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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>



Autumn is a time for letting go and harvesting all the ideas we have nurtured during the Spring and Summer. Last year, Acupuncturists throughout Maryland experienced unprecedented challenges and changes with our profession, businesses, and financial security. We supported our patients and colleagues through the COVID-19 pandemic, political unrest, overt societal acts of racial discrimination and violence against African Americans and Asian Americans, and uncertainty within

ourselves and our patients as we look for relief. Although we are surrounded by chaos and evolution, there is space within ourselves for gratitude and peace, as we let go of what we cannot change and embrace the gift of life and love.

Our most important lesson learned during this year is that we work best when we work together. I am proud of the work that all of you have done to recover and protect your practices so that you may continue to treat your patients through this pandemic. I am proud of those of you who acknowledged the risk of the pandemic to your community and made the decision to take care yourself by closing your practice. I applaud all of you who answered the call and volunteered your services to the communities in need. We did our best in the face of adversity, and yet, we suffered unrecoverable losses.

This year brings the promise of relief through government, state, and local COVID-19 relief funding, an increased demand for acupuncture services in our region, and the addition of Acupuncture Injection Therapy in our scope of practice. In addition, there are opportunities on the horizon for acupuncturists to be included in Medicare as providers and the coverage of adults under Maryland Medicaid. On the other hand, we are also facing reduced provider fees and insurance payer contracts with third party claim processors, such as American Specialty Health, who pose a threat to the way we practice.

MAS has stood strong with you to support your ideas and your dreams through this moment of crisis. We are moving to a new way of being in a time of change. MAS is harvesting the ideas and the work which has been accomplished over the years to improve our continuing education courses, such as a state certification for Acupuncture Injection Therapy, Technology for Acupuncturists, specialty acupuncture topics, and practice management topics. MAS continues to work with our lobbyist firm, Evans & Associates, to champion legislation and challenge insurance payers such as Cigna/ASH. MAS regularly hosts committees to support the work needed to advance our profession such as the Insurance Committee, Legislative Committee, Communication Committee, and Membership Committee. The members of these committees volunteer an extraordinary amount of their time and energy to ensure Maryland acupuncturists maintain a professional standing in the health care community.

We can not do this without all of you, Maryland acupuncturists. This professional organization belongs to all of us, and we need as many members as possible to stand strong in Maryland and with our colleagues throughout the United States. As a member of MAS, you are also a member of the American Society of Acupuncturists (ASA). This organization represents 34 states and is growing. There is power in numbers especially when lobbying with legislators or attending a meeting with the Maryland Insurance Administration. When a legislator asks us, "How many acupuncturists does MAS represent?", we need be able to say at least 90% or 1,000 members strong!

Here is what you can do right now to support our profession:

1. Network with 10 colleagues and ask them to join you as an MAS member so we can stand strong in numbers to advocate for improvements which will positively impact our profession.
2. Renew your membership annually or sign up for auto-renew for your convenience.
3. Become an executive board member for MAS
4. Join an MAS committee and share your great ideas and passion for strengthening our profession.
5. Attend MAS events which include but are not limited to classes for PDAs/CEUs, free webinars, and self-paced distance learning.
6. Become a regular contributor to the MAS newsletter and write your own column.
7. Work with the Legislative committee and learn how you can support our lobbying activities.
8. Participate in ASA activities and volunteer on committees.
9. Work with the Education committee to search for exciting new education providers and content.

10. Work with the Insurance committee to keep ahead of issues which may impact the economic future of Maryland acupuncturists.
11. Work with the Membership committee to help MAS increase the numbers so we can show Maryland legislators and insurance payers that we mean business.
12. Use your members-only benefits and recommend additional benefits so we can add more.
13. Send us your ideas, comments, suggestions, and complaints. We want to hear it all.

As Maryland acupuncturists, we are at a turning point, an uncharted path where this harvest will need to sustain us on our travels. We are outstanding professionals who are committed to the health and wellness of our patients in mind, body and spirit. Thank you for your support and contributions.

