

Convention History of BMANA-CC from 2002 to 2016

First Annual Convention: 2002

Second Annual Convention: 2003 in Fayetteville NC

The Bangladesh Medical Association of North America-Carolina Chapter (BMANA-CC) hosted their second annual conference on January 11, 2003. This year the conference was held in Fayetteville, North Carolina and was hosted by Dr. Abu Salahuddin (General Secretary) and Dr. Ashraf Hannan (Executive Member).

BMANA-CC completed its 3rd anniversary with great accomplishments. Dr. Salahuddin formally opened the conference at 12.30 p.m. by making his keynote speech and welcoming all the BMANA-CC members and its invited guests at the Ramada Inn. Dr. Abul Imam, who has been the President from 2000 to 2002, said in his inaugural speech “I take great pride in seeing the intensity with which our organization grew in just under three years. Believe it or not, when we first gathered at a small restaurant in Raleigh to make our debut it was an uphill task to have a conference of this magnitude. We had only seven members with us that day and today we have grown to a 25-member and still growing. Our passion and vehemence has enabled us to reach this goal and as I complete my three years with this organization I salute you all for working so diligently and fervidly”

After the inaugural speeches a delicious lunch was served which was followed by a series of scientific seminars. Since spouses and children attended the conference, special programs for the children were held concurrent to the seminar. A story telling session was organized by the famous storyteller Mr. Mitch Capel. The clinical seminar was presented by Dr. Becker (topic: New Therapeutic Approaches for Diabetes Mellitus), Dr. Azad (topic: Current Guidelines in Lipid Management), Dr. Ahmed (topic: Updates in Acute Coronary Syndrome), and Dr. Hossain (topic: Allergic Rhino sinusitis, an overview). The presentations were of professional caliber and were very much enjoyed by all the members.

After the clinical seminar, the annual election of the chapter was held. The election was conducted by the election commissioner Dr. Munshi Moyenuddin. The following members were elected for the 2003.

Dr. Abu Salahuddin—President, Dr. Mohammad Hossain—General Secretary

Dr. Taslim Ahmed—Treasurer, Dr. Sagir Ahmed—Executive Member

Dr. Waliur Rahman—Executive Member, Dr. Najmul Chowdhury—Executive Member

Dr. Abul Imam being the Ex-President will automatically continue to hold office as executive member.

Following are the other two committees for the year 2003:

By-Law Committee: Drs. Abul Imam, Ashraf Hannan, Mohammed Khsaru

Auxiliary Committee: Mrs. Shaheen Hossain, Sufia Siddique, Faria Kabbaz

After the election a very colorful variety show was held which consisted of children’s performance of music, dance, skits, songs, and situation comedy. The performances showed great talent amongst our children. Our children are very much enriched in the arts.

After dinner and Eisha prayer the adults Cultural Program was started with Bangladeshi Songs presented by local artists and a Band Group from Atlanta. Their songs were very entertaining and reminded us of how much we still love our cultural tunes. The 12-hour marathon conference and variety show ended at 12 midnight. The Fayetteville BMANA-CC members wrapped up the conference by hosting a BRUNCH the following day to all their guests and members who stayed overnight.

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3rd annual convention on March 26th 2004

Carolina Chapter had their 3rd annual convention on March 26th 2004 along with the celebration of Independence day of Bangladesh at Sheraton Hotel in Greensboro, NC. The Business meeting was presided by Abu Salahuddin, M.D., President of BMANA Carolina Chapter. The discussions on future activities were participated by Dr. Muhammed Hossain, Dr. Tahmida Jahangir, Dr. Ashraful Hannan, Dr. Sagir Ahmed, Dr. Riaz Choudhury and others. The speakers in the Scientific seminar were Dr. Amir Khasru (Migraine update), Dr. Sha Alam (Management of Hypertension), Dr. Sagir Ahmed (Role of betablocker in Congestive Heart Failure), Dr. Riaz Choudhury (Role of Endoscopic ultrasound in GI malignancies). To make the seminar interesting before each lecture the children (Tanbina, Afshin, Samia and others), presented comics by role playing and highlighting the question on the topic. Dr. Bahar Hussain conducted this segment. The Children's cultural program was very beautiful. The program was organized by Mrs. Maria Haque Mimi conducted by Afshin Humayun and Maisha Haque. The Election was conducted by Dr. Dabiruddin Hymayun.

The new elected members are: President: Dr. Bahar Hussain, Secretary: Dr. Sagir Ahmed, Treasurer: Dr. Azad Cultural Secretary: Dr. Sabrina Hannan, Members: Dr. Riaz Choudhury, Dr. Mamun Shahriar, and Dr. Waliur Rahman. The Independence day Celebration was conducted by Dr. Abul Imam. A program consists of recitation, songs and dances with a slide show about the history of Bangladesh was very emotional and extraordinary. The program was created and directed by Dr. Ashraful Hannan. The participants were Rosy Islam, Sharmin Taslim, Dr. Sabina Hannan, Dr. Ashraful Hanna, Maisha Haq, and Maria Haq Mimi. Other participants were Dr. Nusrat Ahmed, Giti Rahman, Dr. Salahuddin and Dr. Mahfuzul Haq. The famous guest singer from NY was Tahmina Shahid. President of BMANA Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed from Philadelphia attended the meeting.

