

FROM THE EDITOR

*Auld Lang Syne*Joseph Conigliaro, MD, MPH, Editor in Chief, SGIM *Forum*

With each passing of an old into a new year, we often think about the good old days with a bit of nostalgia, sadness, and occasional good riddance. *Auld Lang Syne*, the song oft-associated with New Year's Eve, describes exactly that sentiment. It translates from an old, Scottish dialect, meaning "Good Old Days." The yearning for the good old days can happen at many levels—at the personal level (were you in good or bad health?; great or worst year for career?; personal achievements; loss and grief, etc.) or societal (political upheavals here and abroad; natural disasters; favorite sports team winning [I'm talking to you, Houston!]).

So what did you think of 2017?

Tom Staiger's article this month describes the year in review from the perspective of SGIM's Health Policy Committee. You will all agree that it indeed had a hell of a year! From the inaugural class of the Leadership in Health Policy (LEAHP) program and the annual Hill Day, to its relevant and timely responses to

the activities going on nationally, the Committee has been tirelessly working to advance SGIM's mission. Our outgoing and incoming presidents, Eileen Reynolds and Tom Gallagher, were equally adept in their ability to respond, inform, and inspire in their *Forum* columns. It's hard work writing something fresh every month and, as Editor-in-Chief, I've been amazed and appreciative of their efforts.

In this issue, there is also much that we can be reminiscent about. Doctors Oyler and Bruti recap what sounded like a great Midwest Regional meeting that touched on important themes related to professional development throughout one's career. Of note as well in this issue is the work of Nandiwada and colleagues shared some original research evaluating the degree that consult notes communicate the evidence behind their recommendations. Saab, et al., also highlight a robust and ambitious program to promote wellness undertaken at

Denver that can serve as a model for other programs. Steve Asch and the new JGIM Editorial Team share their vision for the next iteration of our already outstanding Journal and Nathan Mesfin reminds us of the good old days how we learned so much about our patients from visiting them at home and why we became better physicians for doing so.

We enter this New Year with many challenges. Fortunately with a passionate and able membership, SGIM can have a positive influence on the debate to deliver health care with optimal health outcomes for all. Our elected president and council members, along with our new CEO, will continue to work with the team in Alexandria, VA, to accomplish SGIM's mission to lead, change, and innovate in clinical care, education, and research in general internal medicine.

As the song goes: "For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne, we'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne."