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SCMA NEWS

:: Still time to RSVP for Dec. 2 SCMA Awards Dinner

The hour is late, but reservations are still being accepted for the annual SCMA Awards Dinner on Dec. 2. The dinner is free for SCMA members. Spouses, guests and nonmembers are $59.

The dinner runs from 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at the Vintners Inn, 4350 Barnes Rd., Santa Rosa. The festivities begin with a social hour at 6, followed by dinner and the award presentations. Award winners include Drs. Jan Sonander, Brad Drexler, Len Klay, Richard Powers, Richard Andolsen and the entire Medical Review Advisory Committee. Congressman Mike Thompson and the SCMA Alliance Foundation Holiday Greeting Card will also be honored.

To RSVP and/or to purchase tickets, contact Rachel Pandolfi at 707-525-4375 or rachel@scma.org and indicate dinner choice: either “duet” (short ribs and salmon) or vegetarian.

The invitation can be accessed by clicking here. ::

:: Pay membership dues by Jan. 15 and receive a 5% discount

Invoices for 2015 were recently mailed to all SCMA members. To receive a 5% discount, simply pay by Jan. 15, 2016. The discount is already calculated on the invoice, and you can pay by check or credit card.

In addition to standard dues, the invoice allows members to make additional donations to CMA’s political action committee (CALPAC) at a variety of levels. Donations can also be made to the MICRA Education Fund and the CMA Physician’s Issues Committee.

For questions regarding your invoice, contact Rachel Pandolfi at 707-525-4375 or rachel@scma.org. ::
:: Alliance holiday giving opportunities

With the holidays fast approaching, the SCMA Alliance and Foundation would like to remind local physicians about two longstanding charitable projects.

The Holiday Greeting Card, now in its 50th year, raises scholarship money for local students wishing to pursue medical careers. The scholarships, which are awarded by the SCMA and SCMA Alliance Health Careers Scholarship Committee, provide critical financial assistance at a time when community resources are fast depleting. Since the project began in 1965, scholarships have been awarded to more than 800 local students, including several who went on to become practicing physicians in Sonoma County. Click here to learn how you can make a donation.

This year was a milestone for the Give-a-Gift Program and marked the largest number of computers donated so far. With the help of a very generous donor base, the Alliance was able to donate 30 computers to former foster youth attending Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University. The Alliance is currently accepting donations to the Give-a-Gift Program so that more deserving students can receive laptops to help achieve their educational goals. Visit www.scmaa.org and click Donate. 😊

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:: Applicants

Welcome, new SCMA/CMA members!

Emily Conway, MD, Cardiovascular Disease*, 4415 Sonoma Hwy., #D, Santa Rosa, Brown Univ 2003
Danielle Franzini, Third year osteopathic medical student, Touro Univ 2018
John Hau, MD, Pain Medicine, 392 Tesconi Cir., Santa Rosa, Temple Univ 2009

TPMG- 401 Bicentennial Way, Santa Rosa
Linda Armstrong, MD, Pediatrics*, Tehran Univ 1999
Stephanie Barlin, MD, Emergency Medicine*, Case Western Reserve 2006
Courtney Harper, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Tulane Univ 2005
Lea Hoff Arcand, MD, Family Medicine*, Univ Montreal 2012
Amir Prushani, MD, Internal Medicine*, Dartmouth Med Sch 2003
Adam Ryan, MD, Diagnostic Radiology, State Univ NY Buffalo Med Sch 2009

Annadel Medical Group
Brenda Manfredi, MD, Family Medicine*, 8911 Lakewood Dr. #13, Windsor, Virginia Med Sch

*board certified

:: Top CMA issues & news highlights

:: Top story: DMHC fines Blue Shield and Anthem for provider directory inaccuracies
On Nov. 3, the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) announced it had fined two of the state's largest health plans for inaccurate Covered California provider directories. Blue Shield of California was fined $350,000, while Anthem Blue Cross was fined $250,000.

Also in this issue:

:: Have you checked your medical board profile recently?
:: CMA urges Congress to fix EHR meaningful use program
:: Supreme Court to hear ACA challenge by religious nonprofits
:: Be prepared for Covered California changes in 2016
:: CMS changes enrollment requirements for Part D prescribers
:: CMA publishes summary of new health care laws for 2016
:: Ask the Expert: If an exchange patient fails to pay the premium, is the plan required to pay for services?
:: Noridian conducting numerous prepayment reviews
:: Providers who refer, order or prescribe for Medi-Cal beneficiaries must enroll with DHCS
:: CMA supports ballot measure on hospital fee program to stabilize health care access for low-income residents
:: Two flu deaths confirmed by CDPH

CMA publishes the biweekly e-newsletter, CMA Alert, to keep its members up-to-date on critical issues affecting the practice of medicine in California. Click here to view the current issue. ::
:: Webinars, Leadership Academy

:: Upcoming Webinars

- Dec. 2: Medicare 2016-New Rules, Policies and Procedures
- Dec. 16: Meaningful Use: 2015 and 2016 Modified Rules

:: Archived webinars
CMA's archived webinars are free to SCMA members and staff. Nonmember fee: $99. For more information, contact CMA’s member-help center, 800-786-4262 or memberservice@cmanet.org.

:: May 13-15, 2016 Western Health Care Leadership Academy
Save the date for the 2016 Western Health Care Leadership Academy, which will be held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square from Friday, May 13, through Sunday, May 15. Click here for more information.

CMA Practice Resources (CPR) is a free monthly e-bulletin from the California Medical Association's practice management experts. It focuses on critical payer and health care industry changes and how they directly impact the business of a physician practice. Each issue includes tips on reimbursement and contracting-related issues, along with information on the latest practice management news. View the current issue. ::

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SCMA members get free classifieds!
SCMA members can place free classified ads in News Briefs or Sonoma Medicine. Cost for nonmember physicians and the general public is $1 per word. To place a classified ad, contact Susan Gumucio at susan@scma.org or 707-525-0102.

ABOUT SCMA

The Sonoma County Medical Association, a 501(c)(6) nonprofit association, supports local physicians and their efforts to enhance the health of the community. Founded in 1858, SCMA is affiliated with the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

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