

January 28, 2019

To the members and our community:

I am honored to become the Executive Director of the Butte-Glenn Medical Society. I'd like to express my gratitude to Pam Nelson, who has been the Executive Director and the rock of this Society for the past 13 years. Pam's leadership will be recognized at our Installation Dinner and Member Celebration on February 6.

The Installation Dinner on February 6 will also be a time to recognize members who have been part of our community for almost 50 years - Dr. Stone and Dr. Heithecker. We are grateful for all our members and hope you will join us. We will celebrate Dr. David Alonso as he takes the gavel as President and thank Dr. Sean Liston for his leadership as President these past 3 years. Physician members, non-members and their guests are welcome to join us at the Butte Creek Country Club. Many thanks to our fellow medical societies noted below, whose generosity allows us to offer this dinner at no charge. Please RSVP at bgmsed@gmail.com or by phone.

The Board of Directors held the first of its 2019 meetings on January 16. One of the Society's top priorities is to continue supporting our community following the devastating Camp Fire. Dr. Richard Thorp spoke about

ways the Society can provide support and relief to physicians who had practices in Paradise. He described how the “infrastructure for healthcare went from robust to nothing” in one day.

The Board discussed ways the Society can help the 23 physicians and 21 practice staff who lost their homes and practices in Paradise. We will create Physician Wellness and Women in Medicine programs and are discussing a partnership with the California Telehealth Network. We just received a call from the Chico News & Review to revise and update the 2016-17 supplement on the Opioid epidemic and will explore ways we can help.

The Board recognizes the support from many generous people throughout California. The following is a list of organizations who have provided the Society with funding following the fire. Dr. Liston will take the lead in managing these funds. We thank the leaders and members of these organizations for their goodwill and generosity:

Fresno-Madera Medical Society Foundation
Placer Nevada County Medical Society (PNCMS)
Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (SSVMS)
Sonoma County Medical Association
California Medical Association/Physicians for a Healthy California

The goodwill represented by these funds speaks volumes to each of us. As we began

discussing how we can help physicians at the January board meeting, I was struck deeply. The first thoughts of the physicians at the table were about their patients, the community, and those in need of medical care. They put the well-being and care for others first.

I look forward to supporting the Butte-Glenn Medical Society and our physician leaders, members and our community. I hope to meet all members and partners in the coming weeks. The February 6 Dinner is a way to bring our community together and to begin the long work ahead to rebuild what Dr. Thorp described — a robust healthcare infrastructure for the citizens of Butte and Glenn counties.

Warm Regards,

Kristy Bird MaKieve
Executive Director
Butte-Glenn Medical Society