



# CANS

# NEWSLETTER

California Association of Neurological Surgeons

Volume 36 Number 11

November 2009

## President's Message

*William L. Caton III, M.D.*

As we approach the New Year of 2010, the problems of our expanding debt and rising national unemployment, the persistent irresponsibility of our major financial institutions, the Afghanistan war, its expansion and funding, social issues such as Cap-and-Trade agreements and our continued interaction with our fellow countries in the world, the Health Care Insurance Reform remains critical in the center of the minds of US citizens and Congress.

As there are many weighty issues as we anticipate the New Year, the areas of discussion that certainly greatest affects our future and our personal greatest stake is that of discussion of the Health Care Reform and Health Care Insurance Reform.

Certainly, our national medical organizations such as the AMA have not been representative of neurosurgeons in general and certainly not of the positions of California neurosurgeons, but unfortunately, they act as if they speak for all of the physicians in the United States including us.

Our own State Society, the California Medical Association (CMA), recently stated a position for California physicians. The CMA did indeed point out some of the significant problems; however, with so many complex issues on review, no simple solution is to be found.

The House and the Senate remain at odds. No one is certain which governing body will prevail or even if a compromise solution can be found. Certainly, too much dissention is present with secret deals being made in these institutions. Some of these have become public knowledge. As they do, it becomes more distressing for the physicians and patients around the country to realize that decisions are being made in rather whimsical fashion.

With over 2000 pages in the current House Bill, very few have had a significant understanding of the details of these plans. The recent CMA synopsis of one page was of help, but there are so many difficulties in reviewing the conflicting points within the legislation that supporting this legislation would be quite unwise. No one has any significant idea of the Senate plans as they are still being molded. Certainly, no one expects the Senate to be any wiser than the House. Whether or not a compromise solution can be made that is workable and realistic remains to be seen.

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## **CANS Annual Meeting**

***HEALTH CARE REFORM 2010 -CHAOS OR PROGRESS?***

**January 15-17 2010, Anaheim, CA**

Make plans now to attend the Annual Meeting in Disneyland. Meeting schedule and registration forms are included at the end of this newsletter. Room reservations (\$209 per night) as well as discounted tickets to Disneyland@Resort can be made by accessing <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/CANS>.

### **Weekend Highlights:**

Friday night Welcoming Reception

Saturday Socioeconomic Meeting

Saturday night Banquet and Award presentation to **Donald P. Becker, M.D.**

Sunday 3-hour QME Work Comp course

In view of our concerns as neurosurgeons of California, I have asked several of our neurosurgical colleagues to discuss the current issues and their interpretation of what the legislation holds at our upcoming annual meeting in January. In particular, I have asked that they break down the current bills and reflect upon what will be in store for the neurosurgeons in California and the patients in California as well.

I do anticipate that many, if not all of us, will disagree with the various congressional proposals. It will be important for us to know, however, the expectations of Congress and whether indeed we wish to participate or withdraw from the future Health Care arena. As many neurosurgeons in California approach retirement age, I suspect indeed that many will opt for that as the solution rather than going into the unknowns of the current legislation.

At this time, the idea of a contract between physicians and their patients is under assault by the House Bill and indeed may not survive the Health Care legislation changes. Strong and wealthy lobbies are engaging Congress. The lonely neurosurgeon does not have any say in the outcome at this time.

As I have looked at the problems looming for the individual neurosurgeon, I thought it would be wise to have input from some of our legislators who have been concerned about physicians and their patients throughout their legislative careers. We will have the opportunity to hear Tom Campbell, gubernatorial candidate for the Republicans and a former congressman, who has been very supportive of physicians and their need to bargain together. Tom will share with us his insights and suggestions.

We will also have the opportunity to interact with Adam Schiff, a current congressman and a Blue Dog democrat. Adam will be quite willing to hear our concerns as he shares with us his thoughts on how we may gain further input into the legislative system.

Jack Lewin, M.D. has been a regular visitor to the White House in the past year. He has the opportunity to deal one-on-one with President Obama and has had frequent visits with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius. Jack represents the American College of Cardiology and his input has been solicited by the Obama administration. Jack will share with us his ideas for the future.

