

THE Bulletin



JULY 2011 Volume 87, Number 7

Alliance Issue!

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The GCMS Bulletin

THE BULLETIN is published monthly by
The Genesee County Medical Society.

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GENESEE COUNTY

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JULY 2011 Volume 87, Number 7

THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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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.

THE BULLETIN

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THE ALLIANCE REMINDS US TO BE INVOLVED

Summer is here. Finally. For me it is the second summer in a row that was "inaugurated" by the Geranium Luncheon of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. It was also the second time in a row that I was once again humbled by the achievements of that organization.

Having just run the Healing Hands 5k two weeks prior, I was witness to the hard work that the Alliance puts into that event. The same is true of the Geranium Luncheon. As I looked over the list of past Alliance presidents, I saw many names. Behind those names and years of service, were countless hours of hard work. Yet, never once have I heard any of the Alliance leadership complain. I can only assume that since the work of the Alliance is truly philanthropic, that the rewards of such work stifle any complaints.

In my eyes, the most important thing that the Alliance does is it gets the physician community out there into the



S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD

greater community in the spirit of service. While we all are involved in aspects of community service as individuals, rarely do we have the opportunity to do so as a group of physicians and spouses.

Our town has a great history of philanthropy as evidenced by the names on the buildings downtown. While most of them are related to a legacy left by the auto industry, there are a few that are legacies created in the medical field.

The auto industry has shrunk in this community. The health care sector has expanded to the point of being our single biggest employer, it only makes sense that the list of future area philanthropists be populated with names from the medical community.

So thank you GCMSA, for reminding us that we are part of a community in need of more than our medical acumen, but also in need of our hearts.

GCMS MEETINGS

- JULY 2011 -

Recessed, 8 a.m. - Legislative Liaison @ GCMS

7/6, 7:30 a.m. - Bulletin Committee @ GCMS

Recessed, 12 Noon - Membership Committee @ GCMS meets every other month

Recessed, 5:15 p.m. - Finance Committee @ GCMS

Recessed, 6 p.m. - GCMS Board of Directors @ GCMS

Recessed, 12:30 p.m. - Community & Environmental Health Committee @ GCMS

Recessed, 8 a.m. - Practice Managers @ GCMS

SAVE THE DATES

November 19
Presidents' Ball @ Riverfront

September 1
Dinner Business Meeting on
Meaningful Use
@ Flint Golf Club

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Figure 2

Anatomy of MSMS Physicians Insurance Agency

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THE ALLIANCE 2011: 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 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 1930s. 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, their families and patients.

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 dollars in the past 11 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.

The "Stop America's Violence Everywhere" (SAVE)



Daniel Ryan, MD

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 a 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.

Alliance Members of the Political Action Strike Force have taken your issues to Lansing for face-to-face discussions with legislators to discuss 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, weight loss, and investment groups. Special events on tap for this coming year include the annual international luncheon at Drs. Venkat and Rama Rao's home in September, a cooking demonstration at Dr. Paul and Sue Lauber's home in November, and an evening with Maestro Enrique Diemecke, music director and conductor of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, in January. High tea in March and an evening of wine tasting and great food in April round out the social calendar for the year. This year, the annual Geranium Luncheon on May 24th at Warwick was held as a thank you to Velynda Makhene for her service for the past year and to welcome Rosa Wang as the incoming GCMSA president.

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.

Count On Tom Shade

Tom Shade, CPA

As a principal at the largest locally owned accounting firm in Flint, Tom serves his clients as a trusted advisor. He is called upon regularly in making key decisions that affect his clients' profitability and goal achievement. His experience, combined with many years of hands-on knowledge from his career at Lewis & Knopf, allows him to offer a complete and dedicated perspective to the firm's clients.

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WELCOME TO OUR GCMS ALLIANCE ISSUE!

Please take this opportunity to find out what the countries premier Medical Society Alliance has been doing for the past year and what its plans are for the coming one. Welcome the new President, Rosa Wang. Rosa is full of energy. Her Committee Chairs and members are most excited about this year. Congratulation to Velynda Makhene on a great year. This Alliance is strong, innovative, and constantly evolving. We all look forward to seeing the new direction that it takes.



Peter Levine, MPH

Many of you do not know that it only costs \$20 for a physician or physicians spouse to join the Alliance, and to support its voluminous activities. The Alliance works hard to reflect well on this medical community and in the community a large. Some physicians are members

of the Alliance. If interested please follow the link in this article to sign up you or your spouse.

Please reserve November 19, 2011 for this year's Presidents' Ball. It will be a great evening, at the Riverfront Center. Each year the Ball has become more exciting and is now the premier medical event of the year. This year will top all others. Please mark it on your calendar. At \$85 per person, it is a true bargain, and an opportunity to honor presidents of both the Genesee County Medical Society and the Alliance.

<http://www.gcmsalliance.com>

Drs. and Their Families Make a Difference

By Rula Ali Bakr

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to Alliance members, Medical Society Members, and everybody who made a contribution to the Women's Shelter. Because of your generosity, we were able to deliver a carload of much needed personal items to the shelter.

Items such as diapers, toiletries, socks and many more are only available through donations.

We were also able to purchase pajamas for the kids with grant money provided by MSMSA Health Promotion.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.



