

Sponsored by Emergency Medical Centre of Flint

Bulletin

JULY 2007 Volume 83 Number 7



**RULA ALI-BAKR
AND LIESBETH FERNANDEZ**

**GCMSA CO-PRESIDENTS
2007-2008**

GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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GENESEE COUNTY

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Our Vision

That the Genesee County Medical Society maintain its position as the premier medical society by advocating on behalf of its physician members and patients.

Our Mission

The mission of the Genesee County Medical Society is leadership, advocacy, education, and service on behalf of its members and their patients.

PLEASE NOTE

The GCMS Nominating Committee seeks input from members for nominations for the GCMS Presidential Citation for Lifetime Community Service. The Committee would like to be made aware of candidates for consideration.

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WHAT A WONDERFUL YEAR FOR THE ALLIANCE

A great productive year and a milestone for Alliance history led by Cheryl Thoms has passed. Our Alliance is like a lighthouse for our community. It lights the dark, touches hearts, and helps the people of our community. The Alliance has orchestrated a great body of work, ranging from generous philanthropic support of our free clinic, to astute legislative initiatives for better healthcare and this profession. The Alliance also organized a great President's Ball to honor past presidents.

While we physicians are busy taking care of ill patients, updating our medical education, and fighting for better health care, the Alliance forms a significant support system that enforces, enhances, and beautifies the Medical Society and physicians work in general. Moreover the Alliance enriches the community at large.

To list Alliance contributions is almost impossible as each Alliance member is a star shining with giving off his/her own light. But together they form a magical galaxy of love, led by the shining star, Cheryl Thoms,



Hesham Gayar, MD

for the last year. The shining goes on with the new stars, Rula Ali-Bakr and Liesbeth Fernandez.

Community work is on top of the Alliance achievements and clearly reflects how caring it is and how sensitive it is to community needs: the "Reach out and Read" program, the coordination of "Doctors and Their Families Make a Difference Day", "The Hands are Not for Hitting" program, the "Stop America's Violence Everywhere in Schools" program, the "Peace March", and the "Health Careers" program. Amazing!

Just like Genesee County Medical Society has provided many local leaders to MSMSA state and national health care organizations, our Alliance also has provided leaders at many levels. Lakshmi Tummala has been elected president-elect of the MSMS Alliance. The great work will continue and the magical warm rays of love will reach to new horizons under the new leadership of Rula Ali-Bakr and Liesbeth Fernandez. We are all looking for a wonderful new year to come.

THE ALLIANCE 2007: MORE THAN THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

July has arrived. Not only does that mean that we are into the heart of another glorious Michigan summer, but also that this month's issue of *The Bulletin* is turned over to the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance (GCMSA). Each year, the July issue features the activities and contributions to organized medicine of the Alliance for both the past and the coming year.

The goal of the GCMSA is to work together with physicians to build a healthy community and support the goals of the Genesee County Medical Society.

The Alliance was the volunteer arm of the Genesee County Medical Society (GCMS), originally known as the Women's Auxiliary, when organized in the 1930's. This was back in the days when the vast majority of physicians were men and wives were relegated to a subsidiary role in the medical community. Fortunately, times have certainly changed as evidenced by the large numbers of women in the profession, and the energetic role that the GCMSA plays in our area. The Alliance is active in both community projects to improve the lives and safeguard the health of county residents, and political advocacy for issues that are important to physicians.

The GCMSA Health Promotion projects include encouraging high school students to consider a career in the health care field by becoming a Health Careers Volunteer. Free CPR classes are offered to those students who register to volunteer in area hospitals. The Shape Up For Life Challenge encourages regular physical activity as an important ingredient in a healthy lifestyle.

The GCMSA organizes the annual Healing Hands 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic and has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in the last several years to keep this important community asset viable. The Alliance actively works with the Genesee County Health Department to promote and provide childhood immunizations throughout the year.



Daniel Ryan, MD

Recently, three members of the Alliance (Marianne Almeida, Jeanette Rivera, and Vicki Saalwaechter) spent two days doing a complete make over of a bedroom at the Women's Shelter of Flint, including painting and new furniture and bedding.

The "Stop America's Violence Everywhere" (SAVE) campaign combats the growing problem of violence as the perceived solution to problems and conflict in our schools and homes. The Alliance promotes conflict resolution and problem solving materials that can be used for violence prevention

educational programs. There is children's book series that promotes values such as kindness to others, honesty, and healthy habits that may not be taught in the home.

The "Reach Out and Read" program is a national effort that advocates literacy and a love of books and reading for underprivileged kids. Books are distributed to pediatric primary care clinics in the Flint area.

Members of the Alliance Legislative Liaison Committee have taken your issues to Lansing for face-to-face discussions with legislators, such as the effort to ban smoking in the workplace, and discussed state budget issues that may adversely affect physician's ability to provide care for the underserved population in our county.

