

THE CUPOLA



The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital
Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, New York

Winter 2008-09
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NEW CHIEF TAKES OVER THE REINS



Charles Hyman, M.D., and Ofra Hyman, D.S.W.

After an exhaustive, nationwide search, Charles L. Hyman, M.D., has been appointed to succeed Walter A. Franck, M.D., as Bassett's physician-in-chief.

Dr. Hyman was born in England, moving to the United States at age 11. After beginning a career as a professional musician, he switched fields and received his M.D. from the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University. He did a residency in Internal Medicine and an Infectious Disease Fellowship at Kings County-Downstate in Brooklyn, N.Y. He is board-certified

in both specialties. Since 2003, he has been Chief of Medicine at Kings County Hospital Center and vice chairman of the Department of Medicine at SUNY Downstate. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the Infectious Disease Society of America. An active and respected clinician with demonstrated leadership skills, he also has a strong record of clinical research.

Dr. Hyman is married to Dr. Ofra Hyman, a social worker with a doctorate in social work (D.S.W.) from Adelphi University. She has more than 20 years of experience in dealing with a wide spectrum of psychiatric conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorders. She, too, is joining Bassett, in the Department of Psychiatry.

The Hymans have strong family ties in Cooperstown and have visited frequently over nearly 25 years. Their grown daughter lives in Boston. □

MEDICAL SCHOOL INITIATIVE TAKES SHAPE



Six Albany Medical College students are spending their third year of medical school at Bassett. Pictured (left to right) are: Doug Fair, Bruna Babic, Shyama Mathews, Via Winkeller, Mitul Kanzaria and Audrey Farkas. Dr. Laura Schweitzer, Bassett's former chief academic officer and regional dean for Albany Medical College, and Dr. Henry Weil, chair of the Bassett Curriculum Committee and physician lead for the program, proudly stand in the rear.

Six years ago, when Bassett first dreamed of becoming a clinical campus, the vision was to create a unique experience for students built upon Bassett's strengths. Bassett faculty and the Bassett Curriculum Committee have now transformed that vision into a living medical student experience, a curriculum particularly focused on several societal needs.

First and foremost, Bassett's

curriculum targets the need for excellent and compassionate physicians – with the idea that Bassett is a superb environment in which to nurture these traits in young physicians.

At the same time, there are other Bassett strengths that parallel societal needs. One of the country's biggest problems is a health care system with

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Cooperstown and New Bern, N.C.

Winter has unofficially arrived in both towns: Our Southern soft tennis courts are now frozen!

This issue of The Cupola focuses on the recent Alumni Reunion, which was one fine weekend. The staff at Bassett outdid themselves, and everyone had a great time. We renewed old acquaintances, learned about the history of Bassett Hospital, heard a fascinating talk by D.A. Henderson, and caught a glimpse of the future in the form of a medical school campus in

Cooperstown. (For more details on this exciting development, see the story above).

Reunions are never easy to organize, and we may not repeat this for several years; when you hear about the next one, be sure to mark your calendars, as you will not want to miss it! As always, please let us hear from you.

Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.
President, Board of Directors
Bassett Medical Alumni Association



Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.

NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR NAMED FOR SURGERY RESIDENCY

THE CUPOLA is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

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THE CUPOLA is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor; The Cupola, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Healthcare, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail <cupola@bassett.org>.

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In September, Steven J. Heneghan, M.D., surgeon-in-chief at Bassett Healthcare, announced the appointment of David C. Borgstrom, M.D., to the position of program director for the General Surgery Residency program.

Dr. Borgstrom received his M.D. from Dartmouth Medical School in 1987. He completed his general surgery residency at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in 1992. He joined Bassett in 2001 and moved to Cooperstown with his wife, Donna, and two daughters, Samantha and

Catherine. David is an assistant clinical professor of surgery in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University. He is a distinguished clinician and teacher, as evidenced by his receiving the Department of Surgery Golden Apple Award, selected by the surgery residents, four times in the past six years.