GCMS/MSMS NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

New Members - McLaren Residents:

Ghidah Al-Khouri, MD
Cheryl Jeffrey Chenyi, MD
Nikolas Dimorski, MD
Sohaib Elsayed, MD
Jeremiah Lopez, MD
Shruti Pathak, MD

New Member:

RANJAN MONGA, MD

Neonatal - Perinatal
Hurley Medical Center
One Hurley Plaza
Flint, MI 48503
Ph: (810) 262-9425
Fax: (810) 262-6109

Dr. Monga received his medical degree from Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi University, New Delhi, India in 1998. He completed his residency at Hurley Medical Center. Dr. Monga is Board Certified in Pediatrics. Dr. Monga is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

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BEING WRONG FEELS SO GOOD!

So, the state of Michigan has passed a new budget plan. Thankfully, the 40 percent cut to graduate medical education has been reduced to a 9 percent cut. This is certainly a HUGE victory for medicine in our state. Yet, if we were never prepared for a 40 percent cut, then even the 9 percent cut would seem ludicrous.

Perspective is everything. MSMS and GCMS advocated strongly for the preservation of as much GME funding as possible, and given the cost cutting mood of the legislature and the governor, I for one am happy with the end result.

Hopefully, between now and the next review of the states finances, we will be on firmer footing and will not have to rehash this debate.

An another note, the MSMS board met just prior to the House of Delegates meeting in Kalamazoo. One of the opening presentations was on Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records. On one of the slides was a link to a website that would provide info on how compliant a given EHR was with the meaningful use criteria. On a whim, I entered the website into my cell phone during the presentation. I was mildly surprised



S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD
District VI Director

to see that it was easily accessible on my phone, so I proceeded to go through the few steps to see if my EMR was able to be certified and thus allow me to apply for the first year of incentive payments.

To my even greater surprise, I was able to verify that my product was indeed 100 percent compliant and was even issued a CMS EHR Certification ID (a critical step in applying for the incentive payment). All of this was done from my phone.

I suppose that my bewilderment was primarily due to the fact that I perceived that the process would be so onerous that I would have to try multiple times

to get through it and might even have to delegate it to someone else to do for me. Boy was I wrong, and in this case, being wrong feels so good.

Of course, I won't give up my cynicism until I have the check in my hands, but I am encouraged

Thus, I would encourage all of you to give it a whirl.

<http://onc-chpl.force.com/ehrcert>

Click on ambulatory practice type, and then enter your vendors name and see what happens. You might be as surprised as I was!

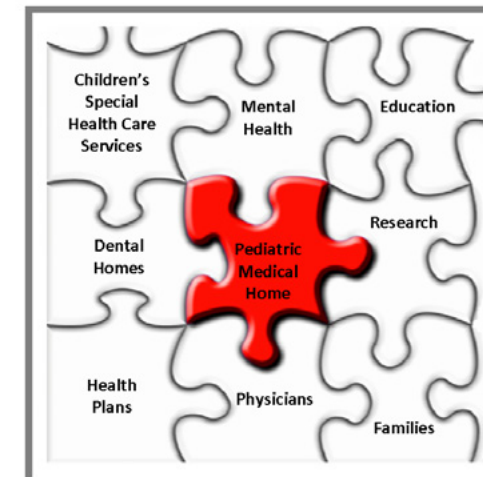


Donald F. Bosker, MD
January 25, 1931 – May 25, 2011

Dr. Bosker passed away on May 25, 2011. He was a member of the Genesee County Medical Society since 1988. Dr. Bosker graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School and was a physician for 52 years at St. Joseph Hospital in Flint. He retired in January of 2011. He was a member of the American Academy of Family Practice. He also owned Petkos Restaurant and operated a 60-acre Arabian horse farm. Dr. Bosker was President of the Durkee Lakes Hunting Club for 35 years.

- § GCMS interceded on behalf of two physicians on issues relating to insurance company credentials GCMS interceded with two insurance companies on major reimbursement issues for an individual physician and a group
- § GCMS continued to work with MSMS to support reinstatement of Graduate Medical Education Funding in the State of Michigan budget
- § GCMS is investigating methods of simplifying the downloading of *The Bulletin* constantly working to make it more user-friendly
- § GCMS met with University of Michigan and Michigan State University regarding research interests in the community
- § GCMS met with Michigan State University regarding their new Public Health Degree Program which is part of the College of Human Medicine
- § GCMS recruited new members

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Genesee County Medical Society Dinner Business Meeting

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

A Town Hall Meeting On

Meaningful Use, MSMS Connect, and a Touch of HIPAA 5010 (the very latest and greatest)

Dara Barrera, Membership and Business Development Consultant, and Stacey P. Hettiger, Manager, Health Care Delivery, (both of MSMS) will be our speakers for the evening.



There are several issues that all physicians need to be up to speed on. These issues include Meaningful Use as defined by the Medicare Program, MSMS Connect (which is a portal developed by MSMS), and HIPAA 5010 which involves a critical software upgrade that physicians need to be aware of.



All members and their guests are encouraged to attend.

This meeting is open to all physicians, their spouses and family members, members, non-members of GCMS, GCMSA and interested other professionals.

\$30 pp - (actual cost of the dinner) GCMS Members, Spouses and Practice Managers

\$20 pp - Hospital Residents and Students

\$50 - Non-Members and Non-Member Practice Managers

Reservations required by August 29, 2011.

FLINT GOLF CLUB

3100 Lakewood Dr., Flint, MI 48507

6 p.m. Registration and Social Hour

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7 p.m. Meeting

7:15 p.m. Presentations

Please mail check with reservations to:

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EMPLOYMENT POLICES AND PROCEDURES: WHISTLEBLOWER CLAIMS

By: R. Paul Vance, Esq.

