

APPNA

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE for submitting material
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The APPNA Newsletter is published by the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America (APPNA), 6414 S. Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559.

President's Message

Assalam-o-Alaikam. May Allah (S.W.T.) shower his mercy and blessing on you. I am thankful to Allah (S.W.T.) for the honor to serve as your president for 1999 and will serve you to the best of my abilities. Please pray for me.

The association in 1998 was energetically and smoothly run by Dr. Durdana Gilani. It is going to be impossible to fill her shoes, both literally and figuratively. Her dynamic personality and efficient handling of the presidency was superb. Much has been accomplished in 1998. As we race toward the next millennium, many tasks still need to be accomplished and I will need your help to accomplish the mission. Fortunately, by the administration of the past 4 presidents, the efforts of the office management committee under supervision of Dr. Mushtaq Sharif has ensured fiscal independence. Ms. Burt has done a good job as an executive secretary for the APPNA office.

A major task yet to be completed is our motto "2000 x 2000" (2,000 members by the year 2000). We are still at least 600 members short. There are over 8,000 physicians of Pakistani origin in North America. We need to make APPNA desirable and attractive to them, and to that end we will be publishing 2 or 3 issues of an APPNA Journal (magazine) to make APPNA more attractive. I have appointed a new membership committee consisting of Chapter presidents and the Regional coordinators to work at the local level and convince physicians to join.

An organization is only as good as the organizers. We have a great democratic tradition to elect new officers and committees every year. This year we are offering committee assignments to any members to serve on the committee of their interest and expertise. Please fill out the form with you name, address and phone numbers so we can appoint you to the committee. I wish to thank you in advance for your participation.

(Continued on page two)

EDITORIAL

Every organization, including APPNA, runs according to certain rules and regulations, namely the Constitution and Bylaws. Rules and regulations are made to be followed, not broken. If not followed, discontent and chaos follow. Since the last annual summer meeting in Los Angeles, we have witnessed such an episode to where the rules, regulations, and norms were thrown to the wind with total disregard of due process. I am referring to the last election for President-Elect and Treasurer, if someone has not guessed it so far.

Election results were accepted by the candidates, since their own chosen representatives were present during the counting and were totally satisfied that the election rules and regulations were strictly followed. The process of sending, receiving, handling, securing, and counting the ballots was thoroughly discussed and unanimously agreed upon by each and every person present. Since these candidates lost the election by a wide margin, suspicion that something was wrong came to their minds. Instead of following due process, their first reaction was to send a letter to APPNA through an attorney, and later an open letter was sent to the APPNA membership. Allegations put forth apparently have no solid basis. All this did was promote mistrust and ill-will amongst members, and has not achieved anything else.

The Constitution and Bylaws are living documents, which safeguard each and every member's rights, guide us in how to handle problems as they arise, and if a solution cannot be found, in the future changes can be made to accommodate such problems. It is best to live within these rules and regulations, which apply equally to each and every one of us.

Hassan I. Bukhari, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Editor-in-Chief

President's Message Continued

Plans are underway for the summer meeting in New Orleans. The brochure should be arriving by the middle of April. We are planning an exciting program for you with an excellent CME program, short banquet program, lasting no more than 1 hour and the presentation of only 3 plaques, at a cost of no more than \$60.00. Please make plans to attend our annual meeting from July 1st through 4th, 1999. Efforts are underway to obtain APPNA accreditation for CME under the guidance of Dr. Najam Awan and Dr. Raza Dilawari.

As you all know, APPNA SEHAT has become a part of the Human Development Foundation. H.D.F. is an independent organization, but still largely supported by APPNA membership. More than half the members of the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees are active APPNA members. We will continue to work for the continued success of H.D.F. I am personally, totally committed to the concept of helping the people of Pakistan and will urge you to support it to the fullest as an example of our commitment to the people of Pakistan.

The spring meeting is scheduled on April 2nd through 4th, 1999. I would appreciate it if you would make arrangements to attend the meeting. The Executive Council will meet in 3 sessions on Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning. An excellent banquet and musical program on Saturday night is planned. See you in St. Louis. Wasslam-o-Alaikum.

Shabbir H. Safdar, M.D.

Past President's Parting Remarks

Thank you for the rare and exceptional privilege of serving as your 19th President after fifteen years of progressive apprenticeship through every post on the executive council of my alumni association and APPNA. It has been a source of great pride to be involved while APPNA matured and earned its present stature as The premiere Pakistani American organization. However, I was not fully cognizant of the expectations that non-member Pakistani's have of APPNA until I assumed office as its President. Listed below are some of the requests APPNA received during 1998.

1. Placement in residency programs.
2. Adjustment of visa status.
3. Job placement in under served areas.
4. Establishment of paramedical training programs in Echocardiography, Radiology, Physician Assistants, etc. for nonlicensed Pakistani physicians in North America.
5. Financial support and student loans for above physicians in above mentioned training programs offered by local schools.
6. APPNA's assistance in the administration of certain hospitals in the Punjab.
7. APPNA SEHAT to merge with the government's rural health care delivery system in the Punjab.
8. Provision of monetary help for various NGO's engaged in the provision of health care and education in Pakistan and other Muslim countries.
9. Collaboration in CME programs between APPNA and medical schools in Pakistan whose alumni are not components of APPNA.
10. Financial assistance for treatment of the terminally ill, payment of tuition fees, home and business loans for Pakistani people not connected with APPNA.
11. Facilitation of access for health officials from Pakistan by the establishment of a Pakistan Desk at the central office.