Troy Tippett, M.D., President of the American Association of Neurosurgeons, will be another welcome guest at our meeting. He has had the opportunity to speak nationally on many issues affecting neurosurgery and will share them with us.

Whether or not we have any say in the outcome of the molding of the Health Care legislation, we certainly need to know as much as possible as to what is expected of us and what is expected of our participation. We must not forget that hospitals and their emergency rooms cannot run without the presence of neurological surgeons. We are in a unique position to make our opinions known on a regional and national basis. Certainly, the overall health care system cannot function without us. Whether or not we wish to take this active stance is also uncertain. However, the more we know about the changes in the system the better we will be able to make these decisions.

In the afternoon of our Saturday meeting, I anticipate that one of our panels will bring up the role of neurosurgery and discuss our activities in the Health Care arena.

To expand upon the problems facing our society in a more general fashion, we have two outstanding speakers to address these issues. James Rothenberg, President of Capital Resources Management Group, will discuss the role of financial markets and institutions and its effect on our Health Care system and its financial stability. Jim also serves as the treasurer of Harvard. His advice has been solicited by our government institutions for many years.

At our luncheon on Saturday, Jean-Lou Chameau, the President of California Institute of Technology, will speak about the impact of the fiscal crisis in the United States and its effect on future research and science of undergraduate and graduate education in general, and in particular, at Cal-Tech, one of the most prestigious universities in the United States.

**Attention: QME**

**QME Seminar, Sunday January 17, 2010  
Presented by Livingstone-Lopez Consulting**

This course fulfills 3 of the 6-hour annual requirement for continuing education for current QMEs.

There will be presentations by two attorneys: Jeffrey Adelson, in private practice, and David Kizer from the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

Dana Livingstone Lopez has coordinated numerous work comp courses for CANS in the past and is pleased to also offer a home-study option for the remaining 3, 6 or 9 credits you may need.

See registration form included in this newsletter.

Our final panel discussion in the afternoon of our meeting will include three CANS members, an administrator of one of the major hospitals in southern California, and a leading HMO executive to discuss the impact of the upcoming changes and how these changes are going to affect us in our daily practices in the hospital and with the insurance and Health Care carriers that we deal with on a regular basis.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Grand Californian Hotel in Disneyland on the Martin Luther King holiday weekend (January 15-17, 2010). We have an opening reception Friday evening and a banquet Saturday evening where Donald Becker, M.D. will be presented with CANS highest honor, the Pevehouse Award for Distinguished Neurosurgery. Our general meeting will be Saturday and a 3-hour continuing education course for Qualified Medical Evaluators (QMEs) will be presented Sunday morning.

I look forward to all of us meeting together. ❖

## **The Annual Medicare Crapshoot**

*Randall W. Smith, M.D., Editor*

**U**nless you have been on the Moon, you know that the Medicare fee schedule is due for a major drop on January 1<sup>st</sup> going from the current \$36/RVU down to \$28. At that level, the compensation will be less than what it takes many practices to turn out an RVU. The House of Representatives is trying to address this intolerable decrease by actually killing the SGR formula that creates these reductions and passing a fix that will cost \$268 billion over ten years unmatched by any increase in federal revenue to pay for it (read: add to the deficit). It is felt that the Senate will likely not approve this kind of a fix without a source to pay for it so as we docs approach December, it is the usual who knows what will happen to our incomes in 2010. Compounding the issue is Healthcare Reform which has among its other features, a planned \$200+ billion reduction in the cost of Medicare by somehow reducing provider compensation without also putting us docs out of business. There appears to be no stomach for what it will take to fix the fee schedule and pay for reform which is a clear increase in taxes for everyone who will benefit-- which is basically everyone. Absent a national sales tax or a VAT which would be the most equitable, Congress is searching for an Ox to gore and the well off Oxen are again in their sights. The electorate seems to want reform and a viable Medicare so let's have them cough up and pay for what they want. It is hard to fathom how all the interest groups are in favor of more for most, paid for by someone else. We would all love a free lunch but most of us learned in high school there is really no such thing. Did politicians skip high school? ❖