Whether you have just a handful of employees or a staff of more than 30, your medical practice, just like any other corporate entity, can be susceptible to lawsuits brought by current and former employees. In the last several years there has been an increasing number of employment lawsuits brought by employees alleging retaliation for “blowing the whistle” on their employer. These types of lawsuit are called Whistleblower Protection Act claims.

The Whistleblowers Protection Act (“WPA”), MCL 15.361, et seq., states that an employer shall not discharge, threaten or otherwise discriminate against an employee because the employee reports, or is about to report, a violation or suspected violation of law to a public body. An employee who reports, or is about to report, a violation or a suspected violation of a law, is protected from an adverse employment action unless the employee knows the report is false. Specifically, the WPA provides as follows:

An employer shall not discharge, threaten, or otherwise discriminate against an employee regarding the employee’s compensation, terms, conditions, location, or privileges of employment because the employee, or a person acting on behalf of the employee, reports or is about to report, verbally or in writing, a violation or a suspected violation of a law or regulation or rule promulgated pursuant to law of this state, a

political subdivision of this state, or the United States to a public body, unless the employee knows that the report is false, or because an employee is requested by a public body to participate in an investigation, hearing, or inquiry held by that public body, or a court action. MCL 15.362.

CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING A WORK PLACE POLICY:

The WPA was designed to protect employees from unlawful retaliation for raising or reporting legitimate concerns of illegal, improper or unscrupulous activity by an employer. In this regard, the WPA explicitly prohibits employers from taking retaliatory action against an employee who reports illegal misconduct. If an employer is aware an employee has reported or is about to report an alleged violation of law, the employer cannot discriminate against the employee or otherwise threaten the employee with termination, relegation or any other form of reprimand. Because employees are often the first to realize there may be something improper taking place within an organization, whistleblowing can be an important aspect of corporate compliance. Consequently, all employers should have a policy dealing with whistleblowing and a process for employees to submit complaints or suspected violations of law to their employer.

Having detailed employment policies and procedures in place

can help alleviate many of the problems which occur when an employee “blows the whistle” and will make defending a lawsuit filed by a current or former employee far less complicated. Indeed, a detailed policy which covers the whistleblowing process is critical to not only defending whistleblower claims, but more importantly, preventing them. The following is a non-exhaustive list of considerations when creating and implementing your own work place policy:

- Create a streamlined process to report claims internally and encourage the reporting of complaints by employees.
- State very clearly that your organization will not tolerate discrimination or harassment.
- Create a hotline or 1-800 number for anonymous reporting, or establish an online reporting form. These steps may depend on the size of your practice but it is always a good idea to provide avenues for employees to raise concerns “in-house” while maintaining confidentiality.
- Clearly outline what retaliation is and definitively state that those who report violations or suspected violations of law will not be subjected to retaliation.
- Ensure reasonable steps are taken to protect the identity of employees who report what is perceived to be wrongful conduct but do not guarantee that confidentiality will be maintained.
- Include a statement that all employee claims submitted

must disclose the information in good faith, must believe it to be substantially true, must not be made maliciously or contain knowingly false allegations, and must not seek any personal gain.

- Ensure every complaint or report made by an employee is investigated, taken seriously and responded to appropriately.
- Document each and every step taken in response to an employee complaint or report. In other words, document your investigation.
- Maintain open communication with the reporting employee.

Incorporating the above into your employment policies and procedures should encourage and enable employees to raise serious concerns within your practice rather than overlooking a problem or “blowing the whistle” to an outside agency. Likewise, enabling employees to report misconduct “in-house” will foster an environment where employees feel safe discussing their concerns within your organization, without fear of discrimination or reprimand.

CONSIDERATIONS WHEN TERMINATION IS NECESSARY:

Unfortunately, completely insulating yourself from litigation is not possible. Nonetheless, an employer can greatly reduce the risk of litigation through good employment practices, especially when an employee who has “blown the whistle” needs to be terminated.

When an employee’s behavior or performance necessitates termination, the employer should review the facts for the existence of a legitimate business reason for the termination, and alternatives to termination

should be considered. The employer should also review other personnel actions that have been taken to determine whether terminating the employee will be perceived as a form of discrimination. Be mindful that problems will likely arise when the employee termination is made at a time, or in such a manner, that it appears a report of wrongful conduct was the cause of the termination. Therefore, a detailed investigation which documents all of the facts in the decision making process prior to termination is particularly important when faced with allegations of a retaliatory discharge. Legal counsel should also be consulted in advance of the termination, especially in situations where there is the potential for litigation. When it ultimately

becomes necessary to terminate an employee, consider these points to help prevent claims, not only under the WPA, but other laws which provide employee protections.

CONCLUSION

Employers should recognize that the most favorable outcomes in employment litigation often depend on good employment practices, spanning the entire spectrum from hiring to firing, and everything in between. Thus, developing and maintaining good employment policies and procedures will ensure better relations with staff, improve the overall integrity and performance of your practice and, if followed properly, reduce the chances of litigation.

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GCMSA President's Report

We had a great turnout for the Geranium Luncheon, a total of 55 guests on May 24, 2011. The Genesee County Medical Society Alliance has 16 faithful members who have belonged to the Alliance for more than 50 years. Most of them attended the Geranium Luncheon, except those who were physically unable to attend. They were honored and presented with beautiful roses at the meeting. Copies of new programs for 2011-2012 were passed out to everyone. The guests were delighted to see the interesting and exciting programs. One could feel the energy in the beautiful Warwick Hills Country Club banquet hall dining room. Many were talking about marking their calendars and planning to come to many of these events. I am sure it is going to be a great year!