Other activities available to Alliance members include travel, gourmet, and investment groups. The annual Geranium Luncheon is a popular affair that honors and thanks the outgoing and welcomes the incoming GCMSA president. This year, the Alliance will be guided by co-presidents Rula Ali-Bakr and Liesbeth Fernandez.

As you can see, the GCMSA is a vital and active partner of the GCMS, and is far more active than any other Alliance group in the state. Check out the website at www.Gcmsalliance.com. Better yet, make certain that your spouse is a member and takes advantage of great opportunities to volunteer, contribute, socialize, and learn.

GCMSA

Involved in Every Component of This Community

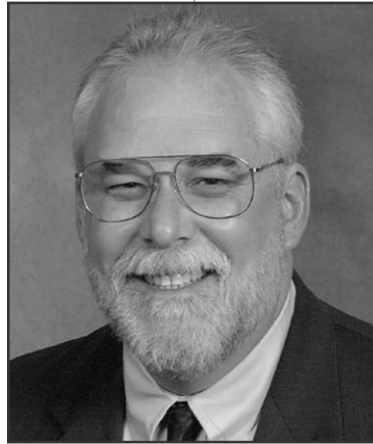
Every year, the July issue of the *Bulletin* is a treasure to behold. It describes the myriad activities of the Alliance over the course of the last year, as well as its future direction. The Alliance is becoming a ubiquitous organization. Its members are involved in every component of this community, not just the medical community. Everywhere they go, and everything they do reflects well on the physician community. There are so many wonderful activities that the Alliance is involved with, to mention any, risks missing many.

I would however like to make note of a few things. First and foremost, Cheryl Thoms had a terrific year as President. She was so diplomatic, so assertive, so warm, and determined, that she was widely effective. The entire Alliance got behind her and pushed the organization forward in ways that are tough for those who are not involved on a daily basis to understand.

Lakshmi Tummala has been elected President-Elect of the Michigan State Medical Society Alliance! This is a small county yet we have had three presidents of MSMSA just in the last few years. GCMSA is a great organization that makes other great organizations even better. "Mutualism is the greatest form of cooperation. I think we have it between our two organizations and I am thrilled by it".

Jeanette Rivera has been singled out by the Michigan State Medical Society for its 2007 Community Service Award. It is a most deserving recognition for the Reach Out and Read Program, her work for the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, as well as for a lot of other charitable activities which have made her an integral component of this entire regions good works.

New Co-Presidents Rula Ali-Bakr and Liesbeth Fernandez are geared up and ready to go. They are



Peter Levine, MPH

following a terrific leader, and are already showing their organizational and leadership skills.

If you or your spouse is not a member of the Alliance take a moment to learn about them, their website is a terrific one www.gcmsalliance.com. You will be most impressed by the scope of their activity and the value of their dues.

I was just looking through a recent issue of Michigan State Medical Society's Medigram. It mentions the work of GCMS members on six out of

eight of the pages. What a great organization.

I would be completely remiss if I didn't mention the fact that Dr. Willys Mueller passed away in late May. Dr. Mueller was a Past-President of the county medical society and also served as the Chair of the Regional HIV Consortium that The Medical Society Foundation managed for years. He edited the *Bulletin*, chaired the Peer Review Committee, and did so many other things for all of us. He chaired the Community White Hospital Oncology Program back when I was staffing it. He was part of a group of members who initially approached me about coming to the Genesee County Medical Society. I have thanked him many times for proposing such an idea. He was a terrific guy who cared deeply about this community and about medicine in general.

GCMS MEETINGS - JULY 2007

Legislative Liaison - Recess for July

Bulletin Committee - Recess for July

Membership Committee - Recess for July

Finance Committee - Recess for July

GCMS Board of Directors - Recess for July

July 25, 12:30 p.m. - Community & Environmental Health Committee - Recess for July

Group Managers - Recess for July

- \$ Mediation Sub-Committee of the GCMS Peer Review Committee met to mediate complaints
- \$ Continued to convene with Practice Managers regarding common practice problems
- \$ Met with legislators regarding budget issues and other key legislation
- \$ Continued work on the Greater Flint Health Coalition initiative relating to Regional Health Information Systems and Depression in Primary Care
- \$ Supported legislation to ban smoking in work places sponsored by Representative Clack
- \$ Continued work with the MSMS Administrative Simplification Work Group
- \$ Began planning the Past-President's Ball scheduled for November 3, 2007
- \$ Co-sponsored with American Physicians Assurance for a reception to honor Dr. AppaRao Mukkamala, President of the Michigan State Medical Society



MSMS UPDATE

Lawmakers Hear Message, Avoid 6% Medicaid Reimbursement Cuts!

