Overview of last year's activities

Our annual meeting was held in conjunction with the AAD’s (American Academy of Dermatology) annual meeting in San Diego on Sunday, February 18, 2018. We had 38 in attendance, with 24 registered and 14 not previously registered.

We had a time of worship before we were encouraged to hear from one of our dermatologists and her mission trip. Cynthia Abbott shared with us her experiences as the first dermatologist to serve on a short-term mission trip in 2016 with YWAM Medical Ships in Papua New Guinea. Both YWAM and Dr. Abbott were surprised at the number of newly diagnosed leprosy patients that were seen by her. She shared her vision of YWAM Medical Ships partnering with The Leprosy Mission International, AAD, and the World Health Organization. If you would like more information about that project, contact her at cynthia@atlantaskin.com.

Dr. Bruce Wilkinson then spoke on “God’s Retirement Plan.” We were encouraged and challenged to consider Dr. Bruce Wilkinson's teaching - that God uses heavenly "carrots" (rather than sticks) to motivate us to daily obedience. It was very well received, and ended with an invitation to partner with Teach Every Nation. Bruce founded TEN to train would-be pastors and disciple-makers around the world because he believes that nothing is more strategic to fulfilling the Great Commission than the training of millions of pastors and church leaders in the developing world, who cannot access or afford traditional academic institutions. I shared briefly on my seeing first-hand on a mission trip the impact of TEN’s teaching and training materials for would-be pastors in a developing country.

We discussed encouraging dermatology residents to apply for the CMDA Dermatology Missions Fund that had been established at the end of 2016 by Dr. Jerry Arial and our CMDA Dermatology section. This Missions Scholarship targets dermatology residents as first-time participants in a Global Health Outreach medical mission trip. Secondarily, nursing students/graduate nurses, residents in other specialties, and medical students will be eligible as first-time participants on GHO trips, but dermatology residents will always be able to have first time participation in GHO trips if they are willing. We are hoping to expose them to the cultural, social, spiritual, and medical problems in developing countries while allowing them to serve the underserved. We also encouraged those who wished to donate to the scholarship fund to do so at www.cmda.org/scholarships or www.cmda.org/dermatology.

We challenged those attending to serve and partner on various short-term mission trips as well as serve in local communities and the CMDA. We included a list of opportunities to serve with various organizations, including a Oct.22-Nov.3, 2018 trip to Myanmar has a specific need for a dermatologist to participate.

Present and Potential Challenges
We have previously struggled with attracting new leaders in the group. We were blessed to have about a new dermatologist attend the business meeting immediately after the national meeting. Of our present officers, Angela Moore, M.D. will continue as chair, with Steve Maberry, M.D. as Secretary/Treasurer, and Jerry Ariail, M.D. as Missions Chair, and Robert Purvis, M.D. as Vice President. We are excited about our current leadership team.

Our biggest obstacle to attendance at our annual CMDA dermatology section meeting is lack of knowledge about the meeting. We continued to email the list that we have compiled over the past couple of years that Pam Smythe has helped us to assemble. We have asked Pam to email us the list of those who attended in 2013-2016 as well as those who designate dermatology as their specialty. Several previous attendees to the dermatology section breakfast have now signed up to be CMDA members.

Finances, Logistical issues, etc.

Finances have been at times tight, but God has always provided funds needed to carry out the ministries.

Just as in previous years, our CMDA Dermatology section has encouraged dermatology residents and students to attend for free. Through generous donations from dermatologists, we have also set up a Dermatology Missions Fund. We have continued to use the CMDA website for registration this year.

We decided to have a more traditional registration approach and have attendees pay for registration this year rather than using donations. A dermatologist could register for 1 person for $75, the 2nd and 3rd person (along with the 1st person) for $150, and then $50 for additional guests. We encouraged folks to bring friends, and continued to offer free attendance to students and residents. We also welcomed donations by any dermatologist who wished to do so.

This was the first time that we attempted to hold our CMDA Dermatolog section meeting off-site from our national AAD meeting hotel. We do not feel that it decreased our attendance and it enabled us to decrease some of the overhead of the meeting and have better food since we were not subject to the hotel unions and extra conference audiovisual and food fees. This also enabled those not attending our national dermatology meeting to still join us for the CMDA Dermatology section meeting.

Future Plans and Timetables

Annual meetings

Our next annual meeting will be on March 3, 2019, Sunday, in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with the AAD meeting, from 6:45 am-8:30 am and on March 22, 2020, in Denver,
CO. We have the dates and locations of upcoming meetings, but are still identifying the exact venue and speaker for these meetings.

We have also discussed having CMDA Dermatology section members notify their local and state societies through an announcement as well as sending an email to all of the CMDA 4th year student leaders as well as CMDA full-time and part-time staff and campus advisors to notify them:

1) that our annual meeting is free to all dermatology residents and dermatologists as well and encouraging even from dermatologists who cannot attend on a given year,

2) that we have mentors available remotely for dermatology residents desiring mentors, and

3) that the CMDA Dermatology Missions Fund has been established.

**Foreign mission out reach**

Opportunities for service at-home with Jill Johnson, RN and MD 2nd Opinion program and teledermatology for GHO team leaders have been presented to members and several of the CMDA Dermatology section members are participating.

A list of short-term mission opportunities with SIM, CMDA’s Global Health Outreach, CMDA’s MEI, Samaritan’s Purse’s World Medical Mission, and mission trips led by our CMDA Dermatology section members were discussed during the 2018 CMDA Dermatology section meeting and will be emailed out again next month. Quite a few of the CMDA Dermatology section members have participated in these mission trips or led or participated in other dermatology specific mission trips over the past year. Short-term mission trips that CMDA Dermatology section members will be participating in 2018 include East Asia, India, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Papua New Guinea.

Thanks to Jerry Aria’s efforts, we were successful in setting up in 2016 the CMDA Dermatology Missions Fund to encourage dermatology residents to participate in a GHO mission trip.

**Domestic out reach**

Several CMDA Dermatology members have been volunteering to mentor dermatology residents but has not received much demand for this assistance. We hope to continue to disseminate information on this available resource to dermatology residents.
We are encouraging CMDA Dermatology section members to participate in the CMDA teledermatology consultation service.

Most of the CMDA Dermatology section members have been volunteering at indigent clinics near members' homes and will continue to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Moore, MD
Chair, CMDA Dermatology Section