The first Board and Committee meeting of the Alliance was held at Rosa's house the very next day on May 25th. Twenty people attended. A simple lunch was provided, and the meeting followed immediately afterward. The meeting went well and was very productive. There were many key issues decided at the meeting, including scheduling the first budget for June 20, 2011. The board and committee are ready to make this year a successful one, and everyone had promised to do their best and to be cooperative to each other.

President Rosa Wang attended the GCMS Board meeting to introduce herself that evening. She passed out an Alliance program sheet for the year 2011-2012, and invited GCMS Board members to attend the GCMSA programs and encourage their spouses to pay dues. She was well received and the time was well spent at the meeting. She stressed the importance of cooperation between the GCMS and the Alliance, and the mutual support of programs. Rosa is looking forward to the next meeting of GCMS Board, so that she can report the exciting progress of the Alliance.

Rosa Wang, *President, GCMSA*



GCMSA PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

Good afternoon everyone!

I am really honored to be here!

I appreciate everyone who took the time to come to this luncheon to honor our past presidents and to welcome me as your new president.

I would like to thank my good friends Pastor Dave Hintz and his wife Nelinda from the Central Church of Nazarene who took time off from their busy schedules to lead our prayers before lunch, and blessed our Alliance for a successful and fruitful year. I also would like to thank my husband, Steve, for his absolute support, as I take up this exciting and challenging job. I thank him for coming to this Luncheon, knowing that most of you would be ladies. But, I did guaranty him that Bobby and Pete would be here!

I am grateful that many attendees today are our long time faithful Alliance members. Many of you have been Alliance members for over 50 years!!! Without your loyalty and support, the Alliance would not be here today.

And most of all, I would like to thank my board members who have promised to give me their 100% support, and have been doing so before this year had even started. Without your encouragement and support, I would not be here today. Many of them are past presidents, talented and dedicated members who have given so much to the Alliance, and have a well of knowledge that I can always tap to learn from and to get support

and guidance from. Thank you for being willing to take on board and committee positions knowing that it will be challenging and time consuming. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for deciding to plunge in and help me make this year an exciting and promising year!

My goal for this year is to recruit new members, and to win back our old friends who have not been attending our programs for a while. Our Membership Chair, Lakshmi Tummala, will have a huge responsibility this year! As I evaluated my strategy for meeting this goal, I have tried to balance the interests of potential new members and our existing members. To recruit more members, I have thought about how to give them incentives to join the Alliance and pay membership dues. I have also tried to make sure that I don't lose sight of the desires of our loyal members. So, I have been talking to many members who have stopped coming to the meetings and programs, and asked them what would they like to see that the Alliance could offer. I have also talked to many past presidents and asked their advice to see what kind of programs attracted people in the past. I also observed other county presidents to learn from their community works and social functions. After months of research and investigation, (not to mention many sleepless nights, which my husband can attest to), I came up with the key to achieving my goal.

The answer is: our programs must be meaningful to them. Our programs should either give us the chance to help the community, which is the reason the Alliance existed in the first place; or, they should offer members the opportunity to socialize and gain a sense of belonging to our group.

The first part, to help the

community, we have always been successful in this area. For years, we have talented Chairs and committee members to do great work, such as:

HEATH PROMOTION: Chaired by Mary Lou Mathias, under her continuing support, we have some new committee members this year,

- the Annual Healing Hands 5 K Walk/Run will be chaired by Jeanette Rivera this year to help raise funds for the Flint Free Clinic for the uninsured;
- Drs. & Their Families, will be chaired by Anjali Misra this year to collect daily essentials for Women's Shelter;
- SAVE in the Schools, will be chaired by Sara Duda this year to educate elementary school children about bullying and violence, and how to deal with them; finally,
- SAVE DAY, will continue to be chaired by Sue Kirby to promote nonviolence within schools and communities.

AMA FOUNDATION: Chaired by Kee Kang to raise funds to support scholarship for future doctors. Please give generously.

LEGISLATION: Chaired by Beth Schumacher, who is one of two non-physicians sitting on the board of MD PAC, to collaborate with GCMS and MSMS to educate and support physician spouses for the wellbeing of the patients and physicians. At a time of continuing cuts to patients' benefit and physician incomes, we need to be more involved in the legislative process. We even have link to the MSMS 'Action Center' on our GCMSA website to directly communicate with legislators.

The second part, for the Alliance to offer successful social functions, is a greater challenge, because it has to cater to different interests. Therefore, it is my priority to come up with excellent social programs to attract members. In order to achieve this goal, we need more cooperation and communication among board members, and most of all, increase the communication with our members. We will send out flyers to those who do not use email. But, for those who are comfortable using computers, we would encourage them to receive an email notice only- to help the Alliance reduce costs, so that the membership dues can remain the same, and also to save the planet by using paperless notices. The GCMSA website has been always an important tool to announce our programs. We will rely on it even more so this year. The website for this 2011-2012 year will be updated no later than August 1st. Our talented new Web Master, Rula Ali-Bakr is going to give our website a facelift and make it state of the art. Keep your eyes open, and your mouse a click away!!! In addition, we will set up calling committee to make some phone calls for those who would like to be reminded of the events.

To make this year's programs successful, I will rely on team work. So, I have decided to delegate the following 8 wonderful events to 8 very capable and talented chair persons, and they will be coordinated by our hard working Cheryl Thoms:

- September 27, International Luncheon @ Drs. Venkat & Rama Rao's

Contd.

