

Vol. 25, No. 2 Summer 2007



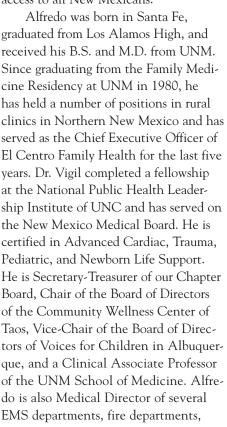
President's Column

Alfredo Viail, MD

By Bert Garrett, MD

f my calculations are correct, this will be my last column as your President. It is also the epistle in which I should

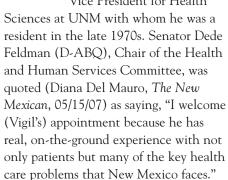
be recounting the promises I made and how close I actually got to fulfilling any of them. It was shaping up to be a short column. Then something truly miraculous occurred — one of us got appointed Secretary of Health. This column is dedicated to my good friend, Alfredo Vigil, M.D., and his dream to bring health care access to all New Mexicans.



and a PA program. His past activities would take up more space than I have left. As can be seen, Alfredo brings a

wealth of health care experience to his new task.

Because of his 30 years experience in the medical field in NM, Dr. Vigil is well-acquainted with almost everyone in the profession in the state and many across the US. He has worked particularly closely with Paul Roth, M.D., Executive Vice President for Health



As for his priorities, Alfredo lists making health care access to all New Mexicans of the highest importance. He said (ibid), "It's totally doable. The only question is, do we care enough to do it?" I for one certainly hope so and pledge to do what I can to help, but he will need the assistance of all of us. Let's get behind him. Buena suerte, mi amigo.



SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2007-2008

A Member Meeting will take place during the 50th Annual Family Medicine Seminar at the Ruidoso Convention Center on July 20, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. Nominations are as follows:

President-Elect Lana K. Wagner, M.D. will become **President** Lana K. Wagner. M.D. by automatic ascension

President-Elect: Alfredo Vigil, M.D.

Secretary-Treasurer Trey Dodson, M.D.

Vice President:

Sugar Singleton, M.D.

There will be a call for nominations from the floor. The results will be announced at the Awards Dinner and Dance, July 20, 2007, Ruidoso Convention Center, 6:30 p.m. You can register online for the Conference: www.familydoctornm.org or call Sara: (505) 292-3113.

Brown to Join ABFM Directors

am honored to be selected to serve on the Board of the American Board of Family Medicine, the certifying organization for our specialty. I am always thankful for the support that the New Mexico Chapter has given me.

I expect to attend an orientation session in the next two months and will have a better feel for the responsibility after that. I have been told that it is a lot of work, and look forward to starting. As sometimes their decisions seem heavily weighted towards academics, I hope to represent the viewpoint of practicing family docs to the ABFM.

– Arlene Brown, MD, Ruidoso, NM

In this issue...

- NMAFP's Commitment to Rural Outreach
 2007 Legislative Summary
 - Medical Students Extend Hand to Albq
 - Board Notes
- FP's Join Others to Revolutionize System

THE ROADRUNNER

NMAFP's Commitment to Rural Outreach

By Trey Dodson, M.D.

The NMCAAFP had its quarterly Board Meeting in the enchanting city of Farmington, New Mexico on April 21, 2007. The meeting itself was truly productive and included a presentation by our new lobbyist, John Anderson. He discussed several critical issues voted on in the NM State Legislature (see NM Legislative Summary in this issue). We also discussed our Chapter History Project that we plan to roll hot off the press

for our 50th Annual Family Medicine Conference on July 19th-22nd in Ruidoso.

Ten physicians from the Farmington area and fifteen Board Members from around the state participated in the two AAFP Accredited CME lectures offered by the NMAFP. Dr. Denise Minton, a Family Physician and Assistant Professor in the Division of Geriatrics at UNM, and Dr. Michele Lee, an Assistant Pro-

fessor of Family Medicine Geriatrics and Senior Health Clinic Director at UNM, presented two geriatric topics. Overall, these presentations were very well received and are representative of the commitment our Chapter has in bringing quality CME to the many rural areas of New Mexico.

If you are interested in having our Chapter bring CME to your community, please contact Sara Bittner at our head-quarters. Phone: (505) 292-3113; Email: familydoctor@newmexico.com. We look forward to seeing you in Ruidoso in July! ■



Dr. Sugar Singleton introducing Dr. Michele Lee.



