

CPS – State of the Society Report 2011

It's my pleasure to present the State of the Society report today. I'd like to start by thanking everyone here for their support of CPS this past year as well as today. I have had a great Board to work with this past year.

Much has been accomplished this year. One of the first things we did was to conduct a **Strategic Planning Retreat**. The purpose of this retreat was to update CPS's strategic plan and develop a one-year strategic action agenda. It was a very productive retreat and it was successful because of the follow thru we were able to have on our initiatives and projects. First of all we decided at that retreat that our four main areas of focus would be: **Advocacy, Membership, Continuing Education and Public Relations**. We managed to keep that before the Board at all of our meetings, and I will take just a few minutes to summarize some of our accomplishments this year in those four areas.

First of all, **Advocacy**. We monitored/lobbied 26 bills during the legislative session and were successful in protecting our professional interests thanks to the efforts of our Executive Director, Val Kalnins. **Midwives** were allowed to obtain and administer prescription drugs in their sunset bill. An interesting fact that came out during one point of the negotiations was the Medical Society stating that Pharmacists should be allowed to prescribe these drugs for the midwives. Even though it wasn't included in the final bill, it was an interesting endorsement by the medical community of Pharmacists. A bill was passed that allowed the **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program** to continue. The sunset review process continued and we had our input. Efforts to make **Pseudoephedrine** a Schedule III Controlled Substance were killed in committee. And, lastly were able to help minimize the cuts to pharmacy reimbursement for Medicaid Rx's.

Membership: During the year we had the formation of a new academy, **The Academy of Compounding Pharmacists**. The number of CPS member compounding pharmacists rose from 10 to 29. We saw a great effort from the **Academy of Health-System Pharmacists** in preparation for the ASHP Summer Meeting which is being held in Denver starting this weekend. Also, there has been an increase in the activity of the **Academy of Consultant Pharmacists** in preparation for sunset. An outreach was conducted to rural population centers through a couple of way: 1) On May 12th there was the presentation of the **Pharmacy Safety and Security CE**

Program in Greeley, and 2) a presentation of a Woman's Health Issues Program through the Area Health Education Centers. This took place in Grand Junction, Alamosa, Wray and Greeley. A pilot membership program was started with APhA and lastly I don't think you can talk about membership without giving a big thanks to **Mary Newell.**

Continuing Education: The two Outreach Programs that were mentioned under membership in rural areas served a two-fold purpose, that of promoting membership, but also were a nice addition to our stellar CE programs that we have put on throughout the year. We have been ramping up a lot of our programs with sunset information to get more pharmacists interested and aware of just how important the sunset process is.

Public Relations: There were over 50 sites where pharmacists participated in the **Ask a Pharmacist** program associated with **9 Health Fairs** in April. We also provided links to resources for 9 Health Fair Volunteers on our website. And, we provided advertizing and support for the DEA Drug Take Back Programs in September and April.

It's been a busy year and we appreciate the support you have given these projects.

However, there is a big year ahead with the conclusion of the sunset process coming up. Please continue to give your support to Laura, Val and the rest of the Board as we help to get a pharmacy law in place that will allow the practice of pharmacy to continue to expand in the next 10 years. If you haven't been involved up to this point and would like to be, please contact the CPS office.

Thank you again for attending this meeting and participating in the Colorado Pharmacists Society.

Randy Knutsen
CPS President 2010-2011