Dear ATCMS members, colleagues and friends of TCM/Acupuncture:

At the moment when The Rabbit Year arrives, we would like to present our best wish to all of you on behalf of ATCMS. We also appreciate your continual support to our society.

In the past four years, our founding members and work-teams made all efforts they could to serve the community based on our principles of “being Democratic, Academic, Serving and Non-profit”. Our endeavored activities involve: Scheduled Academic Exchanges, Advocating for the legislation, Protecting our professional benefits, as well as Leading TCM/Acupuncture into the mainstream of American society. The By-Law of ATCMS approved by the founding Board of Directors firmly established our democratic principles which affirmed the foundation to enable us to become the best organized and most active TCM/Acupuncture organization.

When the Board of Directors stepped into the second term in early 2010, we efficiently accomplished our goals through the Secretariat, Administration and Collaboration. In the past year especially, our Academic Team organized five seminars for exchanging experiences and continual education. Our Legislation Team worked intensively with other professional organizations in lobbying. Their efficiency and zeal are highly commented. Our new Team for Members’ Benefits upheld the policy of serving our members and succeeded in holding the picnic, obtaining services and discounts from consulting firms for third-party insurance payments, as well as discounted subscriptions in academic journals from China. They are also remembered for the success in holding our Annual Conference Banquet at the end of 2010. Our Team of Promotion and Advertising also worked efficiently on the publication of our quarterly newsletter and communication with press-media. Finally, our Treasurer worked with high efficiency on Tax and Accounting by following our principle of being lucid in finance and honest in spending every penny on our members only. That is a solemn promise to all.

All the accomplishments and credits in the past resulted from our members’ active support and participation as well as their efforts and wisdom. So to this coming year, we also have the following expectations:

(1) Further reinforcement in the mutual communications between members and the ATCMS. Only by listening to our members’ voice we can realize their demands and expectations in depth, so as to adjust our plans to meet their needs. Our pleading is: As a member, we wish you would keep active contact with us, relay your suggestions to us by using your membership as a platform of communication. Let us hear your voices, conceive your viewpoints and share your experiences. Don’t forget that you are the master of ATCMS.
(2) Making efforts to create versatile and bi-lingual academic activities. The way we present them should be more vivid and brisk. We shall give more and more members opportunities to express their academic viewpoints and to exchange their experiences. The contents of our academic activities should involve both updated research information and clinical practicing experience. Using English as our official language or making it bi-lingual is a highly challenging task for us to accomplish.

(3) Under the influence of economic depression, we realize the hardship TCM / Acupuncture practitioners are encountering. The matter of the highest importance is resolving for the reasonable third party reimbursement. This issue is also crucial to our entering into the main stream of American society. Our established goal for this issue is to legally promote for it through legislations. However, we also expected the difficulty and long duration of this task. More efforts are yet to be made. ATCMS will do our best to find the possible ways to communicate with the insurance companies, let them realize their reimbursements to us could only enhance their market compatibility as well as save their overall expenditure. This type of persuasion should encourage them to switch their current policy to our favor. Besides, we will educate our members by means of the newsletters and seminars with the knowledge of medical billing and resolving difficult cases. Let our members understand those advantages and disadvantages to be a participating provider of different insurance plans, and avoid to be enmeshed by individual shoddy insurance companies.

(4) Actively engaging in the membership drive among non-Chinese practitioners and colleagues graduated from local schools. Our goal is to naturalize ATCMS step by step for the purpose of our long-term and far-flung developments. Along with the membership drive, we will also search for those who are capable, enthusiastic and dedicated to join our work teams, and to create for them the opportunities to utilize their expertise.

Finally, we will continue maintaining and enhancing our excellent tradition of running ATCMS democratically. Under the banner of Democracy, we will unite all our members to promote, to serve and to achieve. Honors belong to all members who have been silently dedicating themselves to ATCMS. Best wishes for your health, family and career.

