2005 Local President Assumes Presidency of North Carolina Medical Society

Dr. Michael P. Moulton, an emergency medicine physician with New Hanover Regional Medical Center, was named president of the North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) at its annual meeting in Raleigh. The NCMS is an organization representing roughly 12,000 physicians and physician assistants throughout the Tar Heel State. Moulton has been a member of the Society since 1995 and serves on the Board of Directors, as well as the Board of Directors for the New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society.
I recently read a book entitled *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. Without giving too much of the plot away, the book tells a story of two conjoined twin brothers who are separated at birth. They are brought up by physician parents at a Mission hospital in Ethiopia and both boys grow up in and around medicine. As they grow up, the boys grow apart but both pursue medicine as their chosen profession, one a surgeon and the other specializing in gynecology.

The book is a fascinating tale and I recommend it to any physician, especially surgeons, as there are many chapters devoted to surgery and the training of a young surgeon. Although there are several great quotes from the book and several lessons to be learned, perhaps the best is from Dr. Francis Peabody: “The secret in the care of the patient is caring for the patient.”

Dr. Francis W. Peabody was a legendary figure in internal medicine in the early decades of the twentieth century. Dr. Peabody was an expert in polio and typhoid fever, was instrumental in helping to set up many hospitals including the Peter Brent Brigham Hospital, and helped establish the first modern medical school in China. At age 45, Dr. Peabody developed metastatic cancer and died several months later. After being diagnosed with cancer, he gave many now-famous lectures on what it is like to be a physician as well as a patient.

The quote regarding caring for patients is a wonderful quote that all physicians should remember. This quote is as important today, and possibly more so, than it was when Dr. Peabody spoke it almost 100 years ago, but sometimes gets lost in our busy lives.

With all the things that go on in the daily lives of a physician, it is sometimes easy to get lost and forget about the real reasons we went into this profession. Our daily lives involve so many distractions, as well as necessary evils of being a physician, that we can lose site of the wonderful opportunity and privilege we have in taking care of patients.

We have seen great changes in medicine in 2012 and will continue to see them at an ever-increasing pace. One large frustration this year related to the implementation of an electronic medical record at the hospital. Although implementation went well and physicians are becoming more comfortable with using this new record, it caused a lot of physicians grief and was the topic of many lunchtime discussions in the physicians and surgeons lounge.

We have also seen shifts in how we will soon be delivering care to patients with increasing scrutiny on outcomes and judicious use of diagnostic tests. We have witnessed new and innovative surgical procedures, drug therapies, and are expanding our knowledge of disease processes at a swift pace.

With all that is going on, it is almost a fulltime job just keeping up with the “busy work” of being a doctor. Despite how hectic our lives can be and how frustrating some of the “distractions” in medicine can be, it is always important to take a step back everyday and remember what we are truly called to do, take care of patients.
Life Member Honoree

Dr. and Mrs. Larry Knott

Life Member Honoree

Dr. Robert Weinstein

Life Member Honoree

Dr. Eric Rosenberg

50-Year Club

Kenny Morris and Bertram Williams share a laugh as Dr. Williams confers 50-Year Club membership status on the latest honoree.

Welcome New Members

Elizabeth Acquista, MD; Thomas James Braza, MD; Nicole Summerour Carroll, MD; Kathryn Louise Louthian, PA-C; Randy Mark Sloan, MD; Sarah Marie Gore, MD; James Edward Appel, MD; Deidra Arelene Blanks, MD; Gina Marie Berthold, MD; Seth Neal Braunstein, MD; Daniel John Breault, MD; Elizabeth Jane Buskirk, MD; Jodie April Calain, DO; Joshua David Dobstaff, MD; Jeffrey Neal Faust, MD; Ronald Lee George, Jr., MD; David Emanuel Green, MD; Justin Michael Markow, DO; Alison Anne Parker, MD; Jonathan Raymond Snyder, MD; John Alexander Thomas, MD; Morgan Arvidson Todd, MD; Franklin George Trenery, III, PA-C; Megan Anderson Whitley, PA-C; Pearlie Bradford Watkins, III, MD; Lucybeth Nieves-Arriba, MD; Nicole Evangeline Aristy, MD; Sandra Shumate Brannin, DO; Pamela Renee Novosel, MD; Daniel I. Shapiro, PA-C; Wendy Wright Simmons, PA-C; Leon David Charkoudian, MD; Andrew Michael Schreiber, MD

