March 18, 2013

As part of “Hill Day” the Council of Chapter Representatives meant on March 18, 2012 in Washington, D.C. beginning at 2:00 PM.

1. Welcome/Open meeting: Dona Upson 2:00 PM
Roll call determined there were representatives present from Arizona, Colorado, DC-Metro, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, New York, and Washington. Linda Nicci, CCR Chair from Rhode Island, was delayed by weather and attended by conference call.

2. ATS Leadership Update 2:15pm
Presentations were given by Monica Kraft, ATS president, and Steven Crane, ATS executive director. Highlights of their presentations included –
   - A discussion of hospitalists eligibility for critical care boards
   - The ATS bottom line
     - Positive beginning in 2010 and growing in 2011 and 2012.
     - Reserves have also increased (about 2/3 of a year).
   - Ken Adler will serve 3 more years as editor of the “Red Journal”
   - Annals of the ATS will be published shortly. It is hoped to be clinician friendly.
   - A 3 year core curriculum aligned to ABIM’s exam has been posted on the ATS website.
   - 2013 International Meeting
     - Over 5000 abstracts (1500 more than ERS and 3-4000 more than ACCP
     - 40% of revenue comes from ATS meeting
     - Registration down about 12% compared to San Francisco
   - Some drop in membership in 2013 attributed to the meeting not in San Francisco and Hurricane Sandy delayed processing applications-expect numbers to rise
   - ATS webinars have had over 1200 participants
   - 8000 are following ATS on Facebook and Twitter
   - ATS developing bridge funding for NIH grantees because of sequestration
   - ALL money given to the ATS Foundation goes for research-no administrative costs

3. Chapter Activity Update 2:40pm
   - A handout was distributed with the 2012-13 Chapter Educational Meetings
   - A brief discussion was held of the Chapter publications from Arizona and California
   - Some inactive chapters showing renewed interest
   - A brief discussion of ALA relationship and administration
4. **Outstanding Clinician Award (OCA) 3:00pm**
   - The 2013 OCA finalists were from AZ, NM, WA
   - The ATS OCA for 2013 is Allen Thomas, MD, Arizona

5. **Committee Updates by CCR reps 3:15pm**
   - Verbal/written updates from CCR reps on committees they cover
     - Clinicians Advisory-Chris Fukui
     - Education-Linda Nici
     - Ethics and Conflict of Interest-Anthony Scardella
     - Health Policy-Dona Upson
     - Planning and Evaluation-Carol Welsh
     - Quality Improvement-Chris Fukui Wilhelm
     - Research Advocacy-Rajesh Bhagat
     - Training-Rajesh Bhagat

6. **Advocacy Update - 3:45pm**
   - Gary Ewart, ATS lobbyists, presented an advocacy update. Highlights included:
     - Advocacy by CCR
     - A review of the list of chapter ‘advocacy’ champions (CCR)
     - An open discussion other (potential) advocacy initiatives

7. **Future Activity/Additional Role of CCR 4:25pm**
   - Linda Nicci made a presentation.
   - Highlights of the discussion included
     - Increased CCR presence at International Conference
     - Officers to commit to times in Clinicians Center and Fellows Center.
     - Review of CCR brochure
     - CCR/ATS Foundation Partnership
     - Report on CCR involvement with Better Breathing Alliance

8. **Great Cases Symposium at International Conference – organized by CCR 4:50pm**
   - A reminder and a brief discussion was held of the Great Cases Symposium Organized by CCR: Session A83: Great Cases: Clinical, Radiologic and Pathologic Correlations by Master Clinicians

9. **CCR Meeting date in Philadelphia 4:55pm**
   - A CCR meeting will be held in Philadelphia on Saturday, May 18 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM.

10. **There being no further business the meeting was adjourned 5:00pm**

    **March 19, 2013**
1. **Presentations** were made by James Kiley, Director of the Division of Lung Diseases, and several staff from Congressional including the Veterans Affairs and research related committees from 8 AM-10 AM.

2. **Meetings with Congressional representatives** were held throughout the day. The offices were presented with handouts advocating (Click on title to be directed to the handouts)
   - Opposition to the “Cigar Bill” (H.R. 792)
   - Repeal and replacement of the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate Factor (SGR)
   - Urging Congress to provide $32 billion for the National Institutes of Health for fiscal year 2014.

Meetings with Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado representatives included:

**Arizona**
- Michael Nelson from the Office of Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ)
- Christopher Bowlin from the Office of Senator John McCain (R-AZ)
- Lliam Morrison from the Office of Representative Matt Salmon (R-AZ)
- Laurie Ellington from the Office of Representative Ed Pastor (D-AZ)

**New Mexico**
- Sandra Wilkniss from the Office of Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
- Representative Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM) and Kristin Palmer from her office
- Lauren Arias from the Office of Tom Udall (R-NM)

**Colorado**
- Representative Michael Coffman (R-CO and sponsor of the HR 792 tobacco bill) and legislative assistant Stephen Beck
- Jacquelyn White, health policy fellow from the office of representative Dianna DeGette (D-CO)
- Kristen Joyce legislative correspondent from the office of senator Mark Udall (D-CO)
- Rina Shah, legislative fellow from the office of senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)
- Morning coffee with Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)

3. **A dinner debriefing** was held later that evening to discuss the advocacy efforts.

Richard A. Robbins, MD
Arizona CCR Representative