

MCMS Docs visit Austin Capitol

FIRST TUESDAYS 89TH

First Tuesdays: On Tuesday April 1, 2025 several of your

colleagues and MCMS board members headed to Austin to knock on the doors of our state's policy makers. Pictured is Rep. Pat Curry listening intently as Dr. Brad Holland (*Speaker of the House and 2025 TMA President- Elect candidate*) discusses the implications of scope of practice as it relates to advanced practice professionals. The group also met with Senator Brian Birdwell and staffers for Rep. Angelia Orr and Rep. Shelby Slawson. Other topics discussed included health information technology usage, vaccines, measles outbreak, and much more. Special thanks to Drs. Adam Ylitalo, Brad Holland, Rafael Perez, and Charles Stern for representing McLennan County on this impactful day.



MCMS Inaugural "Walk with a Doc" a HUGE Success!



Saturday April 19th marked our very first MCMS "Walk with a Doc" program. Over 40 people of all ages laced up their



sneakers and hit the pavement early Saturday morning. Seven of our county's doctors were in attendance to include specialists from

pulmonary/sleep, gastroenterology/hepatology, audiology, urology, rheumatology, hematology/oncology, and family medicine. Special thanks to Dr. Hanu Ancha of Waco Gastroenterology who led an informative discussion on colon cancer awareness and prevention. We are thankful to all who



joined and supported a 20-year tradition happening in over 600 communities across the globe. All are encouraged to make "Walk with a Doc" a part of their weekend routine. Join us every **3rd Saturday** of the month at **Mountainview Park @ 9AM**

rain or shine! Please email MCMS if you would like to present (5 minutes) on a health related topic to kick off one of the monthly walks.



Spotlight: Physicians' Ladies Night

Waco physicians, Dr. Elizabeth Turnage and Dr. Jazbeen Ahmad coordinated a terrific evening for our female physicians to connect on April 1st. A great time was had by all. Let's keep this going! Stay tuned for future opportunities.



From MCMS Executive Director



If you have any questions about membership and benefits of the TMA, email [MCMS](mailto:admin@mclennancountymedicine.org) at

admin@mclennancountymedicine.org.

Important Resources

- [Life Bridge](#)-Physician Wellness Support
- [TMLT Malpractice](#)
- [Texas Medical Association \(TMA\)](#)
- [Lone Star Caucus](#)
- [MCMS Website](#)

Mark Your Calendars

- **Final First Tuesday 2025**
 - 06 MAY 2025
- **MCMS "Walk with a Doc"**
 - 17 May 2025
 - 21 June 2025
 - 19 July 2025
 - 16 Aug 2025
- **Tex Med Annual Meeting (San Antonio, TX)**
 - 8-10 May 2025

2025 MCMS Board of Directors

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Adam Ylitalo, DO

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Walter "Sparky" Matthews, MD

DELEGATES



Opportunities for Physicians

The Baylor University Pre-Medical Department has many opportunities for you to get involved. Consider being a volunteer preceptor or mentor for the Baylor University Pre-Medical Practicum (BU-MPP) Program. If you are interested in BU-MPP, please contact JoAn Wade at executivedirector@mclennancountymedicine.org or Dr. Sparky Matthews (pictured) at sparky_matthews@baylor.edu. Thank you for your consideration!



24th Annual Gold-Headed Cane Award: 4 Finalists

Bradford W. Holland, MD

J. Mark Rister, MD

M. Charles Schlecte, MD

D. Jeffrey Young, MD

TBD: Winner and evening program details



Don't forget to register for **TexMed**: MAY 8-10, 2025



VIRAL REVIVAL -Measles

*By: Dr. Charles Stern – April 2025
(To be submitted for publication. Please do not reproduce)*



In an age all but forgotten,
My microbial kin and I
Claimed four in ten youthful souls—
A collective plague of fear and cries.

But time has dulled the remote memory,
Of our fierce grip on history.
In comfort's void, doubt took the stage—
A breeding ground for mistrust and rage.

Fever, malaise, and coryza, I spread,
Then, a familiar rash that filled hearts with dread.
Contagious to nine in ten, I earned my name—
A scourge of suffering, no child's game.

Now whispers rise of false beliefs,
Distrust that medical science deceives.
And through this breach, I've found my way—
A viral phoenix in decay.

Parental voices, pleading from woe,
Sought mercy from the unseen foes,
Researchers and physicians, with minds aligned,
Pursued a solution for all of humankind.

My reemergence: "Resurgence" named,
A fortune flipped, a world reclaimed.
Once more, mankind shall taste my breath—
A storm of illness, trepidation, and death.

Vaccines arose—a saving grace—
And infections fell at a stunning pace.
With water clean and hands scrubbed well,
Life expectancy began to swell.

May my old companions rise anew—
For this, dear hosts, is what we do.
In nature's course, we adapt, we survive,
To test the will to stay alive.

The Second Millennium rang the bell—
Declaration of my "Elimination" they did tell.
My brethren, too, in numbers thinned,
By science thwarted, by progress pinned.



Dr. Stern is a member of a local Poetry Special Interest Group that meets monthly to share original poems on assigned topics. Beyond the group, he writes poetry to explore imagery and honor his mother, a published poet of 36 works.



Follow MCMS on Facebook and Instagram



Place 1 Scott Blattman, MD

Alternate Adam Falcone, MD

Place 2 Bradford Holland, MD

Alt Walter "Sparky" Matthews, MD

Place 3 Bob Wolf, MD

Alt Jeff Manning, MD

Place 4 Barbara Hair, DO

Alt William McCunniff, MD

Place 5 Nadege Gunn, MD

Alt Adam Ylitalo, DO

Board of Directors continued...

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