



APPNA NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

M. Javed Akhtar, M.D.

Assalam-o-Alaikum. The new millennium is here and thank God we are all alive and well!

The spring meeting of the executive Committee was held during the first week of February 2000. Despite the bad weather and odd timing, it was well attended. The main problem I had during this meeting was a lack of quorum. I understand that the timing was bad but I want to appeal to all the members of the Executive Committee to try to fulfill their obligations to the Association.

I am now going to present my goals for the year 2000.

1. Issue each member a wallet sized ID card.
2. Put together a membership benefit package including:
 - life and disability insurance
 - rental car discounts
 - discounts and upgrades on PIA
 - equipment leasing and purchase discounts
 - practice management services
3. Medico-legal hotline for:
 - IMG issues
 - residency issues
 - J-1 Visa conversion
4. Expand the Internet services and APPNA website including:
 - expanded resource center
 - establish an APPNA list server with e-mail addresses
 - guidelines for externships, internships, J-1 Visa, practice opportunities
 - Newsletter, chat line
5. Establish a retirement community for APPNA members.
6. Add career planning seminars to the Youth program during the Summer Meeting.
7. Expand and strengthen the CME program.
8. Delivery of health-care to under-privileged Pakistani Americans and other indigent people through Primary health clinics staffed by volunteer physicians.

I hope that God gives me the ability and the strength to carry out this ambitious program. I will need your help every step of the way.

May God bless you and your families with best of health and prosperity in this New Year.



The President at the Podium--M. Javed Akhtar, M.D.

INSIDE

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 2 | Editorial |
| 3 | Letters to the Editor |
| 3 | President-Elect's Message |
| 3 | Nomination/Election |
| 3 | Committee Report |
| 3 | Membership Committee |
| 3 | Report |
| 4 | Executive Council Meeting |
| 5 | Secretary's Report |
| 5 | Treasurer's Report |
| 6 | Announcements |
| 7 | Classified |
| 8 | Membership Form |

EDITORIAL

S. Mansoor Hussain, M.D.



During the recent meeting in Chicago, questions were raised about the content of the Journal. It is important to state that we publish almost all of what we receive, albeit with appropriate editing. The Journal represents the entire Association and as such must represent as many of the divergent points of view as are available. The caveat being that civility must be maintained at all times and that the criticism must be constructive and not just accusatory in nature. Besides opinion, we welcome anything that the members wish to contribute, fiction, poetry, real life stories, and humorous articles, historical, educational, religious or inspirational material. However, the editorial board reserves the right to reject, edit, modify, abbreviate or otherwise alter any submission. Articles published elsewhere are definitely not welcome.

The Newsletter is for the purposes of information only and as such we will not entertain any detailed articles or letters for publication here. However, since the Editorial Board of the Journal and of The Newsletter are now conjoined, therefore all material submitted will be considered for publication in either one of them.

Coming to the editorial pages; our editorial policy is best summarized in a verse by Syed Abdul Hameed Adam:

Aiy Dawar-e-Hashr mujhay apnaa masahib naa samajh
baaz aukat khari baat bhee ho jaati haiy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I want to thank all those who wrote at the behest of Dr. Riaz Masud Chaudhry, letters to various NJ chiefdoms supporting me in my struggle against the University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ (UMDNJ). Helped by the wide support I had from APPNA and other Muslim organizations, I was able to persist and make the University realize that they had a losing proposition and force them to request an out of court settlement. I accepted this offer and as a consequence, the University agreed to withdraw their complaint against me from the NJ Board of Medical Examiners and the National Data Bank. The University also offered me a settlement which I accepted. In return I withdrew my case which I had filed against them in NJ Superior Court.

The University Hospital Administration had charged me for "misrepresenting" a clinical event in one patient. This was done to justify hiring my replacement. Even though my job or other privileges were not affected, I still pursued all avenues to have this charge dismissed. In time I succeeded by having an external review panel, the Medical Executive Committee and the NJ Superior Court dismiss this charge against me. In fact, the Court denied the University's appeal to vacate its order on four different occasions. In addition, I was also able to secure support from the NJ Division of Civil Rights and the Federal Equal Opportunity Employment commission. As a result, the US Department of Justice issued a "Right to Sue" letter, permitting me to institute litigation against the University (UMDNJ) under the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964.

As can be imagined, this case has caused me more stress, anguish and disappointment than anything I have ever experienced in a thirty-year professional career. However, it is not only the conclusion of this case but also the good fortune of having friends like you that I now celebrate. It is ironic that adverse circumstance help us appreciate our luck – for I would never have been able to go through this difficult time without your help. I am confident that cases like mine will no longer be handled in a "usual manner" ever again. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your friendship, kindness and unfailing support.