Dr. Dion Gallant with wife, Kara, daughter, Sophie, and son, Theo.



Attendees and Board Members enjoying the catered dinner at San Juan College.



Dr. Bert Garrett, with wife, Judy and Dr. Karen Vaillant with husband, David.

SUMMER 2007

2007 New Mexico Legislature Summary

By Arlene Brown, MD

The New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians resurrected the "Doctor of the Day" program with the recently ended legislative session. Other than the last week of the session, when legislators met round the clock to finish their massive agenda, we provided one or two family physicians per day. Physicians were available to see legislators and their staff members, to treat minor acute illnesses and to testify if needed.

Everyone involved, including the legislature, as well as our newly hired lobbyist, John Anderson, and the New Mexico Medical Society's Executive Director and Lobbyist, Randy Marshall, agreed that the program was quite a success.

Of interest to the "house of medicine" were the following bills with their outcomes:

- 1. New Mexico succeeded in passing a state wide Clean Air Indoor Air Act. Signed by the Governor, this act prohibits smoking in any indoor workplace, indoor public place or public transit unless specifically exempted. The only exemptions were given to retail tobacco stores, cigar bars, state licensed gaming facilities (casinos), private clubs, and small business (i.e. fewer than 2 employees, with other restrictions). Hotels are allowed a certain number of smoking rooms.
- The Medical Malpractice Act was not opened. Instead a study committee, composed of 3 physicians appointed through the Medical Society and 3 attorneys appointed by the New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association will become part of a committee charged with studying the issue of liability coverage in New Mexico.
- The Tort Claims Act, covering liability for all public employees, including physicians employed at the University of New Mexico, had the liability cap raised from \$100,000 to \$200,000, with coverage for past and future medical expenses raised from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

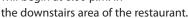
- 4. A gross receipts tax credit was enacted and signed, allowing physicians who provide uncompensated health care services while on call to a hospital to claim up to 130% of Medicaid reimbursement for such
- 5. Physicians and other practitioners who provide care in a rural, medically underserved area will be able to claim up to \$5000 in income tax credit.
- 6. Physicians will be able to deduct gross receipts tax from payments made by or on behalf of the IHS.
- 7. An additional \$52 million was appropriated (including Federal matching dollars) for Medicaid payments to providers. HSD will be meeting over the next few months to decide how to allocate the increase in payments.
- 8. \$12 million was added to Medicaid to increase eligibility to allow low income adults to be covered by Medicaid.
- 9. Efforts to expand prescribing privileges for psychologists beyond psychiatric drugs, to open prescribing privileges to chiropractors, and to allow optometrists to perform laser surgery all failed. An initiative to establish an advisory panel for evaluating such requests prior to legislative consideration also failed.

Congratulations to Dr. Dan Friedman By Greg Darrow, M.D.

The American Academy of Family Physicians has invited Dr. Dan Friedman to speak at the national meeting in October. Members attending the Taos meeting in 2006 will remember Dr. Friedman for not only his excellent lecture, "Congestive Heart Failure", but also for his skill with lyrics and guitar. He so impressed our AAFP Board Representative, Dr. Tom Weida, that his act will now be playing in Chicago. If you see Dr. Friedman, please extend hearty congratulations.

2nd Annual Med Student Reception

On Friday, September 7th, The NMAFP Board will again host a Reception for NM Medical Students at the Taj Mahal Cuisine of India Restaurant located at 1430 Carlisle NE. The Reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. in



This Reception offers the Students an opportunity to learn about this diverse specialty by visiting with FM Physicians from clinical and academic settings in both urban and rural environments. Last year's reception drew many enthusiastic medical students and Chapter Family Physicians. If you would like to attend this event and share your enthusiasm with our UNM Medical Students, please contact Sara in the NMAFP Business Office: (505) 292-3113.

Proposed Bylaws Change to Increase Resident Seats

By Felisha Rohan-Minjares, M.D.