## **TIDBITS from the EDITOR**

### **ACS Web site useful**

If you ever have need for some facts about vital statistics of medicine in the USA, doctors and Medicare and Medicaid facts, the American College of Surgeons Web site has a nice compilation of all sorts of information. Go to the Web site at [www.facs.org](http://www.facs.org), then click on New Features Online and choose the **Socio-Economic Fact Center for Surgery**. You don't have to be an ACS member to access this information which among many other things tells us that there were 5,400 neurosurgeons in the US in 2007. They must count every breathing body since the number of actually practicing neurosurgeons then was much closer to 3,000. ❖

### **Your income won't be going up**

The Division of Workers' Compensation has been working on initiatives to "streamline and improve" the state's workers' compensation system, centered on a plan that includes several moves to control payments to physicians, surgeons and other medical providers. Although system reforms instituted in 2004 have resulted in overall cost savings of more than \$50 billion and the number of injured worker claims are down 30% in the past six years, more recent studies have shown that there have been increased medical costs in comp cases with dates of injury in 2006 and 2007. Some of

the DWC's plan includes:

1. Tightening treatment guidelines for low back injuries which is nearing completion and on which CANS Director **Praveen Mummaneni** worked diligently to preserve most of our surgical options.
2. Updating coding for doctor payments by converting from the current physician fee schedule, which was last updated 20 years ago, to Medicare's Resource Based Relative Value Scale. A final report from the DWC's consultant on the project, the Lewin Group, is expected in February 2010 with final regulations ready by July 2010.
3. Considering creation of a drug formulary.
4. Reducing costs of ambulatory surgical centers by adopting Medicare's 2008 ambulatory surgical centers fee schedule.
5. Eliminating spinal hardware pass-through which allows hospitals to charge for the full cost of implants used in surgery, plus handling charges, on top of the facility fee billed for the procedure.

No. 1 and No. 5 will be a shock to the 3-level lumbar fusion crowd. ❖

## Mostly Old Blood Among CANS Nominations

Each autumn, the CANS Nominating Committee, which is elected by the membership and chaired by the President-Elect, recommends a slate of members to fill various officer and director positions for the next year. This slate is placed on a ballot, along with other nominations submitted by the membership, which is then submitted to the membership for a formal snail-mail vote. The nominating committee has made the following recommendations for 2010 positions:

For President-Elect: **Marc Vanefsky**. Marc received his MD from Chicago Medical School in 1989 and completed his neurosurgical training at Stanford. He is currently Chief of Neurosurgery at Kaiser Anaheim and Regional Chief of Neurosurgery in the Southern California Permanente Medical Group. He has held officer and director positions with CANS and is currently CANS 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President.

For 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President: **Austin R. T. Colohan**. Austin received his MD from McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada in 1978 and completed his neurosurgical training at the University of Virginia. He currently is Professor and Chair of Neurosurgery at Loma Linda. He has held officer & director positions with CANS and is currently 2nd Vice-President.

For 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: **Theodore Kaczmar**. Ted got his MD from Washington University in 1979 and did his neurosurgical training at Yale. Currently in private practice in the Monterey area, he has been a CANS director and is presently CANS Secretary.

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For Secretary: **Kimberly Page**. Kim's 1987 MD is from the University of Nevada and she did her neurosurgery training at Stanford. She has been President of Women in Neurosurgery and is currently in private practice in Redding. At present, she is one of the three CANS Directors from Northern California.

For Director (Southern California): **Phillip Kissel**. Phil received his MD from Chicago Medical School in 1983 and did his neurosurgery training at UC Davis. He is in private practice in San Luis Obispo and currently is a Director.

For Director (Southern California): **Haig Minassian**. Haig received his MD from USC in 1972 and also did his neurosurgery training at USC. He is in private practice in Whittier and currently is a Southern California Director.

For Nominating Committee: **Moustapha Abou-Samra, Javed Siddiqi, Kenneth Blumenfeld and Michael Robbins**. Moose is in private practice in Ventura and is a past CANS President; Javed is Director of the Osteopathic neurosurgery training program based at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton; Ken is in private practice in San Jose; and Mike is in private practice in Sacramento and is the current CANS treasurer.

