

Auxiliary to the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons

Joyce Spezia, President 2017-2024

Past AMAOPS President 2005-2007

As a visionary, I had many hopes and plans when I was installed as President of AMAOPS for the second time in 2017. My thoughts, we needed new members and what greater source but our Osteopathic schools here in Missouri.

The AMAOPS Board:

Many positives transpired as the officers we did have were all older, on the board for many years and doing many offices many times. Most all positions were filled on our Board with volunteers, of Past Presidents and past members taking on office, the support was amazing. The board agreed that we would focus on organizing the Student Advocate Associations (SAAs) on any or all the Osteopathic medical schools.

We have three Osteopathic Medical Schools here in Missouri, KCU in Kansas City and their joining medical school in Joplin, Missouri. KCU-Joplin. A.T. Still University of Health Sciences (ATSU) in Kirksville, MO. Kirksville the home of A.T. Still and Osteopathic Medicine.

Since 2020, the dramatics of the students on campus has changed so much that the need for SAA organizing will be very difficult if at all. If the students or administrations see a need for the spouses and or significant others then we are open to help, but at this point the idea of SAA on our Missouri campuses is tabled.

St. Louis District News: The *Auxiliary to the St. Louis Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons* has nominated and elected new officers and is getting more organized with each meeting that they have. Several committee meetings in planning the DO Holiday Party to be held December 14, 2023. There will be a membership meeting on September 12, 2023.

This past year we had a combination AMAOPS Board and ASLOPS meeting in St. Charles, Missouri. Out of that meeting our new ASLOPS Members met some of our Board and friends developed right away. We now have three new board members for AMAOPS.

AMAOPS continues to struggle with the opportunity for members to be active within the State Auxiliary. We are encouraged with the St. Louis District Auxiliary spouses and significant others have come together. I have encouraged other MAOPS districts to include your spouses within your meetings so they too can meet other spouses, men, and women within our DO Family.

We have been contacted by the President of the Missouri State Medical Association and have been invited to their Alliance Fall Conference, which is scheduled for Thursday, October 5-6 in Columbia, MO with speakers on Artificial Intelligence and Crime and Sexual exploitation and Cybercrime from the local law enforcement. As President, I was invited to the St. Louis Medical Association installation in April 2023, it was a beautiful event and I felt so welcomed.

This will be my last AAOA House of Delegate report as President of AMAOPS. Seven years as President, I believe is a record. I am encouraged and feel we have improved even with our different struggles that our state and country has never experienced. It is my belief that more changes are coming within the Osteopathic Organizations and in medicine itself.

A delegation from Missouri will be represented this year at OMED.

Joyce Spezia,
AMAOPS President