

GCMS Alliance Focus

FEBRUARY 2013

Upcoming Events:



Book Discussion at FIA

April 24, Wednesday at
1:30pm to 2:30pm

Isabel Room, FIA

Meeting at 12:00 with a
boxed lunch \$7:00 (to be
paid 10 days prior for lunch
orders to be placed a week
ahead of time.)

Mary Cassat's Art work will
be presented and
discussed.

Book:

*Lydia Cassat Reading the
Morning Paper*

Author:

Harriet Scott Chessman

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Semaj Brown

Semaj Brown is endowed with gifts while developing and implementing integrated curriculum in areas of physiology, chemistry and earth science as a public and private educator consultant/administrator. But, on the other hand Semaj is also a published poet, editor, performing artist, radio personality, and developer of an innovative lifestyle change program for women, Mrs. Brown's Butterfly Building.

Semaj has created an impressive body of work that was received with spontaneous standing ovations. Her epic poem "Wave Rock" was featured in a video short by New York fine artist Jasmine Murrell. And now, Feasts and Fables from the Planted Kingdom: Story Cookbook and CD (Publishers-Health Collectors LLC) has received pre-release rave.

Many people have called what Semaj does genius-birthing new paradigms in art/science compositions. She responds, "I am a gilded soul, mirror to a borrowed star. While I understand the arbitrary distinctions between art and science, I recognize the universe to be a live light spectrum of wave and color and thus art. Science and Art are isomers, mirror images. The duality is a magician's reflection. I see art and science as one."

Semaj is also cofounder with her husband James Brown, M.D. of Health Collectors LLC. which promotes wellness and better health through innovative, integrated art/science programming.

It is my pleasure to share the following about my good friend and colleague Semaj Brown. I can truly say she is the most interesting person I have met in over 25 years of being a member of GCMSA.

Semaj will be having her Woman show on 17th February 2013 in Detroit.

Enjoy!

D. Elizabeth Jordan



President's Note

Dear Alliance Members,

I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! I hope 2013 brings all your dreams and hopes in a beautifully wrapped package!

2012 brought both challenges and success stories on the Legislation area, however we do still need to continue our diligence to protect both the physician's and the patient's interests.

Within this issue of the Focus you will see the accomplishments and the activities from the year 2012. I hope you will enjoy reading them as much as our Board and myself enjoyed organizing them for you.

Have a pleasant winter.

Oya Agabigum



Membership

According to the GCMSA 2012-2013 membership directory we currently have 171 paid members. Although we lost a few members this year, I am happy to announce that we have gained ten new members including two resident physician spouses. The membership drive began as early as last spring and we have been receiving dues as late as last month. I urge all members to please send in your dues in a timely fashion to avoid unnecessary expenses incurred in rebilling.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Membership Committee Chair and I have immensely enjoyed it. This role

has given me an opportunity to meet and get to know new members as well as catch up with our older members via meetings, e-mail, and phone calls. I look forward to seeing the GCMSA grow even further and meeting some more new people.

Lakshmi K. Tummala



Goal Setting Event

The John Tenza Goal Setting event was a huge success. There was a wonderful turnout and it was thrilling to see our members showing their support.

John Tenza was extremely motivational and really challenged us to think outside the box. He presented some interesting ideas that every single one of us can adopt to make us more effective and successful in our lives.

This was just one of our gatherings so far this year and we are looking forward to the next few coming up. All in all we had a great time together .



Investment Club

Wakefield Women's Club won second place in the 2012 Stock Pickers Contest. A big thank you to Barb Pougnet for her efforts through the year.

Members will celebrate the victory at dinner this month.



Children's Gift Bag Event

Thank you Sara Duda for gathering members at Atlas Valley to put together gift bags for pediatric patients at Hurley Medical Center for Christmas. It was a great success and all the volunteers had a wonderful time working together.



Presidents' Ball

The Annual GCMS Presidents' Ball was held on December 1st at the beautiful **Flint Institute of Arts**. It was a wonderful evening to honor the GCMS President Dr. Laura Carravallah and our GCMSA President, Oya Agabigum.

Guests of the ball were invited to enjoy the exhibits, "Drawing Together: International Cartoons," "Around the World with 80 Objects" and "Worth a Thousand Words: American Political Cartoons" at their leisure while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and drinks. The dinner was served in the

Isabella Room beautifully decorated by Rolanda Moore of Me' Loi De'Cor. This was the first time Ms. Moore has worked with us and was delightful. The food was catered by Chef Luis Fernandes which was excellent! Chef Luis is eager to please and always comes through with a great culinary experience!

The ball committee was a very enthusiastic committee headed by JoyDawn Rowley-Hardman and Anjali Misra. Their expertise in heading this hard working committee was invaluable. They had wonderful ideas and they



were able to execute them with ease.

If you were unable to attend the ball this year, make sure you don't miss the next one that will be held in November 2013. I hope to see you all there!

Respectfully submitted by:
Marianne Almeida

AMA Foundation Contributors

Dr. & Mrs. Mehmet Agabigum

Dr. & Mrs. Peter Almeida

Dr. & Mrs. Omar Bakr

Dr. & Mrs. Bill Boike

Dr. & Mrs. Zouheir Fares

Dr. & Mrs. O.K. Kang

Dr. & Mrs. Sunil Kaushal



Dr. & Mrs. Prasad Kommareddi

Dr. & Mrs. Ramotsumi Makhene

Dr. & Mrs. Berton Mathias

Dr. & Mrs. Byron Schoolfield

Dr. & Mrs. Peter Thoms

Dr. & Mrs. Jawahar Tummala

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Wang

Through the fundraising efforts of Genesee County Medical Society Alliance members like you and your spouses, the AMA Foundation provides support to medical students and improves the health of our communities through public health programs.

I would like to thank all of you who contributed; your generous gift is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Kee Ja Kang

Annual Healing Hands 5K Walk/Run

The 18th Annual Healing Hands 5K Run/Walk will be held on May 18, 2013. This fundraising event is the main support of the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic. Please help us in this effort and join our committee.

Our committee meetings are at 5pm on Wednesdays at the GCMS office: January 23, February 6, March 6, April 3 and May 5.

For more information please call me at 810-732-6594 or email me at bpougnnet1@comcast.net.

Thanks,

Barb Pougnet



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AND ENJOY THE WEBSITE
REGULARLY**

**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW “.ORG”
ADDRESS**

WWW.GCMSALLIANCE.ORG



Legislation

*Watch for emails and please participate in the
MSMS ActionCenter. Each person makes a
difference. For more information contact
beschumacher@hotmail.com.*



Editor's Note

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all GCMSA members, I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and took some time to relax and enjoy family and friends. Now it's time to start the New Year with a new Focus newsletter.

In order to be efficient, all articles must be submitted to the Focus editor Zahrah Bhimani as early as possible after the event is completed. We appreciate the time and effort that all of you put into the Alliance to make it a wonderful organization that helps the Genesee County community.

Best regards to all of you for a very happy and productive New Year!

Liesbeth Fernandez, MS, RD
Focus Distribution



ALLIANCE FOCUS

**4438 Oakbridge Dr., Suite B
Flint, MI, 48532**