

KCMS Annual Meeting 2021

A NIGHT FOR

UNPLUG, UNWIND, UNITE!

More than 100 physicians and guests joined for the KCMS Annual Meeting on October 26. It was our first in-person gathering since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to J. Rieger & Co. Distillery for hosting the Annual Meeting and expressing your support of the physicians of Kansas City, especially for your efforts during the pandemic. Said Andy Rieger, president of J. Rieger: “We thank our physicians for taking care of our community when we needed you most.”

The theme of the evening was “A Night for U—Unplug, Unwind, Unite.” The tone was upbeat and informal. In his remarks,

KCMS 2021 President Scott Kujath, MD, FSVS, FACS, noted the challenges of the past 18 months in the battle against COVID-19, and how the evening was an occasion to come together. He also discussed how the Medical Society is coming together to focus on and strengthen its core programs.

The meeting featured presentation of the annual KCMS Awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award to Michael Weaver, MD, FACEP, CDM, emergency physician recently retired from Saint Luke’s Health System. Five colleagues gave testimonials for Dr. Weaver in a heartwarming display. (See profiles of all seven 2021

honorees beginning on page 16.)

In addition:

- KCMS presented a \$5,000 donation to the KCMS Foundation to support its work in charitable care. Dr. Kujath said he hoped this would establish an annual tradition. “This is how important we think charitable care is,” he said.
- With several members of the Greater Kansas City Medical Society in attendance, KCMS pledged to maintain an ongoing working partnership with this association of African American physicians.



KCMS presented a \$5,000 contribution to the KCMS Foundation for charitable care. From left, Jim Wetzel, MD, Foundation board chair; Rocio Melchor, Foundation program manager; Karole Bradford, Foundation CEO; and Scott Kujath, MD, KCMS president.



KCMS President Scott Kujath, MD, with honorees John Hagan III, MD; Ruth Ramsey; Maninder Pabla, MD; Amy Patel, MD; Michael Weaver, MD; Andrew Schlachter, MD; Todd Beardman, MD; and Denny Fugate, PharmD.



From North Kansas City Hospital: Rob Schlicht; Kristen Guillaume; Kendall Johnson, DO; Todd Beardman, MD; Philip Napolitan, DO; Denny and Jessica Fugate.



Lee Norman, MD; Leslie Fields, MD, president of the Greater Kansas City Medical Society; and Isaac Opole, MD.



Retired Physician Organization members Keith Jantz, MD, and Dennis Pyszczynski, MD.



KCMS past president Stephen Salanski, MD, and his wife, Phyllis.



Five colleagues who gave testimonials for Dr. Weaver and his award, from left: Peter Holt, MD; Leslie Fields, MD; Dr. Weaver; Marc Taormina, MD; Mary Anne Jackson, MD; and Truitt Swain, MD.



Mark Brady, MD, and Blake Cooper, MD.

(continued)

SCENES FROM THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING



Richard Hellman, MD, and Ted Higgins, MD.



Sheila McGreevy, MD, and her husband Joseph Barry, MD.



From the Missouri State Medical Association, Executive Vice President Jeff Howell and President-Elect George Hubbell, MD, with KCMS President Scott Kujath, MD.



Coleman Wheeler, MD; Paul Hura, MD; Damien Stevens, MD; Tony Sun, MD; Sabato Sisillo, MD.



Linda Wetzel; KCMS Foundation Board Chair Jim Wetzel, MD; Chair-Elect Jim Appelbaum, MD; Gail Appelbaum.



Betty Drees, MD, and honoree Ruth Ramsey.

THANK YOU

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