Rebecca D. Lewis, DO, FACOFP
OOA President 2023-2024
OKLAHOMA OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

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Presidential Inaugural Address
Rebecca D. Lewis, DO, FACOFP, begins her term as OOA President with her address to the membership. Read Dr. Lewis’ vision for leading the OOA in the coming year.

123rd Annual Convention Recap & Honorees

Back to School Summer CME Seminar
Class is back in session! Get ready to head “Back to School” for the OOA’s Virtual Summer CME Seminar August 11-13, 2023. Receive AOA Category 1-A and AAFP credit hours from the comfort of your home or office! Full program coming soon.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

6 Presidential Inaugural Address of Rebecca D. Lewis, DO, FACOFP
10 123rd Annual Convention Honorees
15 OEFOM Scholarship Recipients & Stethoscope Sponsorship Program
16 123rd Annual Convention Photos
20 123rd Annual Convention Sponsors & Exhibitors
22 Member Spotlight: Emma “Beth” Harp, D.O.
23 The Difference a D.O. Makes
24 Donate to OEFOM
25 Friends of the OOA
26 Join the Bureau on Membership Meetings
27 Mentorship Opportunities
28 Advertise with the OOA
30 Virtual 2023 Summer CME Seminar
32 OEFOM Donations
34 Executive Director’s Report
35 Get Involved with the OOA
36 OOPAC Donations
37 OOA Calendar
37 Membership Renewal & CME Bundle
38 Member Birthdays
40 Member News: OOA Welcomes New Board Members
42 In Memorium: Deaths in the Osteopathic Family
It truly is an honor to stand before you here today. I stand before you as the 123rd president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association. To stand in this role is truly a special moment and a great honor. I find tonight even more special for me because I stand in a position where only four other women have stood before me. I am proud to say that I am standing here today as the fifth female president of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association! I would not be here today without the influence of so many people in this room. I’d like to take a moment to thank some of those people for some of the truly special impacts that you have made in my life.

I would first like to thank my board. I can honestly say that, without your support, your faith in me, and your willingness to stand beside me even through some very tough times and decisions, I would not be standing here today. Working with you has given me hope and has given me faith in the future of this organization and the importance of the work that we do. I thank you for always being there and for your continued love and support. Thank you for always sharing your knowledge and the beautiful things that you have been able to call you in some very challenging times and always get the best advice. I thank you for always pushing me and giving me that love. My siblings are also in this room. Patricia, Nathanial, and Andrew, the three of you were kind of my test subjects. Thank you for always being beside me and being my cheerleaders, always being willing to follow me into some very questionable situations and for always just being there.

Some of my closest friends are here today. I’ve got my friends, Sean, and Kathy who flew all the way down to the Northeast - you guys have been there from year one in med school and have helped to shape me into the physician that I am. My friend Matt, for stepping up in a time of crisis for me many months ago and for being my escort onto the stage tonight. My friends, Tamra, Jenny, Tyler, and Vik, who were my family away from family when I moved away from home and started my own family. To my friends, Lindsay and Hayden, who have been my rocks over this last year through some tough times. There are so many other friends in this room that I can’t even begin to thank you all but to the core group of people who make a difference to me on a day-to-day basis. Thank you for always being there and for your continued love and support.

I’d like to thank my family; they are in the audience today. Many of you know my daughter Gianna and son Owen. They have always been there for me from day one in this organization. Thank you to them for being so patient and sharing me with this organization. My parents, Don and Vickie Oliphant. They instilled in me at a very young age that I could do anything I wanted to, not despite being a girl, but because I was a girl, and so I thank you for always having faith in me and letting me know that I could be anything I wanted to be. Thank you for always pushing me and giving me that love. My siblings are also in this room. Patricia, Nathanial, and Andrew, the three of you were kind of my test subjects when it comes to leadership. As the oldest of the pack, obviously it was my job to lead us through a lot of chaos and a lot of fun times, so I thank you for always standing beside me and being my cheerleaders, always being willing to follow me into some very questionable situations and for always just being there.

Some of my mentors are in the room. There are some that, without you, my trajectory into medicine would’ve been very different. I can say there’s no way that I can truly thank every person in this room who has touched my life so I will focus on just a few. The first one I have to give props to is Dr. Ronnie Martin, who was my dean and accepted me into medical school. Without him, I absolutely wouldn’t be standing here today. I mean, he’s the one that literally brought me into med school and gave me a chance to be an osteopathic physician. He saw something in me to know that I had a reason and the potential to be a member of the osteopathic profession. He then gave me the push to be involved in leadership through the ACOFP as a student and then into the OOA as I moved to Oklahoma for residency. Through everything that I did he has always been there as a great mentor, friend, and inspiration. Thank you Dr. Martin for taking a chance on that once very timid biochem major from Kansas.

To Dr. Duane Koehler, who couldn’t make it tonight, you’ve always been there as a mentor. I’ve been able to call you in some very challenging times and always get the best advice. I thank you for never judging, always listening, and then giving me that very awkward pause before you drop some amazing advice in my lap. Thank you for always being there and being able to help me along the way.

