



Maine Osteopathic Association

Serving the Osteopathic Profession Since 1912

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Maine Osteopathic Association Celebrates 100th Annual Convention and Announces 2011 Award Winners

Rockport, Maine--- At its 100th Annual Oceanside Convention held in Rockport, Maine, on June 10- 12, the Maine Osteopathic Association presented six prestigious awards at the President's dinner and awards ceremony. The centennial celebration was capped off with a fireworks display over the ocean.

The **MOA Physician of the Year award** was presented to **Alexander Brazalovich, DO of Waterboro, ME**. This award is given to a D.O. who has demonstrated a high quality of practice, a compassionate interest in patients and a commitment to his or her community. Community is defined broadly to include activities at the local, state, or national level and involvement in osteopathic institutions.

Dr. Brazalovich is a dedicated physician. His patients adore him and his colleagues have tremendous respect for him. He is passionately interested in ways in which he can serve his community, delivering the best medical care in a variety of settings. He is a regular volunteer at the Biddeford Free Clinic.

A true leader in this profession, Dr. Brazalovich is the immediate past president of the Maine chapter of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and he has served as the co-chair of the MOA Program Committee for several years. In this role, he works tirelessly to recruit speakers, reviews members' feedback, organizes events, serves as moderator and ensures that the conferences are successful.

Summary of Awards:

MOA Physician of the Year Award- Alexander Brazalovich, DO of Waterboro, ME in recognition of high quality of practice, compassionate interest in patients and commitment to his community.

MOA Young Physician of the Year Award- Margaret Zamboni DO of Portland, ME recognized for her early commitment to osteopathic medicine and strong potential to become a major force in the profession in the future.

Roswell P. Bates D.O. Public Service Award – Gary Palman, DO of Falmouth, ME for his outstanding achievements in public health and community service in support of osteopathic medicine.

MOA Board Awards- Gay Marks for her dedication to preserving the history of the osteopathic profession and **Albert Amalfitano, DO** for his dedication and commitment to serving his patients for 50 years and for dedicated service to the MOA.

MOA Distinguished Service Award- Bruce Bates, DO, Scarborough, ME for his significant contributions to the profession over the course of his career. This is the highest honor the MOA bestows upon individual members.

The MOA Young Physician of the Year award was presented to **Margaret Zamboni, D.O. of Portland, Maine.** This award is given to a D.O. who has been in practice for at least one full year and not more than five years and demonstrates the potential to be a major force in osteopathic medicine in the future.

Ms. Zamboni exhibits all the characteristics of an individual deserving of such an award. She graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2005 with honors. She trained at the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital and finished her pediatric residency at Maine Medical Center.

She has shown a real passion for teaching our future physicians and is an assistant clinical professor at UNE and regularly teaches medical students and residents in her office. She is involved in many committees and serves as a role model for other Maine residents who wish to pursue careers in medicine through volunteering with Medical Explorers and serving as a panelist with the National Osteopathic Women Physician Association's local chapter.

Gary Palman, D.O. of Falmouth, ME received the **Roswell P. Bates D.O. Public Service Award** for his outstanding achievements in public health and community service that enhances and demonstrates the Osteopathic profession's commitment to service above and beyond that of direct patient care.

Dr. Palman has exhibited leadership in his numerous positions, including his role as Director of Anesthesiology and Pain Services and Medical Director of Operative Services for Southern Maine Medical Center. Since 2008, Dr. Palman has been a member of the University of New England's Board of Trustees. This important role has enabled him to continue his involvement at the community level and to have the ability to influence the education of the next generation of osteopathic physicians.

In addition, Dr. Palman currently serves on the Maine Osteopathic Board of Licensure. Through this position, he is able to protect the public through the regulation of practice of osteopathic medicine by maintaining high professional standards. He is also President of Maine's Society of Anesthesiologists, is a member of the American with Disabilities Committee, and is a member of the National Board of Osteopathic Examiners.

Gay Marks received the **Maine Osteopathic Association Board of Directors Award.** This award is specifically given to a friend of the osteopathic profession who has made a recent outstanding and significant contribution to the osteopathic profession in Maine. Ms. Marks was recognized for her service to the New England Osteopathic Heritage Center and for protecting and preserving the history of the Osteopathic profession.

Albert Amalfinato, D.O. of Waterville, ME was also presented with the **MOA Board Award.** Dr. Amalfitano embodies the osteopathic profession. As a former surgeon and now family physician, Dr. Amalfitano has treated his patients for over 50 years. The MOA presented Dr. Amalfinato with a 50 year service award in addition to the Board Award. He is recognized as the longest ranking board member of the MOA and for the past two decades he has served as treasurer. Dr. Albert Amalfitano was recognized for his steadfast dedication and service to the association.

Finally, **the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the MOA is the Distinguished Service Award.** The award is presented to a D.O. who has made an immediate significant contribution to the osteopathic profession through a major endeavor for the good of the profession and society, and has made a major impact on the osteopathic profession and society over the course of his/her career. The **2011 Distinguished Service Award** was presented to **Bruce Bates, D.O. of Scarborough,, ME.**

Osteopathic Medicine in Maine and Bruce Bates, DO are often connected. As the son of an osteopathic physician who played a key role in the rich history of osteopathic medicine in Maine and the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM), Dr. Bates' name has been forever etched into the history of our profession. Dr. Bates has followed in the steps of his father in clearly dedicating his life to promoting and enhancing the profession in Maine.

Dr. Bruce Bates' career has continued to profoundly impact the osteopathic profession. With his tireless service to UNECOM and to the MOA, Dr. Bates gives his time and expertise and is an exemplary member to physicians all across Maine and New England.

The UNECOM Geriatrics program, with his guidance and dedication, has received national acclaim. U.S. News and World Report has ranked this program in the top 20 in the nation.

Dr. Bates has served on the MOA Board of Directors and is a past president of the association. He also received this award in 1992 and 19 years later is still making a tremendous contribution to the profession. The MOA is pleased to honor an amazing man, who has dedicated so much of his time and effort to advancing the osteopathic profession, teaching tomorrow's generation of physicians and advocating for health care for so many Maine residents.

Finally, **Christopher Pezzullo, DO**, a pediatrician at University Healthcare for Kids in Portland, ME was inducted as the Maine Osteopathic Association's newest president by Karen J. Nichols, DO, the American Osteopathic Association President. Dr. Pezzullo will serve as president for the next two years.

Osteopathic medicine was developed more than 130 years ago by Andrew Taylor Still, MD, DO. Osteopathic physicians (D.O.s) are fully-licensed to prescribe medicine and practice in all specialty areas including surgery. D.O.s are trained to consider the health of the whole person and use their hands to help diagnose and treat their patients.

There are approximately 600 active Osteopathic Physicians in the State of Maine. Presently, there are 67,000 plus Osteopathic Physicians across the United States and DOs are the fastest growing health care profession. More than half of all D.O.s practice primary care in areas of family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology and pediatrics.

For more information about D.O.s and osteopathic medicine, visit the Maine Osteopathic Association's web site at www.mainedo.org

Awardees Photographs available electronically upon request at awesthoff@mainedo.org

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