

# The Chapter Officers' Membership Reporter



Monthly Newsletter of the American Medical Student Association®

## October 2008

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### ENCLOSED

Premeds: Mabelle Arole Fellowship  
2009-2010  
Seacouver  
Child Passenger Safety  
AMSA Catalog

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Membership & Convention  
Services at  
1-800-767-2266 or email  
[members@amsa.org](mailto:members@amsa.org)

Check us out online at  
[www.amsa.org](http://www.amsa.org)

## Benefits of the Month

### GEICO Discounted Rates

AMSA members have access to discounted rates on auto insurance through GEICO. Get the coverage you need at competitive rates. Visit [www.amsa.org/geico](http://www.amsa.org/geico) or call 1-800-368-2734 for a free quote—be sure to mention AMSA.



### Exclusive USMLERx Fall Special

Save big with the top-rated USMLERx Q-banks for Step 1 and Step 2 CK. For a limited time, buy a 6 or 9-month Step 1 Q-bank and get USMLERx Step 1 Flash Facts with 14,000 online flash cards FREE! Subscribe now at [www.usmlerx.com/amsa](http://www.usmlerx.com/amsa). Hurry, offer ends November 15.



## 58th Annual Convention

AMSA's national president, Brian Hurley, welcomes you to the largest annual gathering of medical students. AMSA's 58th Annual Convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA / Washington, DC, March 12-15, 2009. This year's theme, "Win Back Our Profession," reflects the role students must adopt in order to change medicine to benefit patients and our profession. This is your opportunity to come together as physicians-in-training to build a future that makes medical education affordable and humane, provides each family with a medical home, cultivates a provider workforce reflective of our patients, restores the integrity of the physician-patient relationship and protects health care justice. It's time to make medicine ours again.

You'll have four days to experience a variety of programs designed by AMSA's Committees and Interest Groups to educate, empower and excite you about health care and the medical student experience. Highlights include world renowned Keynote speakers, AMSA's Annual Poster Session, Residency Fair and Specialty Showcase, Medical School Fair and an AMSA Rally and Lobby Day. Don't miss your opportunity for this valuable experience in your medical career.

**amsa**  
AMERICAN MEDICAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
**amsa's 58th annual convention**

**win back our profession**

**march 12-15, 2009**  
hyatt regency crystal city  
arlington, va • washington, dc

Join the largest annual gathering of physicians-in-training as we make medicine ours.

800-767-2266 • [www.amsa.org/conv](http://www.amsa.org/conv)

## Upcoming Deadlines

Dec. 31, 2008—Deadline date for national AMSA to receive membership applications to be included in the 50/70+ (medical) and rebate (premedical and international) calculations. AMSA chartered chapters are eligible.

**amsa**®

Jan. 12, 2009—Deadline for resolutions, committee applications, elective office applications and CVs, poster session abstract submissions.

Feb. 14, 2009—Deadline for early bird convention registrations (\$30 more after this date).

Feb. 18, 2009—Deadline to reserve hotel at AMSA rate (rooms may sell out prior to this date).

## Official Call

Chapter Presidents, the *Official Call* is coming soon! It provides information on the convention hotel, travel, a tentative convention program, resolution writing and how to run for a national office position. It also includes information on how to submit all the necessary forms for participating in the House of Delegates, serving on a committee, registering and submitting a poster abstract. Information can also be found at [www.amsa.org/conv](http://www.amsa.org/conv).

## US Medical Chapters Participating in Gift Promotion (Netter/Gift Card)

The fall recruitment season is winding down and you've worked very hard; we appreciate your dedication.

If you haven't already done so, please send your AMSA applications and Bank of America confirmation sheets in ASAP so we can be sure your new members receive *The New Physician* magazine and their new member packets. Use the postage-paid, self-addressed envelopes provided in your original recruitment order to mail your applications and confirmation sheets.

The official date to return extra Netters or Barnes & Noble.com gift cards is **November 1, 2008**.

If you have Netters to send back, email Vicki, [vmartel@amsa.org](mailto:vmartel@amsa.org) with the following information:

- 1) Exact quantity of books you'll return.
- 2) Exact number of boxes you'll use to ship the books.
- 3) The address you'd like for the return labels to be mailed.

If you have Gift Cards to send back, email Vicki at [vmartel@amsa.org](mailto:vmartel@amsa.org) with

## AMSA's Regional Conferences

Regional Conferences are local conventions held for medical students to convene and listen to speakers, work on projects and have a great time. These have become an AMSA tradition and an inspiration for various events across the country. Tell your members about these conferences and encourage everyone to attend. For the most updated schedule visit: [www.amsa.org/region/regconf.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/region/regconf.cfm).

## AMSA's Residency Fairs

Like regional conferences, AMSA also holds residency fairs. Organized and run by our local chapters, these fairs are held from the fall through the spring months each year at various schools and hospitals. Many schools like to sponsor these fairs because they are profitable events.

We promote your fairs and workshops to other medical students as well as interested residency programs across the country. For the most updated information visit: [www.amsa.org/member/resfairs.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/member/resfairs.cfm).

If you know of additional residency fairs in your area, please notify AMSA's Membership Services by emailing [members@amsa.org](mailto:members@amsa.org) or calling 1-800-767-2266.

the following information:

- 1) Number of gift cards you'll return.
- 2) The address you'd like for the return label to be mailed.