ROSA WANG, GCMSA PRESIDENT

Rosa was born and raised in Taipei, the capital and business center of Taiwan. After graduating with a B.A. degree in English Language and Literature in Taiwan, she earned a M.A. degree in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She then returned to Taiwan and met her husband Stephen Wang, who finished urology residency training at the University of Michigan Medical center, and then stayed as an Assistant Professor at the University for three years before he came to Flint to practice in 1989. They have been happily married for 32 years. They have three children. Their eldest daughter and son are both California-licensed attorneys, and their youngest daughter will be a senior at the University of Michigan next fall.

In addition to being a supportive wife, a loving mother and a businesswoman, she balances her busy life with music. She is currently a member of the Flint Festival Chorus, which performs with the Flint Symphony Orchestra at Whiting Auditorium. She loves promoting classical music for the Flint community, and tries her best to encourage her friends to attend the FSO performances.

Rosa Wang has been actively involved with the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance for many years and has served on the board as Web Master for the past seven years. Besides volunteering for GCMSA, she also picked up the Web Liaison position at the Michigan State Medical Society Alliance since 2008, and will continue to serve next year. Rosa has enjoyed the many activities GCMSA has offered for physicians' spouses, and she continues to believe in the importance of volunteering her time to help strengthen this organization.

Rosa is looking forward to working with the board to lead the GCMS Alliance this year. Her primary goal will be to get new members on board and win back members who have not participated in Alliance programs for a while. She has been contacting many old members and surveyed their interests. She has received many enthusiastic responses, which she will try to implement in the programs of the coming year. She is fortunately strongly supported by many of her friends and talented members who will be on the board to help make GCMS Alliance even more effective!



House, Chaired by Lakshmi Tummala.

- November 5, President's Ball @ River Front Center, Downtown Flint, Chaired by Mona Sohouri.
- November 15, Cooking Demonstration @ Dr. Paul and Sue Lauber's home, chaired by Sue Lauber.
- January 26, An Evening with Maestro Enrique Diemecke @ FIM chaired by Betty Salimi
- February 21, Charity Event for Children, chaired by Sara Duda
- March 20, Elegant High Tea, chaired by Jay Kommareddi
- April 27, Friday night, Wine Tasting @ Dr. Dan and Mary Ryan's Lake house at Fenton, chaired by Mary Ryan.
- May 22, Gerarium Luncheon @ Warwick Country Club, chaired by Marianne Almeida.

Well, after hearing these exciting programs, I hope you are ready to mark your calendars and keep this program sheet on your refrigerator! And don't forget to regularly check out our website for updates.

This concludes our program. Again, thank you for taking the time to attend this event. Your presence is very much appreciated. Looking forward to a great year and seeing many of you and your friends at the International Luncheon in September!!!



GERANIUM LUNCHEON

By Marianne Almeida

The Geranium Luncheon is an annual event, held at the beautiful Warwick Hills Country Club, to swear in the new GCMSA President. This year, Rosa Wang was sworn in. Those assembled also honored outgoing President, Velynda Makhene and all of our Past-Presidents. It was a wonderful setting with beautiful red geranium centerpieces and a room dotted with sunshine pouring through the bay window.

Velynda Makhene opened the meeting. She introduced Dr. S. Bobby Mukkamala, GCMS President, who was very supportive of the Alliance via his speech. Rosa Wang invited her pastor, Rev. David Hintz to perform a beautiful invocation before the delicious lunch was served, followed by a scrumptious dessert. A memorial was said for Alliance member Mary Fan with a beautiful yellow rose and the lighting of a candle. May passed away this past year, and we will miss her.

Our 50 year members were then presented with red roses. Present were: Dorothy Davis, Mary Lou Mathias, Barbara Pougnet, Iona Sing, and Shirley Sullivan.



It is an honor to have these ladies join us for lunch every year and to have them continue to support the Alliance!

It was then time for the new Board members to be inducted: Oya Agabigum as President-elect, Sara Duda as Secretary, and Amita Desai as Treasurer joining Rosa Wang as President.

Excitement was in the air as Rosa Wang presented the line-up for this year's programs. With Rosa as our new President, her programs are not to be missed. She has a year of wonderful luncheons and evening programs planned for the Alliance. It will be an exciting year for the Alliance and we look forward to seeing all of the GCMS spouses at the events. If you are not a member of the Alliance... this is the year to join!



GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

By Velynda R. Makhene

Genesee County has had a most interesting year. We began with our International Luncheon in the beautiful home of Hemant and Amita Desai. We shared the day with about 35 members and guests. The meeting had an abundance of friendship, fun, and food. A magnificent International Luncheon was the perfect beginning for Fall

On a beautiful rainy October S.A.V.E Day, approximately 150 peace marchers from Genesee County marched and sang in the U of M-Flint Wilson Park while we watched the unveiling of a most beautiful statue of Mahatma Gandhi, donated by Dr. and Mrs. Nagaraju.

Joshua Richmond, Political Affairs Manager-MSMS spoke to us about the election, MDPAC, and candidates endorsed by MSMS. The meeting was very informative.

For our President's Ball, we installed our rising star Dr. Bobby Mukkamala. We also honored past Presidents of Genesee County Medical Society and Genesee County

Medical Society Alliance. We were entertained by the exotic music of the sitar and elegant classical Indian dancing. Each year this Ball has become more elegant.

