

NH-PCMS BULLETIN: FEBRUARY 04, 2022

2022 Statement to the Membership from the 2021 Outgoing President

Here we are with the changing of the guard as we cross the bridge to 2022 and reflect on 2021.

I think the most memorable part of 2021 was the pandemic. We are all wishing that 2022 begins the exit of the pandemic.

Your 2021 Board spent tremendous energy to find suitable meeting sites and zoom ideas. We had a Vaccination Celebration, a Beer and Pizza night and a Zoom event with Celia Rivenbark among our offerings. A favorite night of mine was the awarding of the premedical scholarships and heard from many that attended about their personal experiences in earlier days of education and career. There were good times and good memories of 2021 in what was otherwise another devastating pandemic year.

It is also appropriate to share with our membership that we are facing significant challenges at the Medical Society. We have seen membership decline, and face financial realities that will require the board to make major changes. There is a pressing need for our Medical Society to adapt to the changing landscape of physicians and their worlds, to modernize and make it more relevant to a new generation of doctors. We lag behind in digital acumen and social media savvy but the board is very motivated to get there. I talk about these issues to offer transparency to our shared challenges and to hopefully entice a lurking member out there to send an email or make a call to become more involved. We are welcoming to new faces, new voices and more talents.

No exit would be complete without marking thanks to the many contributors to year 2021.



Thanks to Rachel McLean for her 3 years on the Board of Censors, to Christian Lloyd for his 3 years of service on the Mediation Committee, to C. K. Rust, II for service to the Civil Service Commission, to Mark Morgan for his service on the Board of Health, to Ed Whitesides, Claude Jarrett and Philip Brown, Jr. for their service on the NCMS Board, and I also note Dr. Brown's continued work with Leadership College, and to Ed Ricciardelli and Michael Moulton for their service on the NCMS Nominating & Leadership Development Committee. Thanks to our IN-KIND Ongoing Sponsors: IPM Computers, StarNews, and DesignLoud.

There is so much appreciation to our Executive Director Bonnie Brown and 2021 Executive Committee; President Elect Van Huffmon, VPs, Charin Hanlon & Rob Harper, Secretary Bryan Durham, Treasurer Amy Isenberg, Assistant Treasurer Aaron Kline, Members at Large, Claude Jarrett and Jacky Njapa. To the members who engaged with us by email and zoom, kudos to you. I was positively overwhelmed by those who took the time to write letters and speak with me. All opinions are highly regarded and that type of communication will ultimately shape and nurture our very identity. I also thank several past presidents who reached out to me and took my calls through the year, they shared perspectives that were of incredible value. Incredible thanks to my husband, Dr. Sunil Arora, who helped me navigate the politics of medical society work. Who knew!!! Special heartfelt thanks to a special 2021 Board Member, my Immediate Past President Robbie Henihan, for his strong leadership that preceded my presidency year and for the support and guidance he provided to me. He has a deep commitment to doing the right thing and a clear concern for our Medical Society. Passing the baton to Dr. Van Huffmon gives me special confidence and pride, I know we are all in good hands for 2022.

Kavita Persaud, MD

2021 President, New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society