The state legislature received medicine's clear message of the human consequences of Medicaid cuts, and responded by nixing proposed payment cuts of up to six percent to Medicaid physicians and other providers.

The Senate and House passed the 2007 budget measure, and Governor Jennifer Granholm signed it into law in June. The legislature is expected to vote on further portions of the overall



*Venkat Rao, MD
District VI Director*

agreement on the budget negotiations, as well as on a budget and tax plan for fiscal 2008. MSMS thanks members, their spouses, and medical group managers who urged lawmakers to stop the cuts and preserve access to care for Michigan's most vulnerable residents.

Watch email, Medigram, and www.msms.org for further details on state budget issues.

Annual Geranium Luncheon

By Lakshmi Tummala

May 22 brought the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance members together at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club for the Annual Geranium Luncheon. The occasion was held to honor Past-Presidents and to install the new Presidents and officers for 2007-2008. It was a beautiful Spring day and the members bustled in early, eager to meet friends in the Alliance. The tables were decorated with beautiful geranium plants.

The meeting started with Liesbeth Fernandez offering the invocation, and Judy McLeod the memoriam for members who passed away during this past year. President Cheryl Thoms welcomed guests from Oakland County Medical Society Alliance. She introduced Dr. Suresh Anne, President-elect Genesee County Medical Society, Peter Levine, Executive Director and Marcia Gzym, Executive Secretary and thanked them for their help and support. Dr. Anne commended the Alliance on their hard work and tireless efforts to get the medical community involved in various service oriented projects as well as the legislative process. He said he was

proud to be an Alliance member.

After a delicious lunch, Cheryl resumed the meeting with a report on the activities during her tenure. She recognized her Board and thanked them for their service and support. She then recognized Lakshmi Tummala and Kee Kang who were elected to Michigan State Medical Society Alliance as President-elect and South East Regional Director respectively. Mary Lou Mathias was appointed Health Promotions Chairperson and Felicity Thompson Chair of Resident Physician / Medical Student Spouse Committee. Jeanette Rivera was given a special recognition on receiving the Community Service Award from Michigan State Medical Society.

It was then time for elections. The slate of officers nominated by the committee were unanimously elected and Kee Ja Kang, Immediate Past-President, performed the installation ceremony. The officers for 2007-2008 are Liesbeth Fernandez and Rula Bakr-Co-Presidents, Felicity Thompson-Secretary and Pamela Martin-Treasurer. Congratulations Ladies!



A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

By Cheryl Thoms', GCMSA Past-President

It is so hard to believe that the year is over. I was told that it would go fast and it certainly has. We have accomplished much.

We delivered about 150 bags to the Women's Shelter and then went back and adopted a room. What a transformation that was. We delivered many many books to the schools for Hands Are Not For Hitting and Bullying program. A new program called "Smoke Out" was introduced to make it mandatory for the movie industry to make movies rated "R" if there is smoking in a show. Approximately 1300 new and used books were delivered to Physicians offices and schools to give to children that may otherwise never have a book of their own. We worked together with the GCMS to present a talent show of with our own members for a truly fun and relaxing evening out. We jointly put together the Presidents Ball at the beautiful Art Institute. Then President, Prasad Kommareddi, MD, presented the Alliance with the Presidents Citation for the years of volunteer service to Genesee County. About 50 High School students were given the opportunity to volunteer at Hurley Medical Center for two terms.

We held a Legislative Workshop to present to us opportunities to learn more about how to go to the voting booth much more knowledgeable on the issues and procedures. Also, we learned more about the procedures of how bills are put into effect and how to get online and send our opinions to our Capital about issues that will affect us as a Medical Society. We made phone calls and sent e-mails to our legislators to stop the cuts to Medicaid and Medicare, and were successful. We had the best representation at "Capital Checkup" in Lansing.

Under the leadership of Marianne Almeida and numerous Alliance members and the Nurses Association the Healing Hands 5K walk/run was a great success. They raised approximately \$110,000 for the Free Clinic. If you have never been to this race you have missed out. It is a fun morning while raising money for the Clinic.

We have a web site that is looked at from all around the Country. Rosa Wang has done a fantastic job of putting together a site that is one to be very proud of. If you ever want to know what is going on with the Alliance, just go to www.gcmsalliance.com and it will tell you everything you want to know about our programs with pictures of the ones that have already happened. Look at it. Use it to keep up to date. It is wonderful.

We have had two very successful Gourmet group outings thanks to Jay Kommareddi, one in Somerset and one in Rochester. What a great time we had.

The Investment group continues to do well with their investing.

Two new groups were formed this year. One which started out as the Daisy Ladies is now looking for a new name. We don't really want people to mistake us for cleaning ladies. I kind of like "Been there, done that". We had 17 ladies out for our first luncheon and look forward to several more.

