



TULSA MEDICINE

Tulsa County Medical Society | A Newsletter for the Medical Community

April 2023



2023 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

Congratulations to Sharon C. Smallwood, M.D. on being the 116th President of TCMS.

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TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S LETTER



**TULSA COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY**
Physicians Advancing Health Care

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TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY & TCMS FOUNDATION

A : 5315 S Lewis Ave
Tulsa, OK 74105
P : 918.743.6184
F : 918.743.0336
E : tcms@tcmsok.org

STAFF

Mark McElreath, MPA
Executive Director
TCMS & TCMS Foundation
mark@tcmsok.org

Joetta Cunningham
Director of Operations
TCMS
joetta@tcmsok.org

Pam Oppelt
Care Coordinator
Project TCMS
pam@tcmsok.org

Beverly Thompson
Events & Grants Coordinator
Project TCMS
beverly@tcmsok.org

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If you're like me, then you are delighted that spring has sprung! Now that it is April, we're starting to enjoy warmer days, sunnier weather, and more opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy all that the natural world has to offer us. As physicians, it's all too easy to stay so busy that we don't take time to relax. Fortunately, this is the perfect season to make time, however briefly, to smell the flowers—literally—or to at least admire the azalea, tulip, and daffodil blooms at places like the Gathering Place and Woodward Park. I hope you get some opportunities to experience this season in its green glory.

I'd like to give a big thank-you to everyone who supported our TCMS inauguration event in February. It was great to see everyone who attended our gathering at the Hard Rock Casino and Hotel, and it is delightful to know that a good time was had by all. I'm sure that you, like I, look forward to more fun and refreshing events like it in the coming months.

Onto serious business... Now that we're two months into this year's legislative session in Oklahoma City, the State House and Senate are in full swing. TCMS and the OSMA are keeping a close eye on the healthcare related bills being introduced, as well as opportunities where physicians can make our voices heard and I hope you are as well. As we work together to speak up for medical and healthcare policies that matter most to us as physicians, I am confident we can make a difference.

That said, I want to draw your attention to one particularly relevant measure that is being considered by the State Senate:

State Bill 303 (SB 303) adjusts the structure and appointment process for the Board of Medical Licensure and

Supervision to grant the Governor broad authority when choosing appointees and allows members to be removed and replaced without cause. There are several measures within SB 303 to revise the appointment process for various health-related licensure Board appointments.

Obviously, we would prefer that this current bill does not pass into law, as it would prevent the state medical associations from selecting representatives as we have done in the past. I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to let your representatives know where you stand on SB 303 as soon as possible. (*Update, SB 303 defeated, see page 6 on the Legislative Update*)

In other news, you may wish to mark your calendar with these important upcoming April events and dates:

- The OSMA/OSMAA Inaugural Reception, Inaugural Dinner & Awards Ceremony take place on Friday, April 14 at 6 p.m. at Southern Hills Country Club. Tulsa's very own Dr. Diane Heaton will be inaugurated as president. I hope to see you all there.
- The OSMA Caucus and House of Delegates Meeting will be held Saturday, April 15 at the OU Schusterman Learning Center, beginning at 7:30 a.m. with registration and breakfast.
- April 26 is Administrative Professionals Day—which honors all the people who help you with your behind-the-scenes



**Sharon C.
Smallwood, M.D.**
TCMS President

needs. They make sure your CME is posted, your conference registration is paid, your pager works when you drop it in the toilet, and all those other little details that make your life easier. Please remember to show them they are appreciated.

- Coming up on May 27 is a special Tulsa Drillers Night for TCMS and TOMS. It promises to be fun for the whole family, and tickets are available, so don't miss out.
- Doctor of the Day sign-ups are STILL available for April. Please consider participating and then do it – just do it!

Finally, April 7th is World Health Day which offers us an opportunity to value all our contributions to health and wellness and to consider ways to give back. Our work as physicians is so meaningful, and it's easy to get so busy that we forget why we do what we do. I encourage you to take a moment this month to appreciate what you've achieved so far in your career. We are all making a difference for the wellness of our community, and that is a major accomplishment!



Sharon C. Smallwood, MD

"Remain steadfast and hold tightly those things that bring you joy while loosening your grip on those that would tear you down."



Inauguration of Incoming OSMA President
Diane Heaton, M.D.

