



RHODE ISLAND

# MEDICAL NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY  
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JULY 2009

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## "Red Flag" regulations may be in force August 1

While the AMA continues to challenge the logic and appropriateness of the Federal Trade Commission's imposition of new "Red Flag" requirements on medical practices, the clock continues to tick down toward enforcement effective August 1. AMA previously succeeded in winning two postponements, first from November 1, 2008 to May 1, 2009, and then again until August 1, 2009. A third postponement may not be in the cards. Therefore, practices are advised to be ready, and the AMA is providing practical online resources that are available free of charge to all physicians through the AMA's Practice Management Center at [ama-assn.org/go/pmc](http://ama-assn.org/go/pmc).

The "red flag" rule is intended primarily to protect consumers from identity theft and minimize the impact when such theft occurs. Identity theft is a fast-growing and costly crime in the U.S.

Besides the more familiar forms of financial identity theft, patients and health care providers must be alert to the threat of medical identity theft, with or without the "Red Flag" rules. Medical identity theft involves the misappropriation of a patient's insurance information or other personal data to make false claims for medical services or goods. Besides wreaking financial havoc, medical identity theft has the potential to taint and falsify medical records in the victim's name and can lead to inappropriate medical treatment and consequently to medical professional liability exposure for the doctor. Medical offices do well to make a practice of checking photo identifications of unfamiliar patients.

Compliance with the "Red Flag" regulations will require more than checking patients' IDs, however. They call for medical practices and various other entities that serve the public to have "reasonable policies and procedures in place" to detect and respond to "Red Flags." Red Flags are signs or indications that identity theft has occurred or could occur. *continued page 2*

## Rhode Island doctors to get model protection against insurers' abuse of discounts

This year's chaotic General Assembly session may yet yield a good result or two for Rhode Island physicians in the form of the nation's first enactment of model legislation to address the threat of "silent PPOs." These proliferating entities are part of a lucrative, shadowy, secondary market that exploits technology to cheat American physicians on a massive and rising scale.

In most states, physicians have little awareness of the national network of parasitic companies that specialize in expropriating doctors' discounts without the doctors' knowledge. It takes a sharp eye to recognize illegitimate use of discounts that a practice may have agreed to contractually with one payer but are being silently claimed by other payers with whom the practice has no contractual relationship. And if spotting such piracy is hard, combating it can be even harder.

Enter the AMA, RIMS and the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL). NCOIL just happens to have had two Rhode Island legislators in its leadership at a critical time: Representative Brian P. Kennedy, (D-Westerly and Hopkington) and Senator David E. Bates (R-Bristol and Barrington). RIMS has long relationships with both. RIMS was able to interest Messrs. Kennedy and Bates in the arcane issue of "rental networks" and "silent PPOs," and Kennedy, in particular, got NCOIL to focus on drafting model legislation that stands to benefit physicians across the country. Five other states (Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Ohio and Florida) have sought to address the general problem legislatively in recent years; NCOIL's model bill attempts to draw upon the experience and best features of those states' statutes. NCOIL unveiled its model bill in November 2008, and it was first introduced in Rhode Island. *continued page 2*



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The Rhode Island Medical Society  
was founded in 1812 to promote  
the art and science of medicine.  
RIMS is the eighth oldest state  
medical association in the country.

In cooperation with the Brown  
University School of Medicine,  
the Rhode Island Department  
of Health, and Quality Partners  
of Rhode Island, the Society also  
publishes a monthly magazine,  
*Medicine and Health Rhode Island*.

**FROM PAGE ONE**

**Red Flag – continued**

According to the Federal Trade Commission, “Red Flags” for identity theft include the following:

- Alerts, notifications or warnings from a consumer reporting agency indicating that an individual’s identity may have been stolen.
- Suspicious documents or suspicious personal identification information, such as inconsistent addresses or a nonexistent Social Security number.
- Unusual or suspicious activity relating to a person’s (patient’s) account. (E.g., your legitimate patient might receive an EOB for a service or product that he or she did not receive.)
- Notification from a client (patient) or from law enforcement indicating that identity theft may have occurred.

Medical practices are already familiar with the privacy and security rules associated with HIPAA, which protects “personal health information” (PHI). PHI is also protected by the Red Flags Rule, but the Rule extends further to protect credit card information, tax identification numbers of all kinds, insurance claim information, and background checks for employees and service providers.

