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NKMS Society

Rounds

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NKMS Members

What can we do for you?

To paraphrase JFK, "ask not what your medical society can do for you, but what you can do for your medical society." The control of medicine is being taken from us by many forces. We have over 300 members, yet an average of only 30 to 40 people show for most of our meetings. Why is that? Other groups in which I have been involved have far better participation. What else do or can we offer to our members?

We have a group of very talented and busy physicians in Northern Kentucky. If we don't all help run this ship, then we cannot complain about the consequences. If you have ideas, let us know. If you want to help, come to meetings.

So what can we do for each other?

Our political clout is certainly increased through our numbers as members of the AMA/KMA. How in-

involved are you? Do you make calls to your politicians? If you do not communicate with them, they do not know how to help you. Politicians tell me all the time about how they would like to hear from us more often. Did you know the maximum contribution to a campaign is only \$1000? Especially in this time of economic upheaval, our money and opinions will be much more valued in political races. Every year the NKMS has a meet your legislators dinner, you should come.

As a member of the AMA/KMA/NKMS, there are also possibilities for increased services available to physicians. Office management, employment, coding & billing offerings could be helpful to some of us. If you need something, they probably can help you. How about a way for us to know each other better? There are a lot of physicians in the community now and it's difficult to meet everyone. I had a

family member go through the St. E's South E.R. requiring a cardiologist recently. I know some of the E.R. doctors personally, but at the time I knew none of the cardiologists. Fortunately, we have highly talented physicians so the lack of familiarity with them did not hinder my family member's care, I would like to give thanks to the physicians who took such excellent care of my family member.

So what's the bottom line?

We need your time and talents, especially amongst the younger physicians in the community. Do you have ideas on any political or social events? What about family oriented or volunteer type activities? Let us know. Talk to a board member. Get on our website.

Michael Gerwe, MD, Vice President, NKMS

President's Report

Dr. Gerwe's article on the front page of this Society Rounds raises the question of what you want from your Medical Society. Currently, the final touches are being put to the merger of the medical staffs of St. Luke Hospitals and St. Elizabeth Medical Center. I do not mean to imply that the merger is a bad thing. There are advantages and disadvantages of the merger that we can discuss for hours. Certainly, there is the *potential* for significant improvement in the

efficiency and economy of the delivery of patient care.

This combination of staffs, in my opinion, underscores the need for an active, independent medical society to provide voice for physician concerns. To do this we need your assistance by becoming active and communicating with the Society. I encourage you to let us know the issues that primarily concern you. I encourage you to attend NKMS events to exchange ideas and network with other physicians

and spouses. I would also ask you to give us your email address, if you have not already done so. We promise to use your email judiciously and not excessively. The electronic communications will allow us to address promptly and specifically breaking issues. You can email your address or thoughts to nkms@nkms.org. Thank you for your help.

Stephen Hiltz, MD
President, NKMS

NKMS
Members

Northern
Kentucky
Physician
Family Outing

Upcoming
Events

Alliance Report

Mark your calendars! The annual Northern Kentucky Physician Family Outing will be held on Sunday, August 23, at the Florence Freedom Park (7950 Freedom Way, Florence, KY).

The gates open at 5:05 PM. Dinner will be served from 5:05 PM–6:35 PM and will include: chicken fingers, hot dogs, hamburgers,

pulled pork, coleslaw, potato salad and assorted desserts. Soft drinks will be served with dinner and free of charge between 5:05 PM–6:35 PM.

The game starts at 6:05 PM- Florence Freedom vs. Rockford RiverHawks.

You do not have to be a member of the Northern Ken-

tucky Medical Society to participate.

Amount of tickets per family will be limited. Watch your mail for further details.

Make plans to attend this year's Northern Kentucky Physician Family Outing.

Patty Heeb, President, NKMS Alliance

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| April 21 | NKMS Executive Board Meeting |
| May 14 | General Membership Meeting |
| May 19 | NKMS Executive Board Meeting |
| June 16 | NKMS Executive Board Meeting |
| July 21 | NKMS Executive Board Meeting |

Smoke Out Tobacco Event

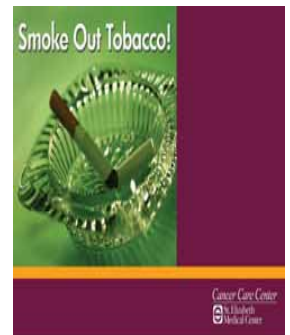
Wednesday, May 27, Summit Hills Country Club, 6 - 8:30 PM. Presented by the St. Elizabeth Cancer Committee.