Whereas resident: Ihereas resident involveintegral part of the continued growth and vitality of our Academy, and resident participation on the NMAFP Board of Directors contributes to residents' ability to shape the direction of Family Medicine in New Mexico, it is proposed that the number of residents sitting on the Board of Directors is increased from one to two. The ad hoc commit-

Article I, Section 9: Strike the last sentence of this article reading, "A representative shall be elected by a vote of the Resident Membership to serve on the Board of Directors". This sentence is unnecessary as the issue of the resident representative is addressed in Article IV, Section 5.

tee recommends the following changes:

Article IV, Section 5: Change to read, "Two resident members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Resident Membership of the NMAFP. At least one resident member must be from either the Northern NM Family Medicine Residency Program in Santa Fe, the Eastern NM Family Medicine Residency Program in Roswell, or the Southern NM Family Medicine Residency Program in Las Cruces."

Voting on this proposed bylaws change will occur on July 20, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. in the Ruidoso Convention Center in conjunction with the annual membership meeting of the NMAFP.



THE ROADRUNNER

Medical Students Extend Hand to Albuquerque

By Andrea Jo King, MSI

The idea of creating bags of items and resources for the homeless community in Albuquerque was born after a member from the Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) at the UNM School of Medicine heard an inspirational talk given at the American Academy of Family Physician's national convention. The project was given to a group of first year medical students in FMIG to make the idea a reality. The Community Care Bags Project was created and 100 bags have been disseminated thus far.

We envision our project to be an ongoing, year-round service designed to benefit the "needy" in Albuquerque and its surrounding areas. By creating "care bags", which contain various nonperishable goods, sanitation items and resource information, FMIG hopes to improve overall community health and provide students a way to reach out to those less privileged. Care bags will be a free, non-monetary, alternative way, to give to those in need. Through these care bags we hope to show those in need that we are concerned about them, their health and their livelihood and want to provide them with the available resources in Albuquerque.

Our first set of 100 bags included a bottle of water, a granola bar, fruit snacks, peanut butter crackers, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, a toothbrush, toothpaste, condoms, and a Healthcare for the Homeless resource list of shelters, food services, job services, and the like. The bags were given to medical students and staff from the Department of Family Medicine to keep in their cars to hand out as they were driving around. The response from disseminators has been nothing but excitement and support for the project. Personally, I gave out three in the first two days I had them! The first person I gave a bag to was a gentleman who immediately pulled out the water bottle and drank half of it as it was a very hot day and the second person was a woman who divulged her appreciation because of the thought we had put into the bags. Another student told me their story regarding a gentleman who had shared his life experiences and continued to tell her how he appreciated her noticing him. Albeit a small gesture, the bags are opening communication between community members that might not normally ensue.

We have big dreams for the con-

tinuation of this project. We'd like to include items such as bus tokens, white socks, sunscreen, and band aids. The first set of bags was created solely from the generosity of donors (both in goods and money from a bake sale), but in order for the project to grow we will be applying for grant funds as well as asking for sustained donations from the community. The officers of FMIG have also submitted an abstract concerning this project which was ultimately accepted and can now be presented at The Network Towards Unity for Health Conference in Uganda in September of 2007.

Our Care Bags Committee plans to make another 200 bags before the middle of June, 2007. We will have an information hand out day to educate the UNM Health Sciences Center (UNM HSC) community and give out bags for distribution by students, staff, or faculty. That will be followed by a community hand out day where a group of medical students will go out in the community to distribute bags together at a community food service organization. FMIG hopes to educate the UNM HSC community about the needy in Albuquerque as well as show the community we care about their overall health.

FMIG Care Bag Committee would like to thank its donors:

UNM Dental Hygiene School

Prohaska & Buttner Orthodontists

Best Western Executive (Pan American Freeway)

Hilton (University Ave)

Howard Johnson Express Inn (Pan American Freeway)

Hilton Garden Inn (Yale Ave)

Courtyard Marriott (Journal Center Blvd)

State of New Mexico Department of Health (Stanford Dr)

Bitter Creek Guest Ranch (Red River, NM)



Care Bag Committee members assemble the inaugural set of 100 Care Bags on a Saturday morning. Medical students from left to right: Erin Corriveau, Monica Moya, Melissa Valdez, Andrea King, and Lauren Rasmussen.

SUMMER 2007 5

New Mexico Chapter, American Academy of Family Physicians Board Members, 2007

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Article_DrBertka.pdf.