As with HIPAA, practices need to have administrative, technical and physical safeguards in place to protect all such personal data. In addition, practices need to plan how they will detect, document, report and counteract instances of identity theft.

The AMA provides excellent, free guidance to medical practices on the Red Flags Rule, including suggested sample policies to help medical practices comply. These outstanding resources are available to all through the AMA’s rapidly expanding Practice Management Center at [ama-assn.org/go/pmc](http://ama-assn.org/go/pmc) under “Red Flags Rule resources.”

AMA members and their practice staff can also email the AMA Practice Management Center at [practicemanagementcenter@ama-assn.org](mailto:practicemanagementcenter@ama-assn.org) or call 800-262-3211 for help. ❖

**Silent PPOs – continued**

Assuming the bill is enacted this year, a new chapter of Rhode Island law entitled “Rental network contract arrangements” will make it illegal for “silent PPOs” to remain silent. It will empower physicians to identify and deny illegitimate discounts. Entities that contract directly with physicians (e.g., UnitedHealthcare, Blue Cross, Tufts, etc.) will have to register with the RI Department of Business Regulation and then submit to oversight, strict limitations and reporting obligations on any arrangements to make their providers’ discounts available to other networks. (Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI has long assured RIMS that it does not engage in such trafficking with physician

discounts to begin with.) The enforcement provisions are already spelled out in the “Unfair competition and practices” section of Rhode Island insurance law.

The national phenomenon of “rental networks” and “silent PPOs” was first exposed by the AMA through its Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) about four years ago. The ARC quickly began encouraging NCOIL to draft model legislation and raised the alarm to organized medicine in detail at a national conference on state legislation in January 2006.

The Rhode Island Medical Society’s Government Affairs Director, Steven R. DeToy, is a founding member of the Executive Committee of the AMA’s ARC. ❖

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**



**DIANE R. SIEDECKI, MD**  
**PRESIDENT, RI MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**Guilty as Charged**

Instead of writing a long overdue article, I went for a paddle – kayak – Oakland Beach to Apponaug.

Sunday morning, crisp air, tide in, sun out, perfect breeze (and at 55 make sure wind is at my back on the return trip)...

And I thought of you my colleagues, my other responsibilities, and wished we all could somehow leave it behind – you know, the pressure of each and every moment at work, – the calls, the schedule, the paperwork (yeah, even with EMR), the endless items in the buckets (yeah, of the EMR).

So, in a way I did – to look at the shoreline, the swells as the wind picked up – the sailboats, the kids laughing... and a grin on my face I would not suppress even if I could.

Alive  
Joy  
Freedom  
Realizing that even doing something I thoroughly enjoy I am looking towards the end –

Like a day at work...enjoy, honored and blessed by what I do – but always an eye on the end...

When did that happen?  
The moment it became work – not a calling.  
The moment I had to fight for a payment for “services rendered.”  
The moment I had too many tasks not appreciated or paid for.

But still I am measured  
compared  
dissected  
“evaluated.”

When did we stop trusting?

Damn – not paying attention and just got soaked –  
Hah – Laugh out loud  
And stop  
Enjoy each wave –  
Each glide over the top  
Each salty dip –  
a mesmerizing motion meant to comfort –

And I stopped – completely  
And allowed  
Myself a moment of sheer joy...  
Refreshed – still no article  
But this I give you – a piece of me...  
Hope it is enough. ❖

**Second Wind**

Newell suggested I write about the EMR – something I know.

Ha.  
An intimate relationship with an object does not give you knowledge of its internal machine; it just gives you a very personal understanding how directly you are affected.

My husband refers to my laptop as my boyfriend –  
Boyfriend –  
Yeah, boyfriend –  
he says you spend more time with that than me  
(mind you he is watching the Celtics  
and I am typing away – “bonding”  
with a “Wow. What’s the score now – great play” –  
I do see replays).