The other group is the Support Group for those that work in their Spouses office.

This is a fast growing group and may need to split into two different groups if it keeps growing. That is a good problem.

We had our International Luncheon at the home of Brian and Monica Shapiro. We learned about the mountain climbing experiences of Nancy Norris, and had many of our questions answered by Dr. Linda Norrell. We held coffees at the homes of Ruqsana Ahmed and Feroza Raffee. Several of us learned to line dance and may make that a new interest group.

I am sure that I am missing something and I apologize.

Wow! What a year. I have to say that I learned so much this year. When I had questions I made phone calls. We have a wonderful group of people in this Alliance. We could not have accomplished these things without the help of so many of our members. I want to say that every person who told me that they would help me, did. They have made this job so much easier. I will miss that but am quite sure they will not miss those long phone calls.

I have to admit I was upset that we were only getting around 25 or so at our meetings but have come to realize that we have so many things going on that we have a lot of members involved but in the areas that interest them. Many many members are active but we may not see them because they go to a different area of the Alliance. There are many many members that are involved.

I thank you for a wonderful, unforgettable experience and a year I will never forget. I will never forget all the words of wisdom, encouragement and advice that I received this year. You are a wonderful group and I now look forward to joining the ladies as a Past President.

FRIENDS ARE FRIENDS FOREVER

By Liesbeth Fernandez GCMSA Co-President

*Friends come and go,
Friends share,
Friends laugh and cry together,
Friends learn to love each other,
Friends are friends forever.*

Don't you love it when you and an old friend see each other after many years and it's just like the old days? You share, you laugh, you tell old stories and experiences that have helped us grow as more mature women, and sometimes you even cry together.

A friend is a person you can count on and trust with your innermost and deepest thoughts, someone who understands your point of view and is willing to listen to you. A person who makes an effort to see you whenever possible, even though both of you are very busy.

In the book of Genesis, in the creation story, God created Adam and then Eve. He stated "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." God knew that we are sociable creatures and that having a companion and friends would be healthy for our well-being.

So here we are among friends. In some ways we have things in common with each other. We are doctors' wives/spouses who like to develop friendships with people of similar background. Making friends is a sure way of fighting loneliness. Getting involved in the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance is one way of serving others who may need our help and support. Helping other people helps us to find happiness and fulfillment in our lives. Focusing on others takes away the focus on us and our condition, whether, happy or unhappy. I would like to encourage you to be involved in the Alliance. There are small, less time-consuming positions with minimal responsibility, yet to be filled, and others that require more time and effort.

Personally, for some things I need the encouragement of friends and family members. For others, I am very independent and possess leadership qualities and abilities. It was through the encouragement of friends that I stand speaking to you here today. I have enjoyed my time and friendships in the Alliance and believe that every experience in life makes us grow into better people.

One or two people can't do it all. It takes team effort to get the job done well. I count on you and your willing spirit to get involved and help in the alliance. One of our goals for this year is to increase our membership from approximately 250 to 300 members by the end of this year. The more members we have, the more friends and helping hands to work in our community. As the saying goes "united we stand together." Separation and division weakens an organization. As we work together with one another we can improve our programs and community work. With your support and willingness to be involved, you can be a part of an organization that promotes the advancement of medicine and health education as partners of our medical doctors.

In the words of Vincent Lombardi, willingness is:

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather in a lack of will."

When considering whether or not to be involved usually and typically one feels, one CANNOT, but instead, think you can and you will achieve your highest goals.

GET INVOLVED.

WE COMPLETE EACH OTHER

By Rula Ali-Bakr GCMSA Co-President

Before we get started I would like to ask you to look around the room. Just take a good look and observe the people around you. The reason I ask you to do this is that I want you to share with me a very important observation.

The other day, I was going through the Alliance directory. As I was turning the pages, I came across the one that had the group picture. For some reason it was like I was seeing it for the very first time. Even though I have looked at that picture so many times before, I had never stopped to think about it until that moment when something about it grabbed me. I thought wow! What a diverse group! How could such a diverse group of people get together and work so well as a team? How can so many unique individuals fit so well with each other like a piece of puzzle? Had it not been for the fabulous organization that the Alliance is, we probably would have never met, and so many friendships would have never been formed. That picture is only a small sample of what the Alliance has to offer!

As DIVERSE AND UNIQUE as we are, whether by coming from different countries around the globe, or locally, or by having different languages, different cultures, or different religious beliefs, we are similar in that we all come together to be caring and contributing members of the Alliance. The Alliance brings this wonderfully diverse group together and in return the group brings in their strengths, talents, experiences, and other wonderful qualities that only make the Alliance a much stronger organization.

