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The Voice of MAMCOAANA

Maulana Azad Medical College Alumni Association of North America

Volume XXIV

February, 2008

President: Bhushan Panday

Editor: Samuel J. Edwin

CHICAGO WAS GRAND!!

Hello friends. Chicago was wonderful. Chicago was grand. Those who attended MAMCOAANA'S 23rd reunion would like to say a hearty thanks to the hosts Ashutosh Gupta and Dienes Jain. They did not spare any effort at all. Our thanks is also due to our immediate past President Satish Chawla and CME director Rakesh Nanda

On August 2 we started gathering at the Magnificent mile's Chicago Marriot. In the evening enough Maulanians had gathered to start reminiscing while meeting friends and making new friends.

The topic for this year's CME was New Directions in Medicine. Rakesh Nanda had selected twelve very good speakers. They all spoke concisely and clearly about their fields.

The evening of August 3 we were bussed to the marina from where we boarded a boat that took us out on to lake Michigan for the rest of the evening. The dinner was good, the music too loud, the commaradrie unmatched, and the lights of Chicago with the setting sun were exquisite. We also witnessed a rare phenomenon of the rising moon on the very dark night. Many of us have enjoyed fabulous sunrises but a rising moon was pleasant and awesome surprise.

Following the CME session the next afternoon the general body met. San Antonio was confirmed as the 2008 site for reunion. A cruise to Alaska for the 25th. Year of the MAMCOAANA reunion in 2009 was unanimously approved. Dr Bhaveja of MAMCOS was welcomed, she updated us on the activities of MAMCOS. Her message is included in this newsletter. Rakesh Nanda was unanimously elected to be our president-elect. He will assume office in 2009. A formal dinner was held in the evening. The dinner, conversation, music and dancing was enjoyed by all well into the night. The spirit of MAMC was alive and well.

Sadly Sunday morning arrived, the party was over. Following breakfast and multiple goodbyes the congregation split. We left with fond memories of yet another MAMCOAANA reunion with the promise of another reunion next year

...reported by Samuel J. Edwin

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2007 -- 2008

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Dear MAMCOANIANS and MAULANIANS, Greeting from the President, MAMCOS,

We welcome you all to the "Golden Jubilee" year of our esteemed Maulana Azad Medical College. I think this is the time when we all must take time and reflect on the rich lives we have today and how we reached where we are today. I am sure we all will have similar thoughts i.e. the role MAMC and its' faculty played in shaping our carriers and helping us realize our ambitions.

Remember the day we entered the hallowed corridors of this great institute. We were raw 18 years old fresh-persons from school, scared, excited, expectants with a dream to become Doctors and Healers.

Do remember the fun times, the hard times, constant sword of one or the other test/exam hanging over our heads, the hard work we put through to pass one exam after another. It seemed a never-ending process. Through it all, every step of the way there were guides (our seniors), mentors (the MAMC faculty, our teachers) our friends and parents who were always there for us, who never let us despair, never let give up and lead us on to success. And through it all we made some life long friends and some of the fortunate ones of us found soul mates that are now life partners. We are now successful doctors and have good lives.

Do you ever wonder where we would be if there ws no MAMC or if we were not part of MAMC. Well, I do think about it and have realized that MAMC and the revered teachers at MAMC have played a major role in my success as a professional, a teacher, and in becoming the person I am today.

Considering all the above, don't you think that we owe a lot to MAMC and to the faculty of MAMC? Isn't it time that we took a few moments from our busy lives to think and give a little bit (whatever way possible) back to the institute to which we owe so, so much?

This year is the Golden Jubilee year of the institute. 50th year old and has the protégés doing wonders in medicine all over the world. Maulanians are a force and MAMC is a name on the world map today.

Let us all come forward and contribute our might in whatever way possible to do our bit for MAMC. Let us all renew our memories to mark the 50th year of MAMC.

MAMCOS executive, the Dean and Faculty of MAMC has drawn out a plan of various activites during 2007-2008, starting September 1. We need each and every fellow Maulanian and Mamcoanian to come forward, contribute and participate in the various activities and make this year the most memorable year yet for all of us.

I appeal to all of you to spread this message and to contribute freely to the corpus of Golden Jubilee fund so as to enable us to organize various functions successfully. Feel proud, nice and take pleasure in giving back something to the Institute we all love.

See you all soon at the various functions.

God Bless.
Usha K. Baveja

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear fellow Maulanians,

It has been a great and exciting year for our organization. We have become a charter member of AAPI. I had the privilege of attending their interim meeting in New Jersey and the first Indo-US healthcare summit held in New Delhi as your delegate.

