

THURSTON-MASON COUNTY

Medical Society

February 2016

Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE TMCMS PRESIDENT

By Ken Lee, MD

As the new president of the TMCMS, I would like to thank Dr. Bob Lang and the previous presidents for their contributions to our local professional society. My primary motivation for becoming involved in our county chapter and the WSMA stems from a concern over physician autonomy. We face demands upon us on a daily basis by forces that are often more powerful than us. We are often told what to do by people who do not practice medicine or surgery. This process must be reversed or our profession will become one of servitude. During my medical school years in Florida and subsequent training in California, I was often told if one practiced good medicine, one would not have to worry about anything. I have been in independent private practice in Olympia since 1997 and the entire working landscape has changed drastically, often for the worse.

One significant issue that I worked on over the last several years is the growing nationwide recognition that "Board Certification" by the American Board of Medical Specialties via the respective specialty Boards such as Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, etc, has become an onerous burden to working physicians/surgeons. If you feel coerced to pay for these unproven tests and activities to keep "certified", you are correct. Major studies in 2014 have proven no patient benefit by board recertification in Internal Medicine. So in 2014, I went as a delegate to the WSMA annual meeting and authored a resolution opposing mandatory recertification via the ABMS system. The resolution was adopted (number B9) and WSMA now formally opposes mandatory recertification/maintenance of certification as a condition of our licensure, hospital privilege, insurance contracting, employment and malpractice coverage. This resolution

was affirmed by the MQAC. Then in 2015 I went again to the annual WSMA meeting in Spokane and authored resolution C2, which was adopted with some opposition by academic members. WSMA now formally recognizes alternative board certification organizations, such as the NBPAS and other alternatives to the ABMS franchise. This resolution was also relayed to the AMA and is one of most hotly debated issues on the national level. These resolutions are a starting point for changing hospital bylaws that demand recertification by the ABMS but that is up to the medical staff at each hospital to determine.

What I found during this process is that our local county board is very democratic, open and fair-minded. Any member at large can bring forth a professional concern and have it become a WSMA resolution. This is one way our Thurston-Mason County Medical Society and WSMA serves the membership and I will endeavor to preserve this system.

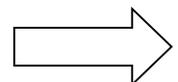
"BLOOMING WITH HEALTH"

TMCMS SPRING GALA, MARCH 26, 2016

Would you love to attend a concert by one of the best bands in the Northwest? Would you enjoy a fine dinner, wine, networking, and socializing with friends, while giving back to your community and helping others? Then get your tickets ASAP and mark your calendars for an evening of dinner, dancing and fun! Join us as we enjoy amazing food with tunes provided by Washington's very own award winning Sonic Funk Orchestra (listen at www.sonicfunktheband.com).

Bring a friend, a date or your entire family to the beautiful Indian Summer Golf & Country Club on Saturday, March 26, 2016, beginning at 6:00 PM. Event proceeds go to the Olympia Free Clinic and the Mason Community Pool

1800 Cooper Point Road SW, #7-A
Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 352-1417



Project, two highly-valued organizations providing much needed health care services and benefits to Thurston and Mason communities.

Four ways you and your practice can support the Gala.

- **Attend with family, friends and colleagues.** Purchase your tickets online at www.tmcms.org. Tickets are \$90 each or purchase a table of 10 for \$850.
- **Donate an item to the silent auction.** We are actively procuring items for the silent auction. Visit the TMCMS website to view the Whistler condo donated by Drs. Sean & Reshma Kearney along with other fabulous silent auction items.
- **Become a corporate sponsor.** There are several levels of corporate sponsorship. Visit the TMCMS website for more information.
- **Like our Facebook page and invite your friends.**

A SPECIAL THANKS TO GALA SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsor: Physicians Insurance

Silver Sponsor: South Sound Radiology

Bronze Sponsor: Thurston Mason Medical Alliance Fund, the Community Foundation of South Puget Sound

Table Sponsors

- Anchor Bank
- Dr. Eddy Cates
- Drs. Kevin Haughton & Rachel Wood
- Drs. Sun-Won Kim & Meghan Duffie
- Dr. Bob Lang & Dr. Nancy Mackin (2 tables)
- Dr. Daniel Stein
- Mason General Hospital (2 tables)
- Olympia Orthopaedics Associates
- Providence St. Peter Hospital
- Washington State Medical Association

Wine donated by Northwest Mountain Winery and Harlan & Mary Jo Stientjes

In partnership with:

Washington State Medical Association **WSMA**

“ARE WE PREPARED? DISASTER READINESS AND RESILIENCY IN THE MEDICAL SYSTEM”

Thanks to everyone who attended the TMCMS Annual Meeting on February 18. Rachel Wood, MD, Thurston County Health Officer and TMCMS board member, presented on the importance of disaster planning for medical clinics.

We have posted the presentation on the TMCMS website along with additional resources for disaster preparation.

The Thurston County Emergency Preparedness & Response Program, Thurston Thrives and the Northwest Healthcare Response Network are presenting a one-day workshop on April 19 on disaster resilience and business continuity planning for outpatient medical practices.

By attending this workshop, you will learn the fundamentals to help prepare and protect your businesses, your employees, and the people you serve in the event of a disaster or emergency. Participants will receive a workbook to assist in developing a Business Resiliency Plan and will have time to work on their plans during the training.

This is a free workshop and lunch will be provided, but space is limited and registration is required. For additional information please contact Sue Poyner, 360-867-2551 or poyners@co.thurston.wa.us. To register go to <http://bit.ly/DisasterResilience2016>.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2016

Thank you to all of you who have already renewed your medical society membership for 2016. You can renew your WSMA and TMCMS membership at www.wsma.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

March

- TMCMS board meeting, Thursday, March 17
- **Blooming with Health – TMCMS Gala, Saturday, March 26 at the Indian Summer Golf & Country Club**

April

- TMCMS board meeting, Thursday April 21

May

- TMCMS board meeting, Thursday, May 19
- WSMA Leadership Development Conference, Lake Chelan, May 20-21