Once this information is received, Vicki will mail you a packet with everything you'll need to ship the books/gift cards back. You won't have to pay for shipping as the labels you'll receive are prepaid, but you will have to pack the books/gift cards securely and take the boxes/envelopes to a FedEx location near you.

## Extra T-shirts? What to Do?

If you have extra t-shirts to return to the national office please include that in the count of boxes you request to return your Netters/gift cards.

If your chapter has no Netters or did not participate in the Netter/Gift Card program email Vicki, [vmartel@amsa.org](mailto:vmartel@amsa.org) with the following information:

- 1) Exact number of t-shirts you will be returning.
- 2) The exact number boxes you'll use to ship the t-shirts.

## Chapter Rosters

With all your new members signing up, don't forget about our online roster feature on our Chapter Officer Resources Web page.

Registered COs can access a roster of their current chapter members online. To access your roster, go to AMSA's Chapter Officer Resource page at, [www.amsa.org/chapoff/](http://www.amsa.org/chapoff/).

This feature is available to chartered chapters and can only be accessed by officers registered in the AMSA database that have current AMSA memberships.

If you are a current chapter officer and you are not registered in the AMSA database, please go to [www.amsa.org/chapoff/chappres.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/chapoff/chappres.cfm), and complete a chapter officer update form.

If you need a chapter roster and you are not a chartered chapter, please contact AMSA's Membership and Convention Services at 1-800-767-2266 or email [members@amsa.org](mailto:members@amsa.org). Simply let us know your chapter, your name and email address and we will send you an electronic version of your roster.

## Charter Your Chapter

Starting an AMSA chapter is one thing, chartering that chapter is another. By having an AMSA chapter at your school you have taken the first step, but by becoming a chartered AMSA chapter you will be officially recognized as a part of the national AMSA organization.

New AMSA chapters are chartered once a year at the AMSA annual convention (March 2009).

January 12, 2009 is the deadline

for chartering, however you can submit your paperwork to be chartered at any time throughout the year. This January deadline is the last date to get your paperwork in to be chartered at the upcoming annual convention in March 2009. If your chapter is not able to submit the paperwork by the deadline, your chapter

will be chartered at the following AMSA convention.

Premedical students can find more information on chartering at [www.amsa.org/member/charter.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/member/charter.cfm).

International students can find more information on chartering at [www.amsa.org/member/charter.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/member/charter.cfm).

**Have a  
Happy  
Halloween!**



## NEW "MEMBERS CORNER"

Do you have success you would like to share? Suggestions for others' success? Or an issue near and dear to you that you would like to speak about and encourage other chapters to become involved both nationally and internationally? Check out our new "Members Corner" inclusion beginning in this month's *Membership Reporter*. This column will run periodically as space permits.

If you would like to submit copy for approval and inclusion in the *Membership Reporter*, email Vicki at [vmartel@amsa.org](mailto:vmartel@amsa.org) no later than the 15th of every month. Text not to exceed a total of 1,500 characters (including spaces).

Copy should be AMSA-specific and inline with AMSA's mission and values.

## MEMBERS CORNER

Hey AMSA,

This year has been filled with humongous wins on the Global HIV/AIDS front with the passing of and improvements to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), along with great acknowledgements and policy changes from the 2008 presidential candidates.

While these gains are impressive, we remain vigilant knowing our fight goes on, abroad and right here at home. Infection rates are the highest in U.S. history, and the once active, self-driven movement is losing steam. Each year new bills regarding patients rights, medication and prevention funding come up for reauthorization. Lives are hanging in the balance, and no matter what the outcome of November's elections, the mission is clear: Domestic HIV/AIDS must be addressed by our nation's leaders.

So, what is an AMSA member/officer to do? As mentioned, this is a great time for celebration and vigilance.

AMSA is not alone in our fight, nor are

any of our members. To initiate real change, we must plan early and think big! The month of November this year poses a great opportunity for chapters around the country. We hope the following will give you the ideas and strategy you need to lead a great campaign all the way until World AIDS Day, on December 1st.

On November 15th, join the AMSA Premed Chapter at the University of Iowa in a night of fun, education and awareness! Our annual AIDS Awareness Bar Crawl will challenge attendees to self educate, motivate and then take it to the streets.

This night, members will be handing out free condoms, etc., provided by Student Health Services, raising eyebrows and awareness, and making our voice heard in celebration of all our achievements... and all future accomplishments. Press will be listening, our peers will be joining, and our leaders will be listening.

Join our chapter the week of November 10th as we learn all we need,

because silence will NOT protect us. You may find the AIDS Awareness Bar Crawl event page at [shirtand-simple.com](http://shirtand-simple.com), password: *barcrawl*.

Chapters should begin to arrange t-shirt orders and sales ASAP. Add a small markup and choose a charity near you! Don't hesitate to accept donations on top or during the night. Educational materials are always available from such websites as: [www.08stopaids.org](http://www.08stopaids.org), [www.globalaidsalliance.org](http://www.globalaidsalliance.org), [faceaids.org](http://faceaids.org) and of course AMSA at [www.amsa.org/global/aids/wad.cfm](http://www.amsa.org/global/aids/wad.cfm)! Also, for the most impact, contact media outlets in advance using the online Legislative Action Center.

Please don't hesitate to contact Jim Curry at [AMSACurry@gmail.com](mailto:AMSACurry@gmail.com) with any questions. Discussion is welcome, new ideas, too! Want to choose a National t-shirt design?

In Solidarity,

Jim Curry

[AMSACurry@gmail.com](mailto:AMSACurry@gmail.com)