IN MEMORIAM

Physicians

Victor I. Suvillaga, MD, 8-26-12
Angelina Edralin Knox, MD, 09-19-12
Sara Heath Collins, MD, 04-04-12

Physicians’ Spouses and Children

Myrtle Reynolds Sinclair, 1-09-12, wife of Dr. Thomas Sinclair
Nancy Young Taylor, 03-20-12, widow of Dr. Ivey Taylor
Constance Bratton Grine, 05-05-12, spouse of Dr. William Grine
William Hugh Knox, PHD, 08-03-12, spouse of Dr. Angelina Knox
Melissa Gail Jensen, 08-29-12, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Michael McGarrity

John Olin Perritt, Jr., MD, 12-19-12

Mary Jeffreys Peedin, 02-12-12, widow of Dr. Harold Peedin
Brody Winslow, 04-11-12, son of Dr. and Mrs. Timothy Winslow
Mary Catherine Dietzgen, 06-18-12, spouse of Dr. Walter Dietzgen
2012, Year in Review

America's great Jewish comics. In March we heard from the new chancellor of UNCW, Dr. Gary Miller, about his plans for the advancement of the University. We met in conjunction with the Bar Association and Duke Alumni Association in May, and heard a presentation on leadership from Dr. Randall P. White. September's meeting featured an address by our own Dr. Michael Moulton, incoming NC Medical Society President, on challenges to physician practice and autonomy. In October, Drs. Ken White, David Lensch and Ted Winneberger recounted their experiences as medical missionaries in the Caribbean and Central and South America.

We fostered relationships with purely social meetings as well. In April, we congregated at Bluewater Restaurant. The summer family social again enjoyed a great turnout and pleasant weather in June at Halyburton Park. We welcomed another large group of new physicians in August and were entertained by musical guests from the Wilmington medical community. Finally, we capped off the year with the Holiday Party.

We celebrated milestones—Life Memberships for Dr. Eric Rosenberg, Dr. Robert Weinstein and Dr. Larry Knott; 50-Year Club induction for Dr. Andy Cracker; inauguration of Dr. Michael Moulton as President of the North Carolina Medical Society. We honored and said goodbye to colleagues who departed this life. Our retired physician community continues to grow and under the leadership of Dr. Bertram Williams offers lunch meetings with great speakers and camaraderie.

Our society maintained a presence in the community offering free physical exams for the New Hanover County schools. Over 600 middle and high school boys and girls received pre-participation exams from almost two dozen volunteer physicians. Members continue to contribute articles on health related subjects to the newspaper's Health and Medical Supplement. Society members also continue to support the New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society Premedical Scholarship at UNCW.

Our society continues to lead in the State Medical Society, not only with President Moulton, but also with a full and active delegation to the annual meeting. Dr. Philip Brown has taken on co-directorship of the NCMS Leadership College. We have supported the Leadership College by contributing to the Elizabeth P. Kanof, MD Leadership College Endowment. We have supported the Towards Accountable Care Consortium and Initiative, a program that seeks to support and inform physicians amidst the changing environment of health care administration and regulation.

We have much to be proud of over the past year, and we must continue to work together as friends and colleagues in the coming years. As we know, to whom much has been given, much is expected in return. I believe our society has given in return and will continue to do so in the years to come. I have truly enjoyed the relationships and experiences as president for the past year. I hope you will continue to join me at Society meetings and events to support and strengthen our medical community. And again, I extend my greatest thanks to my fellow executive committee members and Bonnie Brown for allowing me the honor of serving as president of this fine Society. Best wishes to everyone for the coming year.

Ed Whitesides, MD
Retired Physicians Section Alive and Well!

Dr. Bertram Williams had many wonderful programs for retired physicians this year and continues to do a superb job as the Retired Physicians Section Coordinator. Captain Gary Davis (right) spoke on submarine life during the 10/31 RPS meeting.

Dr. Bertram Williams was pleased with the near-record crowd that turned out for Dr. William McCarthy’s (left) program on pirates during August 15’s RPS. In February, Dr. Mark Wilde-Ramsing (Right) presented "Recognizing the Civil War Steam Blockade Runner, Modern Greece".

Lenard Joseph Edralin, M.D., M.S., F.A.A.P, provided music during the August 31, 2011 Summer Social. He served as a 2011 NCMS Delegate and graduated as a 2012 NCMS Leadership College Scholar.

