2008 Election Results

President-Elect
June 2008-May 2009

Lynn T. Simon, MD

Vice President
June 2008-May 2009

Kimberly A. Alumbaugh, MD

Secretary
2008-2010

Bernard L. Speevack, MD

At-Large Member
2008-2010

Heather L. Harmon, MD

Kerry Short, MD

Jannice O. Aaron, MD

Judicial Council
2008-2011

Richard T. Holt, MD

David H. Bizot, MD

In-Training Delegates

Brittany L. Johnson, MD

Sarah B. Johnson, MD

For a complete list of election results, visit www.glms.org
• The board approved the 2008-09 strategic plan, which includes three key issues – improving legislative involvement and peer review functions and better coordinating philanthropic activities of the GLMS and its foundation. Look for a full report on the strategic plan in the June issue of Louisville Medicine.

• GLMS President Randy Schrodt Jr., MD, reported on the American Medical Association’s annual advocacy conference held in Washington D.C. Dr. Schrodt said he was encouraged by a 45-minute conversation he and Executive Director Lelan Woodmansee, CAE, had with U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth. President-Elect Michael W. McCall, MD and Bert Guinn, MBA, director of communications and membership for GLMS, also attended the three-day conference.

  The biggest advocacy issue addressed in Washington D.C. involved cuts in Medicare funding. Though it has yet to be resolved, Dr. Schrodt said there did appear to be bi-partisan support for a slight increase in funding over the next 18 months instead of the 10 percent cut that had been proposed and postponed for six months earlier this year.

  “It’s not fixed,” Dr. Schrodt said. “It’s to a degree unfixable under its current status.”

  Patrick Padgett, executive vice president for the Kentucky Medical Association, said the time GLMS officials spent visiting with elected officials was “very important” particularly since Kentucky has several legislators in key positions in federal government. U.S. Rep. Yarmuth serves on the subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities. U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell, who Schrodt referred to as “pro medicine” is the top-ranking Republican in Congress. U.S. Senator Jim Bunning serves on the Health Care subcommittee. GLMS officials met with all three lawmakers.

• GLMS Chairman David R. Watkins, MD, raised the issue of disaster planning for large community events like Thunder Over Louisville. Dr. Schrodt issued a letter addressing the issue to area hospitals ahead of the April event and mentioned the medical society’s plans to hold a forum to facilitate discussions of issues concerning large-scale events in advance of next year’s Thunder and Kentucky Derby events.

• The board approved a $1,000 contribution out of the special projects fund to support the Kentuckiana Health Alliance Quality Improvement Consortium’s ongoing efforts to improve public health in the region. The board also approved inserting an annual $1,000 contribution to KHAQI-C on an ongoing basis from the general budget.
Insurance Resolution Committees to Open One Meeting Per Year to Membership Beginning in 2009

For the past decade, GLMS has facilitated quarterly meetings with representatives of the major insurance companies as a way to resolve conflicts and discuss any ongoing issues for member physician practices and groups.

Next year, the general membership will have a chance to get a first-hand view of what goes on in those quarterly meetings. The medical society’s professional relations department recently announced that beginning in 2009 one meeting per year for each of the five Insurance Issues Relations Committees (IIRC) will be opened to the entire society membership.

“It will be an open forum format, however, we will structure the agenda much like our IIRCs so that our members can see what an IIRC is like,” said Dottie Hargett, director of professional relations.

The five IIRCs – Anthem, Humana, United Healthcare, National Government Services/Medicare and Passport – meet quarterly at The Old Medical School Building. Two others – Aetna and Cigna – meet on an as-needed basis. The committees include volunteer members from the local medical community, GLMS professional staff and representatives of insurance carriers.

Hargett said the committees originated a decade ago under the name QIT, or Quality Insurance Team. The name was changed two years ago, but the purpose is still the same – bringing insurers, physicians and professional staff to the table to air issues, voice concerns and resolve conflict.

Dates for the first round of open meetings in 2009 will be announced later this year. Look for the monthly Practice Quality & Advocacy Report in your e-mail monthly for updates on the IIRCs and other GLMS professional relations department-related news.

Innovation Forum Sparks Brainstorming on Issue of Uninsured

Health officials from Massachusetts, Maine and North Carolina shared experiences and sparked brainstorming sessions on the growing issue of the uninsured among key players in the local and state health care system at a forum held at the Galt House on April 17.

