

Alaska Chapter Update

A Newsletter for the Members of Alaska ACEP



Fall 2011 Issue

From the President Carlton Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP, FAWM

I would like to begin by reminding everyone that we will hold our annual chapter meeting in Anchorage on Friday, November 11th. I would also like to invite you to visit our chapter [web site](#). We continuously update the content and hope that you find it a helpful resource. Any suggestions for improvements are always welcome.

Some of you have recently returned from attending the Scientific Assembly in San Francisco and I hope that you will share what you learned with your EM colleagues that generously worked the shifts back home, while you were away. I enjoyed meeting a few of you at our Alaska social event at the Irish Pub. I am sorry that I did not get to meet the rest that made it down, maybe next year in Denver. There were many great courses to attend and the council debated the business of the college. Not many of the issues discussed specifically relate to practicing in Alaska but a few of the national issues will have an impact on our practice up here. One exciting development was the creation of a new section devoted to telemedicine. With the large distances between our communities, telemedicine has the potential to be a big part of patient care for us. The system already in place for the Native Health services seems to be well ahead of the rest of the country. If this is an area of interest for you please join this new section. The college continues to focus on understanding and advocating for all emergency physicians in regards to the changes in health care and payment schemes as outlined in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. I can assure you that this alone is worth far more than the cost of your ACEP dues. I can also report after many conversations with colleagues from other states that we are doing pretty well up here. I promise to continue to represent our interests on the national level and here in Juneau when the State Legislature is in session.

The Alaska chapter annual meeting will be on Friday, November 11th, in conjunction with the State EMS Symposium. It will be held at the Hotel Captain Cook in downtown Anchorage and will start at 5:30p.m and run till about 8:00p.m. First, we will review the papers and exam for the ABEM 2011 LLSA test. This will be an annual event to help those members who need to complete the LLSA series of tests to maintain board certification in emergency medicine. The second part of the meeting will be to conduct the chapter business. On the agenda are revisions to the chapter bylaws to bring us into compliance with national ACEP rules, Alaska law, discussion of the budget, and current chapter dues. Also, we have an open seat on our chapter board of directors and an opening for a chapter officer. If you are interested in helping to make the chapter a useful and vibrant organization, please contact me for more details via [e-mail](#).

One final request: there are a number of emergency physicians who may not get this newsletter because they have recently moved here, or are on one of our military bases, and a member of the Government Services Chapter instead of the Alaska Chapter. We would like to include all of them in our chapter activities. If you know of anyone who might fit in one of those categories, please forward this newsletter on to them.

Carl Heine

Alaska Chapter ACEP



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Proposed Bylaws for the Alaska Chapter. To be voted on at the November 11th meeting.

ARTICLE I

NAME

This Association shall be a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alaska. Upon receiving a charter from the American College of Emergency Physicians this Association shall be a chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians and shall be called Alaska ACEP

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

The purpose of this Association (hereinafter "the Chapter") shall be those set forth by the Bylaws of the American College of Emergency Physicians (hereinafter "the College") and in the Chapter's' Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The qualifications for membership in the Chapter shall be consistent with those for membership in the College.

Section 2: Membership applications, classification changes, resignations, suspensions, and expulsions; shall be acted upon by the College.

Section 3: Member classifications in the Chapter shall be those designated by the College in its bylaws.

Section 4: All records of the Chapter shall be available for inspection by the membership of the Chapter at any reasonable time. Such inspection may be made by a member, or the agent or attorney of a member, and shall include the right to make extracts thereof. Demand of inspection other than at a meeting, of the members shall be in writing to the President or Secretary/Treasurer of the Chapter.

ARTICLE IV

DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1: Dues for Chapter membership shall be determined by the Chapter Board of Directors.

Section 2: Assessments may only be levied by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting and then only if the recommendation for such assessment had been mailed to the membership at least thirty (30) days before the meeting.