My response after a nanosecond of thought:  
“Hey, if I am lucky enough to have a boyfriend  
and a husband – why am I not having a better time?”  
He pauses – says – that’s a great question –  
pause – I don’t know – ask your boyfriend.  
That is the EMR in a quick brief nutshell –

Momentarily exciting  
A guide to remind you –  
Yes, you are in a relationship with a  
Too expensive  
Too flawed  
Too much work  
Too demanding  
Boyfriend “without benefits.”  
Go figure. ❖





## 2009 TarWars® Rhode Island Statewide Poster Contest

**CATHERINE A. NORTON**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Woodlawn Community Center in Pawtucket was the setting for the 16th Annual TarWars® Rhode Island Statewide Poster Contest on Saturday, May 9, 2009.



*RIMS President-Elect Vera DePalo, MD and WJAR10 HealthCheck reporter Barbara Morse Silva were among this year's judges.*

The event was well attended and featured work by 5th grade students from more than two dozen Rhode Island schools.

The top prize, an all-expense paid trip to the National TarWars® competition in Washington, DC, for the winner and her parents, was garnered by Olivia Houston of The Pennfield School in Portsmouth. Second place and a \$75 gift certificate went to Bianca Martin of Fallon Memorial School in Pawtucket; third-place went

to Olivia DeAngelis from the LaPerche School in Smithfield, who received a \$50 gift certificate.

The Rhode Island Academy of Family Physicians and the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics partner with RIMS each year to sponsor TarWars® Rhode Island under the leadership of Arthur A. Frazzano, MD.

RIMS is grateful to the judges for this year's competition: Patricia Flanagan, MD, of the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; Amy McIntyre, MD, of the Rhode Island Academy of Family Physicians; Barbara Morse Silva, Channel 10 News Reporter; David Davignon, coordinator for the Woodlawn Community Center; and Vera DePalo, MD, President-Elect of the Rhode Island Medical Society. RIMS' thanks the Woodlawn Community Center for hosting this year's

*TarWars® Rhode Island Chair Arthur Frazzano, MD with a prize for first place winner Olivia Houston of The Pennfield School.*

*[L-R] Bianca Martin from Fallon Memorial School in Pawtucket; Olivia DeAngelis from R.C. LaPerche School in Smithfield; and Olivia Houston from The Pennfield School in Portsmouth.*

contest. The Rhode Island Medical Society Foundation supports the event each year.

TarWars® was developed by the American Academy of Family Physicians in 1988. It is designed to teach children to think critically about tobacco advertising, make informed choices and resist peer pressure. Each year RIMS members volunteer their time to visit schools throughout the state, involving about 2800 pupils in the program each year.

"Having been a part of the TarWars® Rhode Island since its inception, I have seen first-hand the powerful impact this program has on children. From their classroom participation to their enthusiasm in creating unique poster designs, students are able to take what they learn in the classroom and apply it to their everyday lives," said Arthur Frazzano, MD, Chair of TarWars® Rhode Island.

The program's perennial success reflects the commitment of the physician presenters who engage the students as teachers, role models and advocates. RIMS members who may be interested in participating in the 2010 TarWars® program may contact Catherine Norton at 401-528-3286 for more information. New volunteer presenters are always needed and welcome; no experience is necessary. RIMS furnishes program materials, suggestions and guidelines. ❖



## RIMS Foundation Bike Helmet Donations 2009

The following RIMS members and members' organizations deserve recognition and thanks for their generous donations to the Rhode Island Medical Society Foundation to purchase bicycle helmets for RiteCare children age 8 and younger.

On Saturday, May 9, 2009, RIMS volunteers distributed and fitted about 225 bicycle helmets, while handing out other biking safety items and advice to RiteCare families.

The Rhode Island Medical Society Foundation also supports RIMS' annual helmet distribution through proceeds of the RIMS golf tournament. ❖



*Brown medical student, Steve Lee, MD'11 adjusts a helmet for proper fit.*

Alliance ENT  
Bald Hill Pediatrics  
Consultants in Urology, Inc.  
East Bay Pediatrics  
Family Doctors of East Providence  
Orthopedic Associates  
Pawtuxet Valley Urgent Care  
RI Colorectal Clinic, LLC  
Charles Allendorf, MD  
David C. Anthony, MD  
Pamela M. Antoniuk, MD  
Reid S. Appleby, Jr., MD  
Stanley R. Balon, MD  
Peter Baziotis, MD  
Linda Berman, MD  
Jack R. Bevivino, MD  
Alice Bonitati, MD and Michael Bonitati, MD  
Jeff and Kate Brody  
Joseph F. Callaghan, MD  
Marchall W. Carpenter, MD  
Anthony T. Carrellas, MD  
Lisa Carter, MD  
David Carter, MD and Colleen Cleary, MD  
Katherine Castree, MD  
Heather Chapman MD and Andrew Sucov, MD  
Fredric V. Christian, MD  
Stuart V. Demirs, MD