The Standing Board of Directors, ATCMS, on the First Day of the Year of 2011

ATCMS Notice for 2011 Membership Due

Dear ATCMS Members:

Please notice that ATCMS is calling all its members to support their organization with Membership Due which is our most important source of finance.

This annually collected due is $50.00 for the year of 2011 (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31). Your payment is approved for tax-deduction, so keep your receipt.

“Collected from our members, and used for our members” as one of our doctrines, we will spend all our income, including membership due, on ATCMS related expenditures. All staff members are also volunteers. Our financial and accounting protocol has long been established via By-law to serve our members with a totally lucid system reported in the annual statement to facilitate members’ supervision.

By our By-law, the membership due is obligatory. Those who have paid the membership due will enjoy the discount in all ATCMS activities plus other benefits. Starting in summer of 2010, all members were issued ID Cards to prove for their membership. Your ID can be obtained by contacting Dr. Sophia Liao (917-605-5819, sophxhl@yahoo.com) The ID Cards also reflect the record of membership payment and it should be kept with care. The following listing is the members’ benefits:

1. Discount will be issued when ID Card is shown at the register desk to our academic activities.
2. Discount will be issued when ID Card is shown at Dorthy Wong CPR course as a license requirement. (Dorthy Wong : 631-332-2494, acuwong@gmail.com)
3. Top One Medical Billing Co. is a consulting firm helping acupuncturists with participating the on-line healthcare insurance services as well as 3rd party reimbursement. Our members can receive discount in their consulting fee too. (Top One Medical Billing Co. 718-886-8180)
4. Subscriptions to some TCM journals can be discounted too. (Dr. Jie Shi 516-906-1120, jshiusa@msn.com)

Please make out your check to ATCMS and mail it to: American TCM Society, 14 East 34th St. 5th Floor, New York, NY 10016. The payment can also be made at registering for our academic activities.

A combined notice from Secretariat, Treasurer, and Dept. of Member Services of ATCMS, January 1, 2011
Announcing the 2011 ATCMS Academic Activities

We are happy to announce our Programs for 2011 Academic Activities. The time-table is scheduled to facilitate our members’ planning for their CEU and practicing.

The Spring Program 1:
On Sunday, Mar. 6, 2011, from 12 noon to 4:30 pm, in the Garnet Room of La Guardia Sheraton Hotel, Flushing, NY, we will have Dr. Libang Zhang to lecture on “TCM Diagnosis and Treatment of Liver Diseases”. In this seminar, Dr. Zhang will introduce TCM treatment as well as TCM Diagnosis and progress in research work. 4 CEU can be obtained from this seminar. The seminar will be given in Chinese.

The Spring Program 2:
On Saturday, Apr. 16, 2011, from 12 noon to 4:30 pm, in mid-town Manhattan, Pacific College of Oriental Medicine, collaborated with ASNY, we will have Dr. Yongen Shi, an expert of TCM-Gynecology to lecture on “TCM Diagnosis and Treatment of Irregular Menstruation”. ATCMS will contribute the admission income to the New York State Acupuncture Coalition as our support to Acupuncture Legislation. This seminar will offer 4 CEU and will be given in English.

The Summer Program:
On Sunday, June 19, 2011, in the Garnet Room of La Guardia Sheraton Hotel, Flushing, NY, we will have Prof. Yanmei Li, an expert of TCM-Neurological Diseases to lecture on “How to Deal with a few Complicated Neurological Disorders Using Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine”. In her seminar, Prof. Li will introduce the protocols of treating Depression, Anxiety, Headache, Parkinsonism and Stroke. Prof. Li will speak in Chinese. This seminar offers 5 CEU.

The Fall Program:
On Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011, in the Garnet Room of La Guardia Sheraton Hotel, Flushing, NY, we’ll have Mr. Michael Taromina, Esq. to lecture on “The Medical Ethics and Laws related to Acupuncture”. This seminar spoken in English will offer 4 CEU and is required by NCCAOM as PDA for Re-certification. ATCMS will hold this seminar every 2-3 years to meet our members’ professional requirement.