To Dr. Michael Cooper, you were one of the first Oklahomans to take me under your wing. You opened the way for me to become involved in the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association when I called you as a fourth-year medical student, saying I had just matched to residency in Oklahoma and I was ready to be put to work. You made sure that I found a home in the OOA and the OK ACOFP when I attended my first OOA convention as a fourth-year med student coming to OK to look for my residency apartment. You really opened the door for me to join the OOA board when I was a resident, and you created the resident trustee position on the board. It was very exciting that I got the opportunity to serve as the first resident trustee on the OOA board of trustees. It’s even more exciting to stand here today and show you that I was able to close that loop and go from a resident that was there to provide the resident voice to now serving as the president of the OOA. I truly feel that that step was crucial for me getting to this point today, so thank you for bringing me into the fold and always believing in me.
I remember walking into my first ACOFP convention and hearing “Tell me your story,” getting a hug, and being asked later that week, “Hey, how’s it going? How’s your first convention been?” I remember thinking how amazing it was that somebody remembered me as this lowly little medical student and took an interest in me and made me feel like one of them like I was a part of their family. This continued as I went on to OMED and OOA. At every osteopathic convention, it was the same thing. Then the next year to show up and have them say “Hey, Student Dr. Lewis, how are you doing? Do you remember me? We met last year” and to continue to foster these relationships over time and realize that the Osteopathic community truly is one of the biggest, tightest and most loving families. Because this hugging family is such a special and unique piece of my life, I chose to focus my theme on the osteopathic embrace.

Webster’s dictionary defines an embrace as “to clasp in the arms: hug, cherish, love”. When we think about embracing, not only do we think about physically embracing each other, but we need to think about what that mean for us to embrace our osteopathic profession and our osteopathic roots in the state of Oklahoma. In pondering this, it made me realize that we embrace our history and our culture of the OOA and that we need to think about what those words mean for us to embrace our osteopathic profession and the osteopathic community at that time that they are in charge. I embrace each of you, and I encourage you to do so.

We embrace our past. We stand here today on the shoulders of giants. If you’re not had a chance to listen to some of our seasoned DOs speak on how practicing medicine in the state of Oklahoma was even 50 years ago you really should take a chance and listen. Listening to docs talk about renting beds at the osteopathic hospitals because the allopathic hospitals wouldn’t let them practice it’s just shocking. To listen to the stories of the advocacy for equal practice rights to be able to practice in medicine on this board, advocating for you and advocating for what you as a physician need and advocating for what our patients deserve. We have diversity in gender. We have diversity in race and ethnicity. We have diversity in family composition. We’ve got some physicians who are at the end of their time with their children at their home, and now they are empty-nesters. We have married physicians with children, married physicians without children, we have single physicians, and we have single moms like myself. For the first time in a long time, our board more closely represents the face of the osteopathic profession in the state of Oklahoma. While we still have room for growth and improvement, we are on our way to fully being to where any member of the OOA could look at our board and say hey, there’s somebody like me on that board representing me, reflecting me and my practice and I know that I am in good hands.

In addition to the great strides that we’ve made in diversity on the board, I’d like to mention a few of the great successes that we’ve had over this last year. We have had amazing advocacy over the last year. We have gone another year with no advancement in scope. While I may not be as fresh-faced anymore, I’m still excited and ready to take on the world, and it excites me to see that we continue to have that same level of excitement, invigoration, and thrill in our medical students and our residents. Teaching medical students is one of the highlights of my practice. I can tell you that based on the students and residents that we are seeing, there is a new wave of passion for osteopathic medicine, and the future of our organization and profession will be in excellent hands. As we embrace our future, I think the first thought of everybody in this room is our osteopathic medical students and residents. I remember being a fresh face excited medical student ready to take on the world. While I may not be as fresh-faced anymore, I’m still excited and ready to take on the world, and it excites me to see that we continue to have that same level of excitement, invigoration, and thrill in our medical students and our residents. Teaching medical students is one of the highlights of my practice. I can tell you that based on the students and residents that we are seeing, there is a new wave of passion for osteopathic medicine, and the future of our organization and profession will be in excellent hands.

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And just as we embrace our past, we have to embrace our present. One of the most exciting things to me about the present for our association is the diversity of our board. Diversity means so much because representation matters. Our job as this board is to represent our members and the demographics of those that we serve. When I joined this board, I was the only woman on the board for several years. After the elections at this convention, our board has just tipped to being a majority female representing the shifting medical landscape, with 53% of medical students being female today. We have diversity in other ways, as well. The practice types of our board members include DPC, private practice, employed physicians, administrators, residency educators, COM educators; we represent just about every practice type that you can have in medicine on this board, advocating for you and advocating for what you as a physician need and advocating for what our patients deserve. We have diversity in gender. We have diversity in race and ethnicity. We have diversity in family composition. We’ve got some physicians who are at the end of their time with their children at their home, and now they are empty-nesters. We have married physicians with children, married physicians without children, we have single physicians, and we have single moms like myself. For the first time in a long time, our board more closely represents the face of the osteopathic profession in the state of Oklahoma. While we still have room for growth and improvement, we are on our way to fully being to where any member of the OOA could look at our board and say hey, there’s somebody like me on that board representing me, reflecting me and my practice and I know that I am in good hands.