Thomas D. DeNucci, MD  
Joseph L. Dowling, Jr., MD  
Laurie and Greg Dubel  
Frank J. Faltus, MD  
Karl Felber, DO  
Jerry Fingerut, MD  
Daniel S. Harrop, MD  
Melvin Hershkowitz, MD  
James K. Herstoff, MD  
Peter Hollmann, MD  
Martin I. Holzman, MD  
Harold M. Horwitz, MD  
Jennifer Hosmer, MD and E. Bradley Miller, MD  
Rudolf A. Jaworski, MD  
Shelly Johnson, MD  
John C. Kawaoka, MD and Cristina Pacheco, MD  
Gary G. King, DO  
Beth Lange, MD and Raymond Zarlengo, MD  
Beatrice Lechner, MD  
Mary D. Lekas, MD  
Dr. and Mrs. Patrick R. Levesque  
Foong-Yi Lin, MD  
Melissa Ludwig, MD  
Mary L. Lussier, MD  
Terrie A. Mailhot, MD  
Saul Martin, MD  
Roland C. Merchant, MD  
Frank Merlino, MD  
Joseph L. Migliori, MD  
Michael E. Migliori, MD  
Stephen Migliori, MD and Sidney Migliori, MD  
E. James Monti, Jr., MD  
John F. Murphy, IV, MD  
A.G. Nardone, MD  
Andrew Nathanson, MD  
Hung Nguyen, MD  
Susan Pakula, MD  
Martin Papazian, MD  
Dr. and Mrs. Rose Pearson  
Philip A. Philips, MD  
John J. Przygoda, MD



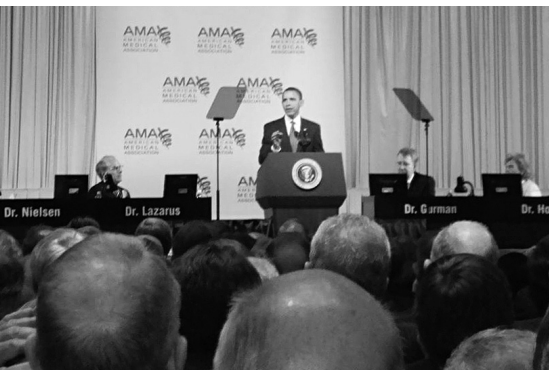
*Patricia Lynch-Gadaleta, a Physician Assistant, and Chirayu Patel, a Brown medical student, volunteered at this year's helmet distribution.*

Lynne and Dante Ramos, MD  
Diane Realini Marini, MD  
Kenneth Rickler, MD  
Debra Roberts, MD  
Russell A. Settipane, MD  
Lisa Shea, MD  
J. Gerald Smith, MD  
Peter S. Smith, MD  
Jon Solis, MD and Family  
Rahul Somvanshi, MD and Nicole Somvanshi, MD  
Patricia N. Soscia, MD  
Sonia Sprung, MD  
Andrzej J. Stankiewicz, MD  
Greg Steinmetz, MD  
Elizabeth M. Sutton  
Lynn A. Sweeney, MD  
Gerald Tarnoff, MD  
Beth Toolan, MD  
Nancy Tsai, MD  
Sui-Yen Wang, MD  
Marvin Wasser, MD, FAAP  
Elizabeth A. Welch, MD and Stephen E. Glinick, MD  
Carol Wheeler, MD  
Jim Ziegler, MD  
Richard J. Zienowicz, MD



## Report from the RI Delegation AMA House of Delegates Meeting Chicago, June 2009

MICHAEL E. MIGLIORI, MD  
CHAIR, RI DELEGATION TO THE AMA



RI Delegates Michael Migliori, MD and Peter Hollmann, MD attended President Obama's address to the AMA House of Delegates.

