professional associations is member involvement and dues payment annually. Dues revenue for 2013 is at 98 percent of last year's totals, an amazing success story which demonstrates that GSA members value the work of the Society in advocacy at the state level and continuing education. Dues payment is the source of Society operating funds. According to GSA Secretary-Treasurer Matt Klopman, MD, GSA has long operated under the policy that it will keep its education meetings affordable for members and not depend on those member-value events as a revenue source.

Renewal reminders were sent earlier in April for the 35 members who have not renewed. Drop letters will be mailed Friday, May 3, to those members not paying 2013 dues, and the names of those non-renewers will be sent to ASA. Membership in the ASA is contingent on the physician maintaining participation in good standing with the state component society where the physician practices.

For more information on member renewal, e-mail kristin.strickland@politics.org or call 404-249-9178.

MAG Delegate determination pending

GSA Member Manager Kristin Strickland has submitted GSA's membership list to the Medical Association of Georgia's executive staff for determination of the number of delegates GSA will send to MAG's October House of Delegates meeting. Delegate approval is calculated based on the number of GSA members who are also members of MAG. GSA's participation in the MAG HOD has resulted in the physician's organization enacting policies to support physician-led anesthesia and to

oppose scope of practice encroachment's by non-physician providers.

GSA has earned two delegates to the MAG HOD each year for the past 10 years.

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