Additional nominations for the above positions can be submitted by any active CANS member with the support of two additional active members. The nomination form can be obtained from Janine Tash, CANS Executive Secretary, at [janinetash@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janinetash@sbcglobal.net), and **must be submitted to her by 12/10/2009** for the nominee (who has to give written permission to accept the nomination) to be placed on the official ballot which will be mailed on 12/17/2009. ❖

### EXHIBITORS registered to date for 2010 Meeting

See [www.cans1.org](http://www.cans1.org) for exhibit information & registration.

Admission to all catered events is included in exhibit fee.

*Aloka*

*Anulex*

*Bayer Healthcare*

*Biomet Microfixation*

*Biomet Spine*

*Blue Chip Surgical Center*

*BrainLab*

*Cooperative of American Physicians*

*KLS-Martin, LP*

*PMT Corporation*

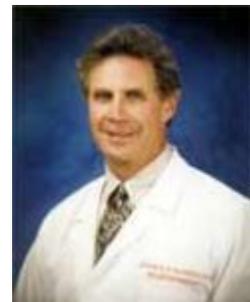
*Precision Biologics*

*Prime Clinical Systems*

*Stryker*

### Pevehouse Award Recipient

Congratulations to **Donald P. Becker, M.D.** of UCLA who will be the recipient of the **Pevehouse Award for Distinguished Neurosurgery** at the CANS Annual Banquet Saturday, January 16, 2010 at the Grand Californian Hotel in Anaheim. Dinner tickets can be purchased using registration forms attached to this newsletter.



## Letter to the Editor

If you believe that we will all be controlled by HMOs in the near future, it is logical to believe that we should each have a personal interest in forming and belonging to an HMO that will provide concierge services at concierge prices, if we are capable of being better doctors than the current system allows us to be. These HMOs could:

- 1) insist upon written advance directives and binding arbitration agreements as a condition of membership;
- 2) develop medically-effective measures instead of cost-effective measures to determine standards of care;
- 3) provide HSA compatible insurance options and options with varying levels of high-end care cut-off as stipulated in the contracts that are priced according to the cut-offs;
- 4) pay doctors at higher than insurance company or government reimbursement rates, allow doctors to share in profits from the HMOs, or provide bonuses based upon outcomes instead of cost savings, etc;
- 5) allow a specialist a rate of hourly pay that honors his advanced training and proven skills compared to the hourly pay of other doctors, nurses, technicians, etc;
- 6) demand that each and every employee of the HMO be superior in his competence in his field and that he be re-evaluated yearly for contract renewal until reaching tenure, as voted upon by his specialty department, with each specialty of other doctors having a veto as to his tenure;
- 7) specify what support services are to be provided by other specialties or other HMO employees and provide double overtime pay to neurosurgeons (etc) who are shortchanged by supporting services or staff shortages;
- 8) have facilities sited very near to hospitals providing emergency and trauma care that will provide staff privileges to HMO doctors, take financial responsibility for providing emergency services to the non-members and be well compensated for treating members, and then transfer members to a concierge service unit internally or at the HMO as soon as possible;
- 9) provide services at all levels of care, including nursing services and home care, as needed and, if contracted, at various increased intensities for better contracts;
- 10) be so competitive in reimbursement to employees that our HMOs can pick and choose the best doctors and other employees, provide the best care, and be the first choice as a place to have a medical practice rather than a last resort like the current HMOs and many clinics;
- 11) charge a subscription rate high enough to pay for the extra services provided;
- 12) provide unusual services at each center that can provide concierge services to members from other centers and operating as sisters to that center;
- 13) provide concierge support when out of system services are required, then expand to perform those services in-system the next time;
- 14) build a reputation for state of art effective care, honest service, and provision of luxury services according to contract level. ❖

*Emeka Nchekwube, M.D., CANS member*



## The 4th Annual UCSF Spine Day Symposium

June 5-6, 2010

Mission Bay Conference Center in San Francisco

Contact Kelly Murphy

415 353-3998 or [murphyk@neurosurg.ucsf.edu](mailto:murphyk@neurosurg.ucsf.edu)

**THOUGHT OF THE MONTH** - A good friend sent me the following:

The people who started college this fall were born in 1992.  
They are too young to remember the space shuttle blowing up.  
Their lifetime has always included AIDS.  
The CD was introduced two years before they were born.  
They have always had an answering machine.  
They have always had cable.  
Jay Leno was always on the Tonight Show.  
Popcorn has always been microwaved.  
They never took a swim and thought about Jaws.  
They don't know who Mork was or where he was from.  
They never heard: 'Where's the Beef?' or 'I'd walk a mile for a Camel.'  
McDonald's never came in Styrofoam containers.  
They don't have a clue how to use a typewriter.