These examples illustrate some of the commonly held perceptions of APPNA as a wealthy and powerful organization, as well as the vast scope for expansion of the activities of APPNA. The constraints of our financial resources limit our ability to initiate all of these projects at present; however some of these issues are already being addressed through the Human Development Foundation. Once the goal of the endowment fund for HDF has been achieved we can diversify our

efforts to meet other needs. Our efforts towards placement in residency programs are ongoing and seed money of \$5,000 has been allocated for social welfare projects to help the nonlicensed Pakistani physicians.

During the past year our major goals were prudent fiscal management, member outreach, and establishment of APPNA CME program as essential components of all APPNA meetings.

All the North American meetings during 1998 were financially profitable. Proceeds from the exhibitors, pharmaceutical sponsors and CME grants amounted to a profit of \$90,000 for the Los Angeles meeting.

The meeting venues were selected to bring new members into the APPNA fold, and resulted in the revival of the Canadian chapter, and creation of the Mid-South Chapter. The previously existing Pennsylvania Chapter merged into a newly formed Pennsylvania/New Jersey Chapter, bringing in new members from the state of New Jersey. Recognition of APPNA NAMA and Rawalpindi Medical College Alumni Association expanded our membership base. The significant increases in the membership of the Alliance and SAYA groups further enlarged the APPNA family. The summer meeting in Los Angeles galvanized the Californians into formation of a new Northern California chapter which is poised for recognition at our upcoming spring meeting.

Our scientific programs in Los Angeles and Memphis set standards of excellence for future APPNA meetings. The committee for Research, Education and Scientific Affairs has completed the groundwork and initiated the process for accreditation of APPNA by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education. The process will be completed in 1999, Insha Allah.

The new membership directory is with the printers and will be mailed to all dues paid members shortly. The central office equipment has been updated with the acquisition of new computer software and hardware which enhances services to the membership.

In July, some of our members had raised questions about the relationship between APPNA and PAK PAC. A task force was appointed to address these questions and the report, which included a legal opinion, was published in October newsletter. To summarize, the current relationship between APPNA and PAK PAC does not violate APPNA's 501(c)(3) status and the relationship is being continued with due observance of all legalities.

In 1998 some of our members chose to publicize their complaints against APPNA in the electronic and print media without seeking the in-house mechanisms to resolve their grievances. APPNA is a fraternal organization with democratically elected officers. The membership has every right to criticize and take the leadership to task in the appropriate forum. Dissension aired in an inappropriate forum is counterproductive and brings notoriety upon APPNA and APPNA membership. In any large organization there are bound to be differing opinions. Let us resolve to settle our differences amicably and work in unison toward common goals.

I have done my best to serve APPNA with zeal and enthusiasm, and any mistakes that I made were inadvertent. I thank you for your forbearance and humbly request your forgiveness for all the shortcomings. The functioning of any organization depends on the collaborative efforts of an entire team. The credit for everything we achieved during 1998 as well as my thanks go out to all my team members, the members of the various committees; the Executive Council and the Officers, Dr. Shabbir Safdar, Dr. Javed Akhtar, Dr. Riaz Chaudhry, Dr. Shaukat Khan for their support and hard work, to the Board of Trustees and the Past Presidents for their guidance and wise counsel; and to the officers of SAYA and the Alliance for their invaluable assistance during the summer meeting, to Mr. Zahir Kazmi; the APPNA accountant, for his services which cannot be measured in monetary terms alone. Dr. Hassan Bukhari deserves special recognition for accepting the responsibility for the editorship of the newsletter and the publication of the APPNA Directory at the eleventh hour.

My special thanks to Denise Burt, our Executive Secretary, for her professionalism, patience and fortitude through difficult times, and for her prompt response to every demand upon her in spite of absence of a part time secretary for most of the year. I am deeply indebted to Dr. Mushtaq Sharif for the operation of the central office with clockwork precision, his invaluable assistance in the management of the summer meeting, and his meticulous performance of each and every task and committee assignment. Lastly, I would like to thank my husband Hafeez and daughter Afnahn whose commitment to APPNA and unwavering support sustained me all year.

It is not possible to achieve all long term goals in the short span of a year, but we can achieve them if we remain united and focused. I am committed to continue in the service of APPNA. Please join me in supporting our President, Dr. Shabbir Safdar, and his team as we take APPNA into the new millennium.

Wassalaam.

Durdana Gilani, M.D., F.A.A.P.P.



Outgoing Secretary's Report

Assalam-o-Alaikum. The year 1998 has gone by very quickly (and so will the life, perhaps!). Our trip to Pakistan in December was very good. Khyber Medical College and Khyber Alumnus were the most gracious host, like before. Everyone enjoyed the Peshawari Fiesta and a trip to historical Khyber Pass on a steam engine train. The scientific programs were well arranged and well attended. Drs. Amjad Hussain, Akmal and Javed Bangash (in addition to host of other people), are to be congratulated for making this meeting a great success.

Rawalpindi Medical College Alumnus did a great job in arranging the program at their parent colleges' Silver Anniversary. I wish we could stay there a little longer, but we are hoping to arrange a full meeting there, Insha-Allah, in the near future. We were very impressed with their hospitality.