The American Medical Association House of Delegates met in Chicago from June 13–17, 2009. The highlight of the meeting was President Barack Obama's address to the House of Delegates on Monday. The President spoke for almost an hour, and pledged to work with the AMA to reform the nation's health care system in a way that works best for patients and doctors. You can watch the speech or read the text of his remarks by following this link. [<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/house-delegates/2009-annual-meeting/speeches.shtml>]

J. James Rohack, MD, was inaugurated as the 164th President of the AMA. He and Immediate Past President Nancy Nielsen, have been very visible and very effective both at the White House and in Congress, representing patients and physicians in the ongoing health care reform debate.

The House of Delegates reviewed several hundred reports and resolutions dealing with issues as varied as Medicare payment reform, anti-trust reform, the patient-centered medical home, disaster preparedness education in medical schools, structural changes in how and when the House of

Delegates meetings will occur in the future, and the use of Tasers by law enforcement. Highlights of the actions of the House include:

The AMA adopted CEJA Report 3, which sets ethical guidelines for physicians on how to handle a breach of patients' electronic health records. The report was based on physicians' dedication to prevent harm to patients, to respect patient privacy and autonomy, and to uphold trust in the patient-physician relationship.

The AMA adopted policy supporting health system reform alternatives that are consistent with AMA principles of pluralism, freedom of choice, freedom of practice and universal access for patients.

The AMA voted to adopt recommendations from the Council on Medical Service Report 8, which include supporting the patient-centered medical model as a way to provide care to patients without restricting access to specialty care and advocating that all health plans and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services use a single standard to determine whether a physician practice qualifies to be a patient-centered medical home.

After hearing strong and impassioned testimony, the AMA voted to include in its top advocacy priorities: 1) the enactment of federal legislation that ensures and protects the fundamental right of patients to privately contract with physicians, without penalties for doing so and regardless of payer, within the framework of free market principles, with the goal of accomplishing this by 2010, and 2) the restoration of fairness to the current health care marketplace through changes in statutes and regulations so that physicians are able to negotiate—individually and as defined groups—fair contracts with private sector and public sector health plans.

Furthermore, these recommendations call for continuing and intensifying efforts to educate employers, health care coalitions and the public about the potential risks and liabilities of pay-for-performance and public

reporting programs that are not consistent with AMA policies, principles and guidelines.

Also demonstrated was a progress report on a web-based portal the AMA is developing for physicians that will offer clinical resources, point-of-care clinical references and patient education options from the nation's leading sources.

This portal will have practice management references like those in the AMA's "Appeal that Claim" campaign and tools to help navigate the claims process as well as assist with the financial infrastructure of a practice. It will also contain professional resources around ethics, continuing education and helping physicians enhance their careers.

For a more complete summary of the meeting highlights, go to <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/house-delegates/2009-annual-meeting.shtml>. To hear the speeches by AMA leaders and by President Obama, go to <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/house-delegates/2009-annual-meeting/speeches.shtml>. For news and AMA press releases on health system reform go to <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/legislation-advocacy/current-topics-advocacy/health-system-reform/hsr-news-statements.shtml>. For a summary of the House of Delegates actions specifically addressing health system reform, download "The AMA's framework for health system reform" from [rimed.org](http://rimed.org)

If you are not receiving the AMA's weekly Health System Reform Bulletin, please sign up at <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/HRSbulletin>. If you are not receiving physician grassroots alerts please sign up at <http://capwiz.com/ama/mlm/signup>. Encourage your patients to enroll in our Patients Grassroots Network at [http://patientsactionnetwork.com/content\\_joinnow.aspx](http://patientsactionnetwork.com/content_joinnow.aspx).

Together we will achieve meaningful health system reforms this year. ❖

## Medical students ride for the uninsured

On April 17, five Brown Medical School students rode from Providence to Mystic, Connecticut in the second leg of the Boston-Providence-Long Island-NYC stage of the AMA MSS Tour to Insure. The relay continues on April 24–26 and April 30–May, heading to Albany, then Buffalo.

There was a send-off event at the Brown BioMed Center with education and AMA Medical School Section recruitment displays. Visitors included classmates and members of the Brown cycling community (Bike-to-Brown commuters, Bikes@Brown/ Brown Outing Club bike rentals, Brown Cycling racers).