To which I would add:

**They are a very fortunate generation (except for missing Johnny Carson).**

### Neurosurgical Position

*Any CANS member who is looking for a new associate/partner/PA/NP or who is looking for a position (all California neurosurgery residents are CANS members and get this newsletter) is free to submit a 150 word summary of a position available or of one's qualifications for a one time posting in this newsletter. Submit your text to me by E-mail ([rws-avopro@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rws-avopro@sbcglobal.net)) or fax (858 683-2022). ❖*

Questions or comments can be sent to the editor, Randall W. Smith, M.D., at [rws-avopro@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rws-avopro@sbcglobal.net) or to the CANS office at [janinetash@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janinetash@sbcglobal.net). Past issues of the monthly newsletter are available on the CANS website at [www.cans1.org](http://www.cans1.org).

**ATTN Vendors:** CANS is now accepting newsletter ads.  
Please contact the executive office for complete price list and details.

*The newsletter is a mix of fact, rumor and opinion. The facts are hopefully clearly stated. The rest is open to interpretation. The opinion is mine. R.S. The assistance of Janine Tash and Dr. Bill Caton in the preparation of this newsletter is acknowledged and appreciated. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future, please E-mail or fax Janine Tash [janinetash@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janinetash@sbcglobal.net), (916-457-8202) with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line.*

**California Association of Neurological Surgeons, Inc.**

5380 Elvas Avenue, Suite 216

Sacramento, CA 95819

Tel: 916 457-2267; Fax: 916 457-8202

[www.cans1.org](http://www.cans1.org)**Editorial Committee:**

Editor: Randall W. Smith, M.D.

President: William L. Caton III, M.D.

Editorial Assistant: Janine M. Tash

# 2010 CANS Annual Meeting

“Health Care Reform 2010: Chaos or Progress?”



*Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa*

*January 15-17, 2010, Anaheim, California*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

California Association of Neurological Surgeons (CANS)  
5380 Elvas Avenue, Suite 216, Sacramento, CA 95819  
tel 916-457-2267; fax 916-457-8202  
janinetash@sbcglobal.net; www.cans1.org



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—see page 5—

# *President's Message*

*William L. Caton III, M.D.*

## “Health Care Reform 2010 Chaos or Progress”

I invite you to attend the annual CANS meeting to be held at *Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa*. We had an excellent meeting at this location two years ago and are returning to this wonderful site. Many of your fellow neurosurgeons brought their families for an enjoyable weekend. I hope you will join us at Disneyland.

CANS is committed to our neurosurgeons to put forth a program on healthcare reform. The title of this program is an indication of the current state of affairs in medicine. An excellent program has been arranged in an effort to gain further insight into this dynamic legislative process and its impact on California Neurosurgery.

As 2010 approaches, many questions remain as to what form the new Health Care Legislation is going to take. There are many current bills in discussion in the House and in the Senate. No one is certain which legislation will prevail. Indeed, the current Senate Legislation has over 500 amendments tagged on to it ranging from funding for walking paths to jungle gyms.

We shall have a series of speakers who will share their insight as to the state of the medical reform as of January 2010. Among the many distinguished guests will be former Congressman **Tom Campbell**, a current Republican gubernatorial candidate in California. Mr. Campbell is currently on the faculty at the Chapman College. He is the former dean of the Business School at University of California at Berkley and served many years as a Congressman representing the Bay Area. Mr. Campbell has significant expertise in Health Care Legislation. He has been a firm proponent of physician rights including authoring several bills in an attempt to allow physicians to participate in collective bargaining.

Also speaking will be **Congressman Adam Schiff**. Congressman Schiff is a Blue Dog Democrat who has been very active in the Democratic Party in legislation including Health Care. He shall speak on the state of the Health Care Reform Package offered up by the Democratic Party and will discuss its impact upon us.

