



## North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology

# News

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## NC Chapter Leaders Working for You

Eleven (11) of your Chapter leaders (officers/councilors/committee chairs) met in Durham the weekend of August 24 and 25 for a strategic planning session (Robert H. Jones, MD, Joseph D. Babb, MD, Paul G. Colavita, MD, Christopher B. Granger, MD, David D. Grove, MD, John C. Cedarholm, MD, David J. Bohle, MD, Robert A. Harrington, MD, Oscar R. Jenkins, MD, Charles Hicks, MD, Sidney Smith, MD; guest David Feild, OMG Exec. VP; and NCCACC staff Mary Alice Dilday).

The meeting was convened Friday evening at the Washington Duke Inn with discussions about future directions for the Chapter. The group decided on eight (8) areas of discussion for the subsequent planning session: 1) billing; 2) practice mechanics; 3) sharing expertise; 4) increasing collegiality/reducing competition; 5) opportunities for involvement; 6) common causes; 7) early involvement of Fellows; and 8) regional meetings.

Saturday morning the group affirmed the Chapter's mission statement and the goals that the Chapter would like to achieve. The goals outlined were 1) decrease members' administrative work burden; 2) seek fair State policies toward members (coordinated advocacy); 3) promote high quality care; 4) decrease competition/increase collegiality; 5) enhance information exchange (relationships with other organizations and the Chapter newsletter); 6) standardize Chapter administrative policies and procedures; and 7) enhance Chapter visibility (patient focus).

At the end of the session, the group was asked to choose three areas that needed immediate follow up:

- 1) Chapter leadership effectiveness,
- 2) Quality of care, and
- 3) Chapter annual meeting.

Task Forces were appointed for these three areas and reports will be made at the September Annual Membership meeting in Asheville. In addition, the Chapter leadership will present a full report about the entire strategic planning session, including a listing of potential major organizational goals.

The planning session was very successful in developing goals for the Chapter and creating enthusiasm for participation in Chapter activities in the future.

## NC/SC Chapters 8th Annual Joint Meeting

The Eighth Annual Joint Meeting of the North Carolina and South Carolina Chapters of the American College of Cardiology will be held September 28-30, 2001, at the Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC.

Dr. Charles Simonton of Charlotte is serving as Chair of the meeting which is jointly sponsored by the Charlotte Area Health Education Center and the North and South Carolina Chapters of the ACC for up to 8 hours of Category 1 Physician credits.

New for this year's meeting are expanded clinical topics, interactive case studies, Fellow abstract presentations, pediatric roundtable, and a practice management seminar. The format encourages discussions between the faculty and the participants.

The Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa is one of the South's oldest and most famous grand resorts, built in 1913 overlooking the Asheville skyline and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Join your colleagues in the mountains of North Carolina for a weekend with a little old world charm, breathtaking views, and education!

For registration information, contact NCCACC at (919) 787-5181, x 205.

## Chapter Elections

### Officers

President  
Robert H. Jones, MD, FACC  
Durham, NC

Secretary/Treasurer  
Joseph D. Babb, MD, FACC  
Greenville, NC

Immediate Past President  
Kenneth D. Weeks, Jr., MD,  
FACC  
Charlotte, NC

### Councilors

Robert J. Applegate, MD, FACC  
Winston-Salem, NC

David B. Gilbert, MD, FACC  
Fayetteville, NC

Robert A. Harrington, MD, FACC  
Durham, NC

Charles H. Hicks, MD, FACC  
Wrightsville Beach, NC

Oscar R. Jenkins, Jr., MD, FACC  
Asheville, NC

R. Lee Jobe, MD, FACC  
Raleigh, NC

Philip J. Nahser, Jr., MD, FACC  
Greensboro, NC

Harry R. Phillips, III, MD, FACC  
Durham, NC

Mark K. Reames, Jr., MD, FACC  
Charlotte, NC

Gary J. Renaldo, MD, FACC  
Winston-Salem, NC

Donald A. Riopel, MD, FACC  
Charlotte, NC

Sidney C. Smith, MD, FACC  
Chapel Hill, NC

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All submissions must be received on or before:  
Fall - October 1, 2001  
Winter - January 1, 2002  
Spring - April 1, 2002  
Summer - July 1, 2002

New Councilors will be elected at the Chapter Membership meeting in Asheville, NC, September 30. The Chapter Nominating Committee has put forth the following slate for election:



**Christopher B. Granger, MD, FACC**

(replacing Harry R. Phillips, III, MD, FACC)  
Duke University  
Medical Center  
Durham, NC

Chris Granger, MD, is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine at Duke University Medical Center. He has been Director of the Cardiac Care Unit at Duke University Medical Center since 1996.