In 2005, he was appointed as the associate program director to Patrick A. Dietz, M.D. In that role, he helped implement curricular innovations that have enhanced the quality of education in the surgery



Patrick Dietz, M.D., right, hands the ceremonial bat to David Borgstrom, M.D.

residency. Dr. Borgstrom now succeeds Dr. Dietz who, after 24 years as program director in Surgery, decided it was a good time to transfer the leadership of the residency program. During this time, Pat has

guided the continued growth of the surgery residency with a steady hand through extraordinary changes in graduate medical education. He will continue to provide guidance during the transition period. □

MEDICINE RESIDENT JOINS ALUMNI BOARD

Erin L. McKay, D.O., recently joined the Bassett Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Erin hails from nearby Amsterdam, N.Y., and obtained her undergraduate degree from William Smith College in Geneva. She went on to receive her D.O. from the New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine.

"My first exposure to Bassett Hospital came as a teenage girl, when my grandfather spent time here as a patient during the last few months of his life," she recalls. "My family was overly impressed with the care he received, and they have held Bassett in the highest esteem ever since.

"My second exposure to Bassett came as a second-year medical student when I was visiting prospective sites for my third- and fourth-year rotations. Not only was I flooded with nostalgia related to the experience above, but also I was taken by the beauty of the facility and the enchanting



Erin L. McKay, D.O.

backdrop in which it is nestled. My decision to study here was an easy one. While I spent the greater part of my clinical rotations (nine) at Bassett, I also rotated through a total of nine other hospitals during my third and fourth years. Bassett proved to be superior in the quality of teaching, the approachable nature of the attendings, and the emphasis on patient care."

Erin says the combination of those factors drew her back to Bassett for her post-graduate training. "I am halfway through my

medicine residency program, and I am twice as happy now as when I began. During these difficult years of endless work and delayed gratification, I am fueled by the indelible support of the Bassett staff and the fond memories of the grandfather who initially brought me here. There is a certain je ne sais quoi about this place that I hope is being infused in me through my experiences here and that I hope will effuse from me in my future practice. Thank you Bassett and thank you "Poppy" for helping me realize my dream of becoming an excellent physician."

Bill LeCates, M.D., Erin's program director, adds, "It's easy to find praise for Erin. She's a leader in seeking improvements to quality and safety. Soon after Erin's arrival last year, nine nurses and staff from our SCU sent me a note about Erin: 'Thank you for listening! You are an excellent doctor.' I think Erin is a great representative of our program for the Alumni Board." □

SCHOOL *from page 1*

runaway expense, and virtually all of this money flows through the pens of doctors. Bassett has created a curriculum that immerses students in the attitudes, skills and practice of evidence-based care, through training in team management, quality-improvement techniques, informatics, quality/safety/risk and health care finance. Our current Albany Medical College students continuously consider systems issues in their ongoing patient care, and they electronically submit their thoughts and questions to their preceptors, including CEO William Streck, M.D., COO Bertine McKenna, Ph.D., and CFO Nicholas Nicoletta. They will soon each join one of Bassett's oversight committees and undertake a project aimed at solving a Bassett management problem, whether in safety, risk, quality, informatics or finance. They will summarize their learning for fellow students and write a brief thesis.

Bassett's medical school campus should also increase the numbers of physicians with training and inclination to deliver care to rurally dispersed populations, by graduating physicians with confidence that they will enjoy rural practice, and with the skills to address the challenges of providing rural care. Because Bassett has established population-based techniques of providing and monitoring care across our large, rural service area, we are unusually well positioned to teach students an epidemiologically oriented approach to rural population health.

Our existing Albany Medical College (AMC) relationship was a stroke of good fortune for Bassett, by filling a temporary need for an additional teaching site for AMC just as Bassett was getting ramped up to start a medical school clinical campus of its own. Six competitively selected AMC students are spending their entire Major Clinical Year at Bassett, and there will be 12 students in each of the following two years. They attend seven clinics of differing specialties each week, always with the same preceptor for a given specialty.

