

The Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society

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(BOG Governor)
Jeffrey S. Weingarten, M.D.
Kathleen Yaremchuk, M.D.
(BOG Public Relations)

It is a tremendous honor to serve as your President this 2009-2010 year of the Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society. On behalf of the board, I would like to thank Charles F. Koopmann Jr. MD for his leadership as our past president as well as his ongoing contributions in insurance coding and reimbursement issues that help us all. Since I joined the society several years ago I have benefited in so many ways. I immediately enjoyed a major discount in my malpractice premiums thanks to the efforts of Jeffrey Weingarten MD. The quarterly and summer meetings have been outstanding over the years, providing CME credits and a wide variety of excellent talks ranging from practice management to new procedures and treatment options. I have become aware of political and insurance related issues affecting our specialty. Best of all, I have developed a network of new friends and colleagues from academic programs as well as private practices throughout the State. I would like to recognize and thank the board and council members for their friendship, support, and willingness to work hard for our specialized interests as Otolaryngologists in this great State of Michigan. **Your 2009 – 2010 board and council members are displayed in the column to your left.** I would also like to thank Karen Carter, the Society's Secretary for her outstanding job as the central hub of our society who manages our daily operations.

This has been an outstanding year for the Society. We recently returned from our 25th Annual Michigan Oto-laryngological Summer Meeting held in beautiful Northern Michigan. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our past program director, Edwin Monsell MD PhD, the meeting was a huge success as were the quarterly meetings in Dearborn. Highlights, speakers, topics and photos can be found on our www.MichiganOto.org website. I am looking forward to seeing what our new program chair, Mark Zacharek MD has planned for us in the year ahead. Mark your calendar for the 2009-2010 meeting dates:

October 21, 2009

Red Flag rules and Preparedness.

January 20, 2010

Clinical Topic TBA.

April 21, 2010

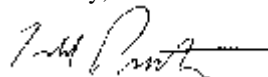
Clinical Topic TBA.

July 23-25, 2010

26th Annual Summer Meeting (Crystal Mountain Resort)

Now more than ever we are on the brink of unprecedented changes. Over the past year we have witnessed enormous fluctuations in the economy. Health care as we know it may be on the verge of complete restructuring through government mandate. The demand for cost containment and the threat of drastic cuts in reimbursement constantly loom over us. Multiple audits, increasing regulations and incentive programs are becoming so numerous they are difficult to keep up with. All the while, the bar is being raised on quality, outcomes, and practice management issues. As we learned at our 2009 summer meeting, **we must work smarter not just harder.** To that end, as President of the Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society my goal is to network our knowledge and resources, increase our membership throughout the State and promote a healthy atmosphere of interaction between all of the academic programs and the private practices throughout Michigan. We must lead by example and teach our residents and young doctors the importance of being proactive, building relationships and exchanging ideas through our Society. I have been impressed over the years how the passion and efforts of a few such individuals help us all. I have listened to the plea of Robert Stachler MD, our BOG Governor, and joined ENTPac. I encourage you to join ENTPac in addition to AAO-HNS, MSMS and your County Society if you have not done so. **I ask that you talk to your colleagues about joining the Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society** even if the meetings are out of reach. A strong membership base will ultimately improve your practice of Otolaryngology here in Michigan. The board has recently created a membership committee to facilitate this goal. I also encourage any of you who care about the future of medicine to take the time to talk with Michael Seidman MD or Robert Stachler MD or Kathleen Yaremchuk MD or any other board member to see how your voice can help shape our future. Perhaps this is the year you will travel to Lansing or Washington. Finally, we have created a web site to facilitate communication for our members and bring the Michigan Oto-laryngological Society to your desktop. I anticipate this will become our principle mode of communication as we enter the future. We value all of our members and I look forward to humbly serving you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Todd Bruce Proctor, MD, President July 20th, 2009