Another guest will be **Jack Lewin, M.D.** Dr. Lewin is the former Medical Director of State of Hawaii, former Executive Director of the California Medical Association, and currently the Executive Director of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Lewin has been very active in the health care planning in the Obama Administration and has been a frequent visitor to the White House. He will share his views about the new health care legislation and reorganization of Medicare.

Speaking on the economics of the governmental change and its impact upon the free markets and credit crises in the United States will be **James Rothenberg**. Mr. Rothenberg is the Chief Executive Officer of the Capital Resources and Management Group. He also serves as the treasurer of Harvard University. He will share his insights as to the role of the changing economic and credit crisis in relationship to health care and its future.

Representing our national organization, **Troy Tippett, M.D.**, AANS president, shall give us an update on the American Association of Neurological Surgery's input on the Health Care Legislation. Dr. Tippett shall discuss his activities and that of the board of the AANS in our behalf on the national scene.

A series of panel discussions is also planned including several of our California neurosurgeons discussing the pros and cons of the health care legislation as of January 2010. Certainly this legislation remains a moving target!

Another panel has been organized to discuss the impact of the new legislation on hospitals, managed care, physician contracting. This panel shall try to give some insights to the audience as to the answers of the dilemmas facing the neurosurgeon in this changing arena of health care reforms.

I look forward to the members of CANS and spouses joining us on the Martin Luther King holiday weekend of January 16, 2010 and January 17, 2010. On January 17, 2010, a course on QME is planned to update the current CME hours necessary to maintain the QME certification.

**I am going to Disneyland. How about you?**

## Schedule of Events - January 15-17, 2010

<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>Welcoming Reception (Light refreshments/no-host bar), Wisteria Room 6:30 p.m.</b>
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<b>SATURDAY MORNING (Sequoia Ballroom)</b>
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7:30-8:15 *Continental Breakfast/Visit Exhibits*

8:15-8:30 **CANS Business Meeting**

William L. Caton III, M.D., President, California Association of Neurological Surgeons

### **PROGRAM: Medical Reform 2010/Chaos or Progress?**

8:30-9:00 **Chaos or Reform—Hollywood on the Potomac**

Jack Lewin, M.D., Chief Executive Officer, American College of Cardiology

9:00-9:10 Q/A

9:10-9:40 **Economic/Credit Crises and their Impact on Health Care**

James F. Rothenberg, Chairman and Principal Executive Officer of Capital Research and Management Co./Treasurer of Harvard University

9:40-9:50 Q/A

**9:50-10:20** *break/visit exhibits*

10:20-10:50 **Neurosurgery and Health Care Reform**

Troy Tippett, M.D., President, American Association of Neurological Surgeons

10:50-11:00 Q/A

11:00-11:30 **Health Care Reform, Legislation and Physician Bargaining**

Tom Campbell, Candidate for Governor of California

11:30-11:40 Q/A

**12:00- 1:00** **Luncheon**

1:00-1:30 **Current Congressional Legislation on Health Care Reform and Its Impact on California Citizens and their Doctors**

Congressman Adam B. Schiff—California's 29th Congressional District

1:30-1:40 Q/A

1:40-2:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

2:30-2:40 *break/visit exhibits*

2:40-3:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**\*\*\*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

## Schedule of Events - January 15-17, 2010

### SATURDAY EVENING (Trillium Room)



7:00 p.m.      Cocktails  
7:30 p.m.      Dinner  
Award Presentation

### SUNDAY (Sequoia Ballroom)

## QME Seminar

8:00 a.m.      Continental Breakfast/Visit Exhibits

9:00-noon      **Ethics in Workers' Comp for Physicians**  
Jeffrey Adelson, Esq., Counsel, Adelson, Testan and Brundo

**Recent case law of importance to physicians including Almarez/Guzman**  
David Kizer, Esq., Counsel, State Compensation Insurance Fund;  
Former Counsel, Industrial Medical Council

This seminar is presented by **Livingstone-Lopez Consulting**.  
(California Workers' Compensation & Report Writing Consultant,  
DWC Certified Education Provider # 2 & # 470)