With gratitude,

Denise C. Tyson, MBA, DOM, LAc
President, Maryland Acupuncture Society

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BOARD BULLETIN

From Denise Tyson, MAS President, MBA, DOM, L.Ac

One of our two MAS Student Liaison positions is vacant. If you are a student or know of an acupuncture student who is interested in serving the board as a Liaison, please contact Denise Tyson and send your resume to president@marylandacupuncturesociety.org.

From Sheri DePetro, MAS VP of Internal Affairs, D. Ac., L.Ac.

Lillian Bridges presented: The Facial Maps to MAS on February 20, 2021. It was an amazing Part 2 in her series on Face Reading. Here is a sneak preview if you wish to purchase our CEU course:

- The face shows many clues about past life experiences and previously held or expressed emotions.
- Lillian discussed two Facial Maps: The Map of Life Experience (how our face records trauma) and the Emotional Map (how our wrinkles on the face can be interpreted by overuse or underuse of emotions).
- The face is a topographical map that involves personality, past experiences, and future potential.

Most of her talk is best if you have her slides available as she shows you specific wrinkles and facial features associated with very specific emotions. Lillian stated that "wrinkles are our life experience markings from constant and repeated expressions that are repressed out of emotion." She presents the facial map of a female and a male, with numbers indicating the Chinese age. The Chinese track birth from conception, and thus are 1

year older than Western age.

Lillian also presented two ear maps, one for females and one for males. Each map shows ages from conception to age 7 (age 6 in Western terms) and age 8 to age 14. Here are a few tidbits from her presentation:

- A tired liver results in brown or age spots, pointy ears represent someone with extreme emotions, multiple lines over the lip could be that they over-nurture other people and under-nurture themselves.
- When one has half an eyebrow, it indicates that an emotion is held there. It can indicate an overactive or underactive liver.
- Freckles are an indicator of fire.
- Three white-sided eyes, (John F Kennedy) indicates an overactive nervous system and depleted adrenals.

If you are interested in Lillian's first presentation, you can earn 2 PDA and purchase it from the MAS website, [Lillian Bridges Part 1](#). The trailer for [Lillian Bridges Part 2](#) is available for viewing

From Lillian's GoFundMe page: "Recently, Lillian was diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer and is undergoing treatment. Even after her diagnosis, she has remained more concerned for the people around her. If you would like to donate to Lillian's Recovery & Care, the proceeds will be used towards her treatments, recovery programs, and medical expenses. All proceeds raised are managed and distributed by Lillian's two sons, Stephen and Alex."

MAS members have been getting to know Lillian over the past few years. She has given several seminars for us. We want to express our sincere gratitude to her and let her know we send healing energy, love and support through her recovery.

Do you have requests for a specific speaker or CEU topic? Please email Sheri DePetro at education@marylandacupuncture.org.

Lillian Bridges' GoFundMe

From Lynne Vance, VP External Affairs, MTOM, BSN, RN, L.Ac.

The [Acupuncture Injection Therapy](#) legislation has been published in the Maryland Register for public comment. Comments may be sent to:

Maryland Department of Health
Office of Regulation and Policy Coordination
Jason Caplan, Director
201 West Preston Street, Room 512
Baltimore, MD 21201

OR call 410-767-6499 (TTY 800-735-2258)

OR email to mdh.regs@maryland.gov

OR fax to 410-767-6483

Comments will be accepted through **September 27, 2021**. After public comment and no opposition, the legislation can be approved.

MAS board members, Dr. Denise Tyson, and Dr. Lynne Vance are continuing meetings with Cigna regarding the ASH partnership in coordination with our lobbyist, Hayley Evans.

For inquiries regarding external affairs and/or legislative relations, please contact Lynne Vance at legislative@marylandacupunctureociety.org.

From Cindy Tran, MAS Secretary and Newsletter Editor, D.Ac., L.Ac.