Medicare's New Quality Initiative

If you have wondered about the federal interest in improving quality, there is a source available. Written by a Family Physician in Ohio, Dr. Ken Bertka's article may be found at:

http://www.ohioafp.org/wfmu/docs/PQRI_

Board Notes

April 21, 2007

San Juan Community College, Farmington, NM

- Felisha Rohan-Minjares, MD (Family Medicine resident at UNM) reported that the first Family Medicine Resident Council has met, and requested that the Board consider providing an additional slot for resident representation on the Board. A committee of the Board will fashion a Bylaws change proposal for the next Board meeting.
- Bridget Lynch, MSII, reported that the UNM Family Medicine Interest Group for medical students has been enthusiastic and quite active, electing new officers, while retaining the guidance of former officers. They have applied for a grant from the AAFP to further their projects. The principal initiative is an outreach to high school students in rural areas to interest them in medical careers, especially Family Medicine. Erin Corriveau, Bridget Lynch, Mark Garcia and Marianna Santiago have been the leaders in this project.
- Dr. Dan Derksen will be vacating his seat on the Board as well as his AAFP Delegate position to participate in a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship in Washington D.C. this next year. The Board approved Rick Madden, MD as his replacement for a two year term.
- There will be a medical student reception in early September again this year (see accompanying article on page 3).
- Dr. Sugar Singleton was nominated for Vice-President of the Chapter. Officer elections will take place during the July conference in Ruidoso.
- The Chapter History Project is proceeding, with hopes the book will be ready for the July Ruidoso meeting.
- The Board revisited the three top priorities for our Chapter for the next three years: legislative and health care policy advocacy; pipeline development for students to enter Family Medicine, and rural outreach. The Doctor of the Day program, the FMIG project, and

the rotation of Board meetings around the state all address these goals.

- Dr. Sally Bachofer brought the good news that all NM Family Medicine Programs are full as a result of the national match.
- Mr. John Anderson, our lobbyist at this year's state legislature gave a report on the session, and will help prepare us in advance for next year's session (summary article on page 3). Arlene Brown, MD organized the resurrected Doctor of the Day at the session, and it was a great success, staffed by Family Physicians. We expect this to bear even more fruit in future years.
- Dr. Byron Beddo will be honored posthumously with an official Resolution at this year's national AAFP Congress of Delegates in Chicago in October.
- Next Board meeting: July 21, 2007 at the Ruidoso Convention Center.

6

America's Family Physicians Join Major Employers and Other Physicians to Revolutionize America's Health Care System

Employers of 50 Million, Physician Groups of 330,000 Form Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative

LEAWOOD, Kan. - The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) joined other national primary care physician groups and corporate employers today to announce the formation of the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (PCPCC). The Collaborative brings together physicians, employers and consumers to encourage reform of America's health care system based on a model of care called the patient-centered medical home. This model would transform how primary care is organized and financed to provide better outcomes to patients; more appropriate payment to physicians; and better value, accountability and transparency to purchasers and consumers.

"In a health care environment where there is a growing unease among patients and employers alike about the rising costs and declining quality of health care, America's family physicians believe every patient should have a personal medical home – a trusted source of primary care," said Rick Kellerman, MD, President of the AAFP.

The patient-centered medical home model promises value not only to patients but to the health care system as a whole. Unlike the current system, which rewards high-volume, over-specialized and inefficient care, the patient-centered medical home is based on the premise that the best health care has a strong primary care foundation and strives for quality and efficiency. Most importantly, it returns the focus back to the patient and is built by an on-going relationship between a patient and his or her personal physician.

The patient-centered medical home model is based on research that shows the best care is not episodic and illness-oriented – it is patient-centered, physicianguided, on-going and cost-efficient.

The views of the Collaborative were revealed in a joint statement submitted for the record at a hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health on reform of Medicare physician payments.

At the same hearing, Kellerman said in testimony, "It is time to stabilize and

modernize Medicare by recognizing the importance of, and appropriately valuing, primary care and by embracing the patient-centered medical home model as an integral part of the Medicare program."