Our members not only work hard but also have a fantastic time working together to give back and contribute to building a better community. All of this is due to the huge amount of hard work and meticulous planning by our past presidents in collaboration with our dedicated members. As we are taking our first steps of this journey together, it's important for us to not only focus on the amount of work ahead, but also on the amount of support that we need to give each other to get that work done. With your collaboration, we will keep our alliance a success-for us, and for our community.

We complete each other. Each and every one of us fits in the Alliance like a piece of a puzzle. Without any one piece, the puzzle is incomplete and with any one person missing, we are not whole.

In closing, I would like to Thank you for being here today. We look forward to a fabulous year and a complete puzzle.

GCMSA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 2007 - 2008

September 25, 2007	International Luncheon & Fashion Show at Karen Dobies' Home
October 23, 2007	Health Program** Margaret Bonet (long term planning) Dr. Gail Dawson -Cardiologist (women and heart disease)
November 3, 2007	GCMS/GCMSA President's Ball - Flushing Valley Golf Club
January 22, 2008	TBA
February 26 & 27, 2008	Neighborhood Coffees** 26th - Gr. Blanc & 27th - Flint
April 22, 2008	TBA
May 20, 2008	Geranium Brunch - Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club

**** Location TBA**

Genesee County Medical Society Alliance
2007-2008 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President	Rula Ali-Bakr & Liesbeth Fernandez
President Elect	Beth Schumacher
Secretary	Felicity Thompson
Treasurer	Pam Martin
Immediate Past President	Cheryl Thoms

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Health Promotion Chairperson	Mary Lou Mathias
Health Careers	Cindy Wren-Swart
Liaison to GCMS Comm. Health	Mary Lou Mathias
Screen Out Smoking	Mary Lou Mathias
Faux Paw	Rula Ali-Bakr
Shape up for life	Barb Adams
Liaison to GCFMC	Barbara Pougnet
SAVE in the Schools	Felicity Thompson & Samaj Brown
SAVE Day	Lakshmi Tummala, Sue Kirby
Drs.& Their Families	Susan Piper, Sabita Tummala
Healing Hands 5K Run/Walk	Marianne Almeida
AMA Foundation	Kee Kang
Membership	Peter Thoms, Cheryl Thoms, Beth Schumacher
Liaison to Resident Spouses	Felicity Thompson
Legislation	Jay Kommareddi & Mona Sahouri
Programs	Elizabeth Jordan, Nina Fares
Reservations	Mary Ryan
Courtesy	Mary McAlindon
Historian	Vibha Kaushal
FOCUS Editor	Vicki Saalwachter, Cheryl Thoms
Liaison to GCMS Bulletin	Cheryl Thoms
Focus Advertising	Lakshmi Tummala, Felicity Thompson
Directory	Vibha Kaushal
Web Master	Rosa Wang
Public Relations/Education	Jeanette Rivera
Parliamentarian	Mary McAlindon
Ways & Means	Velynda Makhene
Finance	Vicki Saalwachter
Nominations	Cheryl Thoms
Reach Out & Read	Jeanette Rivera

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

GCMS/GCMSA Presidents Ball	Sue Lauber, Lakshmi Tummala
Mothers with Young Children	Jeanette Rivera, Elizabeth Jordan

INTEREST GROUPS:

Gourmet	
Investment	Sue Soderstrom
Friendship Group	Cheryl Thoms
Spouses working in Husbands office	Beth Schumacher



**BETH SCHUMACHER:
PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Beth was born and raised in Greenville Michigan. She married Randy in 1988. They have one son, Stephen. Beth received her Masters in Social Work from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She currently is in private practice as a social worker. She has been active in the the Alliance for over ten years and has served on several committees with a special interest in legislation. She is also quite active in the community as a volunteer.



FELICITY THOMPSON: SECRETARY

Felicity Thompson moved to Flint from West Texas with her husband and three boys (ages 19, 18 and 10). Before then, her family lived in Wheaton, Maryland and Ann Arbor, Michigan. All three boys are avid soccer players. Her husband, Joseph, is a Physician at Mercy Health Partners. Felicity is an Interior Designer with a focus on commercial design in the health industry. Her desire is to bring color and design into hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, and doctors' offices. She practices her profession in the area as well as in surrounding communities. She continues to be an active member of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance as well as a board member for Washtenaw County and the State. This is her second year serving as secretary; she is also a county and state liaison to the Medical Students' spouses and Resident Physician spouses. She has worked with Sue Kirby on SAVE in the schools and continues to participate in local events sponsored by the Alliance.

PAMELA MARTIN: TREASURER *(No photo available.)*

Pam was born and raised in Flushing, MI. She received her Master's of Science in Anesthesia degree from the University of Michigan. She works as a nurse anesthetist at McLaren Regional Medical Center as well as contracting anesthesia services to many other hospitals and surgery centers.