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We embrace this future and will do all that we can to help it grow by again embracing our past and present. I embrace each of you, and I encourage you to do the same by embracing our past, present, and future. I want you all to know that the future of osteopathic medicine in the state of Oklahoma this year and for all the years to come is in great hands.
As a young lady, Trudy J. Milner, DO, FACOFP, dreamed of becoming a fashion designer, sewed her own clothes and even had her own design labels... then she realized that getting a fashion degree would require her to draw, so she reassessed her path, acknowledging that her artistic skills were less than stellar. So she allowed one of the greatest strengths of hers, caring for others, to help determine her future and educational journey. Dr. Milner first went to nursing school and then began her career as a nurse, where she applied her skills overseas in a US Army hospital as well as in the classroom educating other aspiring nurses. After gaining experience in an army hospital, a teaching institute, and the ICU, it was a friend and physician who inspired her to pave her own way toward a doctorate.

This is where her tenacity paid off; she was not accepted after her initial application to medical school. There were some who even discouraged her from stealing a spot from an equally qualified male. Dr. Milner, though determined, has a soft heart and isn’t prone to dramatic battles, but when she feels called to noble action, she will persevere. In other words, she wouldn’t accept no for an answer. She maintained a belief in herself and studied. And when her daughters requested her presence at their school events, incredibly, she was always there. In short, through her actions, she showed her girls the value of a strong education, hard work, perseverance, dedication, and that one can do anything if they set their mind to it.

Once accepted into medical school, she met the challenge head on, though admittedly a bit unconventionally. She was committed as she tackled medical school, out-of-town rotations and moonlighting, all while raising her two young daughters. There were many times when the girls would have to accompany her to the lecture hall when out of school sick. They were occasional practice dummies for newly learned OMM techniques. The girls even gained admittance into the cadaver lab, holding their noses the entire time! When she worked for home health starting IV’s, her daughters would ride along in the car. The girls would sometimes stay overnight in an empty hospital wing in order to be with her between patients on those weekends when she was away on rotations or moonlighting. This hard working mom even logged extra hours in the lab... creating science fair projects in petri dishes with her girls. Her daughters were always her central focus, even while she was juggling the demands of med school.

Once she tucked in her children, she opened her books and studied. And when her daughters requested her presence at their school events, incredibly, she was always there. In short, through her actions, she showed her girls the value of a strong education, hard work, perseverance, dedication, and that one can do anything if they set their mind to it.

Dr. Milner would be the first to agree that it takes a village to travel through life. She believes in the village and utilizes the village. She was blessed enough to be graced with family and friends who stepped in to see that her girls were enjoying life as children should. One key pillar of support was her mother, who was beside her the entire journey, cooking, cleaning, chauffeuring, and caring for her granddaughters, stepping in to help however and whenever needed. I know that many of those in the room tonight knew her well from all the functions she regularly attended with her daughter, and remember her fondly.

Dr. Milner graduated from medical school and began a solid family practice where her devoted patients sought out her expertise and caring bedside manner. She has always been very involved with the OOA, eventually becoming President. She also served on many community and political organizations and boards, to include Tulsa Osteopathic Medical Society, American Osteopathic Family Physicians, American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, American College of Osteopathic Physicians House of Delegates, and as Assistant Medical Director for St. John Clinic. She also participated in a health fellowship policy in 2000 and 2001, pushing her out of her comfort zone, gaining a tremendous amount of knowledge, and broadening her professional experience.

Dr. Milner has been affiliated with multiple universities: William Woods for her Bachelor of Arts in Biology, Baylor University for her Bachelor of Arts in Nursing, the University of Oklahoma for her family practice residency, and Oklahoma State University for her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. It’s not surprising that she is now an engaged member of the Oklahoma State University A&M Board of Regents, and is now Past Chair.

Aside from her intelligence, tenacity, listening skills, and altruistic approach, one trait that makes our recipient a great doctor is her tender bedside manner. She symbolizes science and art at its best: following technique and procedure while forming a bond with her patients, improving not only their conditions but also their lives.

Dr. Milner could not have achieved all of her successes on her own, and this is why she takes care of everyone whose path she crosses, continuing to give back to those she loves. Her impact is far-reaching. She has touched more lives than we will know and has left her mark on the hearts of many. She never meets a stranger and brightens every event she attends. She is giving, almost to a fault, and lives her life as a demonstration of love.

To most, she’s known as doctor, to some, cousin, aunt, or friend, but to her daughters, she’s simply one spectacular mom, and their hearts are bursting with pride for her.
Layne E. Subera, DO, FACOFP, was born in 1968, just north of us. In 1980, he moved with his family to their farm in Medford, OK, and lived there until he graduated from high school in 1987 as class valedictorian. Even in high school, this doctor was very involved in serving as class president and National Honor Society President. He participated in football and basketball, earning a spot on the all-district football and all-star basketball teams and being chosen as their MVP.