Outgoing Secretary's Report Continued

I am sure most of you have received letters and faxes from the candidates who lost in the last election. I want to set the record straight. We have had many elections since the inception of APPNA. The election process has always followed the APPNA Constitution and Bylaws, and this last election was no exception. Dr. Iltifat Alavi of Chicago, who served as the chairman of Nominations and Election Committee, is known throughout the organization for his honesty and integrity. The ballots were opened and counted at the annual summer meeting in Los Angeles in front of each candidates' representative. They were checked and re-checked. The outer envelopes were discarded after verification, as they always have been. The ballots were saved and secured in a safe after counting was completed, to the satisfaction of each candidates' representative. After the results of the counting were announced, Dr. Alavi's report was duly seconded and accepted by the General Body. No question of a quorum was brought up by anybody at that point. While filling a cup of tea, a losing candidate accepted the results of the election as the will of the membership. "The membership has spoken" said he. The winning candidate shook hands with him and vowed to remain good friends and work together. Then why this change of heart three months later? Like many other organizations, I think we have some outside hands intruding into APPNA who are very jealous of the stature it has achieved in North America and Pakistan. They would probably like to see APPNA divided into several splinter groups and thus advance their own political agendas. The success that APPNA has achieved, my friends, has come through the hard work of devoted volunteers and the unity of its membership. Together we have stood, my brothers and sisters, and together we stand today. I hope you will repulse this latest assault on APPNA's unity and integrity by backing up the democratic process that we have followed for years, since the inception of APPNA.

I extend a warm and friendly hand to the losing candidates and ask for their acceptance of the verdict of the majority of the membership. I ask them to volunteer their time and energy to serve on different committees of APPNA. Let us work together and take our Association into the next millennium. Let us open our hearts and embrace each other as fellow APPNA family members. Let us forget the past and move on! Warmest wishes for you and your families for a very happy 1999.

M. Javed Akhtar, M.D., F.A.C.S.
President-Elect APPNA



◇ **CONGRATULATIONS!** ◇

Dr. M. Rashid Chaudhry has received the 1998 Honor Award from the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery. This award recognizes those who have contributed service to the Academy through presentation of an Instrument course or scientific paper or participation on a continuing education committee or faculty. Congratulations on receiving this prestigious award!

Secretary's Report

Dr. Riaz M. Chaudhry, Jena, Louisiana

APPNA Winter '98 Meeting

A large delegation of North American physicians participated in the Winter meeting in Peshawar, Pakistan. Most of the Northern and Western regions of Pakistan were blanketed under a heavy fog and the airports in Islamabad, Lahore and Peshawar were closed. Despite these and other travel difficulties almost all the delegates were able to come to Peshawar. The CME program was well attended. As always the Peshawarites made everyone feel at home. The highlights of the trip were a train safari to Landi Kotal and the Khyber Pass, and a Peshawari Fiesta hosted by APPNA complete with street performers, fanoos and fireworks.

APPNA Summer '99 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of APPNA is being held this year in the Convention Capital of US, the Crescent city of New Orleans, Louisiana on July 1-4, 1999. Arrangements for this meeting are in full swing. A detailed registration packet will be mailed to you during the first week of April. Please watch your mail for it. A few words of advice:

1. Reserve your hotel room as soon as possible. Because of Independence Day weekend, approximately a million visitors are expected to visit New Orleans and it will be difficult to find any hotel rooms if you don't plan ahead.
2. If your schedule permits, spend the 4th of July in New Orleans. There are a number of free concerts by renowned artists. The fireworks and Laser Shows on the Mississippi River are one of a kind. The Hilton Hotel, the site of APPNA convention is located on the river, and has agreed to extend the same rate for night of the 4th as well, (regular rate \$220).

Meeting Costs

We are trying to make the New Orleans meeting not only most enjoyable and memorable, but also one of the most affordable to our members. This year we are determined to keep our costs low. But in order to maintain high quality, we need more sponsors. We have room for 150 booths, where vendors could display and sell their wares. If you are aware of anyone who may need a booth please contact Denise at the Central Office. Also, those of you who are in Primary Care, Cardiology, GI, Oncology or happen to know your Pharmaceutical Reps personally, please contact me, or a member of the Resource Committee. Our goal is to raise at least \$100,000. We are planning to publish a roll of honor of all those members who would help accomplish this task.

Improvements at Central Office

The new software and hardware at the Central Office in Chicago has been installed and is up and running. This will help future officers to serve you better, and will be able to meet the challenging needs of our alumni associations, chapters and component societies such as SAYA, CAPPNA, and APPNA Alliance.

The APPNA Resource Center

The APPNA Resource Center has been set up to help those Pakistani physicians who need help with J1 and H1 visas and guidance for career opportunities. This project has been in the making for the past year or so, and is a top priority for a number of us. Thanks to our president, Dr. Shabbir Safdar for finally getting it going. We have already helped with the successful placement of six physicians in various physician deficient areas.

APPNA Membership

The membership as of December 31st is as follows:

Lifetime Members	403
Regular Members	638
Physicians in Training	204

We have a total of 6500 updated addresses in our database. AMA lists 8500 physicians, and the Canadian list includes approximately 700 physicians of Pakistani origin. We hope to include and update the database on an ongoing basis, once we can verify the correct addresses and origin.

