



Directors' E-Dialogue

AMA Alliance...*Building healthy communities.*

September 2006

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1. Make Plans for MDC

Come to Chicago for 2.5 days during the Membership Development Conference (MDC, formerly LDC I), Oct. 14 to 17, 2006, and leave with new skills, resources and a taste of one of the Midwest's most robust centers of commerce and culture.

Opening with a Happy Hour registration and welcome reception on Saturday evening, Oct. 14, every member will be able to relax with friends while picking up their registration packet, schedule, map of the city and sites within walking distance of the hotel.

Sunday marks the 3rd Annual Alliance SAVE Walk, benefiting the Health Promotion Policy Grant (HPPG) program for state and county Alliances, and the opening session of the conference, followed by workshops that will show members how to meet their goals for the year.

Monday follows with a full-day program offering fast-paced education tracks promoting the core strengths of the Alliance.

For a complete schedule, visit the [AMA Alliance Web site](http://www.amaalliance.org).

2. Top 10 Reasons to Come to Chicago for MDC

1. Get the original "Cheezborger! Cheezborger!" at the Billy Goat Tavern.
2. It boasts the best baseball team in 2005!
3. The river is dyed green a few days during the year!
4. The "bean" in Millenium Park.
5. It's home to Navy Pier.
6. There is plenty of shopping on the Magnificent Mile!
7. Dining or toasting at the top of the Hancock building!
8. "Mexico one plate at a time" for every meal you want to eat at Rick Bayless' amazing restaurant, Frontera.
9. First class museums featuring "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs."
10. It's the city that burned to the ground, but rose to boast the tallest skyscraper in the country, the Sears Tower.

For a complete list of quick eats or finer dining, contact the AMA Alliance Membership Services Team at amaa@ama-assn.org; or by phone at 312.464.4470; or by fax at 312.464.5020.

3. Adjusting to Life's Changes

From president, Nita Maddox

The night before I left for college, I asked my mother how she was going to manage teaching and the responsibilities of home without my help?

She took a moment to wisely reply, "Nita, life is a series of adjustments. I will just have to learn to adjust."

I began to fully understand the wisdom of my Mom when our son Andrew got engaged and moved to Kansas City, Mo.; Clara got a job and moved to New York; Catherine moved to Texas and got engaged; and Becca started her freshman year in college. I also said, "Yes", to serving as Alliance national president for one year, am responsible for caring for our elderly parents, and contribute financially to our families' needs.

How do you adjust to life's changes? My mother's wisdom rings clearly in my ears, "Life is a series of adjustments. I will just have to learn to adjust."

4. Membership from the Male Perspective

From director, John Lovin

How can the Alliance get more men to join? I hear this question about as often as, "Hi, how are you?" While there probably is not one specific way to entice more male spouses to join, there are a few tips I can offer since I am as much an "expert" on this as anyone.

1. Remove any barriers to male members in joining, like meetings that have an obvious female theme. Try to make a few meetings center on other topics, such as legislation, financial planning and the like.
2. Do not have "guys night" meetings. Men do not go to Monday night football parties to socialize and meet new people. If you hold a "guys night" just to attract male members, you will end up with a few very bored female members who are hosting it.

If you would like to read more tips from director John Lovin, [click here](#).

5. A Word for the Wise

– Hippocrates

"A wise man should consider that health is the greatest of human blessings, and learn how by his own thoughts to derive benefits from his illnesses."

6. From the Alliance Archives

On Sunday, Oct. 11, 1981, almost 25 years ago, the AMA Auxiliary's (AMAA) board of directors met at the Drake Hotel in Chicago during the AMAA's "Confluence" meeting under the direction of AMAA president, Mrs. Harry (Isobel) Dvorsky, from California, to discuss membership dues and other issues within the Auxiliary. The decision was made to increase resident physician/medical student spouse (RP/MSS) members dues to five dollars, effective July 1, 1982. The RP/MSS dues made up one-third of regular membership dues.

7. AMAA Dates to Remember

2006

September 22

MDC registration forms due to headquarters:
515 North State St., 9th Floor
Chicago, IL 60610

October 14

AMAA Board Meeting, 3:00p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Chicago, Ill.

October 14-17

Membership Development Conference
Chicago, Ill.

November 11-14

AMA Interim Meeting, House of Delegates
Las Vegas, Nev.

2007

February 11

AMAA Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Washington, D.C.

February 12-14

LDC II/ National Advocacy Conference/
National Day at the Capitol
Washington, D.C.

February 16-18

AMPAC Candidate Workshop
Arlington, Va.

March 1

Health Awareness Promotion (HAP)
Award deadline

March 15

Legislative Education and Awareness
Promotion (LEAP) Award deadline

March 31

Membership dues deadline (dues must
be received at National Headquarters to
count toward delegate allocation at the
annual House of Delegates.)

April 18-22

AMPAC Campaign School
Arlington, Va.

June 22

AMAA Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m.
Chicago, Ill.

June 23-27

AMA Annual Meeting, House of
Delegates
Chicago, Ill.

June 24-26

AMA Alliance Annual Meeting, House of
Delegates
Chicago, Ill.