

LIFELINE



The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Medical Society Alliance

Spring 2015

RSVP Today!

Don't Miss the 2015 Spring Leadership Meeting!

Alliance members, **this is your opportunity to network with Alliance leadership and spread the good word about the unique activities and philanthropy conducted by your county Alliances...**
and what better time and place to do so than
Springtime in Gettysburg?

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

10:00am – 2:00pm

The Farnsworth House Inn & Restaurant
401 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325
Gettysburg, PA

Please RSVP to alliance@pamedsoc.org or (717) 558-7750 ext. 1503 **no later than Friday, April 10, 2015.**

A \$30 registration fee includes meal and wine tasting costs. You may call and pay by credit card OR mail a check to:
PMSA, PO Box 8820, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Meeting Highlights

AMES Committee Meeting

Alliance Board Meeting

Legislative Updates & Activities

Larry Light, PAMED Government Affairs

Donna Rovito & Matthew Balazik

AMES Foundation Update

Heather Wilson,
Foundation Executive Director

Guest Speaker

Walt Jones,
Adams County Foundation

Lunch

County Share & Networking

Tour & Tasting

Reid's Winery Tasting Room & Cider House



In This Issue

- President's Message
- Meet Your New Executive Director
- A Reminder from the AMES Fund
- County Highlights



President's Message

Spring is officially here and we await the warm weather with great anticipation. This winter hit the jackpot for white-outs!

A day in Gettysburg in the springtime is the perfect way to celebrate the change to better weather. **Please join your Alliance colleagues on Wednesday, April 22 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the historic Farnsworth House Inn in Gettysburg for our 2015 Spring Leadership Meeting.**

The Farnsworth House Inn is famous for recreating the dining experience of the Civil War era. The menu features game pie and spoon bread served on the complementing service ware, and the walls still bear the more than 100 bullet holes that attest to the Inn's place in America's Civil War history. All of these details make our meeting a real treat that should not be passed up.

One of the featured speakers will be a representative from nearby Reid's Orchard Winery. This winery grows its grapes on their farm in Adams County in the Buchanan Valley. They grow grape varieties that other PA wineries cannot because of their unusual soil composition, and they age the wines in Appalachian oak barrels. A wine sampling will be included as part of the meeting.

...continued on pg. 3...

Meet Your New Executive Director!

Welcome to the Spring edition of the *Lifeline* newsletter! Soon the temperatures will turn warmer and spring flowers will emerge.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself. On January 20, I joined the Specialty Society Management Services team at PAMED as your new executive director. I have 40 years of corporate business experience working in association management, managing and providing paralegal services for a large Philadelphia-based law firm, and most recently for Pinnacle Health Systems in their Facilities and Construction Management Division. I have a Bachelor's degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Business Administration from Central Penn College and a paralegal certification from Penn State. I am also a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP) with a concentration in building, design, and construction (eco-friendly, green building).

My husband and I are both Central PA natives and in my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, spoiling my five year old rescue Boxer/Mastiff, gardening, house renovating, and volunteering with the United Way of the Capital Region. I am excited to work with the Alliance and look forward to meeting each of you at our upcoming events. I can be reached at 717.909.2688 or rcook@pamedsoc.org.

Robbi-Ann M. Cook
PMSA Executive Director

An AMES Fund Reminder

It's not too early to start planning your contribution to the AMES Fund Silent Auction at the 2015 Pennsylvania Medical Society's inaugural dinner and gala! In 2014, we had a great selection of auction items donated by so many of you.

YOU continue to make the AMES Fund a success and help ease the burden of medical school costs for many deserving medical students in Pennsylvania.

Thanks for being a part of this wonderful venture, and watch for donation information soon!

Donation items can include:

- Weekend getaways
- Art, pottery, or quilts
- Décor
- Fine wine and food
- Themed gift baskets
- Spa packages
- New or used jewelry
- Family heirlooms

President's Message, Continued from pg. 2

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Spring Leadership Meeting for what will be a day of food and fun, good speakers, and a chance to connect with people we don't see very often.