*The course fulfills 3 of the 6-hour annual requirement for QME continuing education for current QMEs. This class also offers a home study option for the remaining 3, 6 or 9 credits you may need. Contact Dana Livingstone-Lopez directly for this option (760 944-6769 or dana@teachqme.com).*

# HOTEL RESERVATIONS



*Preferred method for making room reservations is via E-mail:*

*<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/CANS>. Call 714 520-5005 (M-F 8-5pm) for phone reservations.*

*A link to **Disneyland® Resort** discount tickets is available if you reserve your room on line.*

*Questions about reservations can be directed to: [DLR.Convention.Groups@Disney.com](mailto:DLR.Convention.Groups@Disney.com)*

**ROOM RATE: \$209.00.** There will be a \$12.00 daily resort fee to cover overnight parking, local telephone service, fitness center and Internet access; all rooms are equipped with DVD players, safes and cribs.

Rates are subject to prevailing City Bed Tax. Check-in time is 3:00 pm, check-out time is 11:00 am.

The convention rate of **\$209.00** is available until **January 4, 2010**, or until block is filled.

A credit card is required to secure the reservation; payment will be processed upon arrival. The hotel requires 72 hours notice of cancellation or date change. In addition, a cancellation number must be issued by the Hotel for refund of deposit or for release of guarantee, no matter the cause for cancellation. If canceling or changing within 72 hours of arrival, deposit will be forfeited or the Credit Card will be charged for the first night's room rate plus 15% Anaheim Bed Tax. Children under 17 stay free when utilizing same room as an adult or parents.



## ***Dinner Menu***

*Trillium Room and Terrace, Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa  
Saturday, January 16, 2010, Reception 7:00 pm; Dinner 7:30 pm*

**CHOICE of ENTRÉE** (Salad, dessert and wine included)

- ◆ *Point Reyes Crusted Angus Beef Filet/Garlic Gold Potato Puree*
- ◆ *Loch Duart Salmon Filet/Shrimp Risotto*
- ◆ *Vegetarian*

**Children's Dinner Menu (ages 3-9)**

*Green salad, Chicken Filet Tenderloins with BBQ sauce, macaroni & cheese and corn on the cob; cookie; apple juice or milk.*



# CANS ANNUAL MEETING 2010 REGISTRATION FORM

*Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa, Anaheim, CA, January 15-17, 2010*

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Neurosurgeon \_\_\_ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Saturday Meeting Registration January 16**

*(includes opening reception on Friday for everyone and lunch for registrants on Saturday)*

CANS Members \$ 300  Senior Members \$250   
 Non-Members \$ 350  Residents no charge   lunches

\* Please indicate if you will attend luncheon (there is a \$50 lunch fee for guests, spouses and residents)

**2. Saturday Banquet, January 16 Cocktails 7:00 pm; Dinner 7:30 pm *(includes salad, wine, dessert)***

Per Person \$125  Name \_\_\_\_\_ Filet \_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_ Veg \_\_\_  
 Guest \$125  Name \_\_\_\_\_ Filet \_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_ Veg \_\_\_  
 Child (3-9) \$ 35  Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$35  \_\_\_\_\_  dinners

**3. Sunday QME Course January 17 9:00- noon *(includes continental breakfast)***

Per Person \$125

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE by December 15, 2009** \$

*No refund requests (including no-shows) will be accepted after January 1, 2010  
 so that quantities can be guaranteed to the hotel.*

**Payment Information:**

1. Check enclosed (payable to CANS) \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Please authorize use of VISA \_\_\_\_\_ or MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

**CANS office use only:**  
 log \_\_\_\_\_  
 conf sent \_\_\_\_\_  
 pgm book \_\_\_\_\_  
 name tag \_\_\_\_\_  
 check # \_\_\_\_\_  
 date \_\_\_\_\_  
 cc settled \_\_\_\_\_  
 QB ledger \_\_\_\_\_

**Rooms:** Log on to <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/CANS> or call Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa (714 520-5005) M-F 8-5 by January 4, 2010 to ensure a room at the group rate of \$209.00.

Please check here when you have made your hotel reservations.

**Return registration form to CANS, 5380 Elvas Ave., #216, Sacramento, CA 95819 or fax to 916 457-8202.**

Contributions to the California Association of Neurological Surgeons are not tax deductible as charitable contributions;  
 however, they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.