On January 22, 2021, MAS held our Annual Full Membership Meeting for the first time virtually on Zoom. You may review the minutes for this meeting on the [Members Only](#) page of MAS' website in preparation for our next virtual Membership Meeting to be held on **Friday, September 17, 2021** at 6:00 PM, Eastern Time. This will be our very first virtual election! See below for the duties of the **board positions up for election**:

Vice President of External Affairs (Dr. Lynne Vance, L.Ac currently appointed)

Duties Include:

- Attending Executive Board Meetings
- Chairing the Legislation Committee
- Presiding over meetings that relate to affairs outside of the MAS committees
- Act as liaison between the Board and the committees for organizations outside of MAS such as insurance organizations, Maryland Acupuncture Board, state legislation, other health provider associations

Treasurer (Dr. Christina Van Norman, L.Ac currently elected)

Duties Include:

- Account reconciliation
- Processing financial transactions on behalf of MAS
- Issuing and managing vendor payments
- Attending Executive Board Meetings
- Reporting the financial status at the annual meeting
- Working with an accountant to prepare and file tax returns
- Presiding over Board elections when the Treasurer position is not on the ballot

Member-at-Large (Lourdes Martinez, L.Ac currently appointed)

Duties Include:

- Attending Executive Board Meetings
- Chairing the membership committee

- Running the MAS membership renewal campaign every year in October
- Running the MAS new membership campaign in November each year and promoting membership in the MAS.
- Overseeing the MAS membership and state licensed acupuncturist database
- Negotiating and managing benefits for MAS members

There are great benefits to serving on the board! If you are interested in running for a position, please email your resume to president@marylandacupuncturesociety.org.

For any inquiries regarding MAS communication distribution, please email Cindy Tran at secretary@marylandacupuncturesociety.org. If you have newsletter inquiries/suggestions, would like make a newsletter submission, please email editor@marylandacupuncturesociety.org.

From Lourdes Martinez, MAS Member-At-Large, M.Ac., Dipl.Ac.

We have recently introduced our newest member benefit, Digital On Demand. You should have received an email outlining the details of this subscription service. We are offering a **free** one-month subscription as an introductory offer. You can sign up anytime. Digital On Demand will be offering a 10% discount (normally a \$200 value, the cost is reduced to \$180) on the subscription after the free trial.

Digital On Demand

Please stay tuned for another new benefit coming soon! And remember that your membership benefits you and the acupuncture community at large. Your dues pay for our lobbyist that represents us on important issues that impact our profession and gives you access to discounts on seminars and products! Plus, we strive to give you timely updates on relevant issues at all times!

Looking for something to do with your spare time? Want to help us strengthen our bargaining power on issues that impact our profession? We need to grow our membership to accomplish that! If you would like to volunteer some of your free time to help us increase our membership, you can join our membership committee by emailing us at: membership@marylandacupuncturesociety.org. We need your engagement!

Join/ Renew

MAS Members receive a 10% discount to this year's Atlantic Symposium! You must

ATLANTIC SYMPOSIUM

ATLANTIC SYMPOSIUM

Home of AcuCongress Training

Nov 7 to 9, 2021

Isle of Palms, South Carolina - United States

log in to [MAS' Members Only](#) page to receive your discount code.

Learn more about the [Atlantic Symposium](#).

Atlantic Symposium Registration

From Emily Herman, MAS Events & Communications Coordinator, M.Ac, L.Ac

Discounts on other state associations webinars!

Did you know that MAS Members sometimes get discounts on educational events being put on by other state associations? To see these events, and other MAS Member benefits, log in to the website and visit the [Members Only](#) page!

Need self-paced online continuing education credits?

Our Distance Learning courses are developed from video or high quality audio recordings of live presentations, and many are available for NCCAOM PDA!

For inquiries regarding MAS classes/events, contact Emily Herman at events@marylandacupunctureociety.org.

Distance Learning CEUs

From Christina Van Norman, MAS Treasurer, DOM, L.Ac.