We started November with a talk about hormones. Dr. Mona Hardas, M.D. spoke about menopause, male hormones and something called "The Marilyn Monroe Syndrome" (that women whose body type and facial features resemble those of Marilyn Monroe are more likely than others to go outside of a committed relationship). The lecture was more than I believe we expected. We left the lecture much more enlightened about the subject.

Alliance member Elizabeth Jordan, Ph.D. judged a contest sponsored by the Center for Health Outcomes at Hurley Medical Center in collaboration with Kohl's Cares for Kids grant on childhood obesity. The theme was 5-2-1-0, representing 5 fruits and vegetables a day; 3 hours or less of screen time a day; 1 hour of activity; and 0 sweet drinks, according to Dr. Jordan. The judges were looking for catchy tunes and raps that children would be attracted to, learn and hopefully follow for a lifetime of healthy lifestyles.

We had beautiful Butterflies. For almost two years, Samaj Brown, our lifestyle change leader has taught us that sugar, fat, and salt in any combination is addictive. For one of our projects, we took 180 lbs. of potatoes to our local soup kitchen. The potatoes represented our collective weight loss.

Mary Lou Mathias has been very busy with our Health Promotions. We continue working with students who have an interest in health careers. We distributed 2,800 obesity booklets to local schools. For doctors and their families we will deliver pajamas and other personal needs to the women's shelter.

Alliance member Kee Kang spent another year collecting \$950 in donations for the AMA Foundation.

Alliance members Mary Ann Almeida and Jeanette Rivera will conduct The Healing Hands Race which will take place on May 14, 2011. So far \$60,000 has been collected for the Genesee County Free Clinic.

In May at our annual Geranium Lunch, we will install our new President, Rosa Wang.

It has been my pleasure serving the very committed women of Genesee County Medical Society Alliance.

Health Career Volunteer Program

By Mary Lou Mathias, RN: BS; MA
Health Promotion Chairman--Genesee County Medical Society Alliance

“Fifty years and still going strong”!!!! For the past 50 years, the Alliance has partnered with Hurley Medical Center, to provide high school students an opportunity to explore the vast field of medical careers through its Health Career program. Certificates and awards are presented to students volunteering a minimum of 30 hours per school semester; these may be used in the students portfolios. There is no academic credit given for the program. However, schools are encouraged to award graduating seniors with community service awards. We are proud to announce that at the end of this school year, 74 high school students volunteered 4,668.25 hours of hospital service to Hurley Medical Center and the Alliance Health Career program.

Program Requirements

- 15 years of age and in grades 10, 11, or 12
- Good school attendance and a GPA of 2.8 or higher
- Committed of 3 hours per week for one semester
- Must contact Volunteer Director at Hurley Medical Center (810-262-9152)
- for volunteer packet of information
- Submit completed volunteer packet material to Volunteer Director
- If under 18 years of age, a work permit is required. May be obtained from school and brought to orientation
- If under 18, a parent or guardian must attend full session of general orientation
- Bring social security card to orientation at hospital
- TB test is required of all volunteers. (Given free of charge at orientation)
- Show written parental or physician assurance of immunizations
- Physician release (i.e., sport's physical) is required

High school sponsors are notified twice a year regarding the Health Career program. Students are encouraged to respond quickly as spaces are limited. If you need further information, please contact me at (810)732-2053.



Oya S. Agabigum, President Elect

Oya was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey. She was pursuing a Chemical Engineering degree at Istanbul Technical University, when she met her husband Mehmet. They married in 1978, and moved to Detroit. After Mehmet completed his Otolaryngology Residency at Wayne State University, the couple moved to Flint where Mehmet started his private practice. After attending Wayne State University, Oya decided to follow her passion in the field of Art and Design. She attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where she received a BFA degree. She soon started her own business in graphics; where she worked as an Interior Consultant and Graphic Designer.

Oya and Mehmet have three children (ages 24, 21, 19). Their deep involvement in music gave her the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of classical music from a closer perspective. Her passion for fine arts still continues today, and Oya spends some of her time working as a volunteer Docent at the Flint Institute of Arts.

Oya helps with the management of her husband's office and she also works as a Realtor for RE/MAX Platinum. Oya has ABR and CDPE designations. Next fall, she plans to attend the University of Michigan – Flint to complete her graduate degree in Arts Administration.



Sara Duda – GCMSA Secretary

Sara moved to the Greater Flint Area two years ago when her husband Andrew started his residency in Family Medicine at McLaren Regional Medical Center. She is a native of Akron, Ohio. She has three children, Zoey 9, Hayley 8 and Andrew IV 1. After attending the University of Akron, she started a career in Social Work with a local food bank in Northeast Ohio where she developed a passion for helping others. Sara is currently an Assistant Volleyball Coach at Mott Community College. She played in college at the University of Akron. Andrew is also a former college athlete. He played football. She is an accomplished poet, having been published several times over the years. In her spare time she enjoys reading, photography, painting and spending time with her family. One of her goals is to open a consignment shop that caters to women who are either victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or poverty stricken.

Currently, she serves as the GCMSA Secretary, Liaison to Resident Physician and Medical Student Spouses and is chair of the Annual GCMSA Charity Event which will happen in February. She is also the Liaison to Resident Physician and Medical Student Spouses for the MSMSA State Board.



Amita Desai

Amita Desai was born and raised in India. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Microbiology and Medical Technology and after finishing her studies in university, she married Hemant, an anesthesiologist. They came to Detroit, Michigan where she worked at Detroit Medical Center. Then they moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where Hemant completed his residency at Temple University Hospital. Amita and Hemant then moved to Flint, Michigan where she devoted her time to raising her sons and volunteering in the community.

