The Scientific Program Committee, chaired by James L. Borders, MD, met in December 2008 and selected "Disaster Preparedness: Is Kentucky Ready?" as the overall theme for the 2009 KMA Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Louisville. The KMA Board of Trustees had also appointed the Ad Hoc Annual Meeting Committee, chaired by KMA President Beattie, to review the KMA Annual Meeting. Dr Beattie reported that the committee made a number of recommendations to change the meeting that were adopted by the Board. These changes, which will be implemented in September 2009, included continuing with the weekday format of the meeting; retaining specialty education; discontinuing the exhibit hall; conducting the entire meeting in the hotel rather than using the convention center; removing a day from the business schedule; replacing the KPPAC Dinner with a reception to be held prior to the President’s Dinner; combining the first House of Delegates meeting and the General Session; streamlining final reports into one report; and reducing the number of reference committees.

Specialty groups' scientific programs held in conjunction with the morning general sessions continue to be an excellent source for the continuing medical education of the membership. I personally appreciate the tremendous cooperation the committee has had from all of the specialty societies in planning the overall meeting.

The 2008 Annual Meeting was held at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, September 15-17. Overall attendance was 901, compared to 1,410 in 2007. Member registration was at 422, compared to 568 in 2007. Attendance figures dropped 25% due to the hurricane which swept through Louisville on the first day of the meeting.

Physicians’ evaluations from the general sessions and specialty group meetings were very positive and indicated that physicians attended the 2008 Annual Meeting program because of the availability of Category 1 CME credit, overall program content, and speaker quality.

Over 55 technical exhibitors were asked to fill out evaluation forms following the 2008 meeting. The exhibitors’ comments were, overall, positive.

The scientific sessions will again be submitted for AMA PRA Category 1™ continuing medical education credit and for prescribed credit by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

I am very grateful for the efforts of those who have assisted in the development of this year’s program, particularly the Program Committee, specialty group presidents, and program chairs. The committee always welcomes new ideas and suggestions for future programs.

James L. Borders, MD
Chair