After graduating high school, this physician attended the University of Oklahoma and was selected for the President’s Leadership Class. Later, he transferred to Oklahoma State University. We’re so glad he came to his senses!

After graduating OSU with his undergraduate degree in 1991, he attended the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and graduated in 1995. After completing his internship and residency at OSU Medical Center, he began his rural practice in Skiatook, OK, in 1998. It’s no surprise he was selected as the OOA’s Rookie Physician of the Year that year.

Since completing his post-graduate osteopathic education, this doctor is a 2010 AOA Health Policy Fellow program graduate and has earned his Public Health Policy Certificates from New York Institute of Technology and Ohio University and a Master’s Degree in Bioethics and Health Policy from Loyola University - Chicago. He is also board-certified in Family Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment, with added qualifications in Pain Medicine and Addiction Medicine.

Throughout this Dr. Subera’s career, he has served in many roles in our profession and state, selflessly giving his time and considerable talents. He’s served as OOA President from 2012-2013, on numerous AOA Committees, and is past president of the Oklahoma State Society of ACOFP.

He has served on the Commission of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics; has been a member of the Oklahoma Criminal Justice Reform Task Force; a Commissioner of the Oklahoma Commission on Opioid Abuse; and is a member of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Advisory Council.

Dr. Subera is also very blessed with his beautiful wife, Amy, whom he married in 1996, and his two children, Hayleigh and Luke. He’s also supported by his mother and father, Darla and Leon Subera, and his sister, Stacye Migliore. In his free time, which I do not know how he has any, he enjoys watching OSU sports, fishing, hunting, caring for his dogs, and riding his motorcycles.

Larry Ellis, Jr., DO, has advanced osteopathic education through teaching in the OMM courses at OSU and his many contributions to the Choctaw Nation Family Medicine Residency. Dr. Ellis oversees the osteopathic curriculum, frequently teaching hands-on courses, mentoring residents in patient care and educating others, and providing guidance on implementation of osteopathic principles throughout their training.

He currently serves as the Director of Osteopathic Education for the Residency Program and participates in regional efforts to improve osteopathic education through the OMECO Osteopathic Recognition Committee. Dr. Ellis not only dedicates his efforts to teaching, but represents holistic care and compassion in both his personal and professional life.

Dr. Ellis’ dedication to mentoring osteopathic students and family medicine residents to develop their osteopathic manipulative medicine techniques while treating patients in his practice emulates the teaching passion of Dr. Still. Dr. Ellis’ kind and gentle demeanor and excellent manipulatory skills serve as an example for all physicians.

Eric Gillette, DO, entered academic practice immediately upon completion of his family medicine residency, filling a void in a rural program. He has invested his time in learning the administrative roles of graduate medical education and was quickly able to meet the demands of the Associate Program Director. Dr. Gillette pioneered recruitment efforts for the program this year. His work led to the most successful recruitment year in program history.

Dr. Gillette is passionate about rural health and committed to the mission of training future rural family physicians. He is completing the OSU Primary Care Training and Enhancement Fellowship, and his future plans include more leadership and advocacy. Dr. Gillette is an invaluable asset to the osteopathic profession and an example of excellence to his peers.
The career of Johnny Stephens, PharmD, is one of ambitious goals and high achievements within the osteopathic community. Dr. Stephens was named president of OSU Center for Health Sciences in September of 2021. He previously served as chief operating officer and senior vice president. Dr. Stephens is also serving as interim president of OSU-Tulsa and senior vice president of health affairs for Oklahoma State University. He and his wife, Sarah-Ann, have four children. The OOA proudly recognizes Dr. Stephens for his dedication to the health and welfare of the citizens of the state of Oklahoma by promoting, expanding, and advocating for osteopathic medicine.

AWARDS OF APPRECIATION

NEW OOA LIFE MEMBERS

Robert D. Holsey, DO
Binger, OK

Patrick P. Lo, DO
Oklahoma City, OK

James S. Walker, DO, FACOEP, FACEP
Edmond, OK

Not Pictured:
Gerry P. Holland, DO
Tulsa, OK

Frank L. Hubbard, DO
Muskogee, OK

Valerie B. Manning, DO
Bartlesville, OK

Joe D. Sagely, DO
Sarasota, FL

Gregory M. Schmidt, DO
Tulsa, OK

James M. Wiley, DO
Fairfax, OK

OEFOM President, Jason L. Hill, DO, with scholarship recipients Emily Sowah, OMS II (left) and Angel Giron, OMS II (right).

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Emily Sowah, OMS II
$1,000 Scholarship

Angel Giron, OMS II
$1,000 Scholarship

Denya Nessa, OMS III
$1,000 Scholarship

Oklahoma DO
Summer 2023

THE OKLAHOMA OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION & OKLAHOMA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

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Shout out to our 123rd Annual Convention Exhibitors!
Member Spotlight
EMMA "BETH" HARP, DO
FAMILY MEDICINE

How many years have you been in practice?
10 years

What College of Osteopathic Medical School did you attend and when did you graduate?
Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences class of 2010.

What do you do when you are not practicing medicine?
Watching either of my two sons or the Texas Rangers play baseball!

