

THE 2011 HEALTHCARE SUMMIT was held at the Greenbrier Resort, August 26-28, 2011. This year's Summit included programming geared to assist physicians understand useful tools in fighting prescription drug abuse.

The Welcome Lunch program featured John H. Schmidt III, MD & Senator Evan H. Jenkins presentation, "Medicine on the Move, Creating Change and Leading the Way: Key Policy Issues Impacting Today's Practicing Physicians."

The afternoon plenary sessions included a presentation by David E. Potters, Executive Director & General Counsel of the WV Board of Pharmacy and Robert T. Cowan, CEO of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. Both speakers shared information with participants about accessing their patient's prescription data across state lines as well as other tools available to track and fight prescription drug abuse. Visiting state presidents from Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Illinois and Iowa shared their state's experience in the area of prescription drug abuse as well as other emerging issues.

The Friday evening reception was a relaxing and joyful mix-and-mingle event. It was followed by a Gala dinner, "An Evening of Memories...Medical Liability Reform, 25 Years in the Making." Five WVSMA past presidents shared their front-line memories as they led the charge to achieve medical liability reform. A slide show presentation spanning forty years of "history in the making" was enjoyed by all as participants discussed "who had changed the least."

The West Virginia Mutual Insurance Company's Robert L. Ghiz Award for Outstanding Service to the Physician Community of West Virginia was presented by Robert L. Ghiz, MD to the Honorable Jane L. Cline, Former Commissioner, West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner.

Saturday's program started with a special risk management breakfast hosted by the West Virginia Mutual Insurance Company.

The plenary session was chock-full of excellent presentations beginning with Jeff Kmiec, Vice President, The Greenbrier. He outlined the Greenbrier's preliminary plans for a think tank of the brightest and best medical minds from around the world to form a research facility in Lewisburg, WV. He was followed by Senator Joe Manchin who shared his thoughts on various issues affecting our state and country. Bill Maloney, republican nominee for Governor, John W. Poole, MD, Member of the AMPAC Board of Directors and finally AMA President, Peter W. Carmel, MD rounded out the session.

The 2011-2012 WVSMA Officer Installation Luncheon followed the plenary session (see pg. 29 for photos).

Many thanks to each of our speakers, participants, visiting state presidents, exhibitors, supporters and staff for a terrific Healthcare Summit!