The region-wide cycling relay was conceived as part of the MSS Region VII contribution to the AMA Voice for the Uninsured campaign. Other elements of the Tour include 5K races, rallies,

and awareness events. Rallies for insurance coverage were held at NY City Hall, the Capital Building in Albany, and the NY Medical Society House of Delegates in Rochester – where David Hannan, MD, President Elect of MSSNY, greeted riders on May 2 concluding the tour. The hope is to make this a nationwide initiative. ❖



[L–R] Ed Cheung MD'12, Joel Huleatt MD'11, Andrew Brunner MD'10, Steve Lee MD'11, J.P. Giliberto MD'10

## Three reasons why should you belong to the American Medical Association:

**1** The AMA is working in the private sector, advocating strongly for doctors who face challenges from third-party payers. We're also helping you manage your practice with educational materials on contracting, information technology and more.

**2** Turn to *American Medical News* for insight into the business side of medicine. Learn about clinical advances through *JAMA* and *Archives* specialty journals. Get the latest news on important health care issues and studies through *AMA Morning Rounds*.

**3** The AMA is the only organization that unifies and speaks for all doctors. We're working on national challenges that affect you and your patients, such as solving the problem of the uninsured and the replacement of the Medicare physician payment formula.

The Rhode Island Medical Society (RIMS) and the AMA work together on your behalf to make medicine better for doctors and patients. **Do your part and support both today.**

**To join the AMA, call RIMS at (401) 331-3207.**





**JAMES P. CROWLEY, MD, FACP**, was honored by the Rhode Island Chapter of the American College of Physicians in June with the Milton Hamolsky Lifetime Achievement Award. A Past President of the Rhode Island Medical Society (1992–93) and Professor Emeritus of medicine at Brown, Dr. Crowley is a former chief of hematology/oncology at Memorial Hospital and a retired captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve. The Cancer Center at Memorial Hospital opened in July 2003 under his direction.

**PABLO RODRIGUEZ, MD**, has been named to the Board of Directors of the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health. Dr. Rodriguez was also honored with a community celebration at the Westin Hotel on May 8, 2009, marking his retirement as Medical Director of Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island. Dr. Rodriguez is Clinical Associate Professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Brown and Associate Chief of ObGyn at Women & Infants Hospital, as well as CEO of Women's Care.

**GARY BUBLY, MD, FACEP**, associate director of The Miriam Hospital's department of emergency medicine, received the 2009 Charles C.J. Carpenter, MD, Outstanding Physician of the Year Award on June 8 at The Miriam Hospital.

Dr. Bubly is president of the Rhode Island chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians and will become President-Elect of the Rhode Island Medical Society in September. Dr. Bubly is Clinical Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and

Medicine and a recipient of Brown's Teaching Recognition Award for Clinical Faculty and the Clinical Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award.

**JOANNA MACLEAN, MD'10**; **TANYA RINDERKNECHT, MD'10**; and **SARAH WAKEMAN, MD'09**, of the Alpert Medical School at Brown University were the only American medical students to be invited to present at the recent British Medical Association-American Medical Association-Canadian Medical Association International Conference on Doctors' Health held in London, England. Their presentation was entitled "Breaking the Silence: A workshop on the standards, ethics and importance of reporting unprofessional behavior and impairing illness in medical school."

The students are members of the Alpert Medical School Student Health Council, which was established in cooperation with the Rhode Island Medical Society in the late 1980s and functions under the mentorship of the RIMS Physician Health Program.

**NEWELL E. WARDE, PHD**, Executive Director of RIMS, has been elected Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the Litigation Center of the American Medical Association. The Litigation Center participates in dozens of court cases around the country with significant implications for physicians and their patients in matters of medical staff autonomy, integrity of peer review, fair business and payment practices, scope of practice, professional liability, etc. ❖

## Newly elected specialty society officers



*Dr. Daren Girard thanks Dr. Gary Bubly for his service as RI ACEP President in 2007-2009*

### RI Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians

President Daren Girard, MD	Councilors Neha Rauker, MD Jessica Smith, MD
Vice-President Matthew Kopp, MD	Legislative Affairs Committee Anand Shah, MD (Vice Chair)
Secretary/Treasurer Cliff Fields, DO	Resident Representatives Tobias Kummer, MD Christopher Mozdzanowski, DO
Immediate Past President Gary Bubly, MD	