Professor S. Sultan Ahmed, M.D. SQA, UMDNJ.

22nd Annual APPNA Summer Meeting Atlanta Hilton and Towers Atlanta, Georgia July 13-16, 2000

We are working hard to develop a state-of-the-art CME program. The Resource Committee is working very aggressively, on both the local and national levels. The Local Alliance Host Group is already busy making plans for the auxiliary function. The Youth Forum, headed by Murad Toor, has arranged an exciting set of activities for members of SAYA and CAPPNA.

Because Atlanta is one of the most desired travel destinations, very competitive airfares are available. Check online at (travelocity.com, priceline.com). Please make travel plans as soon as possible as the hotel rooms are going quickly (call 404-659-2000 or 1-800-HILTONS).

***Mohammad Arshad, M.D.
Chairperson, Local Host Committee
(404) 363-9581***

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Riaz M. Chaudhry, M.D.



As you may already know, this has been an exhilarating and exceptionally important year for us. I believe that after some rough years, the long-awaited reforms for APPNA will finally happen. The process has begun.

After an outstanding year of service to APPNA, Dr. Shabbir Safdar has now turned over the gavel to Dr. Javed Akhtar. A number of new initiatives are being planned. A comprehensive benefits package, the effort spearheaded by the President, with the support of the Executive Council and a large segment of the membership, is being adopted. We are delighted to have new faces such as Drs. Adeel Butt and Atique Mirza as co-chairs of the Membership Committee. The timing is fortuitous, as it emphasizes the importance of new members to APPNA. It is reported that the APPNA membership has dropped to a dismal 6% of the total number of Pakistani physicians in the USA.

One of Dr. Safdar's important contributions was to have credible CME programs for the meetings in Pakistan and the USA. An excellent CME program was presented last year at the annual meeting in New Orleans and garnered tremendous interest and input from the attendees. We hope that this will become the norm for our meetings. Soon, APPNA will also be able to accredit its own CME programs.

The spring meeting held in Chicago in February was a joint meeting between APPNA and HDFNA. Many of the members of APPNA were unhappy about this arrangement and felt that HDFNA, while utilizing APPNA's resources for its purposes, is unwilling to give APPNA the credit it deserves. Also, they are not entirely clear about the relationship between APPNA and HDFNA and feel strongly that the two organizations should merge under the aegis of APPNA so that they can then support their combined goals without any reservations.

The good folks in Atlanta are planning a wealth of exciting activities for the July 2000 meeting. Additionally, we have also started work on the meeting to be held in Chicago in the year 2001. The annual meeting of APPNA is an exceptional opportunity for education reunions, meeting old friends and making new ones. This year, as in previous years, we are again requesting that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

M. Ishaq Chishti, M.D., Chairperson



The President appointed the election committee chairperson and its members. Last year, elections were conducted by Comprehensive Election Services, Inc, an independent organization. Our expenses were approximately \$4,500. Comprehensive Election Services, Inc., has merged with a bigger global election company called Votation.Com, which will conduct APPNA elections this year. Although it is expensive to have elections conducted by an outside independent organization, APPNA leadership is solidly behind this change.

Election Schedule

The call for nominations will be mailed March 25, 2000, and nominations will close on April 30, 2000. The last date to become a new member and eligible to vote will be May 10, 2000. Ballots will be mailed on May 31, 2000. Any ballot postmarked after June 25, 2000 will not be counted.

Candidates will be provided with APPNA Election Policy and Procedures. They are required to sign the APPNA Election Policy and Procedures Acceptance Form. They must also pay applicable election fee before their name can be placed on a ballot.

APPNA NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITOR: Mansoor Hussain, M.D.

MANAGING EDITOR: Raana Akbar, M.D.

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: M. Shahid Yousuf, M.D.

EDITORIAL STAFF: Meg Larson

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Adeel A. Butt, M.D., Co-chairperson



The membership committee of APPNA presented its recommendations at the Strategic Planning session in Chicago in February. The Association should go to the potential members rather than waiting for them to come to us.

