

Annual Meeting energizes and educates

Jerry McKee, PharmD, BCPP

What a fabulous 15th annual meeting we had in Tampa! The CPNP Annual Meeting is the one clinical meeting that I most look forward to each year and this year exceeded even my expectations. The clinical information, the educational programming, and the professional and personal networking opportunities were unmatched. The driving force of our organization is the volunteer spirit that we share, the desire to help others, the desire to educate, and the desire to be educated. This energy both sustains and drives CPNP. I always leave the annual meeting re-energized and with renewed professional enthusiasm. We are seeing our membership grow with pharmacists making mid-career changes and through student organizations, new residents, and through long-standing members providing an air of excitement and energy to CPNP and our specialty area of practice.

I think we were all inspired by the wisdom found in Dr. Barbara Wells keynote presentation, offering her considerable insights into **"Leadership Lessons Learned"**. I found Judge Steven Leifman's presentation on **"Mental Illness in the Criminal Justice System: Constructing a Comprehensive and Competent Criminal Justice/Mental Health Treatment System"** particularly compelling as well. And certainly, the pre-meeting workshop presented by Drs. Linda Strand and Abbie Vogler **"MTM Bootcamp-The Business of Patient Care: Incorporating Comprehensive Medication Management (MTM) into your Practice"** was of tremendous value to attendees.

Our ability to sustain and expand the educational and professional activities of this Annual Meeting and meet our strategic planning goals would not be possible without the support of our members and our supporters. Funding for industry symposia, product theatres, and educational grants are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. We particularly appreciate our financial supporters who have helped us achieve our goals this year.

The 2012 Judith J. Saklad Award was presented to Dr. Stephen Saklad. You all know Steve as a long-standing member of the psychiatric pharmacy community, a founding member, the current senior editor of the Mental Health Clinician, and one who brings enthusiasm and energy to each forum in which he participates. Dr. Saklad has devoted his career to serving persons with severe and persistent mental illness, both as a clinician and as an

educator. Steve is very richly deserving of this award and proudly represents the qualities and attributes that Judy stood for. He is clearly a model of sustained leadership to which we should all aspire.

In closing, I'd like to thank each of the meeting attendees and all of the committee chairs and members who have been so dedicated to bringing you the annual meeting experience in Tampa. I trust that your annual meeting expectations were exceeded. If you were not able to join us in Tampa, it is only a short time until we meet again in Colorado Springs.

Until next time, I hope you will be well and professionally active.

Jerry McKee, PharmD, BCPP-CPNP President

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