Contact Christina Van Norman at treasurer@marylandacupunctureociety.org for any inquiries.

From William May, MAS Technical Consultant

For any website assistance and technical support, contact William May at

From Tonya Waddell, Student Liaison, MBA, DOM Candidate

For any inquiries regarding student affairs, contact Tonya Waddell at twaddell@muoh.edu.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 17, 2021

Virtual MAS Membership Meeting with Elections

6:00-8:00pm Eastern Time

MAS holds our first virtual election!

See the election details in the [board bulletin](#).

All members are encouraged to attend.

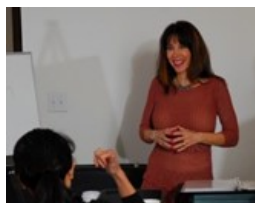
Meeting agenda coming soon.



[Register](#)

September 18-19, 2021

Treating Neuromuscular Facial Conditions with Michelle Gellis



About The Class:

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Eastern Time

14 PDA Credits

This two-day, virtual class provides skills to identify and treat underlying patterns and conditions that affect the proper functioning of facial muscles and nerves. These conditions may include, but are not limited to, Bell's Palsy, ptosis, MS, TMJ, stroke, trigeminal neuralgia, and shingles. Several treatment techniques, including facial cupping and micro-needling, will be taught and are outlined below.

Students Will:

1. Learn theory and protocols for intramuscular and submuscular needling of face points
2. Learn theory and protocols for scalp acupuncture needed for treatment of facial conditions
3. Learn theory and protocols for motor points on scalp and face needed for treatment of facial conditions
4. Be able to identify contraindications and determine the modality best suited to treat different facial conditions
5. Be able to effectively plan a treatment for various facial conditions

Register

October 16, 2021

Tongue Diagnosis with Evan Rabinowitz

Registration information and details coming soon.



Spring 2022

Gu Syndrome Essential Oils for Chronic Lyme Disease with Greg Lee

Registration information and details coming soon.

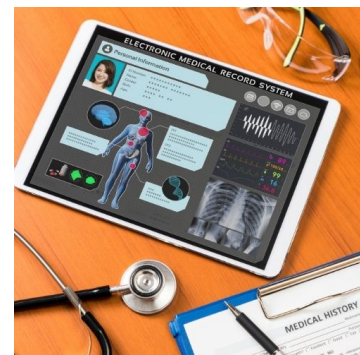


Early 2022

Virtual Electronic Health Records Software Expo

Join live EHR software demos from the comfort of your own home

- Get your questions from company representatives answered live
- Chat and network with other attendees
- Walk away virtual “booth samples”
- NCCAOM PDA available



Stay tuned to our website and emails for more information.



Legislative: Implicit Bias Training will soon be required by all healthcare professionals in Maryland. Read [Senate Bill 0005](#) in detail and see it where it stands in the legislative process.

Bill Status

Acupoint Injection Therapy To Be Within the Scope of Practice for Maryland Acupuncturists

MAS is in the process of developing an Acupoint Injection Therapy Training Course, and we are seeking qualified instructors to teach this course.

The training course will cover such topics as:

- Uses and contraindications for injectable substances
- Proper storage and disposal of injection syringes and injection compounds
- Safety and emergency procedures
- Administration and practical injection skills, including injection technique
- Universal precautions including management of:
 - Blood borne pathogens
 - Bio-hazardous waste
 - Clinical training

We are seeking multiple teachers of various training backgrounds. If you believe you are qualified to teach any of these topics, please send your resume to: president@marylandacupuncturesociety.org

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Maryland Board of Acupuncture is Going Green

Effective October 1, 2021: The board will no longer issue blue paper license. You will receive an email notification that your license has been renewed. On-line verification is free and accessible by everyone. The Board will continue to issue the Wall Certificate to new licensees.

To slowly shift to paperless, the Board will send out renewal reminders to licensees for the November 2021 and May 2022 renewal periods. Thereafter, the Board will be completely paperless and will email all future renewal notices. It is, therefore, very important to contact the Board immediately if you change your email address.