Students add their patients to an electronic list, creating a panel of patients for longitudinal follow-up. The electronic medical record then produces a schedule of the patients' upcoming appointments, and the students can "drop in" wherever the patients go next. Thus, a student might see a CHF patient with their cardiology preceptor, see that patient again for their cardiac echo, yet again in eye clinic for glaucoma,

Bassett has created a curriculum that immerses students in the attitudes, skills and practice of evidence-based care, through training in team management, quality-improvement techniques, informatics, quality/safety/risk and health care finance.

and again when the patient comes into the hospital with pneumonia. The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive; they say the curriculum has allowed them to get to know their patients as people and to see a disease as a process, not a snapshot. And patients love to have them for the very real continuity that the students provide. The curriculum is modeled on similar programs for subsets of students at Harvard Medical School and UCSF, which have both produced data to show outcomes superior to those of the student body experiencing conventional curricula. The last four weeks of the year will be spent in indi-

The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive; they say the curriculum has allowed them to get to know their patients as people and to see a disease as a process, not a snapshot.

vidual family practice office experiences in the Bassett regional system. Faculty who have taught these six outstanding students have conveyed a great joy in the experience.

As Bassett contemplated an expanded role in student education, it was our hope to partner with our longtime ally, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. During the process, Bassett had the exceptional assistance of Dr. Laura Schweitzer who, as our former chief academic officer, helped to secure our interim and long-term partners and brought us through the LCME accreditation process. Through the efforts of faculty and leaders at both institutions, and with the extraordinary support of the Bassett Board of Trustees, we have submitted a joint application to the LCME. We will be recruiting our first class of Columbia students in 2009, to begin in 2010. They will spend the first 1.5 years taking basic science courses on the Columbia campus, followed by 2.5 years of intensive clinical and systems-oriented training at Bassett. Thus, the first Bassett class will be in Cooperstown in January 2012. We have wished to create a program which students with particular interests would seek out – interests in excellence, compassion and social impact. In a special admissions process, students will first interview at Bassett, allowing us to carefully select students with interest in Bassett's vision and strengths. Columbia will ultimately approve or disapprove names on a Bassett list.

Dr. Henry Weil, who has been co-director of the Medical School Campus initiative with Dr. Schweitzer as well as chairman of the Curriculum Committee, will now assume the role of director of the Bassett Medical School Campus. It was Dr. Weil in 2003 who first suggested the medical school campus concept and the goal of graduating students who are not only expert and humanistic clinicians, but also doctors with training in health systems expertise. Dr. Weil will be joined by Dr. Walter Franck, who is concluding a 27-year tenure as Bassett's physician-in-chief. One of Bassett's best and most beloved teachers, and a former director of Medical Education, Dr. Franck has for decades been the senior associate dean for the pre-existing Columbia/Bassett affiliation. He will assist Dr. Weil in managing the current program and refining the details of the upcoming track campus with Columbia. □

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BASSETT FAMILY REUNION

Friday through Monday, Oct. 10-13, provided spectacular weather, if slightly “past peak” for fall foliage colors. About 60 alumni (plus many family members) from the 1950s through 2008 joined in from far and near for what was, by many accounts, one heck of a great Cooperstown weekend!

The educational program ran from early Friday through Monday morning and featured outstanding sessions by exceptional speakers. Here is a brief review of the major events:

D.A. HENDERSON



D.A. Henderson, M.D., M.P.H., presenting at Grand Rounds.

Donald A. (D.A.) Henderson, M.D., M.P.H., kicked off the Friday program during a packed 7:30 a.m. Medicine/Surgery Grand Rounds with an electrifying lecture titled “Emergency Preparedness: Realities for Medicine and Public Health.” He detailed the national and international complexities of issues involving biological weapons and offered suggestions for how government at the national and local level should and should not act to prepare for and deal with epidemic bioterrorism. The key message was, “We need to plan, not panic.”

Some of the high points of Dr. Henderson’s remarkable career warrant re-emphasis: After obtaining his M.D. from the University of Rochester, D.A.’s Bassett saga began with a Rotating Internship, as the 1954-55 house-staff picture revealed to the audience. He returned to Bassett in 1957 as a combined assistant resident in Medicine and officer in the U.S. Public Health Service. In 1960, he obtained his M.P.H. from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and

Public Health, where he was to become dean of the faculty from 1977 through 1990; he remains dean emeritus.