Section 3: Any member whose membership has been canceled for failure to pay dues or assessments shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1: There shall be an annual meeting of the Chapter at such place and time as is ordered by the Board of Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be delivered to the last recorded address of each member at least 10 but not more than 50 days before the time of the appointed meeting, If sent via US Postal Service, the notice shall be considered to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at the member's address as it appears on the records of the Chapter, with postage prepaid. If sent via electronic mail, the notice shall be considered delivered once sent to the members email address as it appears on the records of the Chapter.

Section 2: Special meetings of the members may be called by the president or by the board of directors. A special meeting of members may be called by members having one-twentieth of the votes entitled to be cast at the meeting. Notice of such meetings shall be mailed, emailed or personally delivered to the last recorded address of each member at least 5 but not more than 30 days before the time appointed for the meeting.

Section 3: The presence of one tenth of the members of the Chapter present at any meeting of the Chapter duly called shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4: When not in conflict with these bylaws, the parliamentary procedures outlined in Sturgis Standard Code of

Parliamentary Procedure, shall govern all Chapter meetings.

ARTICLE VI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control and direction of the affairs of the Chapter, shall determine its policies or changes therein within the limits of the bylaws, shall actively pursue its purposes and shall have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable and may in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents, as it may consider necessary.

Section 2: The Board of Directors shall be composed of the current officers of the Chapter (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), the immediate Past President and five (5) elected directors. The number of directors may be increased or decreased from time to time by amendment to these bylaws.

Section 3: Any member of the Chapter, in good standing, may be nominated for an open position on the Board of Directors by any member of the Chapter. Nominations close when voting begins.

Section 4: Elected directors shall serve a term of three (3) years and shall be eligible to serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms. Directors shall be elected as appropriate at the annual chapter meeting by majority vote of the members present.

Section 5: The Board of Directors shall meet no less than once each year. Notice of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be sent by mail, email or personally delivered to each member of the board at his or her last recorded address at least ten (10) days in advance of such meetings. Board meetings may be conducted by telephone conference call or other electronic medium. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meetings of the Board.

Section 6: The Board of Directors shall nominate the candidates for the Chapter Officer positions.

Section 7: Any director may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of members present at any chapter meeting. A recall must be initiated by petition signed by no less than one-third of the number of voting members present at the meeting at which the director was elected. Any vacancy created by a recall shall be filled by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting at which the recall occurs. Nomination for a vacancy shall be accepted from the floor.

Section 8: Any director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or the Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time of the acceptance thereof as determined by the President or the Board. Vacancies, which occur on the Board of the Chapter for any reason, other than recall, shall be filled, for the remainder of the term of office, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII

OFFICERS

Section 1: The elected officers of the Chapter shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who will be elected to a term of two (2) years. Election shall be by majority vote of the members voting at the annual meeting. Officers shall be eligible to serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The same member may hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 2: Each officer shall serve on the Board of Directors for the duration of their term. The immediate past president shall serve as long as the current president is in office.

Section 3: The duties of the President shall be as follows:

- (a): The President shall be the executive officer of the Board of Directors.
- (b): The President shall preside over all meetings of the Chapter and Board of Directors.
- (c): The President shall be responsible for ensuring that all Chapter contracts with third parties contain a provision disclosing the fact that the chapter is an entity separate and distinct from the college.
- (d): The President shall be responsible for ensuring that the Chapter adheres to the policy governing the use of the mark of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Section 4: The Duties of the Vice-President shall be as follows:

(a): The Vice-President shall also serve as the President-Elect

(b): The Vice-President shall , in the absence of the president, preside at all meetings and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 5: The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

(a): The Secretary shall be responsible for recording minutes of meetings and keeping records of the Chapter activities.

(b): The Secretary shall also be responsible for ensuring that the Chapter adheres to the policy governing the mark of the American College of Emergency Physician.