It is indeed an honor to serve you as the Secretary of APPNA this year. APPNA represents the second largest group of ethnic physicians in North America. Our economic and political clout in this country and in Pakistan depends upon the cohesiveness among ourselves. This is your organization. You have to get involved. With individual and collective effort and perseverance even in the face of monumental adversaries, we are going to take up the challenges of the new millennium. We are determined to make a difference.

Looking forward to an enjoyable 1999. See you in New Orleans at the annual meeting.



PAKISTAN PHYSICIANS SOCIETY

Presents

Memorial Day Extravaganza

at Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, Wisconsin

Friday, May 28th thru Monday, May 31, 1999

Mark your calendars now for an extraordinary weekend sponsored by PPS (APPNA's Illinois Chapter). This years event will offer an array of fun-filled festivities and educational activities designed to entice the entire family! The beautiful, newly refurbished Lake Lawn Resort boasts excellent facilities: Tennis and volleyball courts, indoor/outdoor swimming pools, golf course, marina with boating and other water sports, horseback riding and helicopter rides.

For the physicians, CME Category I - 10 hour course is scheduled. Special attractions will be the Ladies Fashion Show, presenting exclusive designerwear, a magical music performance, and gourmet Pakistani food prepared before your eyes!

Please join us - don't miss the fun. Make your reservations NOW for special rates. Call the resort directly at 414-728-7950 to secure your discounted price of \$135.00 (double or single) until April 29, 1999. For additional information, please call: Jafar Shah at 630-655-1975; Manzoor Hussain at 630-920-0020; Mushtaq Khan at 630-789-8878; or Riaz Baber at 630-879-0533.

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Members,

We would like you to be an active participant in the APPNA organization. Please take a moment to indicate your first, second and third choice to serve on the Committee of your choice.

- _____ APPNA Gold Medal Task Force
- _____ APPNA Sehat Committee
- _____ Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- _____ Disaster Relief/APPNA Medical Peace Corps Committee
- _____ Ethics and Grievance Committee
- _____ Finance Committee
- _____ Hotel Selection and Negotiation Committee
- _____ Liaison with Professional Organizations Committee
- _____ Membership Committee
- _____ Nominations and Election Committee
- _____ Office Management Committee
- _____ Project Evaluation Committee
- _____ Publications Committee
- _____ Research, Education and Scientific Affairs Committee
- _____ Committee for Social Welfare Projects
- _____ Youth Forum Committee
- _____ APPNA SAYA Group
- _____ Resource Development Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I look forward to your quick response and participation.

Shabbir H. Safdar, M.D.
President

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APPNA SPRING MEETING

The Spring meeting of APPNA will be held April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 1999 at the Adams Mark Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. Please make every effort to attend.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Adams Mark Hotel at 314-241-7400. Ask for group rates for the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America. Rates are \$89.00 for Single/Double. There will be Executive Council sessions on Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday morning. Registration form is included with this newsletter. Please register right away.

INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAYA/CAPPNA

The SAYA/CAPPNA Mentoring Program is designed to match up SAYA and CAPPNA members with the intent on helping CAPPNA members with career, university, resume choices and more. The broad interests of the organization's members is a valuable asset to all those involved and can help CAPPNA members explore various career interests and educational decisions.

Anyone interested in joining this program should feel free to contact CAPPNA Representative, Sahar Dar, via E-mail at Sahar828@aol.com or by phone at 440-899-1827.

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21st ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

July 1 (Thursday) - July 4 (Sunday), 1999
New Orleans Hilton Riverside, Poydras at the Mississippi River
New Orleans, Louisiana 70104

Reservations: 1-800-Hiltons; 1-504-584-3999; -1-504-561-0500 or www.Hilton.com
APPNA convention rates apply June 30, 1999 through July 15, 1999

<u>Room Rates</u>	<u>Standard/Executive</u>	<u>Towers</u>
Single	\$115	\$150
Double	\$115	\$150

Extra person \$25.00

One Bedroom Suite \$432, Two Bedroom Suite \$624

When making reservations please ask for the group rate for **APP (Pakistan Physicians)**. Cutoff date for group rate is June 11, 1999.

Caution: There is an Essence Festival being held during our meeting timings. There are no other rooms available in the city at that time. We have only limited number of rooms available at the group rate. It is highly recommended that if you are planning to attend this meeting, please make your reservations early!!

First night deposit required to secure each reservation. Reservations canceled prior to 72 hours of arrival will receive a refund of their deposit.

We are planning to have an excellent CME program, Poster Session, Family Night with the Alliance, SAYA, CAPPNA and Preteen programs, Alumni Night, Banquet and Entertainment, all at low cost. Come meet your friends. A more detailed brochure will follow shortly. **Please plan to stay the evening of July 4th in New Orleans to enjoy the fireworks at the Mississippi River.**

New Orleans Meeting continued:

Host Committee: Mohammed Suleman, M.D. Office phone 504-467-0421;
Fax 504-888-3153, and 504-466-7443. E-mail Docsuleman@aol.com

CME: Juzar Ali, M.D. Office phone 504-568-4634;
Fax 504-861-2805. E-mail Jali@Isumc.EDU

Resource Riaz M. Chaudhry, M.D.
Development: Office phone 318-992-4133, Home 318-992-8467
Fax 318-992-4134. E-mail RiazC@aol.com

Alliance: Mrs. Riaz M. Chaudhry
Telephone numbers same as above

Exhibit: Dr. Kaleem Arshad
Office phone 504-244-2137, Home 504-464-5871
Fax 504-244-2127. E-mail mkarshad@aol.com