Dr. Narendra Kumar has been instrumental in getting MAMCOAANA associated with AAPI as Charter member. He was kind enough to attend and speak at our convention last year. I would like to personally support his candidacy for the office of Treasure of AAPI. I hope all Maulanians would consider the same.

I participated in the silver and golden jubilee celebrations held at our college on December 20, 2007. I had the distinct privilege of meeting with the Dean, Doctor A.K. Aggarwal, and leadership of MAMCOS, silver jubilee trust and the president of the Azad Medical Student association. I received great courtesy and hospitality from all of them and am deeply moved. I delivered a cheque for \$5000.00 to MAMCOS from MAMCOAANA, as approved by the general body in August 2007. I took our proposal of contributing up to \$5000.00 to upload credentials of all students on electronic media to the Dean.

The Dean informed me that the college has received a large grant that has been used in many progressive ways. The Auditorium and many administrative offices are already renovated. Investment has been made in multiple on line computers and the credentials are being uploaded. There are plans to renovate the hostels, and a guest house that may be offered to graduates who want to visit the college, but, do not have a place to stay in New Delhi.

Over the next few months, we at MAMCOAANA plan to develop an information resource for MAMC graduates that explain the process and options of coming to USA and realistic expectations. This will help them make an informed decision.

What we do best is cultivating fellowship. In that spirit, I would like to invite all of you to our next annual convention July 31 – August 3, 2008 in San Antonio, Texas. With food and bad memories, the fact remains that Maulana Azad Medical college gave us the foundation for our professional careers. So let's get together with our friends, batch mates and celebrate the 50th. Anniversary of MAMC in San Antonio in August.

With best regards,

Bhushan H. Pandya, MD

MILAN HO GAYA; PHIR MILAN HOGA

I always said, going to MAMCOAANA Reunion was like rejuvenation. We all need to rejuvenate, especially the oldies.

The 2007 Reunion was no exception, better than ever. Location, Perfect. The Destination Mile Downtown Chicago Marriott was in the midst of everything, beautiful lobby with hustle and bustle and beautiful people, California grill, some great Italian eateries, GAP, Nordstrom, airport shuttle, police sirens at night. Impeccable program.

Talking of Program:

Thursday: Great food, a lot to eat, also fruit and *Bhel Poori*, songs, jokes. Even some fresh jokes. Expensive booze.

Friday: Great CME. Thank you, Rakesh, a.k.a. Mr. CME. Hey, what happened to the breakfast, Dinesh and Ashutosh? We loved the bagel and coffee, anyway. Bus ride to Navy Pier, the boat ride, the scenery, food and (free) drinks. Music, and dancing, comradeship galore.

Saturday: CME, of course. The band at night, the best I have ever seen. Do they perform in New Jersey? I understand some of the young people were dancing up till 2.30 am. Keep up *Bacchu!*

Sunday: Good food again, and good-byes.

Usha Baveja from MAMCOS tried yet again to make some sense of MAMC recognizing that we exist. Good Luck.

Maulana Azad started almost fifty years ago, five decades coming together in the form of Reunion.

First decade: Forget about them; they have forgotten.

Second decade: They are having midlife crisis.

Third decade: Middle child problems, unsure dads and soccer moms.

Fourth decade: You performed well. You will carry the torch, and bring MAMCOAANA to its past glory.

Babies decade: Stop crawling, spring up and catch up with the others. I know, you will.

Pachaas Saal, kayee generations ka Milan hua, Chicago mein. Ab 2008 mein is sae bhi bada Milan hoga San Antonio mein. Looking forward to it, Marwah. And then the cruise in 2009...*Waah, waah..*

Thanks for 2007 to Kaul, Chawla, Dua, Edwin, Sodhi, Pandya, Rakesh, Goel, Jain, Nanda, Goyal, Ashutosh, Dinesh, and Bina, Renu and Purshottam, from the batch of '64, the first decadians, and so many who came. I especially missed Maliks and Jain, and some local Chicagoans. Let's get more and more to come and enjoy. Aashish Dua and Mona Anand are bringing new blood and new josh to the Executive Committee.

