



April 2024

Annual Meeting Recap

The Winnebago County Medical Society 2023 Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Club.

W. Stephen Minore, MD, President, thanked everyone for attending. He talked about the importance of belonging to organized medicine and that the only entity that represents physicians in the legislature is ISMS. Dr. Minore discussed the importance of the Website, it being the only site that is run



by doctors for doctors. He thanked Tiffanie Ferry for all her time and effort put forth on the site. The site will be able to generate income from advertising. We need to be innovative in our future endeavors. Insurance companies continue to question doctors' qualifications and take time away from patients and practice. Doctors want to do what is right for the patient and insurance companies have arbitrary monetary guidelines. It's time-consuming to jump through hoops for authorizations from insurance companies.

The keynote speaker was Rodney Alford, MD, President, Illinois State Medical Society. ISMS works tirelessly to support Illinois physicians. He covered several

areas where they provide value to physicians.

- State mandate of CME courses streamlined to be required over 6 years.
- The priority of ISMS is to oppose the scope of practice legislation.
- The Governor's plan to introduce The Healthcare Consumer Access and Protection Act which will curb predatory insurance practices and address other health insurance issues.

ISMS supports your right to practice in a safe and secure environment and continues to fight for lawsuit fairness. ISMS worked with physicians and pharmacists to educate all affected parties on the e-prescribing mandate that went into effect on January 1. More information can be found on the ISMS website www.isms.org

Douglas P. Roegner, MD, Incoming President, thanked Dr. Minore for his astute leadership for the last 2 years and expressed the privilege it's been to work closely with him. His diligence and business acumen helped us move forward in several ways. We are financially sound through his pursuit of sponsors for the annual golf play day. He has overseen the implementation of the long overdue upgrade of our website. We have reevaluated our investment funds and have changed our financial advisor to Clear Perspective Advisors. We feel they offer a more updated approach to ensure that we are being good stewards of our money, ensuring sustainability in the future.



WCMS welcomed many medical students at Annual Meeting.

From the President

My plan for the presidency is to continue to build on what has been built before me. With President-Elect Dr. Brian Mecklenburg's help, I want to expand our breakfast sessions with our legislators so we can continue to have two-way understanding and input with them regarding issues that affect both physicians and patients. All members are invited and encouraged to attend the fall session with our legislators. I want to continue to ensure our golf outing is both a fun and successful event for both our participants and sponsors. We will work on better membership participation from all physicians practicing in Winnebago County, especially from the three local hospitals. While we support all practicing physicians in Winnebago County, we have

a limited membership from hospital-employed physicians. The mission of the Medical Society highlights our practicing physicians, but I want to make it more pertinent for retirees and spouses. Our common bond as physicians seems to waver when retirement happens. I want to find ways that we can get together both as retired and practicing physicians. The Winnebago County Medical Society Alliance disbanded a few years ago, leaving the physicians' spouses without that formal network. Through the Medical Society, we could add more social events that would be well attended and encourage ways for the physicians and spouses to get together and enjoy all that our area has to offer. In conclusion, I want to be open to everyone's thoughts and suggestions. Please feel free to reach out to any of the Board Members. We want to be relevant to every member of this organization.

Thank you,
Douglas P. Roegner, MD, President



Newly elected WCMS President Dr. Douglas Roegner (right) with ISMS President Dr. Rodney Alford (left) and Immediate Past President Dr. W. Stephen Minore (middle).

Election of Officers

President - Douglas P. Roegner, MD

President-Elect - Brian W. Mecklenburg, MD

Treasurer/Secretary - Mitchell S. King, MD

Immediate Past President - W. Stephen Minore, MD

Directors:

Antoun Al Khabbaz, MD, Tiffanie S. Ferry, MD, and Rasmeet Miller, MD.

They join the current Board of Directors:

Ralph Everson, MD, Sarah E. Hagarty, MD, John P. Holden, MD, William E. Kobler, MD, Edwin O. Okeson, MD, Matthew Smetana, DO, and medical students Lucas Jurasek and Danielle Rossell.

Save the Date

WCMS Annual Golf Play

August 7, 2024
Aldeen Golf Club

Watch for details to come!



<https://www.wcmsonline.com/>

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