

# MD CONNECTION

Wake County Medical Society Alliance

January 2006

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Happy 2006, Everyone! It seems almost impossible to realize, but with the beginning of the new calendar year, we have passed the midpoint of the Alliance year. Just a few days into 2006, the full Board met on January 5<sup>th</sup> to plan for the remainder of this meeting year.

In the coming months, we will be holding several major events. Our **annual Health Extravaganza** will be held at **Triangle Towne Center on March 11<sup>th</sup>**. There will be some new additions this year including a Medical Society booth possibly staffed by many of our spouses. Plan to volunteer for part of this day. It truly is an exhilarating experience. Also, **please reserve April 18<sup>th</sup> for our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Luncheon**. It will be a lovely way to visit with Alliance friends and celebrate the past while we welcome the Alliance future. Our most capable co-chairs Helen Majors and Dianne Davidian assisted by Barbara Myers have been planning this event for months. It will be the final general event closing this Alliance year.

In addition to the current events described elsewhere in this newsletter, I want to particularly mention what, I think, is perhaps the most important event this year and perhaps for years to come: **the strategic planning retreat that Community Initiatives will be facilitating for us later this month**. This planning and review of our county Alliance began with your input during the fall member survey. If you have had a desire to see new programs, different volunteer opportunities, a change in the focus of our Alliance, or the preservation of the status quo, this is your chance to have input. These issues and more will be discussed during the planning process. **On January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, the Board and other interested members will be meeting from 9AM to 2:30 PM at Rex Cancer Center Auditorium**. We have room for a few more attendees on a first come, first served basis. The vitality of our organization depends on serving our members needs. We encourage your participation. I urge interested members to **contact me by January 16<sup>th</sup> to reserve a space**.

*Suzanne Leok* 878-7846 [suzannesz@aol.com](mailto:suzannesz@aol.com)

## Identity Theft – Internet Fraud and You!

Mark your calendars for **February 23rd at 7:00 p.m.** Caroline Farmer, coordinator of the NC Attorney General's efforts to prevent identity theft, will be sharing her expertise with us concerning this vital subject. This interactive presentation will include ways to protect yourself and your business from identity fraud. Other subjects to be covered include internet safety. Don't let yourself become a victim! Learn preventative measures from the experts at this event. Location and cost TBA. Hope to see you there!  
R.S.V.P. to Pat Udekwu (872-9471, [pudekwu@nc.rr.com](mailto:pudekwu@nc.rr.com)) by Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

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*Thank You!*

Thank you to all Alliance members who participated in the Belk Charity Fundraiser and Poinsettia Sale. The poinsettia sale was a great success and the beautiful blooming plants looked so festive during the holidays!

- Kathy Kobs, Development

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## Gem Dandy Event

Tuesday, January 24 (9:30 a.m.)  
Home of Virginia Scanlon  
9900 Koupela Drive, Raleigh  
870-1503

Join us for a fun morning as Mr. Charles Frank, Goldsmith, GIA will bring his exciting collection of gemstones to dazzle and educate us. Returning by popular demand, Mr. Frank met with us last year and gave a fascinating and informative talk on pearls. We will also be selling raffle tickets to benefit the AMA Foundation, which provides scholarship funds to medical students. The raffle prize will be jewelry donated by Mr. Frank. More information on the raffle including how to purchase tickets will be sent in a separate mailing.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Raleigh: Take Falls of Neuse Road North. Turn left on to Durant Road, after about 1 mile turn right into Sheffield Manor on to Koupela Drive. The house is on the right. From Cary: Take I-540 to the Falls of Neuse exit, turn left and follow the directions above.



## guess who?

January's *Mystery Alliance Member* hails from Chicago. Educated at the University of Chicago, she came to Raleigh fourteen years ago as an actively employed Information Technology Specialist.

An agile multi-tasker, she was clever enough to hire a German au pair to assist in the management of her two active sons. Her boys attended the new Southeastern Raleigh and Cardinal Gibbons High Schools and are now at UC Berkeley and Brown University.

Having family relatives in Sweden and Nigeria has given this family an essence of global scope.

Her physician-husband is a trauma surgeon.

Our *Mystery Alliance Member* recently shifted gears and became a residential real estate broker with a small company, MY DOG TESS!

Her interest in the Alliance was sparked by participation in the annual Health Fair. She is presently fired up to promote education in the prevention of identity theft.

Do you know her?



## Medical Alliance Book Club Schedule 2005-2006

Join us for our monthly book club. Contact Claire Casey at 781-2030 for more information.

Date	Hostess	Title/Author	Presenter
1/11	Betty Griffin 3910 Stratford Ct. 782-1803	<u>The Dogs of Babel</u> by Carolyn Parkhurst	Claire Casey
2/8	Claire Casey 1913 Chase Ct. 781-2030	<u>The Time Traveler's Wife</u> by Audrey Niffenegger	Jane Patterson
3/8	Kathy Kobs 231 Carpathian Way 844-6469	<u>The Namesake</u> by Juhmpa Lahiri	Shawney Weisler
4/12	Susan Hammer 8417 Kempton Road 848-4757	<u>The Prize Winner of Defiance Ohio</u> By Terry Ryan	K Keener
5/10	We'll pick a fun restaurant	<u>The Mermaid Chair</u> By Sue Monk Kidd	Joanie Kennedy



## MEAL MAKERS OF RALEIGH

On December 13, 2005 Alliance members met at Meal Makers of Raleigh to 'Cook up a Storm!' Well, we didn't actually cook, but we did assembled delicious meals with no slicing, dicing or clean up required.

For those of you who don't know, Meal Makers is where busy people go to put together tasty, home-cooked meals in batches. There were approximately 12 of us, and together we prepared close to 100 meals! In the Meal Makers kitchen we prepared for the busy holidays by assembling appetizers, entrees, breakfast casseroles and desserts and had a great time doing it.

There was so much friendship and good humor floating around the kitchen, that one member suggested we do it every December. So if you missed this one, not to worry, we will do it again.

WELCOME

Charlotte Emily Ford



Morgan Ford gave birth to 6 lb. 7 oz. baby Charlotte on January 3<sup>rd</sup> by c-section and everyone is doing fine. Congratulations to Russell, Morgan and big brother Anson!

## WCMSA Calendar

- January 18 and 19 (9:00 am-Noon) – Strategic Planning Sessions, Rex Cancer Center Auditorium
- January 24 (9:30 am) – Gem Dandy Event
- February 2 (9:30 am) – Executive Meeting, Poe Center
- February 23 (7:00 pm) – Identity Theft Presentation
- March 2 (9:30 am) – Board Meeting, Poe Center

**guess who?** This month's Mystery Alliance Member is Pat Udekwu, WCMSA President Elect.

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**E-MAIL NOTICE:** Please do not use our newsletter e-mail distribution list to communicate with WCMSA members; it is only for distribution of the newsletter, invitations, and important notices. Thank you for your consideration.

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