



VIETNAMESE AMERICAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

4108 Surfside Court, Arlington, Texas, USA
Telephone: (817) 667- 1016 – Fax: (817) 468-1852
WWW.VAMAUSA.ORG

Dear Colleagues, Friends, VAMA Members

April 6, 2011

Greeting from Texas !

Just a few notes to update you on our VAMA activities in the last few months since I have been in office.

We held an "Inaugural" Gala to welcome our new Executive Committee and Board of Directors at my hometown Dallas which was a fun-filled event with ballroom dancing performance and lessons by our colleagues. During the same February 2011 weekend, we also had our first combined Executive Committee and Board of Directors meeting. About a dozen of the Executive and Board of Directors members attended in person and others participated in the meeting via teleconference. In addition, World Health Ambassador representatives also joined the celebration as well as the local medical society, VHPA members.

On a special note, about 20 plus medical dental and pharmacy students attended the Gala where they learned for the first time about VAMA, VHPA the local Chapter, and medical mission activities from The WHA group. After returning from this meeting, the students from UTSW medical school have invited WHA/ VAMA to their school campus to discuss medical mission works in Asian countries. Most importantly they expressed their interests in joining VAMA, VHPA (if they are here), and WHA. These students are our future members and leaders of our Vietnamese Medical Societies.

Last week my EC team has proposed drafting budgets for both VAMA and VAMAF as well for future VAMA conventions for the next 3 years. We have submitted our Proposal to the BOD.

VAMA Foundation will continue to support annual Medical Student Scholarships (a total of \$7,500) and a separate Dr Dinh Van Tung Scholarship of \$2,500 (funded annually by family of the late Dr. Dinh Van Tung). We are also asking the BOD for additional \$5,000 for donations to various Disaster Relief Charities, and medical mission teams.

This year, especially with the occurrence of the epic Tsunami in Japan, we would like to raise some additional funds from VAMA members and friends representing our entire Vietnamese medical group, under the hospice of our VAMA Foundation. We were successful in the past fundraising campaigns for 9/11 and

Katrina victims. Please help our Asian Japanese fellows. I know most of us probably already have donated to The Red Cross etc..but together with VAMA we can extend a bigger symbolic gesture of good will to the Japanese Tsunami victims.

VAMA will have a joined convention with Hoi Quoc Te in August, 2011. The organizers there are working hard, so please make plan to attend the convention, to show our support for our Vietnamese Canadian colleagues. For information on registration, please visit www.ynd2011.com.

My EC Team is working diligently to plan for future conventions for 2012-2013. Potential locations are Seattle, Orlando (available CME Cruise), and Las Vegas. We are actively engaged in discussion with respective local organizers. We are also planning for a possible short Feb 2012 winter ski trip (?Lake Tahoe) retreat etc...

VAMA continues to work actively on various Hepatitis projects with the aim at educating physicians and Vietnamese communities. A Hepatitis-Tool-kit is currently available at The VAMA newly re-designed website. Please visit us at WWW.VAMAUSA.org. Any healthcare provider can request the materials and VAMA in turn will get credits/grants for disseminating this educational materials about Hepatitis. So please help by logging on the site above.

Our future communication vehicle will mostly be our website, this VMA Forum, Facebook, as well as emails. We will phase out traditional mailings due to cost and lack of man-power. We are thinking of discontinuing the production of The Annual Dac San magazine as well, also due to lack of man-power, lack of contents, and mainly due to high cost of printing and distribution (about \$10k-\$15k per year. This money can be wisely used somewhere else). Instead, we will send short eNewsletters on a quarterly or semi-annually basis)

In summary, please help by joining VAMA if you are a physician, whether you are new to us or you are a returning member, or a retired member (we'd like to keep track of previous members and retirees. We can keep the list on website that members can refer to, look for friends etc..) If you are a non-physician friend or colleague, you can also donate to our VAMA Foundation with tax-exempt status. (please see the attached form and brochure)

Thank you for your time & consideration

Jonathan Hoang Lam , M.D.
President VAMA Executive Team