She is married to Dr Sidney N. Martin of Family Orthopedics and they reside in Fenton. She and her husband enjoy skiing, golf and travel. Now that all their children are grown, Pam is more active with volunteer work including the Genesee County Homeless Shelter fund development.

**CAPITOL CHECKUP
DAY IN LANSING**



ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The GCMSA has established a goal to increase our membership to 300. We want to do this by September 1 for two reasons. First, we want to be able to send our September '07- '08 Focus issue to each member. Second, we want to be able to include their name, address, phone number, and e-mail address in our new annual phone book.

The details of what the Alliance does is well published in this issue of The Bulletin. The reports of last years GCMSA activities and what is planned for the coming year ought to make each one of us proud that such a dynamic organization supports GCMS/MSMS/AMA. GCMS is made to look better than we are because of them. But without us they would not exist.

The cooperative endeavors that we carry out together have been reason enough for many of us physicians to become Alliance members. It ought to be reason enough for us to pay our spouse's dues. With your help the Alliance could have a membership of over 600

What better medically related group can our spouses join? Consider the return on your investment - it can not be better! If your spouse is not already a member, do not delay. Write the check now for \$20.00 for your dues and your spouses for \$92.00 to: MSMSA and mail it to me. Peter Thoms, M.D.

GCMSA Membership Committee Chairman. 1213 Carter Dr., Flint, MI 48532.

GCMS/MSMS NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

ALLAN EBERT, DO

Genesys Integrated Group Practice, P.C.
2340 West Carpenter, Flint, MI 48505
Phone: 810-785-3464 Fax: 810-785-3321
Dr. Ebert graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1965. He received his medical degree from Midwestern University, Chicago, IL in 1969, and did his residency at Genesys Regional Medical Center. He is a General Practice physician and certified by the A.S.A.M. in Addiction Medicine. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

VUONG DUTHINH, MD

Regional Cardiology Consultants
3399 Pollock, Grand Blanc, MI 48439
Phone: 810-603-0170 Fax: 810-603-2370
Dr. Duthinh graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 1979. He received his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine, PA in 1988, and did residency at Temple University. His specialty is Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

**VINETTA AHOOJA, MD**

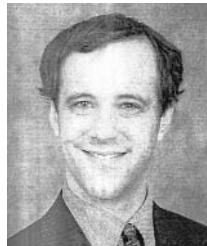
Cardiology Consultants of East Michigan
4040 S. Linden Rd., Flint, MI 48507
Phone: 810-733-0790
Fax: 810-733-0235
Dr. Ahooja graduated from University of Toronto, Canada in 1997. She received her medical degree from University of West

Indies, Nassau, Bahamas in 1998 and did residency at Wayne State University. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

RAED AL-RAJABI, MD

Family Ambulatory Clinic
One Hurley Plaza, Flint, MI 48503
Phone: 810-257-9191 Fax: 810-275-9187
Dr. Al-Rajabi graduated from The Jordan University. He received his medical degree from The Jordan University, Amman, Jordan in 1998. Dr. Al-Rajabi did an internship

at Al Bashire Hospital, Amman, Jordan and residencies at The Jordan University Hospital, St. Vincent Charity Hospital, and St. Luke's Medical Center, Cleveland Ohio. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

**ROGER KILBOURN, DO**

McLaren Family Practice - Flushing
2487 N. Elms Dr.
Flushing, MI 48433
Phone: 810-487-3500
Fax: 810-487-3558
Dr. Kilbourn graduated from Oregon State University in 1992. He received his medical degree from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, E. Lansing, MI in 2001. Dr. Kilbourn did a residency at Ingham Regional Medical Center - MSUCOM. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center
DANA CHUKWUEMEKA, DO

GENESEE COUNTY FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

By Barbara Pougnet, liaison to GCFMC

The Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, established in 1991 and located at 2437 Welch Blvd. Flint, is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the access to affordable quality health care for the working poor. The Clinic provides intake, triage, physician consultations, and referrals to specialists, tests, health education and medications from the on-site pharmacy at no charge. The President of the Clinic is Allen Turcke M.D, the Medical Director is Peter S. Thoms, M.D. and the Clinic Director is Rima Kudish, M.D.

To be seen at the Clinic, a patient must not have any form of health insurance and must be ineligible for any government health insurance. They must be between 18 and 65 years of age and meet the income level criteria. Proof of income such as a pay stub, W-2 or tax return form is required.

The Clinic is managed by four paid personnel. The remaining staff consists of dedicated professional volunteers; physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, dieticians, social workers, receptionists and other

specialists who are the backbone of care delivery in the Clinic. Many professionals from McLaren Regional Medical Center, Hurley Medical Center, Genesys Regional Medical Center and other medical facilities accept referrals at no charge. New and existing referrals can be made to McLaren and Quest labs, specialty care, radiology and diagnostic testing of all three hospitals and local facilities.