What is something you have always wanted to try, but never did?
Hike rim to rim at the Grand Canyon.

What is your childhood hero? What did they do that inspired you?
Wilma Mankiller. Growing up as a young, female Cherokee she managed to overcome any obstacles to become the first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation. However, her compassion and determination to unite and care for Cherokees in need was incredibly impactful!

What is your all-time favorite song?

What is your all-time favorite movie?
Gladiator.

What is your all-time favorite holiday? And why?
Thanksgiving. My extended family gets together to visit!

What is the best piece of advice that was given to you?
No matter what career you choose, do it well and always work hard!

What advice do you have for the younger generation?
Life can be hard, surround yourself with friends and/or family to support and encourage you!

What famous person would you like to meet?
I would love to meet George W. Bush.

What is the most important thing about the work that you do?
Providing great care to the native community.

What was a highlight of this last year?
The ending of the COVID-19 public health emergency!

What is the sweet treat that you would break a diet for?
My mom’s chocolate no-bake cookies; I cannot resist!

What is your bucket list destination?
My husband and I have a bucket list that includes all of the MLB ballparks!

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The ending of the COVID-19 public health emergency!

What is the sweet treat that you would break a diet for?
My mom’s chocolate no-bake cookies; I cannot resist!

What is your bucket list destination?
My husband and I have a bucket list that includes all of the MLB ballparks!

What is your all-time favorite song?

What is your all-time favorite movie?
Gladiator.

What is your childhood hero? What did they do that inspired you?
Wilma Mankiller. Growing up as a young, female Cherokee she managed to overcome any obstacles to become the first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation. However, her compassion and determination to unite and care for Cherokees in need was incredibly impactful!

What is the most important thing about the work that you do?
Providing great care to the native community.

What was a highlight of this last year?
The ending of the COVID-19 public health emergency!

What is the sweet treat that you would break a diet for?
My mom’s chocolate no-bake cookies; I cannot resist!

What is your bucket list destination?
My husband and I have a bucket list that includes all of the MLB ballparks!

What is your all-time favorite song?

What is your all-time favorite movie?
Gladiator.
What is FOOA?

The Friends of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association is a membership association for the spouses, relatives, and loved ones of OOA Physician, Resident, and Medical Student members. The Mission of FOOA is to promote awareness of and support the Osteopathic Profession within Oklahoma through collaboration, education, and community.

Newly formed in 2021, FOOA strives to offer a home for the loved ones of OOA members. FOOA members coordinate community events, participate in OOA activities, and share resources and support within the organization. Use the QR code to learn more about FOOA and explore what this organization has to offer.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

FOOA regular member dues are $50 annually (November 1 – October 31). Membership for the spouses of medical students and residents is FREE. To join, simply return this form with the enclosed OOA dues renewal (you may write one check for both the OOA & FOOA dues if you’d prefer).

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Thank you for Your Support!
Your Membership Provides a Strong Voice at the Capitol

Find out more at www.okosteo.org
Joining the Bureau on Membership is simple; meetings last only one hour a month!

Attending these meetings allows you to connect with other physicians and help us define how the OOA can be more valuable to you.

MENTOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS!

You can be an incredible source of information and encouragement for the next generation of osteopathic physicians by mentoring a first-year OSU-COM student.

The OOA’s Mentor/Mentee program pairs residents, practicing, and retired physicians with these new medical students to help guide them through this journey’s ups and downs.

While the time commitment asked of you is not significant, your knowledge and wisdom can make a significant impact on these students as they navigate medical school.

If you’d like to participate, please scan the QR code or contact Mykayla Laws at mykayla@okosteo.org.

For more details, please contact Jacob Young at jacob@okosteo.org
Advertising Opportunities

Homepage Ad
Display your company’s logo or targeted message on the OOA’s homepage, which has an average of 650 unique page views each month.

Social Media Post
Reach the OOA’s 1,400+ Facebook fans, 1,800 Twitter followers and 300 Instagram followers with your company’s message. Your content is subject to approval by the OOA and is limited to once per quarter per company.

OOA Report Blurb
The OOA Report is a weekly email statement sent to nearly 2,100 physicians, residents and medical students mainly in Oklahoma but also including a handful of out-of-state members representing 17 states around the country. Average open rate is 30%. Highest open rates occur in January, April and October.

CME App Tab
Reach attendees at any of our two continuing medical education seminars with a sponsored tab in our app. Each CME has its own app which attendees use to access the schedule, speaker information and lecture slides. The tab includes an image of your choice plus a description of your company or product, as well as links to your website and social media. For more information on our CMEs, please look at the descriptions in the Exhibiting section.

Digital

Publications

Oklahoma D.O. Journal
Electronic journal is distributed through the weekly OOA Report e-newsletter to nearly 2,100 physicians, residents and medical students and shared via the OOA’s social media. Journals will also be posted to the OOA website for members to view. Print journals available upon request.

OFA Annual Directory
This yearly directory is dispersed to over 1,200 OOA members and used by many on a regular basis to connect with their colleagues. Print directories will be available upon request.