Dr. Granger received his BA in 1980 and graduated Cum Laude from Middlebury College in 1980. He received his MD from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in 1984. He continued his medical training at the University of Colorado, where he completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine, received the housestaff teaching award, and spent his final year as Chief Resident. Dr. Granger then proceeded to Duke University where he completed his Fellowship in Cardiology in 1990 and then joined the faculty staff in the Division of Cardiology. Dr. Granger is a Diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine as well as being Cardiovascular Board Certified. Dr. Granger is an Affiliate Member of the American College of Physicians and a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology.

His primary research interest is in conduct and methodology of large randomized clinical trials in heart disease. His major recent activity has been in trials involving acute ischemic heart disease and heart failure. This includes coordination of the Duke Clinical Research Institutes' activities in the ASSENT-3 and HERO-2 trials that are evaluating thrombolytic therapy strategies, the CARDINAL trials studying an inhibitor of complement to reduce myocardial infarction size for which he is study chairman, and the CHARM and VALIANT trials that are evaluating angiotensin receptor blockers for heart failure.

He has served on the Steering Committee of GUSTO I, II, III and IV, PARAGON, HERO-2, ASSENT-2, ASSENT-3, CARDINAL, SYMPHONY, and CHARM studies. Based on his research, Dr. Granger has contributed over 200 articles, abstracts, book chapters, and invited publications to the medical press. He currently serves as Associate Editor of the American Heart Journal, and is a reviewer for the Journal

of the American Medical Association, Journal of the American College of Cardiology and Circulation.

He, his wife Bradi, and their three children ages 2 to 5 live in the farmlands of northern Durham where they keep honey bees. They also enjoy skiing and fishing.



**David J. Bohle, MD, FACC**

(replacing Gary J. Renaldo, MD, FACC)  
Winston-Salem Cardiology  
Winston-Salem, NC

Dr. David Bohle graduated from the

University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of Arkansas Medical Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. Cardiology training was completed in 1995 at Wake Forest University, Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Dr. Bohle is an interventional cardiologist at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem, N.C. He was the sixth member to join Winston-Salem Cardiology and is currently physician manager of this group. He has been active in research trials including the PARAGON Trial and IMPACT Study. He is extremely active on the staff at Forsyth Medical Center and was instrumental in developing the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program as well as implementation of a digital echocardiography system within the hospital.

Dr. Bohle is married to wife, Christine, with whom he has two children, David, age 8, and Catherine, age 6, and is a den leader for Cub Scouts. He enjoys cycling with his family and is extremely active in Tae Kwon Do, working towards a black belt.

His special interests in cardiology include interventional cardiology, women and heart disease, and the use of evidence-based medicine for the treatment of congestive heart failure, hyperlipidemia, and coronary artery disease.

These Councilors will be elected unless a petition is received within 30 days, nominating other persons and signed by no less than ten (10) members of the Chapter. Any such petition shall nominate no more than twelve persons, shall designate the area of the person nominated and shall certify that the person nominated consents to the nominations. If no petition is filed within 30 days of the publication, the Nominating Committee shall present

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# Babb Elected as Chapter Governor



**Joseph D. Babb, MD,  
FACC**  
East Carolina University  
Greenville, NC

Dr. Babb has been in the practice of invasive and interventional cardiology at East

Carolina University School of Medicine in Greenville, NC, since 1995. His major clinical activities and responsibilities include being Director of the Cardiac Laboratories and Associate Section Chief of the Cardiology Section. He is a Professor of Medicine and serves the University and Pitt County Memorial Hospital in various capacities, including Director of the Cardiac Database, Co-Director of the Cardiovascular Quality Assurance Committee, and Chairman of the Heart Center Cardiovascular Matrix Committee.

Dr. Babb completed his cardiology training at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA, in 1972. He did an internship and residency at Massachusetts General Hospital from 1966 to 1968, and served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1970. He graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1966 and graduated

cum laude with a combined biology and chemistry major from Kenyon College in 1961. Between college and medical school, he spent a year as a Fulbright Fellow doing research on experimental embryology.

Dr. Babb's major clinical activities include performance of invasive and interventional cardiac procedures and cardiac consultation. He has a particular interest in management strategies for acute coronary syndromes and acute myocardial infarction.

Dr. Babb's teaching activities include instruction of second-, third-, and fourth-year medical students at East Carolina University School of Medicine. He participates actively in the cardiology fellowship training program at ECU and has been Director of the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship at ECU. He has been active in continuing medical education activities and served as chairman of the CME Committee of the Society of Cardiac Angiography and Interventions and is President of the Society of Cardiac Angiography and Interventions.

Dr. Babb has been active in the American College of Cardiology for many years and served as ACC Governor for the State of Connecticut before moving to North Carolina. In Connecticut he served as a member of

the American Heart Association Research Committee and was active in the state peer review organization. In North Carolina he has continued his active affiliation with the College serving first as counselor for the eastern region and subsequently as secretary/treasurer for the state Chapter. At the national level, he serves as a member of the American College of Cardiology Section Council on Cardiovascular Diseases at the American Medical Association and serves on the ACC Practice Expense and Physician Workforce Advisory Committee. He has been invited to lecture nationally and internationally on a variety of topics relating to invasive cardiology including management strategies of ischemic heart disease and the development of the hybrid revascularization technique.

