

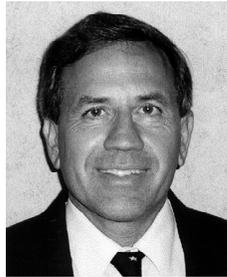
LANCASTER COUNTY CHAPTER

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Summer 2019 ACTION Newsletter



Message from the President...

The 56 Words That Changed the World! by Robert Kettering

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“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness - that to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed.”

These words from our Declaration of Independence, written in 1776, changed the world. Until then, civilizations, such as England, believed that a person’s rights came from the king and therefore the king had absolute power over the individual. However, our founding fathers said “no” because of their Biblical understanding. They declared that our freedom and rights come directly from God our Creator. And since freedom comes from Him, government cannot take that freedom away from the individual.

The document makes it clear that we are created beings and life is an unalienable right that must be protected. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - I don’t believe it was an accident that our founders listed life first. Remember, they were dealing with abortion in those days also. (There is nothing new under the sun. Ecc 1:9). However, they dealt with it Biblically as opposed to our generation, which since Roe v Wade, has dealt with abortion unbiblically and as a result, millions of babies have been denied their right to life.

Finally, in order to secure these God-given rights, governments are instituted among men. These 56 words serve as the foundation that has produced the most free and prosperous nation the world has ever known. This July, as we celebrate our independence, let’s be reminded that the freedoms we enjoy come from God and not the state and if we are to remain free, we must understand this difference.

Have a great Independence Day!

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

Edmund Burke

Reducing the Cost of Health Care by *Dr. Marian Mass*

Americans are weary of the blame game regarding high health care and especially high drug costs.

While Americans hear often about pharmaceutical companies alone do not set list prices of medications. Part of the list price is the “rebate” paid by pharmaceutical manufacturers to the PBMs that control the formulary (the group of drugs that is covered by an insurance plan, Medicare or Medicaid). Functionally these “rebates” are kickbacks, but have been legalized by our government. GPO, ’s industrial giants who control 90% of the entire hospital and nursing home supply chain also have the right to government granted legalized kickbacks. The conflicts of interest are staggering, as those deciding what drugs are prescribed, and what drugs, solutions, devices and instruments are available in hospitals and nursing homes are not physicians but businessmen, who might be swayed by the payments they receive from manufacturers.

More than \$200 billion per year is being lost to PBM and GPO kickbacks. This money is flowing to companies who do no research and no development. They write contracts and take the decision making out of the hands of the physicians. These companies have higher revenues than the pharmaceutical companies themselves.

Worse yet, the drug solution and device manufacturer that’s willing to pay the highest kickback can corner the market, and decimate competition. With only one or two manufacturers for many drugs and solutions, a single recall can leave the US with shortages of critical medications and solutions. Since the early 2000, physicians are seeing life threatening shortages of chemotherapy, antibiotics, anesthetics, even something as simple as sterilized salt water.

Manufacturers agree that getting rid of kickbacks (“rebates”) would be helpful, but only if legislatures could muster the will to go beyond the Health and Human Services Department’s recent rule on PBM “rebates” for Medicare and Medicaid and make them illegal in the commercial sector. Speaker Pelosi is against the legislation to restructure PBM kickbacks, while thousands of physicians from across the country don’t think these rules go far enough. Physicians know that healthcare will not be affordable until not only are PBM kickbacks made illegal, but those for GPO as well.

I call on the entire Congress to go beyond HHS’s restructure of kickbacks for PBMs; repeal them outright. Do the same for GPOs. A consortium of physician groups has a bill written to do just that. They must introduce it and get it passed, then compel Big Pharma to reduce prices by the amount of the “rebates” saved. You can help by calling your congressman and both senators. If they need more information we will supply them with helpful videos, articles and an updated one pager.

If the Senate and House are not brave enough to do that, we will surely know where to point the fingers of blame for the high cost of healthcare.

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST!
Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting
Saturday, July 13, 2019 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Enck's Catering Facility (former Kreider's Restaurant)

1455 Lancaster Rd (Rt. 72), Manheim - use south entrance



Guest Speaker: Dr. Marion Mass
Reducing the Cost of Healthcare

Dr. Marion Mass graduated from Penn State University, Duke University School of Medicine and completed her pediatric training at Northwestern Children's Memorial Hospital.

She lived in Greece, worked on a Native American reservation in Montana, and has practiced as a pediatrician in the Philadelphia region for over 20 years.

With the healthcare system declining, she began getting involved in reform efforts. She started her own physician advocacy organization, the Practicing Physicians of America, with Dr. Wes Fisher, MD of Chicago in 2017.

Since that time she has had multiple speaking engagements, twice at the Library of Congress, and has published numerous articles in the Wall Street Journal, the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Hill, the Washington Examiner, the Washington Times and multiple articles in the Bucks County Courier Times where she is a community volunteer member of the editorial board.

She serves on the board of the Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership, an organization that strives to fill unmet needs in her hometown of Bucks County where she resides with her husband, Steve, a surgeon, and their 3 children, 15, 18 and 20.

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-569-0148) by Tuesday, July 9, 2019. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

A Message from the Financial Officer - Is Your Membership Current?

Please take a moment to make certain that your membership is current, by looking at the mailing label on this newsletter to see if your dues are up-to-date. Your renewal date should appear after your name on the label. If it does not or has expired, please fill out the form below and mail to:

ACTION of PA - Lancaster Chapter, Financial Officer, 930 Sycamore Drive, Denver PA 17517

clip and send

- I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.
- I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Governors Club (\$250.00).
- I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Presidents Club (\$500.00).

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Thank you!

In God We Trust: A Brief History

In the early days of the Civil War, Treasury Secretary Salmon P Chase instructed the director of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia to prepare a motto for the nation's coins:

“Dear Sir,” his memo began: “No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on national coins.”

After a few options were considered, Chase settled on IN GOD WE TRUST: Congress passed the necessary legislation and the motto first appeared on the 1864 two-cent coin.

IN GOD WE TRUST has been in continuous use on the penny since 1909, and on the dime since 1916.

In fact, since 1938, all United States coins have borne the inscription.

(When the motto was left off of a new double-eagle gold coin in 1907, the public's outcry led Congress to order it restored.)

In 1956, the Congress and President Eisenhower agreed to declare IN GOD WE TRUST the “national motto of the United States.”

The motto then began to appear on paper money also.

****information provided by Coral Ridge Ministries Media*