In a patient-centered medical home:

- the patient is at the center of care and the practice is organized according to the needs of the patient;
- the personal physician leads a team of health care professionals who collectively take responsibility for the ongoing care of the patient;
- the personal physician helps the patient navigate the complex and confusing health care system, coordinating and facilitating care with other qualified medical professionals;
- care is integrated across all care settings practices, hospitals, nursing homes, consultants and other components of the complex health care network to assure patients get the right care when and where they need it;
- information technology and patient registries help facilitate the safe and secure exchange of information. Information technology is also used to support optimal patient care, performance measurement, patient education and enhanced communication;
- the practice provides enhanced and convenient access to care not only through face-to-face visits, but also via telephone, e-mail and other modes of communication. For the convenience of patients, practices also offer open scheduling (whereby physicians leave a portion of their daily schedule open for same-day appointments) and expanded office hours; and
- there is a focus on safety and quality of care. Evidence-based medicine guides clinical decision making, and physicians use point-of-care decision support tools. The practice voluntarily measures health outcomes to gauge quality of care and demonstrate patients' continuous improvement.

Through May 8, members included: Physicians: the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of



Physicians, and the American Osteopathic Association, collectively representing 330,000 physicians and medical students that deliver primary care services nationwide; Other Health Care Organizations: the National Association of Community Health Centers, representing more than 1,000 Federally Qualified Health Centers which serve 16 million people in medically under-served communities through 5,000 sites; Business: The ERISA Industry Committee, Exelon Corp, General Motors, IBM, National Business Group on Health, Walgreens Strategic Health Initiatives, and Wyeth, representing companies that employ over 50 million Americans, and the HR Policy Association representing the vice presidents of human resources of major American companies.

Several major consumer and patient advocacy groups, and additional employer and physician groups, are expected to join the Collaborative in the near future.

* * *

Founded in 1947, the AAFP represents nearly 94,000 physicians and medical students nationwide. It is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care.

Nearly one in four of all office visits are made to family physicians. That is 207 million office visits each year – nearly 62 million more than to the next medical specialty. Today, family physicians provide the majority of care for America's underserved and rural populations.

In the increasingly fragmented world of health care where many medical specialties limit their practice to a particular organ, disease, age or sex, family physicians are dedicated to treating the whole person across the full spectrum of ages. Family medicine's cornerstone is an ongoing, personal patient-physician relationship focused on integrated care.

SUMMER 2007

- THE 50TH ANNUAL -

New Mexico Academy of Family Physicians Family Medicine Seminar

July 19-22, 2007 • Lodge at Sierra Blanca & Ruidoso Convention Center Bert Garrett, M.D., Scientific Program Chair