Entertainment: Dr. Zahid Imran
Office phone 225-765-3430, Home 225-273-4065
Fax 225-761-5070
Dr. Syed T. Rab
Office phone 504-568-8655, Home 504-780-8500
Fax 504-588-4749

Registration Dr. Mussarat Pervaiz
Office phone 504-542-9441, Home 504-386-0253
Fax 504-542-9414

Banquet Dr. Shaista Farooqi
Office phone 504-769-2161, Home 504-752-2230

Audio Visual Mr. Busharat Ali, 504-454-2667

Youth Forum Rabiya and Samia Suleman
504-467-0421, 410-235-4667, and 510-516-3686

Travel and Mr. Abdul Qavi Siddiki
Transportation 504-466-8311 or 504-463-0800

Other Host Committee members: Dr. Saeed Ahmed, Dr. Adeel Butt, Dr. Farrukh Malik, Dr. Naveed Malik, Dr. Shaban Farooqi, Dr. Farrah, Dr. Naheed Qayyum, Mr. Shahid Qayyum, Mrs. Mahrukh Ali, Mrs. Rashida Ahmed, Dr. Furqan Siddiki, Dr. Zeshan, Dr. Asad, Mrs. Najam Bhatti, Dr. Tasneim Suleman, Dr. Zahoor Azhar, Dr. Zahida Imran, Mrs. Samina Azhar, Dr. Anwar Ismail, Dr. Mossadaq Jaffery, Dr. M. Afzal Arain, Dr. Arif Muslim, Dr. Asim Malik.



Southwest Airlines is offering a 10% discount on most of its already low fares for travel to and from the Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America members destinations. Call (or have your professional travel agent call) the Southwest Airlines Group and Meeting Reservations at 800-433-5368 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. no later than five (5) days prior to the first date of travel and refer to ID Code K6629 to take advantage of this offer. Call right away as fares are subject to terms and availability. (Because advance bookings are accepted by Southwest only through dates for which schedules have been opened, reservations may not be available for confirmation.) Travel in or out of Dallas field is subject to the requirements of the Wright Amendment.

American Airlines is also offering 5% off the lowest applicable fare or 10% off the full Coach fare. For reservations please call 800-433-1790 and reference STARfile S7469UB.

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CME PROGRAM JULY 1999: CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The CME program is now being planned. We hope to have a formal 8 hour, two day CME program along with poster presentations, "show and tell" sessions and strategically placed exhibit booths. The CME Committee invites abstracts for the POSTER SESSION of this program. A separate poster gallery space will be arranged and standard poster boards will be provided. A separate dedicated time will be allotted for Q/A when attendance by the participants will be mandatory. This is open to students, physicians in training, residents and fellows. The content and topics of the posters should be of general medical, allied health care and public health interest. Original clinical or basic research topics are welcome, provided the authors have actively participated in that research. A YOUNG INVESTIGATOR'S AWARD has been initiated and based on the response and participation, two cash prizes will be given for the poster presentation. At the end of the meeting the winners will be selected from among the participants by a panel of judges.

We also invite you to participate as a CME speaker in the formal CME component of the program. Each speaker will be given 15 minutes for his/her presentation followed by a questions and answer period. Please send your topic, abstract, academic affiliation and CME objectives if you want to participate as a speaking faculty in the program. Sponsorship of your presentation through an unrestricted educational grant by pharmaceutical support will be appreciated. This will be duly acknowledged at the meeting. The subject and topic must be of general interest to the audience and must not be commercially based or biased. A final list of speakers will be decided by the CME committee.

It is our endeavor to organize a first rate CME program which is of interest to the majority of the APPNA membership. If you would like to participate in any of these presentations, kindly send me your abstracts, topics and other details along with your cover letter by March 31, 1999.

Juzar Ali, M.D., FRCP, FCCP
Chairman CME Committee

REPORTS: COMMITTEES, CHAPTERS, ALUMNI

19th Annual Winter Meeting

Javed I. Bangash, M.D.
Chairman Organizing Committee

The 19th Annual Winter Meeting of Association of Pakistani Physicians of North America was held at Pearl Continental Hotel in Peshawar, Pakistan. This meeting was jointly organized by APPNA, Khyber Medical College Alumni Association, and Khyber Medical College.

The registration was on 15th of December 1998. In the evening Khyber Medical College Alumni Association had a meeting at Peshawar Club. About 160 Khyber Medical College Alumni attended the meeting, which was followed by a music program, in which a famous singer Khayal Mohammed entertained the audience.

On December 16th there was a CME program from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. State of the art lectures were presented. In the afternoon there was a Peshawar city tour. The delegates and their families visited the historic, centuries old walled city of Peshawar and some other famous landmarks like Mohabat Khan Mosque and Qissa Khawani Bazaar. In the evening there was a reception given by APPNA (Peshawari Fiesta) which was mainly organized by Dr. Amjad Hussain. It was held at Purda Bagh, there was folk music, entertainment, and typical Pathan cuisine followed by khatak dance.

On December 17th there was a CME program for two hours, which was followed by a Khyber Train Safari. The delegates boarded the steam engine train at Jamrud railway station. This railway line is considered a marvel of engineering and was completed in 1925-1926. It passes numerous tunnels, culverts, and bridges. A lunch was served at Landikotal, which was followed by traditional festivities. In the evening there was a reception hosted by Khyber Medical College for the delegates. The Governor of N.W.F.P. was the chief guest.