All questions regarding these changes can be directed to Ms. Cynthia Dobbins at Cynthia.dobbins@maryland.gov

Please note that you will be able to print out copies of your updated license if you wish to display them in your office. You are no longer required to post them in each office location. You can direct your patients to check online for your licensure status.

License Verification

The Cigna/ASH partnership has been a highly discussed topic of conversation. For clarity on MAS' involvement in this matter and the details regarding acupuncture reimbursements under this partnership, please read our most recent update.

Cigna/ASH Update

Your Maryland Acupuncture Society Membership fee automatically enables your membership in the American Society of Acupuncturists. This gives you access to a vast amount of information and events regarding our profession on the state level AND national level. Please utilize this paid resource!

Visit ASA's Website

On **September 30, 2021**, ASA will host a town hall to provide updates on Medicare. Hear from U.S. Representative Judy Chu, as well as ASA and NCCAOM leadership about H.R. 4803's potential impact on the profession, next steps for the bill, and how your involvement can make a difference. **All Licensed Acupuncturists are Encouraged to Attend.**

Register

Effective January 1, 2021- For those who bill to insurance, the E/M codes are now based on total time to include face-to-face and non face-to-face time. Some codes have been eliminated. When prolonged time occurs, the appropriate add-on code may be reported. The appropriate time should be documented in the medical record when it is used as the basis for code selection.

Legislative: Stay up-to-date on [Senate Bill 0932](#)! Our lobbyists' ongoing focus on expanding Medical Assistance acupuncture coverage for adults is underway. Read the bill and track the Senate's activity on this bill!

Bill Status

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CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT: Practitioner with 28 years of experience looking for someone who wants to work in Bel Air area. I am retiring end of May 2022. I am looking for either a new practitioner who wants to work in Harford county or an experienced practitioner who wants a second location. I would like someone who will be willing to learn some of my techniques and approaches and take over my patients when I leave.

Contact: Jean Kneebone of Harford Acupuncture
410-215-3631
Text is preferable as I do not hear well.

EMPLOYMENT: I'm really hoping to find someone fresh out of school willing to learn, grow, and step into an easy situation that provides them patients with minimal work on their end. To be cool like a unicorn. Someone who is available and willing to work with us. Read the [Indeed Description](#).

Contact: Jonathan of Pin It Up Acupuncture
443-328-5370
Jonathan@pinitupacu.com



FOR SALE: Acupuncture and herbal medicine clinic in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Located in the Wegman's shopping center. Currently a solo practitioner office, treating an average of 200 patients per month. The total accumulated patient list is 1,100. There are frequent new patient referrals from many sources. I'm looking to find the right person to hand off the opportunity of caring for these patients and continuing to grow the clinic.

Office setup:

- 3 treatment rooms
- 1 consultation room
- Dispensary room
- Building common areas: conference room, waiting room, bathrooms, kitchenette
- Private parking with 25 spaces
- Common areas are cleaned daily and maintained by the landlord

Contact: Marc Wasserman of Flow Health Clinic, LLC

marcwasserman@flowhealthclinic.com

410-709-8188

www.flowhealthclinic.com

FOR RENT: One treatment room available on Charter Drive in Columbia, MD. Rates negotiable.



Contact: Jacqui Barry of AcuRooms

jacqui@acurooms.com

443-820-8253

SPACE FOR LET: In downtown Columbia. For information about the practice, visit: <https://fourgateswellness.com/>

Contact: Michael Phillips and Heather Dorst of Four Gates Wellness Center

Heatherdorst@gmail.com

SPACE VACANCY: Beautiful treatment space available in a well-established wellness center in Towson, MD. Really great group of practitioners, including acupuncturists, massage therapists, a fitness trainer, and psychotherapist. Excellent location. Off-street parking. Seeking full-time practitioner starting June 1, 2021.

Contact: Stacey MacFarlane of Heart's Gate Wellness Center

410-818-8670

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