Much appreciation goes to the teamwork of Caryl Schmitz and the Pennsylvania Medical Society Alliance staff for bringing all the details of this meeting together. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in Gettysburg!

Anna Kosenko
Erie County

PMSA Member Highlight

Joanne Bergquist of Westmoreland County was nominated to AMPAC to receive its prestigious Belle Chenault Award for Political Participation. Kim Moser from Kentucky was the recipient, but PMSA thanks Mrs. Bergquist for her good work and congratulates her on her nomination all the same.



County Alliance Highlights

Adams

Two years ago, Adams County Alliance earmarked a small amount of seed money to launch the Adams County Medical Society/Alliance Fund within the Adams County Community Foundation. To fulfill this dream, we have been engaging in some fundraising projects that have generated excitement both within our group and across the Adams County medical community.

Our long-standing holiday card project continues to be a successful annual fundraiser for us. We also host a fun and educational evening of wine and cheese tasting in the home of one of our members. In 2014, this raised an impressive \$1,300 for our fund. We had a great turnout from the county's medical community, many of whom commented on how much fun they'd had, how much they enjoyed getting together with each other, and how they looked forward to the event next year!

Berks

The 2015 Berks County Medical Society Alliance **Health in Balance Lecture series** will take place at the GT Church facility in West Lawn on **April 9**. The program will include interactive expert discussions, live cooking demos, a healthy lunch, and information booths sponsored by local vendors such as Dundore & Heister - Local, Pastured and Organic Meats; Suzie Carpenter Health Coaching; A Silent Cure in my Back Yard; B&H Organics/CSA; and more!

This program is open to anyone interested! Visit <http://berkscmsa.org/> and click on "Health Project" to register.

Dauphin

The Dauphin County Medical Society Alliance cordially invites all "*Fashionistas*" to attend the

12th Annual "Spring into Fashion" Fashion Show & Luncheon

Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 11:00am

West Shore Country Club
Camp Hill, PA

Featuring Guest Host Alicia Richards of abc27 News and styles from Changes Salon, Cocoa Couture, Maggie Adams, The Plum, Ruby Ribbon, and Mountz Jewelers

RSVP to Karen L. Bloscichak at jiiiprinces@aol.com no later than **Tuesday, April 14, 2015**. Admission is \$60.

Lawrence

Every year in early November, the Lawrence County Medical Society Auxiliary dons their aprons and plastic gloves to sugar and spice 30 pounds of pecans for their annual nut sale fundraiser.

"The beauty of this fundraiser encompasses so much more than just selling nuts," states Theresa Kaul, current president of the Auxiliary. "It's the fellowship in making them for one. Most of the meetings are formatted in such a way that they go through reports and have usually an agenda and a speaker. The sugaring of the pecans is more relaxed. We can talk, laugh, and enjoy each other's company while working at the same time. After jarring the pecans, we have two public sales in the hospital lobby. We never seem to have any issues with sales as they truly sell themselves!"

Profits from the sale are donated to the Children's Advocacy Nurse-Family Partnership of Lawrence County, sponsored by the Jameson Health System. For more information, visit <http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org>.

Montgomery

Montgomery County Medical Society Alliance was organized, February 24, 1925. The committee is in the process of planning for the **90th Anniversary gathering and celebration**.

Should there be any members, past and present, who have any pictures or other items of interest regarding MCMSA, they may contact Toyca Williams, Executive Director, Montgomery County Medical Society (montmedsoc@verizon.net or 610-878-9530) so that work can begin on the memory book by the committee. There will be more information regarding date, time, and place in the future.

York

The **Fifth District Luncheon and Meeting** will be hosted by the York County Medical Society Alliance in honor of Anna Kosenko and Caryl Schmitz on **May 6, 2015 at 10:45 at the Country Club of York**, 1400 Country Club Road, York, PA 17403. Counties in the Fifth District are Adams, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York.

Any member or guest is welcome to attend the Luncheon. You do not have to be a member of the Fifth District. Information will be mailed to officers in the counties listed. Please share the information with county members. If you would like to have an invitation sent to you, please contact Barbara Prendergast at 717-843-8378 or 717-578-4499.