Carolina chapter HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FAIR 2005

A day long Health and educational fair was held at Method Park Gym in Raleigh, NC, on October 1st, 2005. The fair was one of the largest of this kind in the town was organized by BMANA Carolina chapter and Bangladesh Association TBNC. There were over 30 physicians and 50 volunteers (of all ages) from BMANACC, TBNC and other community members. More than 200 people from all ethnic background that attended this event. Eleven guest speakers (6 local renowned physicians and 5 BMANACC) who provided health related lectures in the fair. Approximately 14 sponsors participated among them were Rex Healthcare, Carolina Medical Lab, Met Life insurance, Forest Pharmaceuticals, Glaxo, Smith Kline, Novartis, Pfizer, TrueCare Physical Therapy, Wake Forest Internal Medicine, and more. In addition to consultation and BP measurement, blood Cholesterol, blood sugar, hemoglobin, A1C c BMI measurement, CPR demonstration, Echocardiogram, Pulmonary Function test, carotid Doppler test, abdominal ultrasound for AAA, lower extremities ultrasound, and ultrasound for peripheral vascular diseases were performed. All tests performed in the fair were worth more than \$50,000. At the Opening ceremony North Carolina Senator, Janet Cowell was the chief guest. The others speakers were Dr. Abu Salahuddin, Dr. Abul Imam, Mr. Mushtaque Rahman and Dr. Mohammad D. Hossain. Other Activities and Attraction at the fair were, Katrina Fundraising, Children's Magic Show and Talent show, Lottery for various prizes by MetLife insurance and Food and Refreshments. They have planned to continue the health fair annually during month of September/October.

6th Carolina Chapter's annual convention held in April 15, 2006

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7th annual convention on March 15, 2008 at Marriot in Raleigh, NC

Carolina Chapter had their 7th annual convention on March 15, 2008 at Marriot in Raleigh, NC. The convention had a successful scientific seminar. **Dr. Riaz Chowdhury**, organized the whole seminar. The speakers were Dr. Mahfuzul Haque, Dr. Abul Imam, Dr. Tapasi Saha, Dr. Baloch and Dr. Cusi. The cultural event was great and was organized by **Dr. Tahmida Jahangir**, the cultural secretary. Dr. Hannan and his wife Dr. Sabina Hannan like every year created this excellent event with new ideas incorporating the history and heritage of Bangladesh. **Dr. Abul Azad**, the president of the chapter thanked **Dr. Mohammed Bahar Hussain** for doing an excellent job as a convener of the event. He also thanked the member of the executive committee and Dr. Sharifuzzaman, Dr. Najmul Chowdhury, Dr. Taslim Ahmed, Dr. Dabiruddin Humayun, Dr. Sagir Ahmed, Dr. Ishtiaque Mohiuddin, Dr. Mamun Sharier, Dr. Enayet, Dr. Nusrat Ara, Dr. Kalam Khan, Dr. Habib Masud, Dr. Waliur Rahman, Dr. Abul Imam, Dr. Salahuddin and all the physicians in Raleigh-Durham-Cary area. **Dr. Taslim Ahmed** created a beautiful souvenir, **Dr. Najmul Chowdhury** maintained an excellent web page. They donated \$2,500.00 (two thousand five hundred to Mariam clinic, which is a free health clinic for low income and uninsured adults in Wake and Durham Counties. The guests in the meetings were Mr. Bob Ricker – vice president of Rex Hospital, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed, Dr. Fatema Ahmed, Dr. Mostaque Ahmed and Dr. and Mrs. Mohammed Ali Siddiky from PA, KY and VA respectively. The chapter also organized their 3rd annual grand health fair which has created a big impact in Raleigh, NC.

8th annual convention on April 11, 2009 at Greensboro

BMANA Carolina Chapter had their 8th annual convention on April 11, 2009 at Greensboro. There were 8 scientific presentations in the seminar by Daniel Murphy, M.D., Mahfuzul Haq, M.D., Najmul Chowdhury, MBBS, MPH, Abu Salahuddin, M.D., Sagir Ahmed, M.D., Asif Wahid, M.D., Usman Khawaja, M.D. and Abul Imam, M.D. The seminar was moderated by Riaz Chowdhury, M.D PhD and Asif Wahid, M.D. Simultaneous BMANA alliance meeting, Pharmaceutical exhibition; Children's entertainment kept every one in great spirit. The new committee was elected in the business meeting. The chapter had donated @ \$ 26,000 for flood victims, Organized big health fair in the NC, Donated medical equipment, Computers, books (by Drs. Salahuddin, Sagir Ahmed, Kalam Khan, Waliur Rahman, Sabbir Chowdhury), provided rehabilitation to flood victim(Dr. Mohammed Khasru), Providing ongoing financial support and professional assistance to free clinics in Raleigh and Fayetteville area etc.

The guests at the dinner were Sally Liner, President of Forsyth Medical center, Allen Joines, Honorable Mayor of Winston-Salem, Timothy Lane, M.D. ACP governor of North Carolina. Few important bilateral projects were adopted. BMANA CC donated \$3000 to Sally Liner for United Way charitable fund. She was overwhelmed with the gesture. She also earlier donated endoscopic equipment for Bangladesh. Other guests; Dr. Golam Kabir Chowdhury, convener of BMANA Florida convention invited every one to join the meeting and Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed, M.D thanked every one for exemplary activities of the chapter. President Abul Azad thanked every one for support during his tenure. A plaque was presented to him for his contribution. The new president Dr. Hannan introduced his committee. The dinner was concluded after a great cultural evening by the members and also performance by singer Sankar Chakroborty from Canada and Monir Hussain from Maryland. Dr. Riaz Chowdhury, the convener of the meeting gave vote of thanks at the end.