The Clinic is open Tuesday afternoon and evening, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning with approximately 75-80 patients seen weekly. Volunteer attending physicians staff Tuesday evening hours and McLaren second and third year Internal Medicine Residents staff day clinics under the supervision of Dr. Sud.

Currently the Clinic is enrolling clients into the Patient Assistance Program which provides free meds to those with low income. University of Michigan student nurses will calculate dollars saved. The Clinic participates in community events such as a health workshop for diabetes with Faith Action



Community Economic Development and screening with Breast Cancer

Prevention. Continuing programs are; early screening for diabetes, support groups for diabetic and hypertensive patients, women's clinic, dental services (limited basis) and educational materials library.

Installation of a new computer system and telephone system was made possible by a donation from Regional Cardiology and a grant from the Ruth Mott Foundation. A new Clinic flyer is available for Clinic patients and the general public.

The GCFMC depends on community commitment and contribution. Its main fundraising event is the Healing Hands 5K Run/Walk organized by the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance and Pi Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing. The Clinic's logo of "Healing Hands" is meant to exemplify the compassion and collaboration shown in providing quality health care to those whose access to health care may be limited.

Michigan State Medical Society Alliance Annual Session

The MSMS Alliance's 81st Annual Session was held on April 29-30, 2007 at the Sheraton Hotel in Lansing, Mi. GCMS Alliance was well represented with eight members serving on the State Board and County Alliance. Each county in Michigan, is allowed one delegate for each 25 State dues paying member and we are proud to be the largest and most active Alliance county in Michigan.

Members of the MSMS Alliance House of Delegates, represent their counties and make decisions on issues that affect both State and County Alliances, work in partnership with the Michigan State Medical Society and the AMA Alliance on programs that affect the health of our communities and the practice of medicine. Following is the slate of

MSMA officers for 2007-2008:

President	Linda Allen--Midland
President-elect	Lakshmi Tummala--Genesee
Secretary	Patty Olsen--Ingham
Treasurer	Nancy Fody--Kent

District Directors:

Northeast	Suzie Pederson--Bay
Northwest	Sue Ellison--Midland
Southeast	Kee Kang--Genesee
Southwest	Denise Clegg--Kalamazoo

MSMSA Health Promotion Chair (appointed):

Mary Lou Mathias

ALLIANCE ANNUAL SESSION



GCMS Board of Directors Meeting

April 24, 2007

MINUTES

Motion:

That the Genesee County Medical Society divest itself of the GCMS Affiliated Company share of stock by April 30, 2007 unless the Executive Committee identifies a better option by April 26, 2007 at noon. Once a decision is made, the Board is to be notified by email. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That the following requests for membership status be approved.

Requesting Status Change from Retired to
Retired - Active Disabled
James Graham, MD

Requesting New Membership
Koteswara Vemuri, MD - P
Paul Dake, MD -- P

The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That a resolution be created for the 2008 House of Delegates, which proposes stricter requirements for retail clinics similar to those proposed in the Illinois legislation. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That Drs. Venkat Rao and Edwin Gullekson be supported for reelection to their District Directors slots at the upcoming House of Delegates. The Motion Carried.



Healing Hands 5k Run/Walk

By Marianne Almeida



The 12th Annual Healing Hands 5k Run/Walk was held on May 19th at Mott Community College to benefit the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic. This event was organized by the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance and the Sigma Theta Tau International Pi Delta Chapter.

Our goal is to make this race bigger and better each year and we are accomplishing that. There were more participants in the race this year and donations are over \$110,000.00! Jeanette Rivera was in charge of public relations and had radio interviews on WCRZ 108 and TV interviews on Channel 17 that were a big draw for the race. The Flint Journal also had an ad for 2 weeks that produced more runners and walkers.



Rod Prahin the morning DJ for WCRZ 108 and Angie Hendershot, the Evening News Anchor from WJRT-TV Channel 12 were the Award Ceremony MC's again this year. It has been great to have them take time out of their busy schedules to help with the race.

There is a tremendous amount of time that goes into making a race like this a success. Without our committee of dedicated volunteers it wouldn't happen. To everyone who donated time to work the race, either on the course, in the kitchen, at sign-up tables or set-up and take down a huge thank-you! It was another successful year with more runner and walkers than ever! So if you missed out this year be sure to take part in this wonderful event next year!



Our 2007 Healing Hands Committee-

Jeanette Rivera, Bonnie Hudson, Barb Pougnet, Rima Kudish, Sandy Smith, Gay Ann Roos, Doris Hasan, Agnes Taylor, Judy Rau, Rose Luster-Turner, Marianne Almeida, Lakshmi Tummala, Jay Kommareddi, Dina Chron.