Joseph D. Babb, MD, FACC, was elected to become NCCACC's Governor and President, taking office in March 2002, during the American College of Cardiology's Annual Scientific Sessions in Atlanta, GA. Governors and Governors-Elect of the College are elected through a process as set forth in the ACC Bylaws. The term of office for Governors is three (3) years. Dr. Robert H. Jones, NCCACC's current Governor will become Immediate Past President for the next three years. Dr. Jones will become the Chair of the ACC Board of Governors in March 2002.

Congratulations to Dr. Jones and Dr. Babb.

## Chapter Webpage

Chapter members will want to add a new bookmark to their web browsers. That page, [www.nccacc.org](http://www.nccacc.org), will keep members informed about the latest NC Chapter news and events.

The NCCACC website is now under the management of Web Design and Database Solutions of Charlotte, NC. Several suggestions to improve the site have been implemented, such as, on the "Members" page the name is a "mail to" link that you click on to send an email to that physician. Under "News & Publications" you will find the ACC Advocacy Weekly and the Monthly Briefing from Chris. The website offers many on-line resources. An example is the NCCACC Practice Management site. We have assembled a panel of experts to address your questions and concerns regarding practice management. The questions and answers will be posted to this site and we encourage you to comment on them. We will publish health/reimbursement-related bulletins to anyone who wishes to receive this information. Answers to your coding questions are available on the website. In addition, Betty Holloway at the Heart House will answer coding questions. She prefers questions in writing. They can be faxed to her at 301-897-9745 or e-mailed at [bhollowa@acc.org](mailto:bhollowa@acc.org).

Web Design and Database Solutions is looking for any suggestions that might make the [NCCACC.org](http://www.nccacc.org) a more usable website and be of enhanced service to the NCC/SCC. If you have a suggestion, you can email it to [webmaster@nccacc.org](mailto:webmaster@nccacc.org), call 704-503-1496 or write to:

Web Design and Database Solutions  
PO Box 29031  
Charlotte, NC 28229-9031

# NC Chapter Membership Meeting

The NC Chapter of ACC will hold its Annual Chapter Membership Meeting on Sunday, September 30, 2001, at 8:00 a.m., at the Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC. Councilor elections will take place at this time.

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## Chapter Elections

*continued from page 2*

the above nominees for election. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed. In the event of a contested election for an office, the vote shall be taken by secret ballot mailed to all Chapter members in each area in which more than one (1) person has been nominated. Eligibility for election as a Councilor shall be restricted to Active Members. Councilors are eligible to succeed themselves for one (1) additional two-year term.

The Chapter would like to thank Dr. Harry Phillips and Dr. Gary Renaldo for their service as Councilors.

# Cardiology Reimbursement and Coding Seminar

The North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology is pleased to present a reimbursement and coding workshop designed for cardiology (Wednesday, November 28, Raleigh, NC and Thursday, November 29, Charlotte, NC). The Chapter has arranged with McVey Associates, Inc. for their seminar leader, Ray Cathey, P.A., to present a Year 2002 workshop to assure rightful reimbursement for your patients, whether from government, managed care, or private insurers. It will begin where the seminars left off with a workshop format. Brochures will be mailed to NCCACC members.

Rumors about new E&M (evaluation and management) guidelines have NO EFFECT on current law. The government is serious in their investigation of fraud and abuse and the workshop will provide important answers for your practice.

Most specialties have been affected by the physician payment reforms from Medicare ("Correct Coding Policy" and pre-payment edits). Revised Year 2002 evaluation and management services documentation requirements, modifiers, and surgery rules have magnified the confusion that already exists. This intensive workshop, focused on cardiology, will provide better clarification.

Incorrect coding translates directly to problems that require great effort and time to correct. The Chapter is working hard to support the practice management needs of the membership and believe that both you and your billing staff will find this workshop worthwhile and encourage you to register today.

## NC Chapter of ACC Contracts with OMG

The North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (NCCACC) retained Olson Management Group (OMG) to serve as full-service management headquarters for the Chapter, effective June 1, 2001.

Mary Alice Dilday, senior account executive/team leader at OMG, has been assigned as Chapter Administrator of NCCACC. Dilday's background includes 15 years with OMG. She also served as the NCCACC Chapter Administrator from 1993-1997.

"It is a privilege to welcome NCCACC as a returning client to OMG," said Olson Management Group Executive Vice President David J. Feild.

### North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology

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### Chapter Administrator:

Mary Alice Dilday; (919) 787-5181, x 205; [madilday@olsonmgmt.com](mailto:madilday@olsonmgmt.com)

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