Dr. Ken White poses with Dr. and Mrs. Ed Whitesides. Dr. White was one of our speakers along with Drs. Ted Winneberger and David Lensch at the October 17th meeting on medical missions.
In 2012, we celebrated the 30 year anniversary of our cookbook *A Cook's Tour of the Azalea Coast*. With the proceeds from the first edition of this cookbook in 1982, the Auxiliary to the New Hanover–Pender County Medical Society founded the Hospitality House of Wilmington, a home away from home for families and seriously ill patients in local hospitals. We have continued to support the Hospitality House over the years with a benevolence fund for families that are unable to pay the nightly fee.

The Cape Fear Medical Alliance continues to sell the cookbooks as a fundraiser for health-related initiatives ... and in 2013, we will support a new project – *Born Learning Trail* - in collaboration with the United Way of the Cape Fear Area and the City of Wilmington. The *Born Learning Trail* captures 10 fun outdoor games on engaging signs to help parents and caregivers create learning opportunities for a young child. It is a community change strategy, helping boost children’s language and literacy skills – and encouraging families to get active! We look forward to installing our first *Born Learning Trail* at the Portia Mills Hines Park at 10th & Rankin streets in the spring of 2013.

Please visit our website to contact us about purchasing cookbooks (members $10 or 3 cookbooks for $25) [www.capefearmedicalalliance.org/cookbook](http://www.capefearmedicalalliance.org/cookbook) and follow our *Born Learning Trail* project on Facebook at [http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cape-Fear-Medical-Alliance/141307122605006](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cape-Fear-Medical-Alliance/141307122605006)

Happy New Year!

Jennifer L. Adams - Cape Fear Medical Alliance Treasurer/Secretary

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**IPM COMPUTERS**

Owner/Tech: Greg Rogers, Information Technologist to the New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society

[www.ipmcomputers.com; greg@ipmcomputers.com](http://www.ipmcomputers.com; greg@ipmcomputers.com)

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(Greg built the Medical Society’s two new computers in 2012!)

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**NCMS Leadership College**

Congratulations to 2013 Participant

Jeff Wright, MD, Class of 2013
**Highlights from the Year**

Dr. Philip Brown finished his presidential year with installation of the 2012 officers and our new president Dr. Ed Whitesides.

Dr. P. J. Schenarts, a surgeon from East Carolina University, started off the year with a talk on war medicine.

Jarrod Tanny, Ph. D. spoke on Jewish humor during the February 15th meeting.

May 16th event with Bar and Duke Club. The speaker was Dr. Randall White. Dr. Whitesides with Duke Club President, Doug Whitman, and Bar President, Delores Williams.

Dr. Hormoze and Ms. Suzanne Goudarzi and daughter, Roxanna, who played piano and guitar and sang at the Summer Social.

David and Beth Weatherford enjoyed the Summer Social.

Everyone loved listening to Good Night Irene at several Medical Society and hospital functions this year. This all-medical band is a fan favorite!
2012 Athletic Pre-participation Screening Exams

Many thanks to participants in this year’s program of providing screening exams to student athletes:

Pat Boylan, MD
Clyde Harris, MD
Ed Whitesides, MD
Andy Illobre, PA-C
Thomas Marcinowski, PA-C
Jan Beste, MD
Mindy Fairbanks, DO
Erin Griffin, DO
Mostafa Rezk, DO
Stephen Sasser, MD
Jodie Calain, DO
Jennifer Hildebrand, MD
Joanne Allen, MD
Bill Sutton, MD
Belinda McPherson, MD
Sangeeta Sastry, MD
Monique Moona, MD
Richie Smits, MD
Cecile Robes, DO
Noha Mataoui, MD
Karen Isaacs, MD
Jessica Kneapp, DO
Jennifer White, MD

Each summer, the Medical Society helps conduct free, pre-participation health screening physicals for New Hanover County student athletes and cheerleaders. In this program, started decades ago, physicians average over 600 examinations at no cost to the school system or student.

NH-PCMS Family Day

A wonderful time was had by all at the annual Family Day at Halyburton Park on June 22nd 2012.
NH-PCMS Premedical Scholarship/UNC-W Chancellor

The New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society has endorsed and supported an annual scholarship for a premedical student at UNCW since 1989. This year's winner was Danielle Koch. Her award was presented during the March 21st meeting. Danielle is an accomplished student and well-deserving recipient of this year's award. Her parents were able to be at the meeting. It was also an honor to have Dr. Gary Miller, UNC-W's Chancellor, give a speech at this meeting about the future directions of UNC-W.

