



APRIL 2020

**WAKE COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

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**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW
MAILING ADDRESS BELOW**

**WAKE COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

3434 Edwards Mill Road
Suite 112
Raleigh, NC 27612
Phone 919-923-2442
www.wakedocs.org

**A message from Doug Holmes, MD
2019-2000 Wake County Medical Society President**

One of the challenges of practicing medicine today is the relative isolation of doctors from other doctors, especially referral sources and recipients of those referrals.

In times past, a new doctor in town would join the local medical society to meet the other community docs, and express their desire to join into the medical community (primary care and specialists alike). The specialists would present their availability for consultations and referrals, while the primary care docs would pull shifts in the emergency room (now emergency department) to make their presence known and gather unassigned (those without a doctor of their own) to recruit to their new office.

And many of the doctors in the community would round on their inpatients and see each other in the physician lounge. Or take part in grand rounds (lectures, talks, medical education) to meet and greet.

And the third avenue for collegiality was the local medical society dinner meetings with one's spouse. I assume many practices did business on the strength of the relationship of the spouses (most likely women suiting the era, who may or may not have had professional careers of their own).

But of course times have changed. Many aspects of medicine have changed. Forever altered by hospitalists (relegating most docs to their office only and never coming to the hospital), emergency physicians (a specialty of their own), change of demographics with many more female physicians and of course

doubly employed spousal partners (and the rise of the male medical spouse).

This leaves the local medical society to find relevance. Many have not and have folded. Some have embraced the need for docs to meet together and sponsor quality quarterly educational meetings.

Our local Wake County Medical Society has decided that one of its major missions is to create venues for conversation and collegiality and communication between docs, and their families. Hence the many social programs of exploring the many cultural opportunities Raleigh and Wake County afford.

And then there is the BOOK CLUB!!!
Ta da!!! Trumpet call please!!!

We have a solid group of docs, around 10 or so, that faithfully read the offering and bring insight, opinion, personal experience, enlightenment to a quarterly meeting, with a humble meal, comfort food. Fiction and nonfiction. Medical and anything but medical. Purview the list:

- *Dopesick*, by Beth Macy
- *Underground Railroad*, by Colson Whitehead
- *Kids These Days*, by Malcolm Harris
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot
- *Things That Matter*, by Charles Krauthammer
- *Astrophysics for People in a Hurry*, by Neil de Grasse Tyson
- *The Beekeeper of Aleppo*, by Christy Lefteri
- *The Great Influenza*, by John Barry

(continued on page 2)

June 2020

June 20-6pm
WCMS at the NC Symphony
Koko Booth Amphitheatre
Summerfest: Bruce Hornsby
and the Noisemakers

July 2020

Date TBD- 6 pm
WCMS Book Club-
rescheduled date for
discussion of *Mistreated*
by Robert Pearl, MD



The Wake County Medical Society

Honors and Salutes

The first responders in this campaign against Coronavirus: Physicians, Nurses, Support Staff and everyone who places themselves at risk to help their fellow citizens.

Winston Churchill, said it best in 1940, referring to Royal Air Force Pilots who fought to defend England in the Battle of Briton. His words ring true today for physicians and all first responders to the Coronavirus:

A quarterly meeting with a simple dinner, breaking bread and discussing themes and motif. And trust me all have read the book, it is after all a type A kind of club.

I have been inspired after reading Tyson's book to study astronomy further with an on line course from UNC, astronomy 101 with lab. Got an A in both.

The flu pandemic of 1918 puts our current corona virus in perspective, and begs us to ponder what is next, even as we struggle with this virus.

Dopesick, about the opioid crisis, which has taken a back seat to the virus.

Henrietta Lacks, whose breast cancer cells have advanced all forms of medical research.

WCMS Tours Frida Kahlo-Diego Rivera Exhibit at NC Museum of Art

Members shared a docent tour of the *Frida Kahlo-Diego Rivera* exhibit at the NC Museum of Art in January, 2020. The group dined at the Iris Café and toured the exhibit featuring Mexican modernist art. And through this portal they experienced the lives, loves and influence of two art icons of the 20th century.

Underground Railroad, facing our ugly past, personalized it seems, like no other portrayal of the beast of slavery.

Reading together and coming together, supping, and dissecting a book TOGETHER. Such power, such meaning, such connection. I look forward to every book and can't imagine missing these times.

One day I will leave the office practice and the OR, and I will retire and not actively practice medicine, but I so look forward to continuing the exploration of literature and writing with my physician colleagues.

Anyone up for poetry?



WCMS Tours Law and Justice Exhibit at NC Museum of History

In February 2020, members of the Wake County Medical Society visited the North Carolina Museum of History newest exhibit, "*Law and Justice: The Supreme Court of North Carolina, 1819-2019*". The docent tour covered exhibits displaying stories, court cases, artifacts, and images, of the Supreme Court of North Carolina during its bicentennial anniversary revealing untold narrative of the state's highest court from its founding until the present day. Members also enjoyed a luncheon catered by Catering Works, Inc.