Communicating

Exhibiting

Winter CME
This CME attracts around 300 physicians and other health care professionals who are interested in discovering how your products and services will advance and improve their work. Each exhibitor will have individual booths near the food and beverage area where guests congregate.

Annual Convention
Held in May at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City, this convention draws between 300-400 physicians across the United States both in-person and virtually. Choose from various booth options which will be set up in the dining and beverage area of the convention providing opportunities to connect with attendees. Convention includes four hours of exclusive, non-competing exhibit hours. Complimentary pre- and post-show attendee mailing list.

Convention Program
Reach nearly 400 physicians with an ad in our annual convention program. Each in-person registrant receives one in their packet and it contains all of the vital information for the conference including the lecture schedule and social events. This program will also be posted to the OOA website for members to view.

FREE Help for SoonerCare Patients to Quit Tobacco

AOA CATEGORY 1-A CREDITS WHENEVER • WHEREVER

The CME Center, a collaboration with other state associations, is a hub for on-demand programs, webinars, and live educational opportunities addressing a broad spectrum of topics covering practice management, healthcare regulation and relevant clinical issues.

Visit www.thecmecenter.org. create an account & access over 150+ CMEs instantly! With more constantly being added, DO CME is the place to get the latest on-demand lectures.

To watch OOA sponsored lectures on The CME Center, scan the QR Code or visit www.thecmecenter.org/topicarea/ooa-oklahoma

Your advice makes a difference.
Talk to your patients about their tobacco use and recommend the Helpline for FREE support to quit.

Give your patients the best opportunity to quit by:
- Talking about quitting tobacco
- Referring them to the free Helpline services
- Providing SoonerCare members with approved medications

For more information contact Mykayla Laws at mykayla@okoste.org

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## Back to School

### REGISTRATION FEES

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**Registration Total**

**Membership Fee Total**

**NOTE:** Membership dues must be current at the time of registration and at the time of the conference to qualify for member rates. Requests for refunds must be received before July 28, 2023, and a $30 service fee will be charged. No refunds after July 28, 2023. A printed syllabus will not be available.

### MEMBERSHIP

- Regular Membership: $595
- 3 or More Years in Practice: $495
- 2nd Year of Practice: $395
- 1st Year of Practice: $295
- Military: $195
- Out-of-state: $100

Updated schedule and session information will be available online (www.okosteo.org/upcoming-events) and on the OOA Summer app as it is confirmed.

### TO COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION

- Mail this form to 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., OKC, OK 73105
- Register online at www.okosteo.org/upcoming-events
- Fax this form to 405.528.6102
- Scan QR code

### PAYMENT INFORMATION:

- Check enclosed (check must be made payable to OOA representing payment for items checked.)
- Credit Card Information Below (all information must be provided below for your card to be processed.)

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</table>

Name on Card

Credit Card No.

Exp. Date

3 Digit CID No.

Billing Address

City: ST & ZIP

Signature

### Important Proper Prescribing News

To obtain proper prescribing credit through OSBOE a physician should attend a proper prescribing course once every year that has been approved through the licensure board (speaker and material).
The Oklahoma Educational Foundation for Osteopathic Medicine was founded in 1967 with the mission of providing support to past, present, and future osteopathic physicians through scholarships and other financial aid. In 1985, the OEFOM Board of Trustees decided to build a safe haven for the osteopathic community located at 4848 N Lincoln Blvd, naming it the Oklahoma Osteopathic Educational Center. Thirty-seven years later, the mission and vision remain the pillars of the OEFOM. However, time has moved on, and the funds have dwindled due to COVID-19 hardship scholarships, building maintenance, multiple student scholarships, stethoscope donations, and other day-to-day necessities.

I am writing to you today to ask for your consideration of a tax-deductible contribution of $100, $250, $500, or $1,000 or more to the general fund and/or the building maintenance fund. Your contribution, of any amount, to any of the following funds would be greatly appreciated.

- General Fund
- Building Maintenance Fund
- Student Stethoscope Sponsorship
- Please use my contribution where it’s needed most

Tax-deductible gifts can be easily made to OEFOM in the following ways:

- Make a secure donation online at www.okosteo.org » Foundation [tab at top right of page] » Donate to Foundation
- Scan the QR Code to be taken directly to the donation page
- Mail this form with your check or credit card information to 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Credit Card Information:

- Credit Card Type: American Express ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ Discover ___
- Card #: ___________________________ Card Exp. Date: ___________________________
- Card CVV # (three/four digits): ______________________ Zipcode: ______________________
- Name on Card: ____________________________
- Signature: ____________________________

Gift amount: $ __________

Thank you in advance for your continuing financial support that will allow the OEFOM to support osteopathic medical students and to maintain the headquarters for both OEFOM and the OOA.

Sincerely,

Allison C. LeBoeuf, JD
OEFOM Secretary, Treasurer
On behalf of the OEFOM Board of Trustees

The OEFOM was founded in 1967 and chartered by the State of Oklahoma as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization, with objectives to promote and support the education of physicians and students in osteopathic medicine. If you have questions as to how your dollars are being spent, call (405) 528-4848.
As we leave legislative session and look forward to the calmer summer months, the OOA has much to celebrate in what we have accomplished this year. The advocacy efforts of our legislative team, and even more importantly, our individual members motivated to advance the interests of their patients, profession, and practices, have made an impact that deserves recognition.

