

Genesee County Medical Society
ALLIANCE FOCUS
4438 Oakbridge Dr., Suite B
Flint, MI 48532

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FOR 2018-2019
GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE

Alliance Member's Full Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone if desired _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Physicians Full Name: _____

Annual Dues:
GCMS Alliance \$30.00 NO DISCOUNT ON COUNTY DUES
MSMS Alliance \$32.00 (\$25 **State Dues** if retired)

IMPORTANT:
Check payable to: GCMSA
Total Remittance \$ _____
Mail to: Cheryl Thoms
GCMS Alliance Membership
1213 Carter Dr.
Flint, MI 48532
Phone # 732-7719 if you have any questions

GCMS

Alliance Focus



2018 - 2019

Founded in 1938

Since 1938 the GCMS Alliance has offered programs and services to make our county a better place

President's Message



Compliments of the season. I hope this letter finds you all well this winter and would like to give you an update on the activities of the past few months. We had a successful International Luncheon in September. Thank you to Mary Ryan who opened up her beautiful home to us. In October, I hosted an International Fashion Show which was attended by a few of our members. We raised \$5,000 and all of the proceeds went to the Mott Community Women in Education Fund. In November, we had the Presidents Ball, which was an exciting and fun event. Our membership dues were put to good use in December when we bought and delivered all of the Christmas gifts for the Hispanic Technology Center and to the Women's Shelter in Flint.

I would like to thank Lakshmi, Cheryl, Beth and Maria for their help.

I also want to thank all the members that brought in the gifts for these families. Thank you to Lakshmi Tummala for serving as Editor to GCMSA Focus and Elizabeth Jordan for donating books towards the Reach Out and Read project. The friendship group met for lunch at the Flint Golf Club and it was well attended. Time is flying, and I hope you all will come out to the neighborhood coffee in February, the program on cyber security in March, and a gardening program in April. We will have our final meeting in May with the Geranium Luncheon. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next program.

Warm wishes, Feroza Raffee

A Matter of Pride

President, Feroza, helped organize a fundraiser at the Islamic Center of Flint. The event began with a fashion show followed by a delicious dinner prepared by volunteers with some dishes donated by local vendors. A hefty \$5,000 was raised to be donated to Mott Community College for women's education.



Congratulations, Feroza! You make us proud.

Nelda Ebert, Cheryl Thoms, Rula Ali, Lakshmi Tummala, Elizabeth Jordan, Amita Desai, Feroza Raffee and Sabita Tummala.

Friendship Group

Our Friendship Group continues to meet every other month with meetings, in October, at Blondie's on Hill Road, and the Flint Golf Club in December. We invited the Alliance membership to join us in December luncheon at the Bazaar at the Golf Club. Although it wasn't a large turnout, everyone enjoyed the time together. Our next luncheon will be at noon on Wednesday, February 20th at Taboon's Restaurant on Linden Rd. We would love to see many of you there. Please RSVP to Cheryl Thoms at 732-7719 or Carole Hassan at 624-5154. As always, you order from the menu and pay for your own meal.

~ Cheryl Thoms

Presidents Ball



On November 10, 2018 Genesee County Medical Society and Genesee County Medical Society Alliance members and friends celebrated the annual President's Ball at Genesys Conference Center in Grand Blanc. The Ball honored outgoing Presidents Dr. Gerald Natzke (GCMS) and Maria McCann (GCMSA).



Masked attendees took pictures, and enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before entering a beautifully decorated room for dinner and dancing. Black and white linens with tall ostrich plumed centerpieces, featuring jeweled masks and tiny twinkling lights, were the back drop to a wonderful meal, followed by a fun session of dancing.

Special thanks to committee members, Feroza Raffee, Nelda Hebert, Maria McCann, Lisa Natzke, Sherry Smith and Pete Levine, for their excellent planning. Incoming Presidents Dr. Ed Christy (GCMS) and Mrs. Feroza Raffee (GCMSA) and their families joined in the revelry of the masquerade ball. All past presidents for GCMS and GCMSA, present,

were recognized and acknowledged. The entertainment for the night was provided by 20 high school saxophone players known as the 'The Oakland Area Saxophone Ensemble. These young players treated the audience to jazz, blues and rock numbers which were enjoyed by all.

~ D. Elizabeth Jordan Ph.D.