Dr. Willys Mueller former President and Bulletin Editor Passed Away in May

Dr. Mueller was an active member of the Genesee County community for many years. He was credited for helping introduce the medical examiner system in Genesee County in the 1960's. He was Director of the American Red Cross; Director of the Pathology Laboratory at Hurley Medical Center. Dr. Mueller served as President and Director of the Genesee County Medical Society. He was a member of the American Medical Association, the Genesee County Medical Society, the Michigan State Medical Society and a member of the U of M Victors Club. Dr. Mueller was an early advocate for HIV-AIDS education in Genesee County and worked as medical director for the American Red Cross, Wolverine Blood Region. He served as chair of the county wide Hospice Oncology Program for many years. A eulogy will be published in the Bulletin at a later date.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT 2006-2007

By Mona Sabouri, Legislative Co-Chair and Jay Kommareddi, Legislative Co-Chair

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to represent the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance Legislative Liaison Committee.

The 2006-2007 year was busy and productive. The Legislative Committee has worked diligently to accomplish its goals. Many programs and events were designed to serve our medical community to the best of our abilities. These programs/events included:

A Day at the Capital: This day was designed to provide the opportunity for our alliance members to get acquainted with the process of policy making that takes place in Lansing. Again, our GCMSA delegation was the largest within the state of Michigan.

Fundraising was an arena in which Alliance members were

involved within the past year. Some very successful fundraisers were hosted by our Alliance and GCMS members. We have gained more recognition as a group for such successful efforts

A ballot review workshop was organized for our members to further help them understand and analyze some of the proposals that were being addressed in the 2006-2007 election year. This was a great session with great attendance. All who attended were engaged and interested.

A legislative workshop was held to advance the understanding and involvement of our Alliance members in the political system. The event was well attended and included speakers from the MSMS and the Farhat group.

Our Alliance members participated in the MSMS New Lawmaker's Reception which took place in Lansing. It was a great opportunity for GCMSA & GCMS members to introduce themselves to newly elected officials and express to them concerns regarding issues of interest.

Keeping up with the current political issues which directly affected our community was a major priority. We diligently attended the meetings with the political officials and members of GCMS on a monthly basis. Consequently, we reported all the issues discussed to our Alliance members which kept them informed on critical issues.

Education on the Ballot for State & Local Elections



Happy Birthday Doctor

JULY

Tarik Wasfie	1	Frederick VanDuyne	15
Gali V Subbareddy	1	Andrea Cooley	16
Srilatha Ayirala	1	Lawrence R Irish	17
Ivana M Vettrains	1	Ashvin A Patel	18
Katikuti E Dutt	1	Mark D Noel	18
Louise Desgranges	1	Johan Aerts	18
John Hebert III	1	Ted S Auschwitz, III	19
Sarah Ali	1	Earle J McGarvah	19
Barina Y Zado	1	Jose A Fernandez	20
John A Waters	3	Charles R Bodem	20
Mohamed Abuharaz	3	James Vyskocil	21
Jeff M Greenblatt	4	Jawad A Ilyas	21
Leslie L Lemieux Jr	4	John S Morrison	21
Linda Diane Norrell	4	Jaime Ballesteros	21
Justin Sybesma	4	Vikram K Bathula	21
David B Wilson	5	Nabil S Zaki	23
Glen D Sullenger	6	Allen F Turcke	24
Abdelfatah Abed Osman	6	Esteban F Ramirez	24
Leonard L J Dias	6	Lubbna Johar	24
Lokesh Marigowda	7	Dong Whan Oh	25
Kang Kwon	7	Jon A Santiago	25
Purushottam Naik	7	E Grant Murphy	25
James J Gibbons	8	Jae Chul Kim	25
BB Ganatra	9	James G Knaggs	26
Fikria E Hassan	9	Renata Osadnik	27
Shonda L Banegas	9	David A Strahle	27
Jawahar L Tummala	10	Orestes D lung	27
Kathleen A Justice-Kirtek	10	Sosa Kocheril	27
Radwan Alkiek	10	Linsey P Gold	27
Scott B Karlene	10	Eyassu Habte-Gabr	28
Julie B Gulvas	12	Matthew Robison	28
Barbara A McIntosh	12	Robert Cross	29
Baker Machhadieh	14	Michael C Boucree	30
Koteswara Vemuri	14	Muhammad K Chaudhry	30
AppaRao Mukkamala	14	Hindi S Ahmed	30

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION FOR PHYSICIAN'S SPOUSES

Are you a physician's spouse who manages their office? Would you like to join forces with other spouses to discuss office issues and learn new ideas to improve the practice?

Please call any of the following members:

Beth Schumacher (810) 845-5541

Feroza Raffee (810) 230-1189

Anita Mannam (810) 210-5740

Our next meeting will be on July 11th at 12 pm at Ruggeros.