Legislative session begins at the start of each year with a deluge of bills touching every aspect of medicine – opioids, surprise billing, price transparency, managed care, and vaccines, to name only a few areas. As is common nearly every year, one of our biggest challenges came in the form of incursions into physician scope of practice by midlevel providers. Senate Bill 458 sought to grant independent practice without prescriptive supervision to APRNs after only a few years of practice experience. Through the help of our allies in the legislature (with special thanks owed to Representative Carl Newton), we were able to defeat this bill. However, this was only achieved through many meetings, calls, emails, and hours spent in person by our OOA members at the Capitol.

The crowning achievement of this session has been the record participation of our membership in the advocacy process, including physicians working in a myriad of specialties and locations throughout the state. On March 28th, 2023, over 120 osteopathic physicians and medical students attended Osteopathic Medicine Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Never in recent years have your voices been heard so loudly! This event, and the reception that followed it, was a success we must endeavor to repeat and build upon in the days ahead. Celebrating a full year of post-covid in person CME programming, I would be remiss not to mention the wonderful experience had by all who attended our 123rd Annual Convention in Oklahoma City this May. The CME program put on by our program chair and now President-Elect, Jonathan Stone, DO, was thoroughly well-received and well-reviewed. We were thrilled to welcome an exciting keynote speaker, Rebecca Bernard, MD, co-author of the book *Patients at Risk: The Rise of the Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant in Healthcare*, and learn more about the important issues highlighted in her publications.

With the inauguration of your new president, Rebecca Lewis, DO, the OOA begins an initiative of greater member involvement in the committees and bureaus that make up our association’s governance. The broad representation of our diverse membership within these important working groups is vital to ensure that every member’s needs and interests are heard, understood, and incorporated into our policies, procedures, projects, and initiatives. With a clear focus on our association’s mission “to promote the health of all Oklahomans through education and advocacy for the osteopathic profession,” the OOA looks forward to bright and productive days ahead!
**Support OOPAC in 2023!**

**DO YOUR PART TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN OKLAHOMA.**

### 2023 OOPAC Contribution Levels

- **Platinum PAC Partner** $2,500+
- **Executive PAC Partner** $1,000-$2,499
- **Premier PAC Partner** $500-$999
- **PAC Partner** $499 or less

### 2023 OOPAC Investment

- **My personal check made payable to “OOPAC” is enclosed in the amount of $_________.**
- **I would like to make a one-time contribution. Please charge my credit card $_________.**
- **I commit to monthly contributions to OOPAC. Please charge my credit card:**
  - $2,508 ($209 per month)
  - $1,200 ($100 per month)
  - $1,008 ($84 per month)
  - $504 ($42 per month)

### Options

- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express
- Discover

**Account number: ___________________________ Expiration date: ________**

**Name as it appears on card: ___________________________ CID: ________**

**Address: _________________________________________________**

**City, State, ZIP: __________________________________________**

**Occupation: ___________________________ Employer: ___________________________**

**Signature: ________________________________________________**

I declare that this contribution is freely and voluntarily given from my personal property. I have not directly or indirectly been compensated or reimbursed for this contribution. This personal contribution is not deductible as a donation or business expense.

Please mail to:

OOPAC, 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3335

You may also call the OOA office at 405-528-4848 and give over the phone.

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### OOA Calendar

- **June 9, 2023**
  - 2pm Proper Prescribing Lecture
  - Zoom

- **June 11, 2023**
  - OMT Study Group
  - Oklahoma City, OK

- **June 30, 2023**
  - 9am Proper Prescribing Lecture
  - Zoom

- **July 9, 2023**
  - OMT Study Group
  - Oklahoma City, OK

- **July 20-23, 2023**
  - AOA Annual Board of Trustees Meeting
  - Chicago, IL

- **August 1, 2023**
  - 7pm
  - Zoom

- **August 3, 2023**
  - Board of Trustees Meeting
  - OOA Office

- **August 11-13, 2023**
  - Virtual Summer CME Seminar
  - Zoom

- **August 13, 2023**
  - OMT Study Group
  - Oklahoma City, OK

- **September 10, 2023**
  - OMT Study Group
  - Oklahoma City, OK

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**Coming Soon**

**CME + MEMBERSHIP BUNDLES**

Be on the lookout for some CME & Membership Bundles this upcoming 2023-2024 year! **Discounted prices** will be available when you purchase everything you may need at the start of your membership year!

