



Spring 2010

RIPA Reporter

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island Pharmacists Association

From the President



Daniel J. Rowan

Just as in the national healthcare arena, the role of a pharmacist is undergoing a major transformation, even right here in Rhode Island. Pharmacists helped propel RI to be recognized by the CDC as having the highest rates of H1N1 immunizations in the country with over 429,000 Rhode Islanders vaccinated. As we contune into Spring, we will build on this sucess. The month of May will be important for pharmacists in Rhode Island. On Wednesday, May 5th, from 3-5pm, the RIPA will head to the State House to showcase our profession. RIPA will be partnering with RISHP and the URI College of Pharmacy to demonstrate pharmacists' healthcare

expertise and their value to improve patient safety, control cost and to improve patient outcomes. Immunizing pharmacists will also be on hand to speak about the tremendous role we played during the 2009-2010 influenza season. On May 26th Our Annual Spring Seminar "Updates in Pharmacy: Re-Invigorate Your Practice" includes exciting topics which are becoming more prominent in pharmacy practice across the nation. Since we know licensure deadlines are approaching, RIPA has made sure that this program will meet your immunization and law CE requirements.

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June will, as usual, be a busy month and the culmination of a great year. On Monday, June 14, we will be hitting the links at the Montaup Country Club in Portsmouth, RI for the 12th annual RIPP Golf Outing. This fun event will provide an opportunity to re-connect with friends in the pharmacy community while supporting the RI Pharmacy Foundation through participation or sponsorship. A few days later, Amalfi Restaurant in Narragansett will be the scenic venue for this year's President's Dinner on June 18th. We will honor our colleagues for their great accomplishments and celebrate our profession. It will also be the night of the much anticipated RIPA Raffle ticket drawing. This is the primary fundraiser for the RIPA and we need your help to sell as many tickets as possible. If you haven't gotten your ticket yet, let us know!

As we look to the future, we will continue to rely on YOU, the membership, to help shape and transform the Rhode Island Pharmacists Association to ensure we are supporting all members in the association and representing the pharmacists in Rhode Island. Strategic planning sessions will be initiated in the near future to ensure RIPA continues to effectively promote your mission to provide the best healthcare possible for your patients, while being adequately compensated for your services. Like other successful organizations in Rhode Island, our strength is in our membership, and our ability to present one voice for pharmacy.

Professionally Yours,

Daniel J. Rowan, RPh.

President, Rhode Island Pharmacist Association

Officers of RIPA

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Daniel J. Rowan

President-Elect

Kelley Sanzen

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Linda Carver

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Communications

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Continuing Education

Kimberly McDonough

Constitution and By-laws

Heather Larch

Finance

Robert Tortolani

Legislative/PAC

Susan DelMonico

Membership

Lisa Rodriguez

Nominations

Linda Carver

Third Party

David Feeney

Executive Director

Jack Hutson

The Year Ahead - We Need You

As the end of this year is rapidly approaching, I'm energized about the year ahead of us and am looking forward to a busy and productive year!

RIPA has several exciting projects and goals already established for this upcoming year. The NASPA grant is in full motion and we'll be working diligently to accomplish our mission of increasing pneumococcal vaccine rates here in Rhode Island and enhancing the public's awareness about this vaccine throughout the year. We already have many pharmacists signed up to take part in this ground breaking project however, if you are interested, contact the RIPA office.

In addition, we will continue to fight legislatively to retain our position as a key component of the healthcare team and to be reimbursed fairly and appropriately for our knowledge and skills. We have been and will continue to build relationships with key decision makers and stakeholders in the state in order to accomplish these goals but the only way we will succeed is with a strong association that has the support and involvement of everyone.

I hope that you will continue your membership with RIPA and be an active participant within the organization. Please come to our meetings, visit our website regularly (www.ripharmacists.org), join our groups on Facebook and Linked In, and participate in our many activities throughout the year. We want to hear from everyone. There is indeed strength in numbers and we need for our voices to be heard loud and clear in order to continue advancing our wonderful profession. I am looking forward to the year ahead and everything that it holds for us!

Professionally Yours,



Kelley Doherty Sanzen, Pharm.D.
President-Elect



12th Annual Rhode Island Pharmacist Foundation Golf Outing

Monday - June 14, 2010
Montaup Country Club, Portsmouth, RI

Registration: 11:00 am to Noon
Buffet Lunch: Noon -12:45pm
Shotgun start 1:00 pm

Donation: \$150.00 per player/\$600 per foursome
(Includes: Golf, golf cart, team and individual prizes, lunch & dinner)

SPONSORSHIPS WELCOME!