Amita served the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance as treasurer during 2010-2011. She will be serving again as treasurer in 2011-2012.

Amita enjoys reading, traveling, and painting. She takes an active interest in gardening and hiking.

Amita's favorite quote is, "Being happy is not a matter of destiny. It is a matter of option."
– Dalai Lama.

Dinner Business Meeting

TOWN HALL ON THE STATE OF THE STATE

The membership of the Genesee County Medical Society and their guests were treated to a Town Hall meeting on the State of the State which featured presentations by State Senators John Gleason (D) and Dave Robertson (R). The discussion was extremely lively as were the questions from the attendees following the presentations.

The meeting also featured several Bylaws changes relating to quorums for general membership and Board of Directors meetings, as previously published in The Bulletin. The meeting also featured acceptance of several membership applications including those from:

Requesting Membership:

Lynn Alling-Jones, DO	Rebecca Baumbach, MD
Amy Gallagher, DO	Amanda Harding, MD
Peter Rydesky, MD	

Requesting change in Membership from A to R:

K. V. Mathew, MD	George A. Tumaneng, MD
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Requesting change in membership from A to PT:

Wayne Breece, MD

Requesting change in membership from A to Retired:

Melissa Hamp, MD	Aruna Anne, MD
Jeffrey Ledis, DO	John D. Martin, MD

Requesting Change from A-PIT to A:

Saba Baig, MD	Yogesh Jagirdar, MD
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Requesting Transfer of Membership:

Dorothea A. Carlis, MD

Requesting Reinstatement:

Gail Dawson, MD	Edward Holden, MD
Melodie Knicely, MD	Sania Zainuddin, MD

Resident Requesting Membership:

Brian Flanagan, MD	David L. Mayor, MD
Yen Phi Vo, MD	

In addition, members received a synopsis of the House of Delegates from Dr. S. Bobby Mukkamala, President where he reported that eleven of the thirteen GCMS Resolutions passed the House of Delegates in Kalamazoo. He encouraged members to attend future House of Delegates meetings if they so desire as they are highly stimulating and can result in social and legislative change.





Healing Hands 5k Run/Walk

Saturday, May 14th was the date for the 16th Annual Healing Hands 5k Run/Walk at Mott Community College.

The rain didn't dampen the spirits of over 200 runners and walkers who came to support the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic! Everyone there had a smile on their face knowing that they were contributing to a great cause.

It is truly an honor to work on the Healing Hands committee with such fine people who give countless hours of their time to put this race on year after year. Some of the committee members have worked every race for 16 years!! They are the reason the race runs as smoothly as it does.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Healing Hands 5k Run/Walk. The patients at the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic thank every one of you. Your generosity does not go unnoticed!



Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors Meeting

April 26, 2011 - MINUTES

Motion:

That the document entitled 14 Things the Public Needs to Know to Reduce Illness and Health be approved as presented and forwarded to the Greater Flint Health Coalition as part of the community wellness endeavor.
The Motion Carried.

Requesting Membership:

Rebecca Baumbach, MD – IM - Fenton Medical
Amy Gallagher, DO – Fam. Med. – Fenton Medical
Peter Rydesky, MD – Diag. Radiology – Genesee Medical Imaging

Requesting change in membership from A to PT:

Wayne Breece, MD

Requesting change in membership from A to Retired:

Melissa Hamp, MD Aruna Anné, MD
Jeffrey Ledis, DO John D. Martin, MD

Residents from McLaren Requesting Membership:

Brian Flanagan, MD David L. Mayor, MD

Requesting Reinstatement:

Edward Holden, MD – Fam. Med. – Fenton Medical

Motion:

That Dr. Mikelens request for hardship classification for another year be approved. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That the Genesee County Medical Society cooperate with promoting the Flint Ride and Drive 2011 Event by printing an ad in the Bulletin and sending an email to the members.
The Motion Carried.

PLEASE USE OUR ADVERTISERS!

These loyal people and companies allow us to continue bringing The Bulletin to your home and office. Please tell our advertisers that you saw their ad in *The Bulletin*. Thank you.

Announcement

GCMS members now entitled to 15% discount on automobile and homeowners insurance.

For details, contact:

POTTER & ROOSE INSURANCE
810-767-8590

Providers of insurance for the GCMS
& its members for 50 years.

906 Mott Foundation Bld., Flint, MI 48502

SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

A Town Hall Meeting On

Meaningful Use, MSMS Connect, and a Touch of HIPAA 5010 (the very latest and greatest)

Dara Barrera, Membership and Business Development Consultant, and Stacey P. Hettiger, Manager, Health Care Delivery, (both of MSMS) will be our speakers for the evening.



There are several issues that all physicians need to be up to speed on. These issues include Meaningful Use as defined by the Medicare Program, MSMS Connect (which is a portal developed by MSMS), and HIPAA 5010 which involves a critical software upgrade that physicians need to be aware of.



All members and their guests are encouraged to attend.

This meeting is open to all physicians, their spouses and family members, members, non-members of GCMS, GCMSA and interested other professionals.

\$30 pp - (actual cost of the dinner) GCMS Members, Spouses and Practice Managers

\$20 pp - Hospital Residents and Students

\$50 - Non-Members and Non-Member Practice Managers

Reservations required by August 29, 2011.

