

Onslow County Medical Society Alliance "Alive and Well"

By Paula Patselas

Alliance activity took a break during summer but the band of physician spouses has again re-surfaced and re-grouped for fall and winter activities. New leadership is at the helm with Sheila Josilevich and Judy Frink serving as Co-Presidents; Carol Smith, as Treasurer; and Jenny Hsu, as Secretary. A September Alliance meeting was held as a luncheon at the Jacksonville Country Club and was well attended by members eager to re-focus on strategies to support our medical staff. The Alliance continues its efforts in collaboration with OMH towards physician recruitment and retention through meeting and dining with prospective physician spouses when they are visiting in town for interviews. Realizing that retention of physician families in our community is key to long term success of building our physician base, the Alliance strives to establish an ongoing relationship and support system once they have relocated to the area.

The Alliance is also committed to increasing its own membership in the Onslow County Chapter. A solid core group remains intact, energetic, motivated and interested in growing its numbers during 2010/2011. We invite physician spouses throughout the medical community to step right in and become involved. The Alliance serves as a great opportunity for physician spouses of all ages to network, volunteer, socialize and make fantastic lasting friendships. Members serve a crucial role amongst each other in providing support in times of need, someone to call or email when a favor is needed or even to pick up a child from school if you get caught in traffic. This fall, members will be making an all out effort to reach out to those we have not seen at meetings for awhile and bring them back to the fold for fun and camaraderie.

Holidays are just around the corner! As usual, the Alliance is busy making plans for the Annual Medical Staff/ OMH/Alliance Holiday Celebration. This year will feature a change in venue as the holiday party will be held at The Courthouse Café in downtown Jacksonville on Friday evening December 10th. We all look forward to sharing in Christmas fellowship at this annual function. More details forthcoming later in November for the Medical Staff.

Alliance members take pleasure in participating in other traditional holiday activities, such as the Festival of Trees and coordinating funds to assist those in the community who are especially in need during the holidays. We are always grateful to receive donations of time, money, or gifts, that we, in turn will use towards assisting worthy causes in the community.

To learn more about the Onslow County Medical Society Alliance, as well as the NC Alliance and AMA Alliance news, visit our respective websites: www.ncmsalliance.org and <http://www.amaalliance.org>. The AMA Alliance is a nationwide network, dedicated to the support of medical families through advocacy and education. The Alliance is the volunteer voice for healthy families.