From 1966-77, he directed the World Health Organization’s global smallpox eradication campaign, an extraordinary accomplishment for the lasting benefit of mankind. He later served as principal adviser for science and technology in the White House of President George H.W. Bush. On July 9, 2002, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award, by President George W. Bush. He holds the title of Distinguished Scholar at the Center for Biosecurity of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where he is also professor of Public Health and Medicine. He has remained a member of the Bassett Alumni Board of Directors since its inception in 1988, and he served as a member of Bassett’s Board of Trustees from 1995-2002.

SCOTT SHANNON



Scott Shannon, M.D.

Scott Shannon, M.D., (*Psychiatry Resident 1982-83 and 1987-89*) gave a stirring noon lecture titled “The Ecology of the Child: A Post-Modern View of Pediatric Health,” focused on a review of the child’s brain development and the current alarming rise in psychiatric illnesses, particularly bipolar disorder, among American children. He discussed the fluid state of diagnostic labels for childhood psychiatric illness, looked into the multifactorial reasons for psychological dysfunction, and suggested a host of needed nutritional, environmental, educational, familial, cultural and relational measures that must occur if the tide is to

turn. The bottom line: “Every child that is labeled represents a failure of the environment to understand, support and love that child fully.”

NEW YORK COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH RICHARD DAINES



Health Commissioner Richard Daines, M.D., accepts a bat from Alumni Board President Ken Wilkins, M.D.

On Saturday, New York State, Commissioner of Health **Richard F. Daines, M.D.**, delivered the Lipsky Lecture in honor of the late **James J. Lipsky, M.D.**, (*Bassett Medicine Resident 1972-73*). The Lipsky family was there, and retired Bassett Attending Physician **Emery Herman, M.D.**, shared fond memories of Jim Lipsky and why he might have felt obligated to endow a lectureship at Bassett. Dr. Daines picked up on the theme and wove an impressive story of his vision for rural health care in New York state.

It was a wonderful opportunity for Bassett to highlight its unique historical tradition but also the excitement around the nascent medical campus. Dr. Daines and his family, including his retired physician father, stayed overnight at Fernleigh, caught a VIP tour of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and attended the Otesaga breakfast on Sunday as well. It was clear on their departure that he had acquired an even more deep appreciation for the spirit and vitality of this special place.

“RESIDENCY NOW”

An inspiring session titled “Residency Now” featured an impromptu, interactive discussion by third-year Surgery Resident **Luis Ocegüera, M.D.**, and Chief Medicine Resident **Kara Willenburg, M.D.**

“In an era of increasing guidelines and requirements, the internal

medicine residency program is continually evolving in its effort to provide residents the opportunity for strong medical training,” said Willenburg, who will be going on to do an ID fellowship at the University of Rochester next year. “The recent addition of the medical school training program will most certainly be an asset to residency recruiting at Bassett, both internally and externally. The internal medicine residency remains a program from which recent departing graduates feel prepared to face the clinical challenges in the world beyond residency and continue to look fondly on their years of training.”

Ocegüera was equally positive about his residency experience to date, commenting that coming to Cooperstown from California was a daunting choice, but one that he has never regretted. The gist was that both, and by implication the resident group as a whole, were highly satisfied with their Bassett experience.

BIOCHEMIST THEODORE PETERS HONORED



Ted Peters, Ph.D., thanks the group for his recognition as outstanding Research Scientist.

Research Biochemist **Theodore Peters, Ph.D.**, was honored for expertise in biological chemistry related to his monumental research at Bassett beginning in 1955, in particular for his ongoing work to characterize human serum albumin leading to international renown, and for his indispensable assistance to and development of the Bassett chemistry laboratory through the years. Both of these roles continue today. The presentation to this self-effacing master of biochemistry, who had played an equally distinguished role in the Cooperstown community, was given by the director of the Bassett Research Institute, **Dr. John May.**

MEDICAL SCHOOL CAMPUS

Saturday's next session was an update on Bassett's new Medical School Campus [See story on Page 1] given by **Henry Weil, M.D.**, director of informatics and co-director of the initiative, and former Chief Academic Officer **Laura Schweitzer, Ph.D.**

Bruna Babic and Shyama Mathews, two of the six Albany Medical College students who have chosen Bassett for their third and fourth years of medical school, gave poised and highly positive impromptu comments on how things were going here for them and their colleagues.

