

THURSTON-MASON COUNTY

Medical Society

February 2015

## Newsletter

### *TMCMS Board of Trustees*

*Bob Lang, MD, President*

*Kevin Roscoe, MD, Immediate Past President*

*Rachel Reeg, MD, Treasurer*

*Eddy Cates, MD, Trustee*

*Dave Cundiff, MD, Trustee*

*Ken Lee, MD, Trustee*

*Daniel Sten, Resident, Trustee*

*Hal Stockbridge, MD, MPH, Trustee*

*Rachel Wood, MD, Trustee*

*Jena Layton, Executive Director*

### MESSAGE FROM THE TMCMS PRESIDENT

*By Bob Lang, MD*

I want to extend my thanks to all those who attended our Annual Dinner and Meeting and made it such a folksy and enjoyable event. I was particularly pleased that spouses and significant others were in abundant attendance and plan to continue this welcoming trend through my tenure as president.

I would like to have 4 dinner and medical presentations this year and anticipate one or two will be in conjunction with the Gut Club as in the past. If any of you have suggestions for an interesting topic, please let your board know.

I would also like to have a summer get together like we did in the fall, open to all and make it an annual event as we had in the remote past. We will be discussing a fund raising Gala likely to take place next February at our March Board Meeting. We could sure use volunteers to form a Gala Committee. Check out the Kitsap County Fire and Ice Gala for an example of a highly successful annual event.

Best Wishes to all.

### A BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED THE TMCMS ANNUAL MEETING

Over 50 members and their spouses attended the TMCMS annual dinner and meeting last month at the Indian Summer Golf & Country Club. Rachel Wood updated our members on the *Thurston Thrives* initiative

and outlined ways physicians can be involved in the second phase of this program. If you would like information on *Thurston Thrives* please contact TMCMS. The 2015 TMCMS board was voted into office and Dr. Claudia Finkelstein from the University of Washington spoke on "Building Resilience into Medical Practice." Her talk focused on physician wellness and outlined practical steps for individual as well as organizational change. If you would like a copy of her presentation please contact Jena Layton at [jlayton@tmcms.org](mailto:jlayton@tmcms.org) or 360-352-1417.

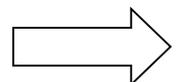
As always, the event provided a nice evening for members to connect and enjoy a meal together. The TMCMS would also like to thank Leif Hatlen and First Citizens Bank for sponsoring the event again this year.

### 2015 TMCMS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The TMCMS is pleased to welcome three new members to our board this year.

**Ken Lee, MD**, practices internal medicine and acupuncture at his private practice in East Olympia. Dr. Lee has been practicing in Olympia since 1997 and has been a member of the WSMA for over 10 years. As a private practitioner Dr. Lee hopes to draw attention to the challenges of maintaining independence and professional autonomy in the medical profession. Dr. Lee attended the WSMA annual meeting as a TMCMS delegate in 2014 and drafted and sponsored Resolution B9 which calls on the WSMA to oppose Maintenance of Certification as a condition to the practice of medicine. This resolution was adopted at the annual meeting.

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**Eddy Cates, MD** has practiced family medicine at Pioneer Family Medicine since 2009. Prior to that he worked at SeaMar Community Health Center. Eddy grew up in New York and moved to the Northwest in 1989. His medical interests include chronic disease management and lifestyle modification and empowering patients to take control of their health through knowledge. He also volunteers his time at the Olympia Free Clinic.

**Daniel Stein, MD** was born and raised in Minnesota before attending college in Maryland. He returned to attend medical school at the University of Minnesota. After graduation, Dr. Stein moved to Olympia, Washington for residency at St. Peter Family Medicine where he is currently in his third year. With the completion of his residency, he will continue to work in the Olympia area, accepting a position at West Olympia Family Medicine-Providence. Dr. Stein has a special interest in preventative and community medicine.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

February 20<sup>th</sup> was the final day for bills to be passed out of their house of origin. Those bills that did not make the cut will likely remain dead for this session. The following priority bills supported by the WSMA will move forward:

- SB 5084: Creates an all-payer claims database.
- HB 1626: Permits a health care provider to choose whether to provide care to a qualified health plan enrollee in the second or third month of the health benefit exchange 90-day grace period.
- SB 5175: Allows for reimbursement of certain telemedicine services.
- HB 1353: Allows for the free testing of blood-borne pathogens for good Samaritans.
- HB 1135: Concerns remediation plans for licensed health-related professions to resolve eligible complaints of unprofessional conduct.
- HB 1183: Establishes parameters for radiology benefit managers.

- HB 2009: Eliminates personal exemptions for vaccines.

Several bills the WSMA opposed have died, including a bill expanding the definition of dentistry, and SB 5040, requiring patient notification of dense breast tissue.

For regular updates on WSMA priority legislation during session bookmark the Capitol Report blog at [wsma.org/capitol-report](http://wsma.org/capitol-report).

## HELP PASS HOUSE BILL 1353

House Bill 1353 is an act relating to infectious disease testing for persons acting as a “Good Samaritan”.

The impetus for this bill was a resolution that was passed at the 2013 WSMA annual meeting sponsored by the TMCMS. Rachel Reeg, our board president at the time, had acted as a Good Samaritan providing medical assistance to the victim of a motor vehicle accident. While providing assistance she was exposed to the victim’s blood and was surprised to learn as a licensed physician in Washington State she had no access to infectious disease testing that is offered to other first responders.

HB 1353, supported by public health officials, seeks to address this issue by ensuring anyone acting as a Good Samaritan has access to infectious disease testing typically done in the setting of blood borne exposures.

This bill provides a low-cost, effective opportunity to improve public health and avoid deterrents that may be present for individuals to act as Good Samaritans. Please urge your representatives to support HB 1353. Find your representatives contact information at <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>.

## DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Please renew your TMCMS/WSMA membership for 2015. The 2015 TMCMS Directory will be coming out in the next few months and we want to make sure that you are included. All TMCMS members will be included in our new website directory which will be online in the next few weeks. To renew your membership please go to the WSMA website at [www.wsma.org](http://www.wsma.org).

*In partnership with:*

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