

American Academy of Pediatrics

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Responses on Senior Activities from the 2006 Chapter Annual Reports:

Webmaster Note:

AAP Chapters are developing special activities and roles for senior members. The comments below summarize different ways that seniors and chapters are mutually engaged from chapters reporting activity unique to senior members. Several themes stand out: seniors are being utilized in advocacy, as mentors, as committee members and enjoy social intercourse with other seniors. Your chapter may not be listed. However, that does not mean that senior member involvement with the chapter does not exist. Feedback from your or other members of the AAP Section for Senior Members to the Chapter leadership could be a stimulus for additional initiatives, particularly in combination with our Chapter Guide.

ALABAMA:

The Chapter President and Executive Director is currently in talks with senior pediatrician Don Palmer, MD, FAAP, to consider starting a Senior Committee to explore ways to engage this cross-section of our membership. Included in this discussion is to task this committee with the creation of a 50-year Chapter history.

ALASKA:

Retired pediatricians are encouraged to maintain their chapter membership. They are often called upon to get involved in advocacy.

ARIZONA:

AzAAP has a Senior Section headed by Herb Winograd, MD. Proposals for activities of the Senior Section include: (1) Mentoring residents, and working with residency program directors; (2) Convening a small working group to determine the section's purpose and goals. Such a meeting was held in 2006; (3) Consider holding quarterly meetings in Phoenix and Tucson, with a combined annual meeting of Senior Section members from both locations at a central meeting place (in Casa Grande); (4) Chapter will provide support staff for the Senior Section for conference calls, mailings or surveys. Emeritus members enjoy membership in the Chapter on a donation-only basis.

ARKANSAS:

None

CALIFORNIA 1:

The chapter initiated a Vintage Docs committee to address the needs of senior pediatricians as they transition from active practice into retirement or semi-retirement. Over 30 people attended the first meeting of the committee. This year the committee will combine with the Young Physicians committee in a Life After Residency and Life Beyond Practice conference.

CALIFORNIA 2:

We have a number of senior pediatricians wanting to remain involved in AAP activities. Several are chairs of committees and many of them attend the CME programs each year.

CALIFORNIA 3:

We are fortunate to have a number of "senior" pediatricians who are still active in our chapter. Recently, we began working with a group of senior pediatricians who had saved over 60 years of historical documents regarding the history of pediatrics and organized medicine in San Diego. We have scanned each of the documents in the binder in order to preserve these documents and part of pediatric history in San Diego County. A number of these documents were presented to our current membership at our annual meeting last fall. All senior pediatricians receive a markedly discounted chapter dues rate. Two recently retired pediatricians from the UCSD Faculty remain active in our chapter in a number of important areas, including international health, early childhood literacy, and obesity.

CALIFORNIA 4:

Chapter has a Seniors Committee, of which the Chair, Dr. Eugene Wynsen, is a regular contributor to the SENIOR BULLETIN, AAP Section for Senior members. Dr. Wynsen also participated in the AAP presentation to the Pediatric Interest Group of Medical students from the University of California Irvine, with Chapter President and the Assistant Residency Program Director of the Children's Hospital of Orange County. The senior members of the chapter enjoy attending the Quarterly Dinner meetings.

COLORADO:

None

CONNECTICUT:

Many of our seniors finally have time to work on issues that have always been interesting to them. We encourage them to work within the committee structure of the Chapter. We do not, however, have a specific senior committee.

DELAWARE:

We suffered a loss when our senior chair and historian, Maurice Liebesman, MD, FAAP passed away December 7, 2006. He was a great mentor and he was in the process of writing the Chapter's history when he died. He'll be difficult to replace.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

George Cohen, MD, FAAP, is the chair of the DC AAP Chapter senior committee. He is making a major outreach to senior pediatricians who are not currently chapter members as well as existing members, to increase the membership and participation senior pediatricians in Washington DC.

FLORIDA:

The Senior Section is a Standing Committee of the Chapter and is in the process of defining its goals and objectives. Many Senior members remain active in advocacy, the practice of medicine, mentoring younger members, newsletter publication, CME, and Chapter governance.

GEORGIA:

The Chapter established a Senior Section several years ago but it has been relatively inactive in the past year. We routinely review ideas about how to make the Section a viable and productive "home" for our senior and retired members. This year we split the Honorary President award, a post given annually to an esteemed senior member, into two awards: one from the academic world and one from the private practice world to recognize more of these types of individuals who have contributed to the Chapter.

HAWAII:

Dr. Jim Drorbaugh led our participation in the Keiki Caucus and coordinated HAAP's legislative efforts as well as educating pediatric residents on the legislative process via hands on training in the Public Access Room, State Capitol.

IDAHO:

No special efforts have been made in this area.

ILLINOIS:

ICAAP has not made specific efforts to engage senior members since undertaking a needs assessment of its approximately 100 Emeritus members in 2001. In late 2006, ICAAP met with Chicago Public Schools and the Strang Cancer Foundation to develop a program using senior pediatricians to work with grandparents on obesity issues.