Andy Cracker Receives 50-Year Club Membership

On March 21st, 2012, Dr. Andy Cracker received his 50-Year Club induction at the Medical Society meeting during which we also honored the UNCW Premedical Scholarship recipient. Dr. Cracker gave a powerful acceptance speech and imparted sage advice to the premedical student which pertains to us all:

“And to the premedical student being honored here, tonight. You’ll be entering one of the world’s most ancient and noblest professions. Treat everyone with dignity and respect, such as you would like to be treated. Talk to them directly with eye-to-eye contact. But, most important of all, listen intently to what they have to say. You’ll have the unique privilege of being able to share times of great joy and happiness with those you treat, but, what’s even a greater honor, to be present to comfort, love, pray and, at times, cry, with them during times of unspeakable sadness and grief. This will be a life of service to others. The vows you will take are sacred. Always remember, your success will not be measured by the goods you accumulate and honors you receive, but in the way you treat others, patients, friends and colleagues. Live this way, my friend, and you’ll be following in the path of The Great Physician. Thank you and God bless you.”
Spring Social 2012
2012 ROLL OF HONOR
The Medical Society recognizes with appreciation the physicians and businesses that provided support during 2012.

Urology Associates of SENC  Wilmington SurgCare
*StarNews  Coastal Surgery Specialists
*IPM Computers, Greg Rogers  Wilmington ENT
Glen Meade Center for Women’s Health  Sunil Arora, MD
Robby and Kym Adams, Coastal Behavioral Sciences  Dermatology Associates
Scott Colquhoun, MD  Dr. Edward and Ms. Bonnie Ricciardelli
*Wilmington Health  Coastal Carolina Eye Clinic
William Joyner, MD  Ed Whitesides, MD
*Kavita Persaud, MD  *NH-PCMS Executive Committee Officers
Wilmington GI  NHRMC
OrthoWilmington  Concordia Strings
Atlantic Neurosurgery & Spine  Good Night Irene

* Denotes multiple sponsorships within one year.*

Outgoing 2012 Executive Committee

Edward Whitesides, MD ....................................................... President
Philip Brown, Jr., MD .............................................. Immediate Past President
John Sanders, III, MD .......................................................... President-Elect
Scott A. Colquhoun, MD .............. 1st Vice President, Program Chairman
William Hope, MD ....................... 2nd Vice President, Newsletter Editor
Edward Joseph Ricciardelli, MD ................................. Secretary
Bryan M. Weckel, MD .......................................................... Treasurer
J. Todd Kornegay, MD ................................. Assistant Treasurer
Darrell Ernest Hester, MD ............... Member-at-Large, New Hanover
Todd Allan Boring, MD ....................... Member-at-Large, New Hanover
Bertram Williams, Jr., MD .......................... Retired Physicians Section Coordinator
Frank Reynolds, MD ........................................ Former NCMS President
C. K. Rust, II, MD .............................................. Former NCMS President
Michael Moulton, MD ...................... NCMS President-Elect
Bonnie J. Brown .............................. Executive Director
Holiday Party 2012
The Holiday Party, held at the Cape Fear Country Club, on November 30th, 2012, was a huge success.
Dr. Jim Dineen inducted to the Sports Hall of Fame

Dr. Jim Dineen was inducted into the Hall of Fame this year after pioneering sports medicine for High Schools in New Hanover County.

This year’s Community Service Gift was presented to the Cape Fear Literacy Council on September 19, 2012.

End-of-the-Year Oyster Roast

The incoming and outgoing Executive Committee officers celebrated another productive year at the annual end-of-the-year oyster roast held in the Society’s new office space.
Interesting Times

I would like to thank all of the New Hanover-Pender County physicians and spouses who attended my recent North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) Presidential Inauguration. It meant a lot to me to have all of you there to offer me support. My inauguration was held prior to the Presidential elections, and in my address to the NCMS House of Delegates, I offered a glimpse of where I thought medicine was headed depending on the outcome of that election.

With the election decided, our focus as a profession has sharpened.

With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act/Obama Care (ACA) we are witnessing a fundamental change in our health care system. Our government is evolving from a provider of health care funding, into a provider of health care.

Hospitals and insurance companies seem to be on their own track, vying for position in the federal government funding stream. Physicians appear to be running for cover or organizing their own entities to compete in this new world. Hospitals are fearful that as physicians join forces in large integrated organizations, they will directly compete with the hospitals for utilization and referrals.

