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**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HONORS MEMBERS WITH ANNUAL AWARDS**

SIOUX FALLS, SD – October 16, 2009 – The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) honored 19 South Dakota physicians at the organization’s Presidential inauguration held on Friday, October 2, 2009.

The **Special Presidential Award** was given by outgoing SDSMA President Cynthia A. Weaver, MD, to **Reuben Bareis, MD**, of Rapid City. Born in 1928 in Kansas, Dr. Bareis did his pre-med training and received his MD at the University of Colorado. After serving a military internship, followed by active duty in Korea, he served a three-year residency in Michigan. Dr. Bareis joined the Dawley-Kegarlis Clinic in 1957 and then went on to found the Internal Medicine Group in 1968. Dr. Bareis received a Bush Fellowship in 1987 and then devoted most of his time to geriatrics. He joined the University of South Dakota in 1991 and practiced there until his retirement in 1998. Dr. Bareis’ main interest has been end-of-life care, helping to found the West Hills Village, which provides housing for elderly and assisted living. He has been involved with the Comfort 1 Advanced Directive program through the State of South Dakota. Dr. Bareis was ASIM President from 1966-1967 and ACP governor from 1980 to 1984, and he received the South Dakota Chapter of the ACP’s laureate award in 1991. Dr. Bareis also has served on the Ethics Committee for Rapid City Regional Hospital as well as community organizations such as the Black Hills Community Playhouse, the Rapid City Fine Arts Council, the Black Hills Arthritis Association, Rotary, the Shrine of Democracy and a barbershop choir.

The SDSMA’s **Outstanding Young Physician Award** was presented to Rapid City physician **Christopher Dietrich, MD**. The Outstanding Young Physician Award was initiated by the Young Physicians Section of the SDSMA to be given to young physicians who are under 40 or within the first eight years of professional practice after residency and fellowship training. They are recognized for their outstanding achievements, dedication and service to the community and the SDSMA at the local, state and national levels. Dr. Dietrich truly makes patient care a priority and is focused on quality of care, recognizing the challenges of treating pain effectively. Along with his productive practice, Dr. Dietrich also is working tirelessly to initiate the process of prescription drug monitoring in South Dakota. He has also chaired the Rapid City Regional Hospital Ethics Committee.

**Lee Mabee, MD, of Sioux Falls**, received the SDSMA’s **Young at Heart Award**. This award is presented to a physician who has inspired young physicians as a mentor, role model and leader, encouraging them to assume leadership roles and get involved in organized medicine or community projects. Dr. Mabee has been referred to as a trusted friend, a mentor and a partner – all at once. Very giving of his time, knowledge, vast experience, he is very supportive of younger, developing physicians, always offering to teach, demonstrate a procedure or just give valuable advice. His knowledge goes beyond clinical medicine to less-tangible arenas such as medical politics, practice management and economics.

**H. Bruce Vogt, MD, and Keith Hansen, MD**, both of Sioux Falls, received the SDSMA's **Media Award**, which recognizes outstanding medical and health care reporting by radio, television or print media. The Media Award is presented each year to recognize individuals who have helped promote the medical field and issues through outstanding medical and health care. Dr. Vogt and Dr. Hansen dedicate their extra time to ensuring the high quality of South Dakota's only peer-reviewed medical journal. As co-editors, they read and edit medical manuscripts before publishing and dictate quality of content for *South Dakota Medicine*, which reaches more than 85 percent of the licensed physicians in the state.

The SDSMA's **Community Service Award** is presented each year to physicians who separate themselves through outstanding work in the area of community affairs. This year's recipient is **Marvin Buehner, MD**, of Rapid City. An ob-gyn, Dr. Buehner is well-known in his community for his dedication to and passion for women's health issues, as well as his work to make South Dakota smoke-free. He worked to launch a campaign about the dangers of secondhand smoke by publishing a Smoke Free Restaurant Guide for the Black Hills area, and it took this kind of educational effort to convince our legislative body and the public of the health hazards when exposed. As a result, today South Dakota is very close to becoming one of many smoke-free states in the nation.

The SDSMA's **Distinguished Service Award** recognizes a physician or lay person who has been of outstanding service to the medical profession in South Dakota. This year's Distinguished Service Award was presented to **William C. Fuller, MD**, a professor of psychiatry at the Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota and staff psychiatrist at Avera University Associates in Sioux Falls. Dr. Fuller's contributions to the Sioux Falls community, his significant responsibilities in residency and medical school teaching, as well as his active consultative practice in various community health centers throughout the region, embody the primary concepts of what it means to be a physician.

The SDSMA also gave a special recognition to **Jeffrey Henderson, MD, MPH**, of Rapid City. In August 2009, Dr. Henderson was recognized for his work in researching health disparities in the American Indian population as a runner-up for the **Joseph H. Kanter Prize**. The prize recognizes physicians who have dedicated themselves to optimizing U.S. health care for all patients, regardless of gender, ethnicity, geography, language, education, religion, employment or insurance. Dr. Henderson, who is Lakota and an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, serves as the President and CEO of Black Hills Center for American Indian Health in Rapid City. He is committed to addressing health disparities seen in Native Americans, focusing on their broader health problems through research, service, education and culturally sensitive health delivery. His center collected evidence of effective practices that may lead to changes in the guidelines for managing type II diabetes. The inaugural prize, named for Joseph H. Kanter, a pioneering advocate for electronic medical records, is sponsored by the Health Legacy Partnership (HELP), a public-private partnership with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). Dr. Henderson received a \$25,000 award. Dr. Henderson was nominated by the SDSMA for the Kanter Prize.

**Tony Berg, MD**, of Rapid City received the SDSMA's **Past President's Award**. This award is presented each year to the immediate Past President of the SDSMA in recognition of their many years of work and dedication to organized medicine.

Ten other physicians were recognized at the Presidential inauguration ceremony with the SDSMA's **50-Year Award** for medical practice. Physicians who received their 50-Year Service Award were: **Loren Amundson, MD; Courtney Anderson, MD; Richard Belatti, MD; Milton Mutch, MD; Robert Bloemendaal, MD; Edward Huppler, MD; Visvaldis Janavs, MD; Richard Kovarik, MD; Ernest Schabauer, MD; and Homer Stensrud, MD**. These physicians have been practicing medicine for a half-century and have contributed greatly to the medical profession.

*The SDSMA serves more than 1,900 physician members who are dedicated to the health of South Dakotans. The mission of the SDSMA is to promote the art and science of medicine, to protect and improve the health of the public and provide leadership and advocacy in the field of quality health care.*

*Learn more about the SDSMA at [www.sdsma.org](http://www.sdsma.org).*

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