On December 18th there was a CME program from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., which was followed by a concluding session. This was chaired by the Health Minister of N.W.F.P.

I would like to thank the APPNA leadership, Prof. Ashfaq Ahmed, Dr. Amjad Hussain, Dr. Mohammad Akmal, and members of the organizing committee for their help in making this meeting a great success.



WINTER MEETING IN FATIMA JINNAH MEDICAL COLLEGE

Attiya Salim, M.D.

I represented FJ Alumni in APPNA winter meeting in Peshawar, Pakistan from 15th - 18th December, 1998. APPNA had arranged the dinner on December 15th, which was full of color, delicious food, local music and hospitality. The seminar sessions were also very well arranged and were very informative. Khyber Medical College received us with a very warm welcome, Peshawar style stage show and good food.

In Lahore, F.J.M.C. celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a lot of enthusiasm. There was a two day program on the 12th and 13th of December which was very well attended by the local doctors, medical students, F.J. Old Graduates Association (AFJOG), faculty from Fatima Jinnah, King Edward and Allama Iqbal Medical

WINTER MEETING IN FATIMA JINNAH MEDICAL COLLEGE (Continued)

Colleges. We had made arrangements with APPNA officials to provide us with three wonderful speakers for our seminar. Dr. Shabbir Safdar, Dr. Hassan Bukhari, and Dr. Arif Muslim were very kind to share their latest research and knowledge with the audience in the Hall. There were a wide range of topics in modern medicine. We appreciated their time and efforts very much. I was feeling very proud to introduce my good friends from APPNA.

Dr. Hassan Bukhari and Dr. Arif Muslim were also very gracious to donate \$500.00 for AFJOG. I thank them on behalf of F.J. Alumni and AFJOG. Governor of Punjab was also present when I presented a check of \$5,000 to the Cancer Research Foundation of Pakistan on behalf of F.J. President Shahnaz Khan, M.D. Governor of Punjab and Principal of Fatima Jinnah Medical College, Professor Khalida Usmani, presented me a plaque which I accepted on behalf of Dr. Shahnaz Khan, M.D., President F.J.M.C. 1998.

On the evening of December 12th there was a stage show, which was very well arranged by F.J. medical students. Secretary of Health, Punjab, was also present. This event was followed by a delicious dinner. I had the opportunity to visit my professors, some of whom I had not seen for 20 years. They made me feel at home and gave me a very warm welcome. Local television also had a glimpse of my photo on the screen in their evening news hour. It was sad to hear the news of Professor Nabiha Hassan's death.



SIND MEDICAL COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT

Faiq A. Hameedi, M.D.
President

Assalam-o-Alaikum. Happy new year! 1998 was a very productive year for the alumni. Through the generous support from our alumni we are able to carry on a lot of constructive work for the college and the alumni. I invite all other SMCians who have not yet been active to join now and further the cause of the alumni. We invite our fellow SMCians to participate in different organizing committees, including SMC development fund raising committee, constitution and bylaws committee, CME committee, SMC Award committee and membership committee. I also strongly urge every SMCian to participate actively in the upcoming APPNA and the alumni elections.

Alumni is holding its annual election for the year 2000 and is in the process of inviting nominations for the executive council. As decided by the general body in the summer meeting in LA, from now on, the term of the executive committee has been reduced to one year and this year the elections will be held for the office of the president, present elect, vice president, general secretary and treasurer. The details of the election procedure are available from the chairman election commission, Saeed Akhtar, M.D., at 806-792-5016.

As you know, the Annual meeting of the alumni will be held in New Orleans from Thursday July 1st to Sunday, the 4th of July with the summer meeting of APPNA. Dr. Pervaiz Mussarat (class of '83) has been nominated the chairman host committee for this meeting. We are in the process of developing a formal CME and entertainment program for this meeting. The past principal and the chairman academic council of the college,

SIND MEDICAL COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT (Continued)

Dr. Nayyar Mosoodi, has been invited as the chief guest. We invite our fellow SMCians, especially those living around a driving distance from New Orleans, to contact Dr. Pervaiz Mussarat at 504-386-0235 to help organize this meeting.

I am very happy to announce that we are on the world wide web and the alumni constitution, newsletter and membership form is available on the web page. Please visit us on www.SMCAANA.org, and do not hesitate to make comments and suggestions. Some members may not have received the current Alumni newsletter due to non availability of current address. Please inform us of your new address. Last, but not least, please renew your membership for the year 1999 along with your APPNA membership. Remember, you have to be a dues paying member of the alumni to participate in the elections.



SOUTHERN CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORT

Zahid Imran, M.D.

The Southern Chapter of APPNA had a very busy schedule during this quarter. New Orleans being the host city for the 1999 Annual meeting has placed a huge responsibility which the membership seems posed to meet successfully. The various committees have been meeting regularly, and the work seems to be progressing as scheduled. The visit from the APPNA president has energized the chapter. Dr. Suleman hosted a dinner meeting at his home to coordinate the work of various subcommittees. The CME committee, under the leadership of Juzar Ali, has been particularly very active as it is expected the 1999 meeting will set a standard of excellence for CME activities of APPNA.