1. Organize membership drives at the local level and identify key contact people in each major metropolitan area to conduct these drives. These local meetings must be specifically for membership purposes. The meeting should be well advertised and people contacted individually. The goal of the membership drives should be attainable, e.g., 300 new members for the year 2000.
2. Provide greater incentives for membership, e.g., free registration for some trainee members as well as some regular members. We could also have raffles to reimburse one attendee's trip. At membership drives, small gifts may be presented to those who become new members. Examples of such gifts may include T-shirts, file folders, etc.
3. Inform and educate potential members by dissemination of news and information rapidly and efficiently. Advertise widely-regular publication of newsletter, medical journals and frequent webpage updates.
4. Improve the quality of CME programs. Advertise in national medical journals for a "call for papers." Sponsor at least some of the presenters attendance at the summer meeting.

Open a formal residency and J-1 waiver liaison office. Ask people to talk to their program directors to interview Pakistani graduates. Identify people and then advertise ANY success story aggressively.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APPNA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

M. Shahid Yousuf, M.D.



The strategic planning meeting of APPNA Executive Council (EC) was held at The Drake Hotel, Oak Brook, Illinois on Saturday, February 5th, 2000 and Sunday, February 6th, 2000. Human Development Foundation of North America (HDFNA) also held its meeting during the same weekend at the same hotel.

APPNA President Dr. Javed Akhtar outlined some of the projects he was working on that would add an array of services and facilities to those already available to the general membership. A list of these is included in the message from the president.

Dr. Akhtar also added that he would like to re-define the role of APPNA and "put APPNA back into the limelight." This was necessary since many offshoot organizations had sprung up from it and were sharing in its achievements. He said that, "HDFNA, PAK-PAC and APPNA-Sehat are taking the limelight, everything starts at APPNA and everything ends at APPNA ... APPNA's borders are becoming fuzzier ... Let us not forget that APPNA is the parent organization and that it all started from APPNA."

He also cited an incident while he was in New York. While talking to the taxi driver who hailed from Pakistan, he was asked, "What are you doing for us?" This made him think that it was about time APPNA did something for the Pakistani American community and for indigent community of this country.

SOCIAL WELFARE PROJECT COMMITTEE

Competing claims for compassion test the committee

Dr. Shaukat Khan outlined the manner in which funds of this committee were disbursed. He has set a target of \$ 25,000 to be raised for the year 2000. He also sought a network of physicians who can render their opinion on cases that are referred to them. Extensive debate occurred regarding setting up free clinics.

LIFETIME DUES REPORT

The bulls and bears debate: guarding the principal at all cost, the bull market spawns experts

Presentation of the financial report created a debate between the bears and bulls of APPNA. This debate was sparked by the 1999 return of only 5.964% in the APPNA lifetime dues' fund. Dr. Hassan Bukhari reminded the audience full of "experts" that he was told to "guard the principal at all cost." He reported that since its inception the fund had averaged 15.31% yearly appreciation. Dr. Waheed Akbar said, "It is a trust and we should leave

it alone."

DISASTER RELIEF

Kosovo and Chechnya Relief Efforts

Dr. Afzal Arain reported that he has been involved in the relief efforts for Chechnya.

LIAISON COMMITTEE

15,500 Pakistani Physicians, in the US. Members redo the math.

Dr. Ayaz Samdani (WI) reported that while American Association of Physicians from India (AAPI) has 20 % membership of their group of about 25,000 physicians, APPNA has only 6.5% membership amongst their group. Some members questioned the source of the numbers. Dr. Hassan Bukhari stated that original figures from AMA in March 1998 indicated that there were 8441 physician of Pakistani origin. Members were intrigued by the high number now reported.

OFFICE MANAGEMENT AND WINTER MEETING REPORT

Lax on lakhs? "It is amazing we did not lose our shirt."

Dr. Mushtaq Sharif reported that the winter meeting at King Edward Medical College yielded a deficit of \$121. Members questioned the figure of Rs. 2,000,000 in shared expenses with KEMC. He blamed the large number of non-paying guests for this high expense. Past President Shabbir Safdar explained that there were 3 medical colleges in Lahore and that there were many Professors and Associate Professors who had to be invited. He said the larger question that needed to be addressed about these meetings was whether they were worth the expense.

Dr. Sharif also reported that HDFNA had moved out and stopped paying rent, so the cost of maintaining the office is now greater. Mailing costs have also increased since there is a large number of returned mail and also some 8,000 mailings go out per general mailing. Dr. Sharif informed the members that there are excess numbers of directories and members are welcome to them.

