



OHIO ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

NEWS RELEASE

4075 North High Street Columbus, Ohio 43214-3296 614.267.7867 www.ohioafp.org

Date: Aug. 3, 2009

Contact: Megan D. Smith
Director of Communications
msmith@ohioafp.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Academy Recognizes Millersport Physician as Family Physician of the Year

(COLUMBUS, Ohio)—Ohio Academy of Family Physicians (OAFP) has announced that James W. Whetstone, M.D., of Millersport, Ohio, will receive its 2009 Family Physician of the Year Award.

Whetstone has been practicing family medicine for 19 years at Whetstone Medical Clinic, a rural, group practice in Millersport founded by his parents, Drs. Paul and Anna Whetstone in 1954.

“His concern for his patients goes beyond their medical diagnoses to include their home situations and other personal aspects,” Katherine Coleman, M.D., Sarah Schwartz, M.D., and Julie Shot, M.D., wrote in their letter of nomination.

According to his patients and community leaders, Whetstone is not just an exceptional physician but also a loyal teacher of family medicine and an integral part of the community.

“While recovering at home from surgery, Dr. Jim would often check in on me during his lunch hour. His dedication to my well-being went far beyond the normal call of duty,” said David Sherrer, a patient of Whetstone.

Coleman, Schwartz and Shot stated, “It is obvious to anyone who rotates with Dr. Whetstone that he is committed to his patients and exemplifies the ideal family physician.”

Whetstone has served as the team physician for Walnut Township Local School District, Millersport, since 1990. On Friday nights in the fall you can find him on the sidelines of football games offering medical advice and services for injuries on the field.

Whetstone was instrumental in forming the Millersport Little Laker Football Program that has benefited the youth in his community by helping them learn the fundamentals of football and cheerleading along with valuable life lessons such as the benefits of hard work and being a team player.

Commenting on his many volunteer and community activities, Michael Martin, M.D., a partner of Whetstone’s, states, “Jim supports and participates in the Millersport Community Theater, Millersport United Methodist Church and serves the town well on the zoning committee.”

Whetstone graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree from Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio, in 1983. He continued his education at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, Ohio, receiving a Doctor of Medicine in 1987. Finally, he completed his residency

at Riverside Methodist Hospital Family Practice Residency, Columbus, in family medicine from 1987-90 receiving the Ross Resident of the Year Award in 1990.

Whetstone and his wife, Julie, reside in Millersport, Ohio, (43046) and have three children, Joshua, Jamie and Johanna.

OAFP annually presents the Family Physician of the Year Award to an individual who meets and exceeds the criteria of being an outstanding family physician role model; maintaining high professional standards and service orientations; providing high quality and family-centered, continuing healthcare; and being active in community, education or other public affairs. Also, candidates must have 10 years post-residency (or equivalent) experience, currently be in practice and be a member of OAFP.

Whetstone will receive the Family Physician of the Year Award at the 2009 OAFP Awards Luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, from noon-1:30 p.m. at Columbus Marriott Northwest in Dublin, Ohio. Registration to attend the luncheon is \$25 per person. Reservations can be made at www.ohioafp.org or by calling OAFP at (800) 742-7327.

Also during the awards ceremony, Holly Cronau, M.D., of Powell, Ohio, will be presented with the OAFP Educator of the Year Award and Melissa Cunningham, M.D., of Columbus, will receive the OAFP Resident Leadership Award.

The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians is a statewide, professional association with more than 4,400 members, including practicing physicians, family medicine residents and medical students. The scope of family medicine encompasses all ages, both sexes and every disease entity. Family physicians provide comprehensive, continuing care to all members of the family. For more information, visit www.ohioafp.org.

-30-

Editor's Note

To receive a copy of Whetstone's photograph or to schedule an interview, please send an e-mail to Megan Smith at msmith@ohioafp.org or call (800) 742-7327. Photographers and videographers from the media are welcome to attend the Awards Luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 8.