A general body meeting of the Southern Chapter was also held on November 19, 1998 at the Radisson Hotel in Baton Rouge, LA. The meeting was called to order and started as usual with recitation from Holy Quran. Dr. Sheenwani gave an eloquent presentation on current developments regarding the Human Development Project of APPNA and appealed for donations. Dr. Shaban Faruqi presented the CME. His topic "Hepatitis" was followed by a question and answer session.

Dr. Musserat gave a brief update of the preparation for the 1999 meeting. Dr. Shaista Faruqi acknowledged the help she received in the arrangements for this meeting. The nomination process for next elections of Southern Chapter was discussed. The position of M.I.T. representative was filled by nomination of Dr. Naveed Malik. A proposal was made to Executive Director Southern Chapter, Dr. Riaz, to separate the Secretary-Treasurer and elect two separate officials for these positions. Dr. Shaista Faruqi and her team had not only arranged a delicious buffet, but also a great entertainment program, as well as home made sweets, and hors d'oeuvres. Mohsi Ali, a talented artist from Houston, entertained the gathering well into the late hours of the night.

The Southern Chapter also welcomed the election of Dr. M. Khalid Arshad to his new position as the president-elect of Dow Alumni Association. The fatiha and condolence was offered for the deceased father-in-law of Dr. Joffrani.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We consider all views for publication. If yours are not here, they were not received by us. The opinions expressed in the *Newsletter*, however, are solely of the writers, and should not be construed as that of APPNA - *Editor*.

EDITOR:

With utmost respect, I would like to express some differences with the President's message of October, 1998. I have known Dr. Durdana Gilani since the college days and admire her intelligence, courage, independence, and assertiveness. Currently, she is the Immediate Past President of APPNA and I am not, never was, nor will be. Our respective situations confer some advantage as well as disadvantage. As the President of APPNA, her word carries more weight, but she has to be tactful and be careful not to disturb the consensus around her. My opinion, on the other hand, though less significant, I can afford to be honest and ruthlessly so. I disagree with Dr. Gilani's assertion that "APPNA has always maintained a cooperative relationship with the Government of Pakistan regardless of the party in power." There is no denying the fact that APPNA always had a good relationship with General Zia and one often hears about the flight in 1979 over the K-2 peak in the General's personal C-130 (at taxpayer's expense). APPNA has subsequently done a good job of lobbying for the Pakistani establishment comprising the right wing parties, the industrialists, the feudal lords, the bureaucracy and the military. During Zia years, no attempt was made by APPNA to develop any relationship with the opposition (read Benazir Bhutto for opposition at this point in time). When Benazir Bhutto came to power in 1988, she was given cold shoulder by APPNA. Relations with Government of Pakistan warmed up once again when Nawaz Sharif came to power in 1990. In the summer of 1993, some funds were collected under APPNA auspices for Pakistan flood relief, but on finding Benazir in power, the funds, instead of being transferred to the Government of Pakistan, were handed over to Honorable Syeda Abida Hussain, who later claimed that the funds were spent in her constituency. Opposition members were invited at the summer meetings for the first time during Benazir's government. The government itself was represented by the Ambassador to U.S. The reason given was that for democratic purposes, APPNA had to have communication with the opposition as well (read Nawaz Sharif for opposition at this point). I still remember the vitriolic speech delivered by Mr. Iftikhar Gilani, (Nawaz Sharif Muslim League) at the 1995 summer meeting in St. Louis. In

1997, we heard Sartaj Aziz and Justice Sajjad Ali Shah at New York (both anti-Benazir and Justice Sajjad in the good books of Nawaz Sharif till then). In 1998, Farook Leghari was invited by Pak Pac and pro-Nawaz Sharif elements created almost a riot in Los Angeles. (How dare Pak Pac invite an anti-Nawaz Sharif politician?)

Before deciding on the final contours of APPNA's relationship with the Government of Pakistan, its leadership will be well advised to keep in mind the following:

1. The dependence of APPNA on the Government of Pakistan will be interpreted as a weakness by the Pakistani establishment particularly by the politicians who will try to take advantage of APPNA. This will result in the loss of our much cherished autonomy.
2. In the interest of maintaining good relations, APPNA will stay silent and not express its critical views on the situation in the country and on the ill-advised policies of the Government. APPNA will thus be unable to provide any moral or intellectual guidance to the government of Pakistan. Instead of leaders, we will become followers, will lose our unique character and, in fact, will become mere chamchas to the Government. In a country where there are already so many chamchas, the addition of a few more will be a most unremarkable event.
3. Most of the welfare work in Pakistan, at present, is being done by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and by independent workers like Abdul Sattar Edhi and Imran Khan. Compared to them, so far, the work done by APPNA is negligible. Why can't APPNA operate independently of the Government. We will not get VIP treatment on our visits to Pakistan, but is such treatment worth the price which accompanies it?
4. As the Los Angeles imbroglio has shown, APPNA's relationship with the Government of Pakistan, though friendly, will never be free of wrinkles. There will always be some elements trying to manipulate the situation. A considerable amount of time and energy will be required to forestall any damage by such elements and even then there will be no guarantee.
5. Finally, as an autonomous body (so far), APPNA is free to formulate its policies, but the policies need to be uniform and followed consistently. We cannot have one set of policies for the present Government and another for the next.

Sultan A. Hayat, M.D., F.A.C.C., F.A.C.P.