APPNA SEHAT REPORT

New Sources of Funding

Dr. Nasim Ashraf informed the audience that APPNA- Sehat has been re-registered in Pakistan. He also stated that TVO has agreed to fund the Sahiwal Project for two years. UNDP will



Officers of the APPNA Executive Council, in session--Left to right: Dr. Shabbir Safdar, past President; Dr. Riaz M. Chaudhry, President-Elect; Dr. Javed Akhtar, President; Dr. Mohammed Suleman, Secretary; and Dr. Raana Akbar, Treasurer

(Highlights continued from page 4)

fund the Golra Project near Rawalpindi. He suggested that APPNA members could donate their old vehicles. He said that \$ 200 per month would provide some kind of health insurance for the whole organization.

NEW MEETING LOCATIONS

The Big Apple follows the Windy City

Dr. Shabbir Safdar announced the new locations of future APPNA meetings. These will be Chicago Hyatt Regency for 2001 and New York in 2002.

CME

Secretarial Help and Winter Meetings

Dr. Najam Awan informed the EC that pre application for the CME application has been approved. A CME secretary is needed for processing the application process. Internet education programs are being developed. He gave an account of the CME activities in the winter program in Pakistan where the attendance was better than before. The winter 2000 meeting will be held between Oct. 20th and 23rd, 2000 at the Allama Iqbal Medical College in Lahore. Allama Iqbal Medical College has already submitted a list of topics, which they would be, interested in. "We hope to have a good meeting there."



The Old Guard, on guard--L to R: Dr. Zafar Mahmood and Dr. Zaheer Ahmed

TREASURER'S REPORT

Raana Akbar, M.D.



The overall financial situation of APPNA is good. The meetings fund has accumulated for the last three years in a money market fund. We hope to find a better vehicle for investing this money in the future. The stock market has done very well and we have lost a lot of money by not investing more aggressively. The principal for the Lifetime Dues Fund should be kept secure but the income should be invested more appropriately, thereby returning a better yield. In view of the impending audit, consistency in reporting of accounts payable is needed. The component societies have not been sending timely reports despite the best efforts of the accountant. **Those components of APPNA that do not submit bank statements in time will not be able to use APPNA's tax exempt status. The best mechanism for assuring this is that all component societies must give the APPNA head office address as the alternate address for their bank statements by April 1, 2000. APPNA's tax-exempt status is in jeopardy otherwise.**

Accounts payable have to be reorganized for consistency and accountability. We should have a mechanism for quick response to market forces. All of these measures will be instituted during this year. The Finance Committee will be consulted and involved in all matters pertaining to APPNA's finances.

WE'LL MEET OR BEAT ANYONE'S PRICE!

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mohammed Suleman, M.D.



Assalam-u-Alaikum. First of all, I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve the Association as treasurer last year and as secretary for this year.

Many decisions were made during the meeting but could not be put to vote due to absence of quorum. I have analyzed APPNA's membership by region and the following table shows the breakdown:

Region	Pakistani Physicians	Active members
Region 1	72	23 (32%)
Region 2	1533	155 (10%)
Region 3	759	174 (23%)
Region 4	1005	203 (20%)
Region 5	1146	200 (17%)
Region 6	893	109 (12%)
Region 7	1543	292 (19%)
Region 8	686	102 (15%)

The state of New York (Region 2) has the highest number of Pakistani physicians. Sadly though, only 10% of them are members of APPNA. A lot of work needs to be done in New York.

I have been working on reorganizing the regions as was recommended by the Bylaws Committee. The Executive Council has to approve new chapters from North California and South Texas. The EC will approve this by mail ballot. I hope that the new chapters will bring us closer to our goal of increasing the membership and reorganization of the chapters. The APPNA Executive Council hopes that the year 2000 will add at least 300 new members.

The Aga Khan University needs a Professor and Chair, Department of Radiology, who will report to the Dean of the faculty of Health Sciences. Candidates must have suitable post-graduate qualifications with extensive managerial, research, and clinical experience in a teaching hospital. The appointment will last at least three years.

Salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications. Please send resume by March 31, 2000 to: Personnel Director, The Aga Khan University, P.O. Box 3500, Stadium Road, Karachi, Pakistan; fax (92-21) 4934294/4932095.

Association of Pakistani Physicians
of North America announces the
First International Educational Seminar



Library, St. Catherine's Monastery, Egypt

Egypt
Cairo/Luxor/Alexandria
March 23-April 2, 2000

Association of Pakistani Physicians
of North America
announces the
21st Annual Winter Conference



Allama Iqbal Medical College
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Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

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Wanted Family Practitioner: For a practice in San Antonio. Board eligible or Board Certified. Please apply with full documentation. 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 to P.O. Box 33277, San Antonio, TX 78265.