Charlie Baker, president and CEO of the not-for-profit Harvard-Pilgrim Health Plan, Trish Riley of the Maine governor’s Office of Health Policy and Allen Dobson, MD, founder of Community Care of North Carolina joined a panel of state and local officials at the forum, dubbed the Innovation Forum on Kentucky’s Uninsured. Ms. Riley spoke via teleconference.

After hearing from the panelists, which included Kentucky Lt. Gov. Daniel Mongiardo, MD, Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness Director Adewale Troutman, MD, and Kentucky Department for Public Health Commissioner Bill Hacker, MD, about 100 attendees divided into smaller groups to discuss and brainstorm ways to address an issue affecting some 700,000 Kentuckians.

For more information on the forum, visit www.innovationforum.us and look for a forthcoming article by Gordon Tobin, MD, and Tom James III, MD, in Louisville Medicine.
GLMS and KMA See Results During 2008 Kentucky General Assembly

Passage of a bill permitting parents to include dependents on their health insurance up to age 25 was one of several success stories resulting from the Greater Louisville Medical Society and the Kentucky Medical Association’s lobbying efforts during the recently completed session of the General Assembly.

Known as House Bill 440, the bill came out of the KMA’s Patient Physician Partnership initiative launched in Frankfort at the start of the session in January.

The session also resulted in the passage of bills establishing a statewide trauma system bill (H-371), requiring booster seats for children in motor vehicles (S-120), preventing bullying in schools (H-91) and promoting health care transparency based on national standards (H-44).

Lobbying efforts aimed at legislation adverse to physicians helped defeat, among others, bills undermining the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure (S-170), removing a need to prove intent to defraud Medicaid (H-691) and removing medical oversight of Automated External Defibrillators in schools (H-107).

Overall, the KMA monitored 255 bills, more than 25 percent of those filed during the Assembly’s 60-day session, and actively lobbied more than 100 of those proposals.

The result was “an extremely successful session for the members of the KMA,” according to Linda Gleis, a member of the KMA’s Quick Action Legislative Committee.

Physicians engaging in the process by sending thousands of e-mails to legislators, calling the Legislative Message Line and making the trip to Frankfort made all of that possible, Gleis said.

Look for a complete report of the legislative session in the June edition of The KMA Journal online at www.kyma.org.

GLMS Officers Visit Washington, DC

GLMS President-elect Michael W. McCall, MD, met with U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell to discuss patient access to care and the impending Medicare cuts.

GLMS President Randy Schrodt Jr., MD, enjoyed a lengthy conversation with U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth about the concerns of Louisville physicians.

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Charles Smith, MD, (middle), is greeted by Jose Torres, MD, (left) and Lonnie Howerton, MD, after speaking at the GLMS Alliance Doctor’s Day luncheon at Audubon Country Club on March 28. Dr. Smith was honored at the luncheon for his countless contributions to medicine and the community.

Charles Smith, MD, shared humorous stories and anecdotes about his 39-year internal medicine career. “Many of you have heard these stories already,” Dr. Smith said, but that didn’t stop the crowd of retired physicians from bursting into laughter repeatedly throughout his talk.

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The orthopaedic surgeons of Raymond G. Shea, M.D., PSC
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**Match Day at GLMS**

**Joseph W. Smith,** who emigrated from West Africa 12 years ago, embraces Dean of Students **Toni Ganzel, MD,** after learning that he had been accepted to the Mayo Clinic for his residency program. “It’s a dream come true,” Mr. Smith said several times for all to hear.

**Miriam Slatter,** reacts to a letter telling her she’s going to be moving to Atlanta to do her residency. “It’s good emotion,” Slatter said as she shared in the moment with her father, **Leon Slatter,** of Lexington. “I’m just happy to have it over with and have a job and not have to scramble,” Ms. Slatter said.

**Suzanne Mozzicato** looks on as **Rebecca Brauch** pins a star on her destination less than an inch away from where Mozzicato just placed hers. Mozzicato will be doing her residency at the University of Connecticut, Brauch at New York University.

**Joseph W. Smith** (left) shows his wife **Maria** a letter telling him he’s been accepted into a urology residency program at The Ohio State University during Match Day on March 20 at GLMS.

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