Questions on Membership? Contact Jacob:

jacob@okosteo.org
Jeanette M. Kelley, DO, grew up in the small town of Laverne in rural western Oklahoma in a family of six. She was quite lucky to have her paternal grandparents in the same town. She spent many summers in North Dakota where her mother’s family still lives. There are over 100 and still counting of this immediate family! Now, she is blessed to be a mother of four and has a loving husband. They stay quite busy with their children’s activities, from high school band, archery, acrobatics and tumbling, basketball, choir, and piano. When given the chance, beach camping is their favorite pastime. Family has always been important and continues to remain a huge focus of Dr. Kelley’s mission with the OOA. She believes that all areas of the state of Oklahoma deserve adequate health care. Currently, she practices hospitalist medicine at Integris Southwest Medical Center in Oklahoma City. She started her healthcare career at Newman Memorial Hospital as a nurse’s aide in Shattuck, Oklahoma. She has held jobs as a scrub tech, lab tech, unit clerk, and teacher’s assistant to name a few of her roles along the way to becoming a physician. She chose to be a physician to fulfill a leadership role and have a breadth of knowledge in human anatomy, physiology, and pathology. Her undergraduate degrees are BS in biology and BA in chemistry from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She graduated from ATSU-KCOM in Kirksville, Missouri. She completed residency at OSU Medical Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr. Kelley enjoys training resident physicians and medical students and advocating for the patient-physician relationship, both at the hospital and legislative levels.

Mercedez D. Bernard, DO, earned her Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from Oklahoma State University in 2015. Dr. Bernard is now a family medicine physician in Lawton, Oklahoma. She serves as the Program Director for the Comanche County Memorial Hospital Family Medicine Residency, and Medical Director for the Comanche County Health Department and Lawton Sexual Assault Response Team. She and her husband, Justin Magalassi, DO, enjoy rooting for the Oklahoma State Cowboys every football season, and playing with their rambunctious two year old son. Dr. Bernard has a passion for rural Oklahoma health, and hopes to improve access to quality care for rural Oklahomans through continued advocacy with the OOA.

We would love to include your good news in the next edition of Oklahoma D.O.! Contact Mykayla Laws at mykayla@okosteo.org or 405.528.4848 to submit yours today.

Follow Us on Social Media

Twitter: @OKOSTEO
Facebook: OKOSTEO
Instagram: @OKOSTEO
Stephen G. Bovasso, DO, age 58, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, passed away on April 21, 2023. He was born in Kirksville, Missouri, on October 19, 1964. Steve is survived by his father, George Bovasso; mother, Florence Crummett; sister, Linda Bovasso; brother-in-law, Roy Flores; wife, Sharna; and his children, Blake and Ali Bovasso.

Steve was a 1993 graduate of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his internship and anesthesia residency at Tulsa Regional Medical Center in 1997 and remained an attending physician there until 2022. He served as program director of the anesthesia residency program and president of the UTB Anesthesia group. Due to his mentoring nature, Steve was awarded the OSU Medical Center Attending of the Year in 2010 and the Osteopathic Founders Foundation 2018 Outstanding Physician.

Steve was highly respected, talented, empathetic, intelligent, thoughtful, dedicated, protective and selfless. He was a fierce advocate for his patients, partners, residents, and family. His life was well spent in service, and his legacy will continue to live on through all of us. The only thing Steve loved more than his medical family was his actual family. He was the best son, brother, husband, father, mentor, and friend.

You could always find Steve with a kind smile on his face. Steve was happiest when he was riding his motorcycles, driving his classic cars, going on trips to Cabo, and spending as much time as he could at Grand Lake with family and friends. Steve lived his life to the fullest in every way.

Obituary from Tulsa World on April 25, 2023.

Byron “Buzz” Marr, DO, Dr. Byron (Buzz) John Marr was born on June 22, 1963 in Tulsa Oklahoma to Dr. James Frank Marr and his wife Esther Loraine Baldwin Marr. He went home to the Lord on March 5, 2023, at the age of 59.

Buzz was a 1981 graduate of Tulsa Edison High School, a 1985 graduate of Northeastern State University at Tahlequah and a 1989 graduate of Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine, now OSU Medical School in Tulsa. After medical school he did his internship in Mesquite, Texas, Radiology Residency in Mt. Clemens, Michigan and his Fellowship at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas. After practicing Invasive Radiology some years in Texas, he came back home to Tulsa and practiced in Tulsa and the surrounding areas and eventually the surrounding states, while keeping his home in Tulsa. He was always accompanied by his faithful companion, Elvis the goofy dog. He was a well-respected doctor in his field of practice who saved many lives.

Buzz was preceded in death by his father and is survived by many friends and family who love him dearly including his mother, Esther Marr, his sister & brother-in-law, Celia and Rick Springer, his nephew, Devin Springer and his wife Heather Borland, his niece Kyra Johnson and her husband, Ryan and his great niece, Jemma Johnson whom he adored. He is also survived by his daughters, Kelsey Anne Marr and Grace Elizabeth Marr.

Obituary from Nicola Funeral & Cremations on March 9, 2023.

Asha Raju, DO
6/29/1969
4/14/2023

No obituary published.
RELATIONSHIPS YOU CAN RELY ON

PROTECTING YOUR MEDICAL PRACTICE FOR 83 YEARS

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Association has endorsed Rich & Cartmill, Inc. and Medical Protective since 1999

Please support your OOA and consider Rich & Cartmill, Inc. for your Professional Liability Insurance needs.

For more information contact Scott Selman at 918-809-1461 or sselman@rcins.com