J-1 Physicians Wanted: Immediate need for Cardiologist and OB/Gyn. Have needs in other areas as well. Please contact Taylor A. DeLaney, Ph.D, RR #1, Box 73-A, Grafton, Illinois, 62037. Ph: 618-788-2178. Fax: 253-681-8059. Email: delaney@gtec.com.

General Surgeon Wanted: To join private practice located in Baltimore, Maryland. Qualifications include Board eligible or Board Certified (preferable). Interested parties may fax or mail their C.V. and immigration status to: Abdul G. Qureshi, M.D., P.O. Box 728, Owings Mills, MD, 21117. Phone: 410-902-1893, Fax: 410-902-1895.

Orthopedic Surgeon Wanted: Needed for SW Virginia. Excellent hospital facility, very good income guarantee. Also, there is a large base of Pakistani physicians for referrals and social contact. Recruiting fee paid by hospital. Not a J1 position. Contact John Sisk, Encore Medical Staffing, Inc., 1-800-839-4671.

Otolaryngologist Wanted: Two Physician practice seeks BC/BE Otolaryngologist with interest in General ENT. Good salary and benefits, leading to partnership. Practice located in Eastern PA community close to major metropolitan areas. Send CV to: S. F. Khan, M.D., P.O. Box 308, Orwigsburg, PA 17961.

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.

Position Wanted: University trained, Board Certified and published Physiatrist (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation) experienced in inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation and electrodiagnosis seeks practice/employment opportunity. Please contact Dr. Mohammad at 949-266-9108. Email: altapete1@email.com

Position Wanted: I am Board Certified in IM and Gastroenterology seeking a primary care position. J1 waiver already approved. Ambreen Khurshid, M.D. 414-695-9185.

Position Wanted: Seeking Primary Care position in Health Professional shortage area, BE, finishing residency in Internal Medicine in June, 2000. On J1 visa. Vast experience in Primary care, excellent credentials. Please contact Muhammad Shafique, M.D., 5-7 N. 9th Ave. Apt. E-2, Mt. Vernon, NY 10550. Phone: 914-664-8730.

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. Email: MSKNIAZI@aol.com. 188-01B 71st Crescent, #2A, Flushing, NY 11365; phone: 718-454-1086.

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. 6700 192nd Street, #801, Flushing, NY 11365.

Position Wanted: Looking for a position in Internal Medicine/Primary Care for July 1999, short term or long term. Board eligible, on H1 Visa, completing Residency June 1999 with MRCP England, 18 years experience, excellent credentials. H1 Visa transferable to any employer. Please contact Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, 3744 Northern Pike, Monroeville, PA 15146. Pager: 412-644-1409; Phone: 412-380-8978.

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.

Position Wanted: BC Internist/MRCP (UK)--HIB visa status. Excellent credentials. Phone 716-442-2692.

Consultants required in Pakistan: Specialists are needed in state of the art Primary - Tertiary Hospital in Islamabad, Pakistan. Most of the Consultants are US trained and Board Certified in their Specialties. Please fax/e-mail your C.V. to Medical Director. Specialities are required in following disciplines, immediately. (However, vacancies in different areas become available at different times, as the Hospital is growing).

1. Pulmonary/Critical Care
2. Endocrinology
3. Gastroenterology
4. Pathology
5. Obstetrics/Gynecology
6. Neurosurgery
7. All other Specialities

Dr. Manzoor H. Qazi, Medical Director
Shifa International Hospital, Ltd.
Sector: H-8/4, Islamabad, Pakistan

ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTANI PHYSICIANS OF NORTH AMERICA

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2000 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

APPNA MEMBER NUMBER _____

NAME

Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: (Office) _____ (Home) _____

FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____

Medical College _____ Year Graduated _____

Lifetime Membership dues	\$1,875.00	US\$ _____
Annual Membership Dues (January 1-December 31, 2000)	\$ 125.00	US\$ _____
Affiliate Membership Dues (January 1-December 31, 2000)	\$ 62.50	US\$ _____
Physicians-in-Training	*** EXEMPT	US\$ _____

(*Dues exempt only with Confirmation Letter from Program director or Copy of Contract)**

The opportunity to join one of the following Alumni Associations is also available. Please add the appropriate fee.

Aga Khan Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
A.I.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
D.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
F.J.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
K.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
K.E.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$1000.00	US\$ _____
L.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
NAMA Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
N.M.C. Alumni Association	Annual \$50.00	*Lifetime \$500.00	US\$ _____
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