We have recently lost two of our long standing members,
Past County and State President,
**Mary Lou Mathias and
Beth Michels.**

GCMSA send condolences to the bereaved family.
They followed their spouses, within weeks,
to their heavenly abode. RIP Mary Lou and Beth.

2018-2019 GCMSA Board of Directors

Executive Committee:

President Feroza Raffee
Secretary Rula Ali
Treasurer Rosa Wang

Standing Committees:

Membership.....Lakshmi Tummala
& Cheryl Thoms
Doctors and Their Families Make a Difference
.....Velynda Makhene
Reach Out and Read

.....Elizabeth Jordan,
.....Joy Dawn Hardman
Program.....Lakshmi Tummala
Legislation..... Beth Schumacher
Public Relations/Website..... Rula Ali
Courtesy Dianne Thompson

Fundraising:

5K Run/Walk..... Maria McCann
Presidents Ball Feroza Raffee

Special Interest:

Newsletter..... Lakshmi Tummala
Friendship Group.....Carole Hassan &
Cheryl Thoms
Book Club Rula Ali

www.GCMSALLIANCE.COM

Board Meetings

Board meetings will be held
at the GCMS Office at

4:00 PM

on the **first Tuesday**
of the following months

March 5, 2019

May 7, 2019

Membership

Membership is the backbone of any organization. Our activities are based on it. Although we have lost some members due to moving and death, many have simply dropped out. I am pleased to inform that, this year, we have an increase of membership by over ten percent. Thank you to all those who have responded promptly to my emails and notes by sending in their renewals. Hopefully, the others will follow.

Lakshmi Tummala
Membership Chair

Doctors and Their Families Make a Difference

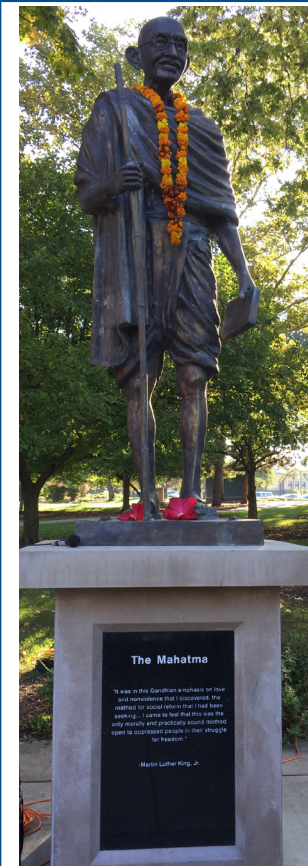
GCMSA has been involved in this major project of the organization. Women flee their homes from an abusive relationship, to the Safe House (local women's shelter), with their young children. Having nothing more than just the clothes on their back, they are in need of personal care items, toiletries, baby care items, books and toys for young kids. Throughout the year, several of our members have been dropping off the necessary items at the GCMS office for later delivery. This year, McLaren-Flint has funded the project with a hefty donation of \$ 2,500 which was used to purchase the much needed items for twenty seven individuals.



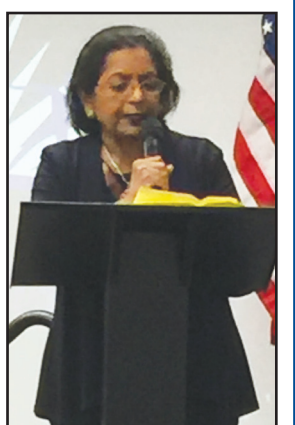
A BIG thank you to McLaren-Flint and our GCMSA members for your generosity.

Peace Day Celebration

As part of our S.A.V.E. Day project, the GCMSA has partnered with the Genesee County Committee for Community Peace for several years now. The committee consists of several organizations involved with the project to bring together the Flint community to them aware of the importance of living in a peaceful and harmonious environment. However, there was no essay competition. A Beautification Project was held in the Hoop Houses, under the guidance and supervision of Rev. Dr. Tommy McDoniel, Pastor and Executive Director of Asbury Methodist Church and Community Development, on Davison Rd in Flint. His diligent and passionate work in transforming underserved urban neighborhoods in Flint by building Hoop



Houses and conducting organic gardening is very inspiring and commendable. He leases vacant lands in the neighborhoods from the Flint Land Bank, engages youth and adults from neighborhoods and turns these vacant lots to organic gardens. The gardens are maintained by the community members and the crops are harvested by them and used them.



It is amazing to see the youth and neighbors working together enthusiastically under Pastor Tommy's guidance, learning various skills, and taking responsibility and pride in the work they do.

