



news @ NAAMA

Electronic Newsletter of the National Arab American Medical Association

January 2011

MOVING NAAMA FORWARD IN 2011

Focus for 2011: Engaging our Members

Dr. Mouhanad Hammami, 2011 NAAMA president, held his first board meeting this week and laid out his agenda for the year. The theme will be: **Engaging our Members and Embracing New Members**. His agenda for 2011: 1) maintain high professional standards; 2) better communicate with members; 3) engage the next generation of members; 4) utilize tools and technology to enhance communications and operations; 5) involve the board in various committees and more activities. **In order to do that, the board created several committees with very targeted approaches and very specific goals:**

- **Membership:** to increase membership by introducing NAAMA to new people and by retaining current members
- **Cross-Organizational Relationships:** to create alliances that benefit NAAMA members with other medical societies and community organizations
- **International Convention Site Selection:** to adhere to the bylaws in the selections and execution of NAAMA's signature international conference
- **Youth Engagement:** to interest medical students, residents and fellows under 40 across the country in NAAMA's vision and mission and prepare them for active membership
- **Chapters:** to energize existing chapters and create new chapters in communities with large Arab American physician populations; to provide helpful oversight
- **Academic Affairs:** to expand NAAMA's affiliation with academic institutions and to assist with observerships, internships and externships.

If you have interest in any one of these specific areas, NAAMA can use your ideas and your help. We believe so strongly in our organization that we all want to see it grow and be relevant to Arab American physicians and other licensed healthcare professionals across the country. If you would like to add your voice to make these committees and NAAMA grow and succeed, please contact Executive Director Renée Ahee at 248-646-3661 or rahee@naama.com.

YOU SHOULD BE WITH US FOR NAAMA'S 25TH INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONVENTION

Plans are underway for the silver anniversary international medical convention for NAAMA. It was 25 years ago that NAAMA made its first venture to hold a medical convention in Iraq, working with our Arab counterparts to teach, to exchange information and protocols and to build relationships.

Dr. Mahmoud Aqel, Jordan Convention Chair, Dr. Fayez Shamoan, Jordan Scientific Chair, Dr. Nabil Sayegh, Jordan Social Chair, and Mrs. Dalal Abdallat Abuzaineh, 2011 Auxiliary Chair, have created an exciting and educational excursion to Jordan.

Here are more of the highlights:

- **Five-star rated Le Meridien Hotel Amman located in the**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME IS NOW

NAAMA Members, if you haven't renewed your membership for 2011, now's a great time. A renewal form was sent out to all members in early December. You can certainly update that form and send it with your check or credit card information OR you can renew conveniently online by [clicking here](#). It's easy to do. We'll need your correct mailing address, phone numbers (please include your cell phone number!) and e-mail address so you won't miss a thing from NAAMA.

There are many reasons why your membership in NAAMA is important. But here's the most important: We wouldn't be NAAMA without you!

For more information, please contact the NAAMA office at 248-646-3661 or naama@naama.com.

CHAPTER NEWS

DAYTON: On January 21, two new NAAMA members led the charge to establish a new NAAMA chapter in the Dayton/Cincinnati, OH, area. More than 30 physicians and pharmacists attended the dinner at Brio Italian Restaurant in Beavercreek, OH, and heard President Dr. Mouhanad Hammami and Executive Director Renée Ahee explain why NAAMA is the right professional organization for them. Montgomery County, OH, is home to the fifth largest population of Arab Americans in the state. Thanks so much to Dr. Ibrahim Ahmad and Sam Zakkour. We have already welcomed nine new members to the NAAMA family as a result!

NORTHWEST OHIO: On January 21, NAAMA members heard Dr. Afser Sharif presented "Efficiency in Healthcare: How to Improve Patient Care and Satisfaction" at Mancy's Italian Restaurant in Toledo.

center of Amman's Shmeisani commercial business and diplomatic district

- An outstanding scientific program offering up to 20 possible CME credits for the main scientific program (16) and the trip to the Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid (4). Please see below*.
- Social program that includes: Trips to Petra, Madaba, Mt. Nebo, the Dead Sea, Jerash and Wadi Rum and a shopping trip in Amman; the welcome reception and the popular Gala Dinner
- Auxiliary Program: The Auxiliary will visit such sites as Jordan University, the King Hussein Cancer Center, Abuhassan Community Center, Protection of Jordan Families Against Violence Center, Golden Age Home & Senior Center Forum, Jordanian Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center; Nazik Al Hariri Special Education Center, Prince Ali Ibn Al Hussein Deaf Club and the Jabal Al Naser Ladies Association, with lunch

***Accreditation and Designation**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the National Arab American Medical Association (NAAMA). NAAMA is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. NAAMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 20 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for the main scientific program and a maximum of 4 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for the Irbid Symposium. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Please make your plans to be with NAAMA in Jordan. The official travel agency for the Jordan Convention is Skyway International Travel. They've already booked group flights from New York and Detroit on Royal Jordanian and on Delta Airlines and can arrange small groups of more than 10 from other US cities. Please give Ginny, Laila or Jeanne a call at 248-559-2080 right away. It's the high season for travel to the Middle East. So book early!

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR, TOO:

September 2-4 in LAS VEGAS

NAAMA'S 33rd National Medical Convention will be held in



Las Vegas at the MGM Grand Hotel Labor Day weekend, September 2-4, 2011.

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CENTRAL OHIO: On January 15, the Central Ohio Chapter welcomed Dr. James Zogby, president of the Arab American Institute in Washington, DC, to La Center in Westlake for an educational program, dinner and entertainment by Tony Eid and his Band.

DC: On January 29, the DC Chapter will hold its annual gala at The Marriott Hotel, Tysons Corner, VA, with a reception, dinner and entertainment by violinist Amr Pharone. NAAMA President Dr. Mouhanad Hammami is the guest speaker.

SAN DIEGO: On January 23, the chapter met at the San Diego home of President Nabil Fatayerji for a social gathering and the election of the chapter's 2011 board of directors.

**KEEP NAAMA's
Humanitarian Mission in
Mind**

**Donate to the NAAMA
FOUNDATION**

The NAAMA Foundation is the humanitarian and charitable arm of NAAMA and it needs your support to continue its good work in the home countries of the Middle East and in Arab American communities.

The only way that can happen is through your donation to the General Fund. You can give online easily and quickly by [clicking here](#).

It's a great way to "give back" as well as add to your tax deductions!

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