Friday, April 14, 2023

Southern Hills Country Club
2636 East 61st Street
Tulsa, OK 74136

Reception 6:00 pm
Dinner and Program 7:00 pm
Black Tie Optional
\$95 Per Person

Please email johnson@okmed.org with any questions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month of April - Doctor of the Day

Be a voice for physicians and patients at the State Capitol. Sign up today! Call 918.743.6184 or [Click Here](#)

April 4, 2023

ACOG's 5th Advocacy Day
1 pm to 5 pm at 2300 N Lincoln Blvd,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105 For more
information contact Kate Arnold, MD at
katearnold@icloud.com; 650-283-0530
[Click Here to Register](#)

April 13, 2023

Tulsa OB-GYN Society Meeting
At TCMS 6 PM
RSVP to joetta@tcmsok.org

OSMA 2023 Annual Meeting April 14-15

April 14 - Inauguration of new OSMA
President Diane Heaton, M.D.,
at Southern Hills Country Club (\$95
registration includes reception and dinner)
April 15 - OSMA House of Delegates
To register as a delegate or learn more
about the annual meeting, [Click Here](#)

Oklahoma State Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery Society

[OSDS Annual Social](#)

April 21, 2023 / 6 - 9 PM

CHK Central Boathouse

Featuring Elizabeth Speegle Band

[OSDS Annual Meeting](#)

April 22, 2023 / 7 AM - 4 PM

Nicholson Tower, Dean Gandy Auditorium

Contact Joetta Cunningham, TCMS

May 5, 2023

TCMS Retired and Lifetime Physicians
Luncheon at TCMS from 11:30-1:00 PM

The Mark Allen Everett, MD, Skin of Color Virtual Symposium

May 5, 2023 - 7 AM-4 PM VIRTUAL

For more information contact Renee Wall:
renee-wall@ouhsc.edu

PROPER PRESCRIBING VIRTUAL CME

Friday, May 12, 2023; Noon-1 PM

To sign up or for more information, contact
Sandy Deebea, 405-601-9571

*Signed into law in 2018, Oklahoma's Senate Bill 1446 mandates that all physicians complete one hour of CME in pain management per year. To help Oklahoma's physicians better understand how this new law impacts their practice and patients, the Oklahoma State Medical Association is hosting special CMEs in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

For 100 years, the Oklahoma Medical Board has promoted the Health, Safety and Well-being of the citizens (patients) of Oklahoma by requiring high levels of qualifications, standards and continuing education for regulated medical licenses.

We take pride in our agency's ability to ensure that qualified healthcare professionals are available to the citizens of this state.



Learn more about our purpose and vision at www.okmedicalboard.org

OWASSO MEDICAL INCUBATOR AVAILABLE

Owasso has a Medical Incubator for doctors who would like to build a Private Practice without a large up-front cash commitment. Doctors work out of our clinic for 6 - 24 months while growing their patient base. Monthly rent of \$700 includes utilities, Wi-Fi, and access to our state-of-the-art Photobiomodulation equipment.

We currently have an opening for one General Practice Physician who is ready to build a Private Practice. Our goal is to help individual physicians get established in Oklahoma without a large financial burden.

If you have questions or would like to see our facility, please contact Linda Rainwater, 918-272-9919, rain22water@yahoo.com. 435 E 2nd Avenue in Owasso, on 76th Street North.

www.FreedomLightTherapy.com

**Paid Advertisement*

There's still time! **SIGN UP FOR DOCTOR OF THE DAY!**



There are still spots available for the Doctor of the Day program. You can visit with elected officials about the impact their votes have on Oklahoman's health. If you are interested in serving, use the link below or contact the TCMS office at 918.743.6184 or email mark@tcmsok.org to reserve your date.

Dates Available

April 3-5, 10-11, 17-18, 20, 24, 27

Hours: M, Noon-4pm & T, W, Th, 8:15am-4pm

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP



2023 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION OF SHARON C. SMALLWOOD, M.D. & RETIREE DINNER

Thank you to all those who attended the 2023 Presidential Inauguration and Retiree Dinner on February 24, 2023. Congratulations to Sharon Smallwood, M.D. on her installation as the 116th President of the Tulsa County Medical Society. We also congratulate those who retired from the practice of medicine in 2022.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM OSMA

Thursday, March 23 was the deadline for measures to pass the Floor of their respective chambers. Bills not considered on the Floor by this deadline have become dormant.

Apprehensions over implementing a statewide *Health Information Exchange (HIE)* took center stage as a priority issue for Medicine Day. Legislative leaders have stated there WILL be a statewide HIE, the question is "What will it look like?".

There are significant concerns over patient record confidentiality and physician participation expense. OSMA has developed this FAQ document summarizing the history and status Oklahoma's effort to implement a HIE: https://www.okmed.org/web/Online/News/Health_Information_Exchange_FAQ.aspx

OHCA rules allow physicians to apply for an exemption from this mandate based on "type of health care provider, financial hardship, size, or technological capability of a health care provider or organization."

To apply for an exemption, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9MXJ5MH>.

Using state funds to reimburse physicians for costs associated with the HIE has been proposed but such a plan would consist of red tape and bureaucracy. The consistent message represented by OSMA was that costs associated by this unfunded mandate should be directly borne by the state, not by physicians. OSMA and other physician lead organizations

continue to push for a delay in HIE implementation until these questions and concerns can be answered.

This week, as Medicine Day attendees walked the halls of the Capitol, OSMA was able to defeat **SB303 (Daniels/Lepak)** which would have provided the administration absolute autonomy when appointing and dismissing members of the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure & Supervision. OSMA currently provides a vetted lists of potential Board candidate to be considered by the Governor. This would have effectively removed OSMA from the appointment process which assures such nominations are from qualified nominees rather than political assignments.