Since we do have a considerable amount in our savings account, the GCMSA Executive Committee board felt it necessary to offer a donation of \$300 in lieu of prizes for winning essays. In addition, we picked up the tab of \$115 for the memento given to this year's Peacemaker of The Year Awardee, Rev. Tommy McDoniel.

The event was held on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the University of Michigan-Flint campus. The program began at 9:30 am at the Mahatma Gandhi Statue in Willson Park (UM Flint) with welcome remarks, and universal prayers from community members of different faiths. It was followed by a program in Michigan Rooms A-D with a Keynote Speech, Peace Maker of the Year Award bestowed upon Rev. McDoniel and entertainment. The event ended with refreshments.

~ Lakshmi Tummala



Healing Hands 5K Walk/Run

The GCMSA has been actively participating in a major fundraiser to benefit the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic.

It will be held at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 18, 2019 at the Mott Community College campus. I need volunteers to help at the registration tables, in the kitchen and to pass water to the walkers and runners in the race. Those interested, please notify by e-mail: ltummala@gmail.com. Thank you.

Lakshmi Tummala
Co-Chairperson

February 20, 2019

Join MSMSA
for
**Capitol Day /
Alliance Advocacy Day!**

***We need numbers so our medical community
is recognized and appreciated!***

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The day's agenda is taking shape with the expert organizational efforts of Legislative Chair, Val Doane and our esteemed staff in the Legislative Department at MSMS. Please plan on devoting the morning for visits to your legislators and perhaps a selfie with our Governor before a lunch!

We have requested a meeting with the Governor in her office at 10:00am.

Please sign up at the website to meet your legislators:

<https://www.msms.org/Advocacy/MSMS-Alliance-Advocacy-Day>

Sign-up to attend lunch & meeting: hildorf@aol.com

Book Club

Please join GCMSA Book Club's first meeting of 2019.

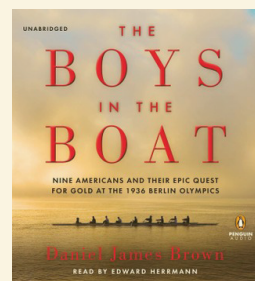
Come for a great discussion and fun with friends.

We will be reading and discussing

"The Boys In The Boat"

by

Daniel James Brown



Tuesday, February 5th, 2019

Location TBD

Please rsvp to

Cheryl Thoms

(810) 732-7719

psclthoms@comcast.net

CHRISTMAS/CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Alliance chose the Hispanic Technology Community Center of Flint as our charity for the annual Christmas/Children's Program this year. As some of you may recall, we have worked with this center in the past. This facility provides language and technical support to the entire community. They offer special language services and aid to the many non-English speaking residents in the community. Many of these residents have been displaced and are not ready to work yet and are in desperate need of help. The Alliance was given a list of six families, for a total of 30 individuals with requests for basic living needs. I am so happy to say that, with the generosity and kindness of our members, we were able to complete the entire list. Donations ranged from basic clothing needs to bed linens and winter weather wear.

The gifts were dropped off at the Medical Society Office, where Ferozza Raffee, Lakshmi Tummala, Beth Schumacher and Maria McCann sorted them out and delivered to the Hispanic Center. Needless to say the staff at the Center was very grateful and, somewhat, overwhelmed with all that our group was able to accomplish. A very special thank you goes out to Karen Boike, Anita Ormond, Raquel Yapchai, Vibha Kaushal, Cheryl Thoms, Cathy Cox, Sabita Tummala, Amita Ormond, Jay Kommareddi, Beth Schumacher and Lakshmi Tummala. Thank you, also, to Genesee County Medical Society for a \$100 Walmart gift card.

I would also like to recognize Feroza Raffee for taking the time to shop with me, using the donated money from our members. We had a crazy afternoon of power shopping in the holiday crowds. Thank you all for making this project a success. Well Done Ladies!



CYBER SAFETY

In this tech age, Internet Safety has been of a major concern these days. Hence, a seminar is planned for our membership. The talk will be followed by lunch.

Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Topic: Identity Theft

Venue: McLaren Hospitality House
G-3170 Beecher Rd. Flint, MI 48532

Time: 10:00 am

Cost: \$20

RSVP by March 15

Lakshmi Tummala

(810) 908-8023

lktummala@gmail.com

Rula Ali

(810) 516-6016

rulaali@gmail.com