INDIANA:

The Chapter finds that seniors are interested and willing to serve in providing testimony at the state legislature when needed. They are also involved with our medical home and activities that support children with special health care needs. Senior members of our chapter are involved in many community based activities of the chapter like Prevention of Obesity.

IOWA:

Dr. Rizwan Shah is currently exploring development of a Senior Pediatrics Section for the Iowa Chapter. She envisions this group becoming active in advocacy activities.

KANSAS:

Reduced Chapter dues rate

KENTUCKY:

We continue to seek an individual to chair the seniors committee and increase involvement of these important and influential pediatricians. Our goal for the coming year is to organize the retired pediatricians to advocate for children's health.

LOUISIANA:

Dr. Betty Oseid and Dr. James Reynolds have been working to re-activate the "Double Nickel" group. A special event was held for the seniors at the Fall 2006 Annual Conference.

MAINE:

The Maine Chapter has promoted active participation of our senior and emeritus membership. Dr. Burt Richardson has initiated and still supports several of our various projects around early childhood and parent to parent support. The

Chapter recently began publicly recognizing senior members with awards for their past (and future) contributions to the Chapter at our annual Chapter dinner in the Spring.

MARYLAND:

A Senior Section has been established with the help of Lorne Garrettson, MD. The Senior Section has met several times and even held a meeting at the 2006 Annual Meeting. The group is also involved in legislative advocacy.

MASSACHUSETTS:

Senior and Retired Chapter members were approached and asked if they were interested in attending daytime meetings that most working pediatricians cannot attend. Currently, the Chapter has senior/retired members that serve on the Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee and the Birth Defects Monitoring Committee. This past month, a senior member of the CME Committee expressed an interest in convening a group of senior Chapter members to lead a variety of Chapter activities. Chapter leadership will be using the AAP publication "Establishing a Senior Member Committee for AAP Chapters; a Coordinator's Guide" as a tool to start a senior committee. It will be discussed at the next Executive Board Meeting on March 13, 2007.

MICHIGAN:

While we do not have a senior section, many of our most active members are "seniors". They are involved in CATCH grants, legislative advocacy, mentoring of younger pediatricians and attending our Open Forum Board Meetings and Annual Meeting.

MINNESOTA:

Two Emeritus Fellows, Drs. Gerald Gilchrist and Blanton Bessinger have been very active in Chapter activities, primarily working with the Public Policy Committee.

MISSISSIPPI:

Historically, our CME offerings attract a diverse group of pediatricians, including seniors and retired members, and are intentionally designed to do so. Chapter dues are waived for emeritus members, and these members are often called upon to help with legislative and advocacy functions.

MISSOURI:

Sadly, the long-time Chairperson of our Senior's Section, Read Boles, M.D., FAAP passed away recently. To date, a leader for this segment of our membership remains vacant, but we are seeking the right candidate. Membership for Seniors in our Chapter is free and we invite and encourage them to submit articles for publication in our newsletter and participate in Chapter events at no charge.

MONTANA:

They are encouraged to participate in all our activities at a reduced cost.

NEBRASKA:

We continue to have several senior members faithfully participate in our CME meetings. In the past two Fall Meetings, one of our senior members presented on his medical mission work in Africa, which is sponsored by his local Rotary. In the Spring newsletter Dr. Erickson will have an article included which discusses his work.

NEVADA:

No report submitted.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

We have a very active senior section. Sol Rockenmacher is Chair of the NH Covering Kids & Families Coalition, which is dedicated to increasing the number of eligible children and families who receive adequate health insurance. Gil Fuld is Chair of the AAP Section on Media and is the NHPS appointee to help look at proposals for the GraniteCare health care plan proposed by DHHS Commissioner John Stephen to revamp health care in NH along with Jim Pilliod and Sol Rockenmacher. Jim Pilliod remains our "Doc in the House" as an elected official from Belmont.

NEW JERSEY:

AAP/NJ has formed a Senior Rapid Response Committee that will engage senior pediatricians in much needed testimony in the legislative forum.

NEW MEXICO:

New Mexico Pediatric Society continues to hold a Senior Section meeting ever year prior to our annual spring "Wylder Lectures". The Senior group is interested in socializing, advocacy, mentoring and history.

NEW YORK 1:

Numerous seniors participate in Chapter activities at the Board level and as advisors and presenters at various functions. Presently, we do not have a seniors committee.

NEW YORK 2:

1) Our Committee on Senior Pediatricians seeks to address the needs and the interests of this growing segment of our membership. 2) A senior pediatrician is invited to each Chapter Executive Committee at which he/she shares their early experiences in practice and in working with the Chapter and the AAP. This has become a permanent agenda item and is entitled "Pediatrics - A Look Into The Past."