FLINT GOLF CLUB

3100 Lakewood Dr., Flint, MI 48507

6 p.m. Registration and Social Hour

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7 p.m. Meeting

7:15 p.m. Presentations

Please mail check with reservations to:

Genesee County Medical Society
4438 Oak Bridge Dr., Ste. B, Flint, MI 48532

Call Marcia at 810-733-9923 for more information.

Sponsored by:
Michigan State Medical Society & ProAssurance

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOCTOR

Louise Desgranges	1	BB Ganatra	9	Farhan Khan	22
John Hebert III	1	Fikria Hassan	9	Nabil Zaki	23
Gali Subbareddy	1	Radwan Alkiek	10	Allen Turcke	24
Tarik Wasfie	1	Kathleen Justice-Kirtek	10	Jae Chul Kim	25
Barina Zado	1	Barbara McIntosh	12	Dong Whan Oh	25
Ivana Vettraino	1	AppaRao Mukkamala	14	Jon Santiago	25
John Waters	3	Koteswara Vemuri	14	James Knaggs	26
Kazem Hak	3	Frederick VanDuyne	15	Edward Holden	27
Leslie Lemieux Jr	4	Lawrence Irish	17	Orestes lung	27
Linda Diane Norrell	4	Ashvin Patel	18	David Strahle	27
David Wilson	5	Shahzad Sadiq	18	Linsey Gold	27
Leonard Dias	6	Earle McGarvah	19	Sosa Kocheril	27
Glen Sullenger	6	Jeffrey Mitchell	19	Eyassu Habte-Gabr	28
Kamal Hasan	7	Charles Bodem	20	Seann Willson	28
Kang Kwon	7	Jose Fernandez	20	Robert Cross	29
Purushottam Naik	7	Jaime Ballesteros	21	Michael Boucree	30
James Gibbons	8	James Vyskocil	21	Kiet Doan	30
Niketa Dani	9	John Morrison	21		

CLASSIFIEDS

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Small office located by front door of Genesee County Medical Society suite. Great exposure for businesses seeking visibility with physicians. Conference room availability possible. Office size 100 sq. ft. at \$12 per sq. ft. triple-net. Additional office space available. Contact Pete Levine at (810) 733-9925 for details.

EMC SHIFTS AVAILABLE

for doctors wishing to work in urgent care setting.
Call Joanne Pratt at (810) 516-2891.

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We screen and hire top performing employees for you. Protect your assets! We design employee manuals, policies and procedures. Call Expert Human Resources Consultants (810) 813-8732.

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**The new GCMS hours will be
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday
The GCMS offices will be
closed on Fridays.**

Check Out Our Website: www.gcms.org

ATTENTION

CHANGES FOR THE ROSTER
East Michigan Medical Associates
Dr. Donald Hardman, MD
3499 S. Linden Rd, Suite 2
Flint, MI 48507
Office: 810-820-8121
Fax: 810-820-8335

GCMS MEMBERS

If you are interested in having access to the "Members Only" section on the GCMS.org website please call or email your password to Marcia at mgzym@gcms.org or call 733-9923. Thank you.

PRACTICE MANAGERS MEET WITH BCN

In late May the Practice Managers group met with representatives of Blue Care Network of Michigan to talk about payment procedures, referrals, clinical edits, and various other topics. The meeting was highly productive. The June meeting will revolve around HealthPlus issues. A future meeting will be on the topic of 5010 – whose responsibility is it.



MICHIGAN STATE
MEDICAL SOCIETY
120 W. Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48823
msms@msms.org • www.msms.org
517-336-5762

State and County Medical Society Membership Application

GENESEE COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY
4438 Oak Bridge Dr., Suite B
Flint, MI 48532
810-733-9923 • mgzym@gcems.org



Please PRINT or TYPE

FULL NAME _____ MD or DO (Circle One)
Last First Middle Initial

HOME ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP _____
Area Code & Telephone Number

OFFICE ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP _____
Area Code & Telephone Number

PRACTICE NAME _____
Office Fax Number

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ For mailing, please use (check one): Office address Home address

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA Sex: Male Female Birth Place _____ Date of Birth _____
Month Day Year

Maiden Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Languages Spoken _____

Government Service (check one): Military National Health Service Beginning Date _____ Completion Date _____

EDUCATION (please complete or attach CV)

INSTITUTION	LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR GRADUATED	
			Beginning	Ending
College/University _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Medical School _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERNSHIP, RESIDENCY, AND FELLOWSHIPS	SPECIALTY	COMPLETION DATE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

License: MI # _____ Date Issued _____ ECFMG # _____

License held in other states/countries (list states or countries) _____

PROFESSIONAL DATA

Present Type of Practice (check appropriately):

OFFICE BASED: Solo Hospital Based Teaching Research Government
 Group Practice Name _____ Other (specify) _____

Specialty(ies) _____

Board Certifications (list specialties & dates) _____

Present Hospital Appointments (list dates) _____

Practice History _____

Previous Medical Society Membership (list dates) _____

Specialty Society Memberships _____

Within the last five years, have you been convicted of a felony crime?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

Within the last five years, has your license to practice medicine in any jurisdiction been limited, suspended or revoked?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

Within the last five years, have you been the subject of any disciplinary action by any medical society or hospital staff?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

I agree to support the GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY Constitution and Bylaws, the MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY Constitution and Bylaws, and the Principles of Ethics of the American Medical Association as applied by the AMA and the MSMS Judicial Commission.

Signature _____ Date _____

WHEN COMPLETED, please mail to MSMS or Genesee County Medical Society, or FAX to 517-336-5797. THANK YOU!