*Lifespan emergency medicine residents attend the RI ACEP annual dinner.*

### RI Medical Women's Association

President  
Alyson McGregor, MD  
Treasurer  
Marlene Cutitar, MD  
Immediate Past President  
Elizabeth Laposata, MD  
(New) Board Members  
Lynn Sweeney, MD  
Ekaterini Tsiapali, MD

### RI Society of Anesthesiologists

Secretary  
Afreen Siddiqui, MD

### RI Psychiatric Society

President  
Russell Pet, MD  
Past-President  
Jay Thornton, MD  
President-elect  
Melissa Ludwig, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Karen Rosen, MD  
Member in Training Representative  
Scott Shaffer, MD  
Councilors  
Jody Underwood, MD  
Liliya Koyfman, MD  
Scott Haltzman, MD  
Richard Wagner, MD



*At the RIMWA Annual meeting: [Seated L–R] Frances Conklin, MD; Barbara Roberts, MD; Elizabeth Laposata, MD; Ekaterina Tsiapali, MD; [Standing L–R] Elizabeth Altenhein, MD; Marlene Cutitar, MD; RIMWA President Alyson McGregor, MD; Ms. Debra Abehaus; Elaine Fain, MD; Pamela Harrop, MD; RIMS President Diane Siedlecki, MD*

## RIMS Annual Member Banquet

**Saturday, September 26, 2009  
Dunes Club, Narragansett**

The following new leadership team was duly elected by the RIMS Council on June 1, 2009, and will be installed in office at the Dunes Club on September 26:

Vera A. DePalo, MD	<i>President</i>
Gary Bubly, MD	<i>President-Elect</i>
Nitin S. Damle, MD	<i>Vice President</i>
Alyn L. Adrain, MD	<i>Secretary</i>
Jerald C. Fingerut, MD	<i>Treasurer</i>
Marlene Cutitar, MD	<i>Councilor at Large</i>
Andrew J. Dowd, MD	<i>Councilor at Large</i>
Steven R. Fera, MD	<i>Councilor at Large</i>
Martin R. Papazian, MD	<i>Councilor at Large</i>
Joel M. Kaufman, MD	<i>Adjunct Councilor at Large</i>
Ira M. Singer, MD	<i>Adjunct Councilor at Large</i>
Michael E. Migliori, MD	<i>Delegate to AMA</i>
Peter A. Hollmann, MD	<i>Alternate Delegate to AMA</i>

The Charles L. Hill Award will be presented to Michael E. Migliori, MD ❖

## Does RIMS have your email address?

Email has become the preferred medium by which RIMS communicates timely information to its members. Please keep Sarah Stevens (sstevens@rimed.org) apprised of your address.

RIMS never gives members' email addresses to third parties. RIMS uses its broadcast email judiciously and exclusively for communications that are timely, important, informative and concise. ❖

## RIMS Foundation Annual Charity Golf Classic

Monday, September 21, 2009  
Pawtucket Country Club

Charles B. Kahn, MD, *Chair*

Watch for registration information in the mail, go to [www.rimed.org](http://www.rimed.org), or contact Steve DeToy at 401-331-3207.





RIMS 2009  
Directory of  
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Updates and Errata

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## Saving the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner



*RIMS President Diane R. Siedlecki, MD (speaking); [L-R] Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Roberts; Ted Almon, CEO of Claflin Corp; Representative Deborah Ruggerio; Linda S. Lulli of Bryant University representing the RI Business Group on Health; Phil Papoojian of Mereco Technologies; Senator Joshua Miller (D-Warwick and Cranston)*

*[R-L] Nick Tsiongas, MD, RIMS Past President; Amy Black, Executive Director of HealthRight; Representative Frank G. Ferry (D-Warwick)*

RIMS and the Lieutenant Governor organized a press conference for Tuesday, June 23, in the Rotunda of the State House to call upon the House of Representatives to restore funding in the state budget for the five year-old Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner. With quick mobilization of grass roots support from more than 150 doctors, RIMS and its ad hoc coalition of community groups were successful in saving OHIC. ❖