NEW YORK 3:

The chapter's governing body, the Executive Council, is greatly diverse. It contains members of various ages and ethnicities with an equal representation of both sexes.

NORTH CAROLINA:

Chapter staff maintains an active database of senior and retired members for communication. All seniors attend Chapter events without paying registration fees except for social events. In 9-06, a senior member agreed to help organize a 'Retirement' seminar to address the process of leaving practice. Recruiting is underway for a leader for a new Senior Physicians Interest Group.

NORTH DAKOTA:

We have a great relationship with our senior members and they are active in advocacy, legislation, and our chapter meetings. As one senior member put it to me, "we have the time we might as well use it for some good". There has been leadership guidance and natural mentoring because we have such a tight, close group of pediatricians in our chapter.

OHIO:

The chapter has just started a senior committee. We are engaging this group by including senior meetings in association with our regional forums. We are also encouraging local senior groups to interface with our state committee.

OKLAHOMA:

No specific activities. We plan to involve them in helping to pass legislation regarding advocacy for children.

OREGON:

Some of the OPS members who would be considered senior remain actively involved at the executive level and also serve currently on AAP sections and the American Board of Pediatrics. They have also been actively involved in the medical liability crisis issues and maintain a positive public relations role with the community. They have provided mentoring for young pediatricians starting out in practice.

PENNSYLVANIA:

The PA Chapter has a number of emeritus fellows involved in chapter programs both as advisors, presenters and participants. However, there is no formal senior section that meets as a group. In 05-06, the Chapter conducted a survey of senior members. Results indicate that senior members want to be engaged with the Chapter, as they are available. The area most selected for involvement was political advocacy.

PUERTO RICO:

None

RHODE ISLAND:

Our Senior members, are active in all general Chapter activities. Dr. Jack Farley is active with the AAP National Senior section and regularly updates the chapter president on news and activities.

SOUTH CAROLINA:

A senior section was formed.

SOUTH DAKOTA:

No report submitted.

TENNESSEE:

Our Foundation, following our plan to reconstitute its Board, has recently recruited 2 retired pediatricians as President and Vice-President. The Foundation plans to recruit other retired or semi-retired members to serve as well.

Our 50th Anniversary Celebration commemorated each of the past presidents from 1968 in a historical journey of the chapter.

TEXAS:

As the TPS is over 85 years old, we are blessed to have an energetic and collegial group of senior pediatricians who meet as past presidents and serve on committees to provide perspective, wisdom and humor. The two most coveted TPS awards (CW Daeschner, Jr Award and Sidney Kaliski Award) honor our outstanding senior members each year.

UNIFORMED SERVICES EAST:

Retired chapter members may serve as the Member-at-Large on the executive committee. Many senior members opt to maintain their chapter membership after retirement from military service and attend the yearly Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar.

UNIFORMED SERVICES WEST:

1) Personal contacts 2) Encourage retired military personnel to take active role in Chapter including mentoring, holding office, and being chapter contacts for areas of expertise

UTAH:

There is a permanent voting seat on the Chapter Executive Committee. Dr. Ted Evans has just replaced Dr. Thales Smith who has filled this position for the past two years. Dr. Evans is responsible, with the president, to identify areas of interest and opportunities to involve them in advocacy. Specific and small, well-defined projects have had the most success with senior pediatricians.

VERMONT:

We have several very active seniors involved in projects around the state and involved with the Board. Our senior board member is our chapter ambassador. Another senior has been involved in medical student training in Cambodia (Bob Nasau), and Jim Hughes has been very active in projects in his community with school-based health.

VIRGINIA:

Active and involved Senior Section; promotion of Senior Section activities at the NCE

WASHINGTON:

None

WEST VIRGINIA:

West Virginia's senior pediatricians continue to be active in practice and the chapter. Three most outstanding are Dr Kay Perkins, Dr Eileen Catterson, Dr John Jakubec and Dean Clark Hansbarger. All of these pediatricians are in their seventh or eighth decade of life.

WISCONSIN:

The chair of the Chapter Senior Committee has developed a pre-retirement checklist which has now been on the Chapter website for about 6 months. He is planning to update this checklist yearly prior to the annual spring chapter meeting. This check list provides valuable information to retiring pediatricians. Dr. O'Halloran also maintains and updates the Chapter website within State and Federal rules and regulations, on liability protection affecting volunteers doing unpaid clinical work. <http://www.wisaap.org/volunteer.htm> He has been working on a mentoring program for students and residents involving retired (and over 55 y/o) pediatricians. And, will be working with the membership committee chair on a way to welcome new pediatricians in the state. Drs. O'Halloran and Eisenberg continue in the data collection process relating to the Chapter' s history project. Composing a short bio on each past president has begun. A document covering the early years of our Chapter's existence has been placed on the Chapter website.

WYOMING:

None

For more information on AAP Chapter Activities for Senior Members email [Jackie Burke](#) – Section Manager by clicking on her name to the left.