Come enjoy an afternoon of fun and networking
with friends and colleagues

Spring Seminar 2010

"Updates in Pharmacy: Re-Invigorate Your Practice"

6 Hours of Knowledge Based
Continuing Education Credit
Includes two (2) hours of CE Law Credit
and one (1) hour of Immunization Credit

**Wednesday, May 26, 2010
8:00 am to 4:45 pm
Crowne Plaza - Warwick**

Member - Full Day and Lunch \$90.00
Non-Member - Full Day and Lunch \$135.00
**Pharmacy Technicians are welcome
at 1/2 the above fees**

Topics Include:

Diabetes Update
Anti-psychotic Collaborative
Oral Chemotherapy Agents
Immunization Update
HiTech and Health Care Reform
Rhode Island State Law Update

www.ripharmacists.org for more information
or call 401-737-2600

136th Rhode Island Pharmacists Association President's Dinner

Friday, June 18, 2010
6:00pm

Amalfi's at The Village Inn
Narragansett RI

Please make a point to join us for a special evening to honor outgoing RIPA President **Dan J. Rowan** for his tireless efforts on behalf of every member and the profession of Pharmacy. We will also take time to recognize 9 colleagues for their above average commitment to the profession of pharmacy as well as install **Kelley Doherty Sanzen** as the 2010-2011 President, and the 2010-2011 Council of Administration.

THE RIPA RAFFLE

Help support the Association that works to support your Profession
and you may win a nice start to your Summer!



What could you do with an extra \$5000? We're sure you
can come up with a few ideas!

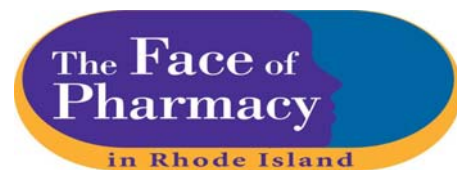
ONLY 250 tickets sold so your chances are pretty good. Either
way you support the ongoing efforts of YOUR association to improve
the profession of Pharmacy for all.
Drawing held at 10pm at President's Dinner

First Prize	\$5000
Second Prize	\$1000
Third Prize	\$500
Fourth Prize	\$250
Fifth Prize	\$250
Sixth Prize	\$250

Fill out the attached flyer to get yours today!

PLEASE JOIN US!

*Face of
Pharmacy in
Rhode Island*



May 5, 2010
State House Rotunda
3PM- 5PM
 Exhibits & Legislative Visits

*More faces make a louder voice
and we need to be heard!*
WE NEED YOU!

As always, The Rhode Island Pharmacists Association has been very active throughout this year addressing issues facing our profession. While we are still busy with work at the State House, below are some highlights of this year's hard work. Our message however, is less effective if isn't supported by the practitioners it benefits. It is for **THIS** reason **YOUR** involvement is critical. **Join us on May 5th!!**

Legislative Session Focus 2010	RIPA Response
<p>Amendment to Bill allowing pharmacists to immunize (H7340 S2285) <i>Bill lowering the age requirements for immunizations administered by pharmacists to 9 years old.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided testimony to support the bill. • Met with key House and Senate legislators to confirm their support. • Including this legislation in our Issues Packet for Face of Pharmacy.
<p>E-prescribing Bill (H7365) <i>Bill requiring all practitioners involved in patient care shall establish and maintain e-prescribing systems as specified by January 1, 2012.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testified to support the bill at House Corporations hearing. • Stressed patient safety and pharmacy efficiency as benefits of the legislation. • Collaborated with DOH Director Gifford to support bill. • Confired with those in opposition to the bill.
<p>Posting Prices of Top 20 Prescriptions (H7871)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill changes existing "Top 10" statute to top 20 • Requires monthly reporting to DOH • Requires DOH to construct website to post prices of all pharmacies • Imposes fines and price cannot change without website change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testified at House Corporations hearing. • Noted during testimony that DOH has not had the manpower capacity to update the Top 10 drugs since 2007. • Noted staffing and budget at DOH will be an impediment to website updating and price fluctuations. • Noted that patients already can call pharmacy to check prices.
Reimbursement Issues	RIPA Action
<p>Pharmacists Administration of Vaccines <i>Administration fees are not reimbursable under most Rhode Island private insurance plans</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Health Commissioner Koller and Direcor Gifford to assess inclusion of "Pharmacist" in the definition of provider. • Research presented during these meetings highlighted reimbursement activities in other states. • Activities which include meetings with health insurance companies and key legislators will continue.

SPRING EVENTS REGISTRATION FORM

Spring Seminar - "Updates in Pharmacy: Re-Invigorate
Your Practice" - Wednesday, May 26, 2010

- Member - Full Day and Lunch \$90.00
 - Non-Member - Full Day and Lunch \$135.00
- Pharmacy Technicians are welcome at 1/2 the above fees

12th Annual Golf Outing - Monday, June 14, 2010

- Golf, lunch & dinner - \$150 Tee sign - \$125
- Please send me a Corporate Sponsorship form

136th President's Dinner - Friday, June 18, 2010

- Please send me a Program Book Sponsorship form
(President's Dinner invitations to be sent separately)

RIPA Annual Drawing - Friday, June 18, 2010

- I would like _____ raffle tickets at \$100.00 each

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

- CHECK VISA MASTER CARD

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: RI PHARMACY FOUNDATION, 1643 WARWICK AVENUE, PMB 113, WARWICK, RI 02889
(401) 737-2600 MAIL OR FAX FORM TO - 401-737-0959



R.I. Pharmacists Association
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Warwick, RI 02889