◆◆ POSITIONS ◆◆

□ **Position Wanted:** Looking for position in underserved area in the field of Internal Medicine/ Primary Care. Please call Dr. Wahid at 312-666-6946 or page at 312-760-0612.

□ **Wanted Family Practitioner:** For a practice in San Antonio. Board Eligible or Board Certified. Please apply with full documentation. Texas License one year warranty may be available from the Hospital for the right candidate. Contact Salar A. Aziz, M.D. by telephone: Residence 210-690-9074; Office 210-828-2311, Southside Office 210-924-7362; or write to P.O. Box 33277, San Antonio, TX 78265.

□ **Wanted a Female Ob/Gyn,** BC or BE for a practice in San Antonio. One year warranty may be available from the Hospital for the right candidate. Contact Salar A. Aziz, M.D. by telephone: Residence 210-690-9074; Office 210-828-2311; Southside Office 210-924-7362; or write P.O. Box 33277, San Antonio, TX 78265.

□ **Position Wanted:** Medicine-Pediatrics Chief resident applying for primary care job starting July 1999. Internal Medicine and Pediatrics Board eligible. J1 Visa Status. Ghulam M. Arain, 718-283-7600 Beeper 9183, 718-438-5089 (home). Garain@yahoo.com. 5001 10th Ave. Apt 3, Brooklyn, NY 11219.

□ **Position Wanted:** Anatomic/Clinical Pathology Board Certified, finishing Cytopathology fellowship in June 1999. Permanent resident. Looking for practice opportunities in Anatomic Pathology/Cytopathology. Mahmood Aijazi, M.D. Work (216) 778-5185, Home (440) 243-1376. Email: maijazi@hotmail.com.

□ **Secretary/Receptionist wanted** Extensive computer experience, excellent typist required for OB/Gyn and Family Practice in San Antonio. Please send resume to P.O. Box 33277, San Antonio, TX 78265; or call Dr. Salar Aziz: Residence 210-690-9074; Office 210-828-2311; Southside Office 210-924-7362.

◆◆ POSITIONS ◆◆

□ **Allergist Wanted:** Need Allergist B/E or Board certified in South Georgia to take over practice. Present Allergist is moving for family reasons. Mail CV to Fauzia R. Durrani, M.D., 107 Woodrow Wilson Dr., Valdosta, GA 31603, or call confidential (912) 247-7753 Office; or, (912) 244-4167 Home.

□ **Cardiologist Wanted:** BC/BE, non-invasive/ invasive (non-interventional) cardiologist, fully trained in cardiac catheterization, and all aspects of nuclear cardiology and echocardiographic techniques. Direct inquiries with curriculum vitae to: Zaeem Ansari, M.D., FAAC, 522 S. 4th Street, Ste. 1500, Fulton, NY 13069. J-1 position is not available.

□ **Position Wanted:** BC Internist/MRCP(UK), H1B Visa status, seeks placement. Excellent credentials. E-mail: kmahmoud@excite.com. Call: 716-442-2692.

□ **Internist Wanted:** I am interested in hiring Board Certified Internists with or without a subspecialty to Carlsbad, New Mexico. H-1B eligible candidates and ex J-1 Visa holders who have or are going to be completing the two year home residency requirement are welcome to apply. Interested doctors may e-mail their resume and any questions to MAJIDASYED@HOTMAIL.COM Majid Syed, M.D., F.A.C.C.

□ **Cardiologist Wanted:** Invasive/Interventional Cardiologist. BC or BE for an excellent opportunity in Florida. Please apply to: Gary Buckman, Administrator, Marion Cardiovascular Institute, 1040 SW 2nd Avenue, Ocala, FL 34474. Phone 352-732-3005; Fax 352-732-9828.

□ **Pediatrician Wanted:** BC/BE Pediatrician to join immediately well established expanding busy Pediatric practice in Tucson, Arizona, a university town with teaching hospital. Excellent salary/benefits. Call Mohammed Nomaan, M.D. at 520-293-6686, or fax 520-887-1736.

◆◆ POSITIONS ◆◆

□ **Position Wanted:** Pediatrics Board certified, finishing Pediatric Cardiology (invasive/non-invasive) fellowship in June 1999. On J-1 Visa. Need position in Health Professional shortage area. Muhammad Sher Khan, M.D. Phone: 718-454-1086. E-mail: MSKNIAZI@AOL.COM, 188-01B 71st Crescent, #2A, Flushing, NY 11365.

□ **Position Wanted:** Internal Medicine Board certified, Pulmonary Board eligible, finishing Critical Care fellowship in June 1999. On J-1 Visa. Need Primary Care/Pulmonary Critical Care position in Health Professional shortage area. Raees Ahmed, M.D. Phone: 718-454-5356. Beeper: 917-395-3725. E-mail: MSKNIAZI@AOL.COM, 6700 192nd Street, #801, Flushing, NY 11365.

□ **Cardiologist Wanted:** Non-invasive BC/BE cardiologist for a busy two doctor practice in a beautiful suburb of Philadelphia. Please send CV to: Practice of Cardiology, 529 Maple Avenue, West Chester, PA, 19380, Attention: Carol E. Warrener.



◆◆ MISCELLANEOUS ◆◆

□ **For Sale:** 3 Kanal residential plot, Model Town Lahore. Call 248-375-0435.

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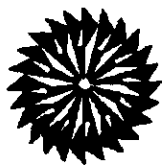
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