OSMA maintains a strong voice for the physician profession, but politics continues to affect the relationship with your patients. YOUR personal voice is the strongest, but you must be involved!

WHEN RECEIVED, PLEASE RESPOND TO ALL OSMA ACTION CALLS! OUR AUTOMATED VOTER VOICE SYSTEM CONTACTS YOUR LEGISLATORS AND SHARES THE POSITION OF THE HOUSE OF MEDICINE. If you would like to confirm who your legislators are, please utilize this link: [Find My Legislator](#)

All members of TCMS and OSMA should be receiving the Weekly Legislative Update from Matt Robison, Director of Government Relations with OSMA. For more information, please contact Matt at robison@okmed.org.

TULSA RETIRED PHYSICIANS (GOLDEN OLDIES)

CINCO DE MAYO

WITH GUEST SPEAKER DAVID KENDRICK, MD



The Tulsa Retired Physicians (formerly Golden Oldies) will be having a luncheon on Friday, May 5th. A Mexican Buffet, margaritas, beer, and wine will be served. David Kendrick, M.D. will give a presentation to the group.

David Kendrick, MD, MPH, FACP, is the principal investigator and CEO of MyHealth Access Network, Oklahoma's non-profit health information network, which ensures that every Oklahoman's complete health record is securely available where and when they need it for care and health decision-making. MyHealth serves more than 3 million patients and is focused on improving health in Oklahoma and beyond by implementing a community-wide infrastructure for healthcare IT.

Dr. Kendrick has been a member of TCMS and OSMA since 2009.

RSVP: Call 918.743.6184 or [Click Here](#) to register and pay online

When: Friday, May 5th at 11:30 AM
Where: TCMS, 5315 S. Lewis Ave, Tulsa, OK
Cost: \$25 - Lunch and Drinks Included
Spouses, Significant Others, and guests are welcome to attend.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Lauri S. Blesch, MD

Pediatrics
Utica Park Clinic - Owasso
10512 N. 110th E. Ave., suite 300
Owasso, OK 74055
Phone: 918-376-8901



Crysta J. Chatman, MD

Family Medicine
University of Oklahoma
591 E 36th St N
Tulsa OK 74106
918-619-8700



John R. Hendrix, MD

Palliative Care
AMG Palliative Care
1923 S Utica Ave 4th Fl
Tulsa OK 74104
918-748-7650



Jonathan E. McGhee, MD

Family Medicine/Sports Medicine
Essential MD
6316 E 102nd St 1st Floor
5555 East 71st St
Tulsa OK 74137
918-600-2233



Kenneth C. Reed, MD

Pain Management/Anesthesiology
Advanced Pain of Tulsa
9320 S Mingo Rd
Tulsa OK 74133
918-901-9701



John V. Tedesco, DO., FACOS, FAACS

Facial Cosmetic Surgeon
Green Country Surgical Arts
5555 East 71st St
Tulsa OK 74136
918-600-0026



Runako D. Whittaker, MD

Pediatrics
Westview Pediatric Care
3606 MLK Jr BLVD
Tulsa, OK 74106
918-428-5373

IN MEMORIAM



Harold Earl Goldman, MD

TCMS Member since 1958 (65 years)

Dr. Harold "Hal" Goldman, 94, died peacefully in his sleep on March 13, at Zarrow Pointe in Tulsa, OK. Hal was born on April, 2, 1928, in Boston, MA.

Following his graduation from Tufts medical school in 1954 and marriage to his wife, Shirley they moved to Tulsa in 1958, where they started a family and Hal was involved in forming a thriving pediatric practice.

He was admired by his many patients and their families. Later in his life, Hal practiced neurology throughout the region, retiring at the age of 90 as one of the most senior practicing physicians in the State of Oklahoma.

Hal loved his family, the relationships he built while running, playing tennis, and the lively conversations he engaged in with his friends.

[Click Here](#) to view the full obituary.



Thomas Richard Medlock, MD

TCMS Member since 1973 (50 years)

Thomas Richard Medlock passed away on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at the age of 82, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Born June 6, 1940, in Ada, Oklahoma, everyone knew Richard as a warm, friendly,

deeply thoughtful, generous, kind, and patient man. He loved his wife, Jean, and his entire family with all his heart. He was a devout, faithful servant of Christ. Whether he was playing with his grandchildren, organizing family gatherings, or taking care of patients, he always thought of others before himself. He had an endless fascination with history and could discuss historical subjects with uncanny knowledge and precision. He loved telling stories of his early life to his grandchildren. Church, family, brunch, golf, a nap, and the History Channel were his staple Sundays throughout his working years and retirement in Tulsa.

[Click Here](#) to view the full obituary.

Our deepest sympathies and condolences to the friends and family

If you would like to make a contribution in the memory of these individuals, please mail your donation to TCMS Foundation at 5315 S. Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74105 or call our office at 918.743.6184.



TULSA MEDICINE

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Tulsa County Medical Society

5315 S. Lewis Avenue

Tulsa, OK 74105-6539

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