The Winter (End-Of-Year) Program:
This program is still being organized by far. ATCMS plans to have it in early December 2011. Dr. Jing Liu will lecture on “The Comparison and Combination of TCM and Western Medicine” to introduce the newly harvested research work and the front-line research projects.

The scheduling and time-table of the activities above will be confirmed by “Seminar Announcement” in each News Letter. Your active participations are greatly appreciated and we wish to receive your valuable opinions. More information can be found in our website: www.ATCMS.org.

ACTMS Academic Committee

Acupuncture Research News in Brief

Randomized controlled trial of acupuncture versus sham acupuncture in Autism Spectrum Disorder
J ALTERN COMPLEMENT MED, 2010 May; 16(5): 545
We had demonstrated that a short course of acupuncture had efficacy in improving various developmental and behavioral aspects of children with autism. The long-term efficacy in functional gain needs to be further explored.

Consecutive acupuncture stimulations lead to significantly decreased neural responses
J ALTERN COMPLEMENT MED, 2010 Apr; 16(4): 481
We found that consecutive acupuncture stimulations on BL62 affected the neural responses in a significant way, resulting in decreased activations during the second acupuncture stimulation. This is an important finding, suggesting that in future fMRI studies on acupuncture, researchers should take this methodological issue more seriously.

Immediate Effect of Acupuncture at Sanyinjiao (SP6) and Xuanzhong (GB39) on Uterine Arterial Blood Flow in Primary Dysmenorrhea
J ALTERN COMPLEMENT MED, 2010 Oct; 16(10): 1073
This study suggests that needling at SP6 can immediately improve uterine arterial blood flow of patients with primary dysmenorrhea, while GB39 does not have these effects.

ACUPUNCTURE MED, 2010 Jun; 28(2): 71
The protocol was found to be feasible with regard to performance of the main study. Vomiting occurred in five patients in the treatment group and 10 patients in the control group. The total numbers of vomiting events were 13 in the treatment group and 19 in the control group. Conclusion The results encouraged performance of the main study according to the research protocol.

Acupuncture Inhibits GABA Neuron Activity in the Ventral Tegmental Area and Reduces Ethanol Self-Administration.
ALCOHOLISM, 2010 Dec; 34(12): 2137
HT7 stimulation significantly reduced ethanol suppression of VTA GABA neuron firing rate, which was also blocked by naloxone. HT7 acupuncture reduced ethanol self-administration without affecting sucrose consumption. Systemic administration of the δ-opioid receptor (DOR) antagonist naltrindole blocked ethanol suppression of VTA GABA neuron firing rate and significantly reduced ethanol self-administration without affecting sucrose consumption. These findings suggest that DOR-mediated opioid modulation of VTA GABA neurons may mediate acupuncture's role in modulating mesolimbic DA release and suppressing the reinforcing effects of ethanol.

(Jin Huo)
ATCMS Spring Seminar Announcements

Seminar I
Date & Time: March 6, 2011, Sunday, 12:00pm--4:30pm
Location: Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel, 1st Floor (Garnet Room)
135-20 39th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11354
Topics & Speaker:
  TCM Diagnosis and Treatment of Liver Diseases--- by Dr. Libang Zhang
Language & PDA Credit: Chinese: NCCAOM 4 CEU
Fee: ATCMS member (who has paid for 2011’ membership fee): $40,
  Student with ID: $40, Other: $80
Contact: (212) 689-1773 (Dr. Zheng)

Seminar II
Date & Time: April 16, 2011, Saturday, 12:00pm--4:30pm
Location: Pacific College of Oriental Medicine
915 Broadway, 2nd floor (Classroom-1) NY, NY 10010
Topics & Speaker:
  Irregular Menstruation: Diagnosis and Treatment by TCM and
  Acupuncture--- by Dr. Yong En Shi
Language & PDA Credit: English NCCAOM 4 CEU
Fee: $60; $40 if register on or before March 31, 2011
Contact: (212) 689-1773 (Dr. Zheng)

American TCM Society
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New York, NY 10016, U.S.A.
Tel (212) 689-1773
www.ATCMS.org