Jagdish Dang

REGISTRATION FORM -- MAMCOAANA XXIV
CONVENTION 2008
JULY 31 - AUGUST 3

The Westin Riverwalk
420 West Market Street, San Antonio, TX 78205
Phone: 888.627.83205

1. Personal Information

Name -----
Spouse -----
Children 1. -----
 2. -----
 3. -----
Address -----

Phone ----- E-mail -----

2. Registration Fee

	-Before June 30	After June 30
Life Member	\$375	\$400
Non - Member	\$400	\$425
Children > 18 yrs.	\$400	\$425
Children 5 - 18 yrs.	\$200	\$225
Resident / Fellow*	\$200	\$225
Friday - Dinner only	\$100	\$125
Saturday - Banquet only	\$150	\$150
CME - Total 8 hours	\$100	\$100

Total

*with proof only

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REGISTRATION FORM

3. Payment

Number of persons attending ----- adultschildren -----
Payment enclosed Check number ----- Amount -----
Please make check payable to MAMCOAANA Convention 2008 and mail to
Bhushan Panday, M.D., 134 Newbury way, Danville, VA 2541
Registration forms must be received on or before JULY 1, 2008

4. Accommodation

A block of rooms has been reserved at The Westin Riverwalk, at a rate of
\$ 199.00 per night plus applicable taxes.
For reservation please call directly at 888.627.8396 or 210.444.6023.
**Reservations must be made by or before July 1. After July 1, above
rates may not be available.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. Ashutosh Gupta presented the Executive Committee the current financial report.

1. Merrill Lynch, savings account \$167,977.65
This fund grows slowly and the only way to increase it is by recruiting new life members.
2. Dr. Dinesh Jain operates the checking account. Any profit from the conventions will go to this account. The Pittsburgh convention made a profit of approximately \$300.00. The cost of hosting a convention was approximately \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00, depending on the venue.

Did You Know?

Maulana Azad Medical College was founded in 1959. It is in its 50th year now and MAMCOS is celebrating the 50th Anniversary with great vigour. Go to spandan.com for details.



The college was built on a site where an old jail stood. Many freedom fighters lost their lives here by hanging. Today this monument stands at the site of the old jail.

**Announcing MAMCOAANA Reunion
2008**

in

San Antonio, Texas

@

The Westin Riverwalk

From

July 31 – August 3

Register Early

Bring family and MAMC friends.

ABOUT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

The site that was to become San Antonio, was a Coahuiltecan Indian village, where a Franciscan mission, San Antonio de Valero, and its protecting fort were built in 1718.

To populate and preserve Spain's hold on the region, the Spanish government sent several dozen colonists from the Canary Islands to the mission in 1731.

The first American attempt to colonize the frontier was made by Moses Austin, a Missouri pioneer who obtained a land grant from the Spanish. Moses died before his plan came to fruition, but his son, Stephen, brought 300 American families to settle in Texas in 1821.

Thus began a constant struggle between the Texians and Mexico for the control of San Antonio. Mexico's dictator, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, sent Gen. Martin Perfecto de Cos to subdue the rebellious Texians, but Cos was unsuccessful. Infuriated by the defeat, Santa Anna and nearly 4000 troops attacked the Alamo, where its 189 defenders fought valiantly to their deaths. Among the fallen was the legendary Davy Crockett.

Forty-six days after the fall of the Alamo, Gen. Sam Houston and his men launched a furious attack in the battle of San Jacinto. After only 18 minutes of fighting, the Texans emerged victorious, and the Republic of Texas was born.

Texas' entry into the union in 1845 as the 28th state opened San Antonio to immigration from Europe, predominantly German. One of the city's premier assets is the 2.5 mile tree-lined River Walk, or Paseo del Rio.

Other places of interest:

- Witte Museum
- Buckhorn Saloon & Museum
- Cassa Navarro State Historic Site
- Davy Crockett's Tall Tale Rides
- Fort Sam Houston
- The McNay Art Museum
- Natural Bridge Caverns
- San Antonio Museum of Art
- Spanish Governor's Palace

... taken from AAA Texas tourbook, 2007 edition

MY AFFAIR WITH MAMCOAANA

We had just moved to Pittsburgh from Michigan. That year MAMCOAANA was meeting at Seven Springs, about an hour's drive from Pittsburgh.

Oh well! We thought let's all meet at MAMCOAANA this year for our yearly reunion.

We are a group of very close friends from the batch of 88.

My only motivation at that time had been to see my friends again. MAMCOAANA had always seemed to be an "older generation thing", and I was just going to "check it out". What I had failed to realize was that MAMCOAANA brought together people from all parts of the United States who shared a common cord in their hearts...a common sense of belonging...a common pride of being a Maulanian.

It was really not about any generation, it was all about being a Maulanian. I saw many familiar faces. I met strangers, who for some reason did not seem strangers.

By the end of the four days of talent shows, ghazel nights, dance parties, I was wondering why I never took the time to do this before.

The following year a group of us were at the Chicago meeting. This time I saw a different side of MAMCOAANA. I saw an eagerness in all its members to give back to their alma-meter; I saw a purpose; I saw a commitment towards their beloved Maulana Azad Medical college. It was an honour to be a part of it

You may have guessed already, but I shall surely be in San Antonio, Texas in August of 2008.

I am hooked!.....for life!

Hope to see you there!

Mona Anand