Hospitals and insurance companies are employing physicians and creating alliances at an alarming rate in an attempt to create Accountable Care Organizations. They appear to have resigned themselves, organizationally and financially, to the fact that the government will stay on track as the ultimate health care provider. Hiring of physicians has increased to the point that nearly half of the practicing physicians in the U.S are currently employed by integrated health delivery systems or hospitals. Hospitals lose $150,000 to $250,000 per year over the first three years of employing a physician, but they expect to recoup these losses later. Employing physicians provides hospitals the maximum flexibility should the healthcare landscape evolve, and require health care providers to accept the financial risk of managing these ACOs. Hospitals believe the only way they can survive in the coming environment, is to control costs and they will do this by controlling the providers and the services.

Whether physicians, hospitals, or payers end up leading these ACOs depends on a multitude of factors, but whatever happens, the employment decisions made by physicians today will have a profound long-term effect on the way medicine is practiced in the future.

As doctors, hospitals and insurance companies grapple with what the future of health care will look like and their role in that future, the ACA Train steams ahead. As the reforms stand now, here is some of what we have to look forward to:

In 2013

- Hospital pay-for-quality program begins.
- Medicare cuts to hospitals with high readmission rates begin.
- Medicare cuts to hospice begin.
- Medicare cuts to hospitals that treat low-income seniors begin.

There are a 159 new agencies and programs created by the Affordable Care Act, and 2,700 pages of mandates getting ready to ramp up for the official 2014 debut.

Here are but a few of these mandates:

Continued on the next page
In 2014
More Medicare cuts to home health begin.
States must cover parents/childless adults up to 138 percent of poverty level on Medicaid, but they will receive increased Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP).
Insurers cannot impose any coverage restrictions on pre-existing conditions (guaranteed issue/renewability).
Insurance plans must include government-defined “essential benefits” and coverage levels.
Government board: Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) begins submitting proposals to reduce the per capita rate of growth in Medicare spending. Of note:
When the unelected government officials on this board submit a legislative proposal to Congress, it automatically becomes law: ACA requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement it. Blocking an IPAB “proposal” requires at a minimum that the House and the Senate and the President agree on a substitute. The Board’s edicts therefore can become law without congressional action, congressional approval, meaningful congressional oversight, or being subject to a presidential veto. Citizens will have no power to challenge IPAB’s edicts in court.

Medicare payment cuts for hospital-acquired infections begin in fiscal 2015.
The law will cut federal payments to the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program.
The law will impose an employer mandate; businesses must either offer an acceptable level of health insurance coverage or pay a penalty.
The law will require persons to obtain “acceptable” health insurance coverage (the individual mandate) or pay an annual penalty. The law provides a phase in for the individual mandate and its penalties.
The Goal is to reduce the number of nonelderly people without health insurance coverage by 14 million in 2014 and by 29 million or 30 million in the latter part of the coming decade, leaving only 30 million nonelderly residents uninsured by the end of the period. (CBO)

In 2015
More Medicare cuts to home health begin.
Of note: A physician shortage in the U.S. was expected even before the Affordable Care Act was signed into law in 2010, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges, with an estimated shortage of 63,000 doctors by 2015 and 130,600 by 2025.

In 2017
Physician pay-for-quality program begins for all physicians.
Interesting times are headed our way. Will our state opt into the Medicaid expansion? Outgoing Gov. Bev Perdue has already indicated the state will participate in a joint state/federal Health Insurance Exchange, but it remains to be seen what the new administration and legislature will endorse. Will we take another route and join those states that are refusing to participate?
Your NC Medical Society staff, Board of Directors and President are actively watching the track ahead to make sure that as changes occur, we are prepared.
We are committed to work on your behalf to ensure that whatever the future brings, we are ready to actively engage those changes, and those individuals creating the change, to unite, to serve and to represent you in order to enhance the practice of medicine for the physicians and patients of North Carolina.
This is sure to be an interesting year.

Michael P. Moulton, MD
President, North Carolina Medical Society
New Hanover - Pender County Medical Society
5305 Wrightsville Avenue, Suite D
Wilmington, NC  28403-6507

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Every Member, Every Day!

December 2012 Newsletter

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Frank R. Reynolds, MD ................................. Former NCMS President
C. K. Rust, II, MD ................................................... Former NCMS President
Michael P. Moulton, MD ......................................... NCMS President
Bonnie J. Brown ...................................................... Executive Director

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