



July 2013

Newsletter

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Jena Layton, Executive Director

Message from the TMCMS President **By Rachel Reeg, MD**

Susan Peterson, our much appreciated and valued Executive Director, has been offered a full time position with the Olympia WSMA office to expand her focus on physician advocacy and WSMA legislative and regulatory activities. I am sure she will be as valued there as much as we will miss her working with us.

Over the past 20 years, Susan has worked hard on the Society's behalf to ensure that our members are informed, had the opportunity to participate and lead, and have a "place at the table" in a number of medical community venues. She has led communication between our board and community groups who have attended our meetings to educate us on important issues from health care access to medical marijuana. She has facilitated organization of many educational activities including annual meeting speakers and the Gut Club.

Please join us in thanking Susan for her dedicated and professional service over the years!

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Congratulations Health Care Champions

On June 18th we proudly honored leaders in our medical community who have made a significant impact within the health care industry. This annual event was created to recognize the dedication and professionalism of important members of the community.

This year's honorees were:

- Dr. James McDowell – Lifetime Achievement
- Dr. Joe Hoffman – Emergency Services
- Dr. Angela Bowen – Health Care Pioneer
- Dr. George Chappell – Health Care Safety-Net

On behalf of the Thurston-Mason County Medical Society, we offer our congratulations and heartfelt thank you!

Welcome Jena Layton

We are pleased to welcome Jena Layton to the TMCMS as our new Executive Director. She will be managing the business side of the Society as well as continuing outreach to members by helping to organize educational programs and keeping members aware of practice support resources.

Jena has a strong educational background in non-profit management and experience working for and volunteering with several non-profit organizations in a wide variety of positions. The medical society office address and phone number will remain the same. You may reach Jena at jlayton@tmsmc.org.

2013 Membership Directories Now Available

The 2013 Membership Directories have been mailed and delivered, but if you have not yet received yours, please contact the medical society at jlayton@tmcms.org or 360.352.1417.

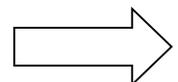
Project Access Charity Tournament

It's not too late to register as a golfer for the second annual golf tournament to benefit **Thurston County Project Access**. The event is scheduled for Friday, July 26 at Indian Summer Golf and Country Club. Registration begins at 10:30 am. Package includes golf, cart for two, prizes, practice range, BBQ lunch, awards dinner, and beverages. For more information and to register, please visit www.crhn.org/projectaccess.

Why Your Membership Matters

You've heard it before – the WSMA and the TMCMS are patient and physician advocacy organizations that provide a place for physicians and physician assistants

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of all specialties to shape health care policy in Washington State.

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But we do much more! Consider just a few of our recent accomplishments:

- **Clinical Autonomy and practice advocacy:** Staff contacted the Seattle DEA and state AG's office about a new requirement instituted by some large chain pharmacies, requiring substantial details from prescribers before certain prescriptions are filled. We've urged these entities to halt the requirements.
- **Licensure freedom and contracting fairness:** The WSMA successfully advocated for legislation prohibiting licensed health care professionals from being required to contract with public and private payors as a condition of licensure. We overcame a veto threat just minutes before the bill was signed.
- **Quality Category I CME programs provided by local specialists** addressing treating patients with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and thyroid/endocrine conditions.
- **Permanently funding the PMP:** We successfully advanced a solution to permanently fund the state's Prescription Monitoring Program.
- **Advantages and savings to physicians:** WSMA was able to get protection into our state law that permits donations of electronic health record technology by hospitals to physicians and their practices without concerns of breaking state anti-rebate laws.

Established in 1889, the TMCMS has grown to represent more than 400 practicing physicians and physician assistants. Our mission is to:

- Promote the art, science and practice of medicine and the practitioners who pursue these goals;
- Promote the care and well being of patients;
- Protect and improve the health of the public; and,
- Provide leadership for its membership.

For membership information, please contact the Medical Society office at 360.352.1417.

WSMA Annual Meeting – September in Spokane

Plan now to attend the annual meeting of the House of Delegates September 28-29, 2013. The meeting will be held at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane and all members are invited to participate

For additional information and to register, please visit www.wsma.org.

In partnership with:

Washington
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