Featured Speakers include: Thomas Tucker, Ph.D., MPH, Director, Kentucky Cancer Program and Richard R. Clayton, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research & Director, Center for Prevention Research, University of Kentucky College of Public Health, and Co-Founder Cooper/Clayton Stop Smoking Method.

Agenda:
 6 P.M.—Cocktails/Dinner
 6:30 P.M.—Welcome
 6:45 P.M.—Dr. Thomas Tucker presenting lung cancer incidence/mortality and tobacco legislation
 7:15 P.M.—2008 Clinical Practice -10 Key Recommendations for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependency
 2008 Clinician’s “How To Guide” -Clinical Practice Guidelines: Treating Tobacco Use and Dependency

7:45 P.M.—Dr. Richard R. Clayton, presenting the Cooper/Clayton Method to stop smoking program
 8:15 P.M.—Post Survey/Grand Price Drawing

RSVP by May 13 by calling (859) 301-2608 or email lperry@stelizabeth.com. Call today, limited seating available. Every attendee will receive a special gift and a chance to win a grand door price.



Practice Update

The Northern Kentucky Medical Society congratulates Nancy Swikert, MD on being elected President of the Southern Medical Association Alliance.

We also wish success to the graduating residents from the St. Elizabeth Medical Center Family Practice. The following is a list of the 2009 graduates and the practices they will join.

Brian Alvarez, M.D.,	Undecided
Michael Bowlin, M.D.,	Patient First-Florence
Jessica Fortwengler, M.D.,	Undecided
Bradley Gray, D.O.,	Flemingsburg, KY
Ria Santos, M.D.,	Patient First-Florence
Sandra Utter, M.D.,	Summit Medical Group-Dry Ridge
John Walker, M.D.,	Undecided

NKMS
 Congratulates
 Nancy
 Swikert, MD
 and Wishes
 Success to the
 Graduating
 Residents

General Membership Meeting

The General Membership Meeting will be held at Summit Hills Country Club, (236 Dudley Road, Crestview Hills, KY) on Thursday, May 14, 2009.

A reception will be held from 6:15 PM—7:00 PM. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be served during this time and are sponsored by KPPAC. Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.

The dinner menu will feature Grilled Petite Filet Mignon with Caramelized Onion and Port Wine Demi, Spinach and Artichoke Stuffed Chicken Breast with Parmesan Peppercorn Cream, a Baked Potato and Steamed Broccoli.

Dinner for NKMS Physician members and their spouse/guest will be \$30 per person

and dinner for non-member Physicians and their spouse/guest will be \$50 per person.

Keynote speakers for the evening include: Judge Christopher Mehling, Judge Lisa Bushelman and Trey Grayson, Kentucky Secretary of State.

Make plans to attend this year’s General Membership Meeting. Please RSVP on or before May 7, to the Northern Kentucky Medical Society, Karla Kennedy, at (859) 496-6567. Reservations will also be accepted by email: nkms@nkms.org.



**Northern Kentucky
Medical Society**

P.O. Box 18255
Erlanger, Kentucky 41018

Contact Information

Phone: (859) 496-NKMS (6567)

E-mail: nkms@nkms.org

Web: nkms.org

Northern Kentucky's
Physician Network

Address Correction Requested

Smoke Out Tobacco

As you all know, we Kentuckians have the highest rate of smoking in the nation, the highest COPD rates per capita in the world, and the highest rate of lung cancer deaths of any state.

Despite all the hard work put into smoking cessation, the vast majority of people still believe that they are simply unable to quit. One of the many reasons for this seems to be that physicians are not uniformly equipped with the knowledge and methods they need to assist their patients with smoking cessation.

St. Elizabeth Medical Center has just been awarded a \$15,000.00 grant from the Physician's Insti-

tute for Excellence in Medicine, Inc. Pfizer awarded a collaborative education grant to the Institute who worked with the Kentucky Medical Association to fund independent education activities related to the treatment of smoking addiction. Our project is focused on caregivers and offers four educational programs aimed at increasing knowledge of tobacco guidelines, methods for counseling patients to include motivational interviewing, and smoking cessation resources. A main goal is to increase referrals to the Cooper Clayton Smoking Cessation Program.

We urge all of you to attend the upcoming Professional Staff Edu-

cational Program on Wednesday, May 27 (see registration ad). This will be an evening dinner program for PHYSICIANS ONLY, featuring two dynamic speakers, Dr. Richard R. Clayton, Ph.D. and Dr. Thomas Tucker, Ph.D., MPH, Director of the Kentucky Cancer Program. Category I CME will be offered. We hope to see you there on May 27th!!

Karl Schmitt, M.D., President,
Medical Staff, St. Elizabeth Medi-
cal Center

David Eisenstein, M.D., St. Eliza-
beth Cancer Liaison Physician