26 Prescribed Credits

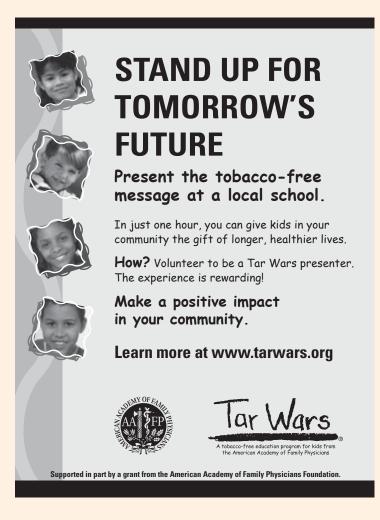
Friday, July 20th (cont.) Thursday, July 19 Sunday, July 22 8:00 a.m. Registration, Exhibits Open 12:00 p.m....Lunch – Exhibit Hall 9:30 a.m.Introduction & Welcome 1:00 p.m......"HPV and Adolescent Immunizations" 8:00 a.m. "The Impact on Language Development & Family Louis Kuritzky, M.D. Bonding with Early Literacy Promotion in the Pediatric Population of the FM Residency Clinic" 10:00 a.m. "Breast & GYN Cancer, Diagnosis & Treatment" 2:00 p.m. "Vulvar Conditions, Pelvic Organ Prolapse, Madel Villegas, M.D. 9:00 a.m. "Tackling Triple Threat of Obesity, Diabetes Marco Duarte, M.D., OBGYN 11:00 a.m. "Restless Leg Syndrome: Diagnosis & and Cardiovascular Disease: Using Technology Treatment Strategies for the Primary 3:00 p.m.....Break – Exhibit Hall to Educate Students, Train Residents and **EB**CME 3:30 p.m. "Neuropsychological Testing" Improve Outcomes in Medically Underserved Tom Wulf, M.D. Tom Thompson, Ph.D. and Robert Mayfield, Ph.D. Areas of New Mexico" 12:00 p.m.....Lunch (Exhibit Hall) Conditional Prescribing Psychologist Elizabeth Nelson, M.D. and Nicole Scally, M.D. 4:30 p.m. "Communication with Legislators – 10:00 a.m.....Break - Exhibit Hall 1:00 p.m. "Causes & Care of Urticaria" Talking Your Walk Stanislaus Ting, M.D. 10:30 a.m. "Atypical Antipsychotics & Weight Gain: A Diana Ewert, MPA, CAE Case Study' 2:00 p.m. "Care of the Newborn" 6:30 - 9:30 Awards Dinner & Dance, Convention Center Cesar Lirio, M.D. Catherine Torres, M.D. Special Guest, Dr. Larry Fields, AAFP Board Chair 11:30 a.m....."Improving the Cardiovascular Health of 3:00 p.m. Break (Exhibit Hall) Latinas: An Evidence-Based and 3:30 p.m. "Care of Fractures in the Office" Community-Focused Approach Valentin Antoci, M.D. Saturday, July 21 Felisha Rohan-Minjares, M.D. and Caline Cone, M.D. 4:30 p.m. "What to Do Before Referring to a Cardiologist" 7:30 a.m. Registration, Exhibits Open 12:30 p.m.....Drawing for Door Prizes Craig Cannon, M.D. 8:00 a.m. "What Do You Mean ICD-10? (Must be present to win) 6-8:00 p.m. Welcome Reception I Can't Code ICD-9.. Julie Appleton, CCS-P, CPC, CPC-H Lodge at Sierra Blanca Introduction of Candidates for Office 9:00 a.m. "Dodging the Malpractice Bullet" Alfredo Vigil, M.D., FAAFP 10:00 a.m.....Break – Exhibit Hall Friday, July 20 7:30 a.m. Registration, Exhibits Open Selection, Implementation & Use' Patricia Montoya, MPA, BSN and 8:00 a.m. "Lipid Therapy to Reduce the Risk" Mark Gottlieb, Ph.D. Kathleen Hales, M.D. 11:30 a.m....."Telehealth: Closing the Gaps in Health 9:00 a.m. "Update on Atopic Dermatitis" Care Access, Education, Knowledge and James Kerner, M.D., Ph.D. Research" 10:00 a.m.....Break – Exhibit Hall Dale Alverson, M.D. 10:30 a.m. "Infectious, Pre-malignant & Cancerous Skin 12:30 p.m.....NMAFP Board Meeting EBCME **Board Members Only** Louis Kuritzky, M.D. Remainder of Afternoon at ..NMAFP Member Meeting – Lecture Hall Leisure for Registrants Voting for 2007-2008 Officers REGISTRATION FORM, 50th Annual NMAFP Family Medicine Seminar — Please mail to: NMCAAFP Educational Fund, 4425 Juan Tabo NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Tou may also register online: www.familydoctornm.org Please Print Clearly

NAME ADDRESS PHONE FMAII **Payment** Hotel Information: The Lodge at Sierra Blanca & Ruidoso Convention Center AAFP Member Practicing Physician \$375 The Lodge at Sierra Blanca, located in beautiful Ruidoso, New Mexico, is surrounded by towering pines, invigorated by mountain breezes and neighbor Non-Member Practicing Physician \$500 to the Links at Sierra Blanca Golf Course and Ruidoso Convention Center. NP/PA/Nurse (please indicate title) \$300 Amenities offered by the Lodge at Sierra Blanca are: Full hot complimentary breakfast daily, fitness center, Ruidoso's largest indoor heated pool and Retired Physician \$100 Jacuzzi and a brand new business center, where guests can check emails, Family Medicine Resident (no charge) make copies and send a fax. _Medical Student (no charge) Address: 107 Sierra Blanca, Ruidoso, NM 88345 Yes, I want to sponsor a student attendee \$40 E-mail address: info@lodgeatsierrablanca.com Website: www.lodgeatsierrablanca.com Extra tickets for Friday Dinner & Dance We recommend that you reserve early to get the type of room you want. A _children (5-12) x \$15 = ____ (children under 4 are free) room block will be held until June 19th, so please make your reservations _adults x \$30 = _ before this date. After this date, rooms will be on a space-available basis. Reservations: 505-258-5500 or 1-866-211-7727.

_TOTAL ENCLOSED (Meals and Entertainment are FREE to all Registrants)

New Mexico Chapter
American Academy of Family Physicians

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The Roadrunner

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New Mexico Chapter web site address: www.familydoctornm.org

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