(c): The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Section 6: The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

(a): The Treasurer shall be responsible for monitoring all accounts and records of the Chapter finances.

(b): The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Section 7: Any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the members of the same body authorized to elect the officer. Any vacancy created by a recall shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining directors until such time as a successor can be elected to the remainder of the unexpired term by the Chapter members.

Section 8: Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or Board of Directors. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time of acceptance thereof as determined by the President or the Board.

Section 9: Vacancies, which occur in the officership of the Chapter for any reason, other than recall, shall be filled, for the remainder of the term of office, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII COUNCILORS

One Councilor to the College, and one additional councilor for each additional 100 members of the Chapter, shall be appointed to a two-year term by the Chapter Officers. Councilors may serve unlimited consecutive terms. At such time as the Chapter is eligible for more than one Councilor, the tem of the newly elected councilor shall be adjusted so that the terms of the Councilors are staggered. The Chapter Officers can also appoint alternate councilors who will be available for seating if a councilor is not present.

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

The President may appoint such committees as he or she deem necessary.

ARTICLE X VOTING

Voting on any matter, except elections, is permitted to use the following methods: In-Person Voting, Mail Voting (by either US Postal Service or electronic mail), or Proxy Voting. Voting in Elections can be done by In-Person Voting, or Proxy Voting. Each chapter member has one equal vote. Voting is open unless a member of the chapter participating in the vote requests a secret written ballot.

ARTICLE XI INDEMNIFICATION

The Chapter will, by resolution of the Board of Directors, provide for indemnification by the Chapter of any and all of its directors or officers or former directors or officers against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, in which they or any of them are made parties, or a party, by reason of having been directors or officers of the Chapter, except in relations to matters as to which such directors or officer, or former director or officer shall be adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty and to such matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated on the existence of such liability for negligence or misconduct.

ARTICLE XII

APPROVAL OF BYLAWS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1: These bylaws shall not become effective until approved by the Board of Directors of the College.

Section 2: (Unless otherwise required by law) these bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a meeting of the Chapter, provided that the proposed amendments have been mailed to the membership of the Chapter at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 3: Amendments to these bylaws shall be submitted to the College, in a format and manner approved by the Board of Directors of the College, no later than thirty (30) days following the adoption of such amendments. No amendment shall be of any force of effect until it has been submitted to and reviewed by the Board of Directors of the College, provided, however, that such amendment shall be considered to be approved if the Board of Directors of the College fails to give written notice of its objection within ninety (90) days following receipt.

Section 4: These bylaws must, at all times, be consistent with the Bylaws of the College. Should the bylaws of the College be changed in a manner as to render these bylaws inconsistent therewith, then these bylaws shall be amended immediately to eliminate said inconsistency.

Clinical News

COPD Exacerbations Twice as Common in Winter

Exacerbations and deaths among patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease follow a pronounced pattern of seasonal variation, according to an analysis of data from a randomized, controlled trial.

[Read the entire article online.](#)

Bacteria Ride Along on Many Hospital Uniforms

Some people wear their hearts on their sleeves. Doctors and nurses wear a lot more there, it seems. Sixty percent of doctors' hospital uniforms and 65% of nurses' uniforms tested contained potentially pathogenic bacteria in at least one place, according to research published in the American Journal of Infection Control.

[Read the entire article online.](#)

Focus On: The Cyanotic Neonate

"Focus On" is an ongoing series of articles that examine common complaints that present to the emergency department or highlight new literature or treatment options.

Learning Objectives for this article include the ability to recognize and treat uncommon presentations of common pathology and common presentations of rare pathology, discuss the presentation, evaluation, differential diagnosis and treatment of the cyanotic neonate. The physician will be able to discuss the pathophysiology of the transition from fetal to newborn circulation, explain the significance of the hyperoxia test and discuss the management of a neonate with methemoglobinemia.

[After reading the article, take the CME quiz online.](#)

Alaska Chapter ACEP

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