WALT FRANCK HONORED

Saturday was capped by recognition of retiring Physician-in-Chief **Walter A. Franck, M.D.**, beginning with a video of a recent inter-



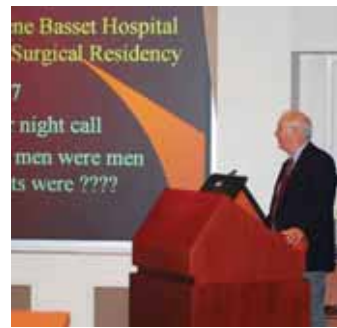
Dr. Walter Franck being interviewed.

view of Dr. Franck by Karen Huxtable-Hooker, Bassett's media relations manager. The interview traced his life from his family's 2.5-year incarceration in a Chinese concentration camp to his acceptance at Yale University and his decision to go to medical school (Columbia P&S).

Dr. Streck then lauded Walt's Bassett career beginning with his arrival as a staff rheumatologist in 1973 and during his tenure as physician-in-chief from 1980 to the present. In reply, Walt, as always, was gracious and self-effacing, giving most of the credit for his accomplishments to others in the organization. Now physician-in-chief emeritus and associate dean at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Walt will continue to be a strong Bassett presence, partnering with Dr. Henry Weil in the ongoing development of Bassett's clinical campus.

DAVID STOECKLE

Early Monday morning, **David B. Stoeckle, M.D.**, (*Surgery resident, including chief, 1972-77*), current chief of Surgery at the Montgomery Regional Hospital in Blacksburg, Va., gave an emotional talk at Surgical Grand Rounds on



David Stoeckle, M.D., presents at Surgical Grand Rounds.

the tragedies that unfolded at Virginia Tech in 2007; he was in charge of dealing with the disaster as it quickly descended on his hospital. In a thoughtful review of the patients he treated, he provided insight on how to improve a hospital's response to the unthinkable.



Founding Alumni Board member Jack Chamberlain, M.D., (left) is greeted by John Davis, M.D.

CATCHING UP WITH OLD FRIENDS

Two well-attended Bassett-sponsored social events capped the reunion: On Saturday night, most of the attendees and their families attended a barbecue at the "Sugar Shack," featuring the swinging "Blue Monday" band of August Leinhart, M.D., chief of the Department of Emergency and Trauma Services, and his colleagues Angus Mackie and Conor Murphy. Sunday morning provided a happy ending to the weekend with the famous brunch at the The Otesaga Hotel. And, of course, there was a good bit of time for those from afar to revisit the area and catch up with old friends.

The consensus for the weekend was an unequivocal thumbs-up. Analysis and planning for the next reunion in five years is already under way by the Reunion Committee. □



Deborah Sentochnik, M.D., and Dinah Farrington, M.D., at the Sugar Shack.

MEDICAL ALUMNI BOARD HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

The Bassett Medical Alumni Association Board, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2008, held its annual meeting Oct. 10, as part of the Bassett Family Reunion. President Ken Wilkins, M.D., (Medicine resident 1980-84) called the meeting to order and welcomed new board members John Olson and Erin McKay.

Bassett CEO William Streck, M.D., then gave a far-reaching and positive discussion of "The State of the Institution." The state of the Medical Education Endowment Fund was outlined by Medical Education Director James Dalton, M.D. Total gifts and pledges to date have provided a market value, as of Sept. 30, 2008, of more than \$3.4 million, and discussion centered on

how to continue to use the interest to support worthy educational projects. The separate Lipsky Lectureship Fund has a balance of more than \$22,000. The newly created Dr. Walter A. Franck Excellence in Medical Education Endowment Fund [See story, Page 8] geared toward enhancing teaching of medical students was reviewed, and Scott A. Barrett, executive director of the Friends of Bassett, outlined strategies for enhancing all of these funds.

The state of Bassett's residency programs was reviewed by Surgery Program Director Patrick Dietz, M.D., Transitional-Year Program Director Eric Knight, M.D., and Medicine Program Director William LeCates, M.D. Many challenges remain, including recruitment of



The Medical Alumni Board on its 20th anniversary, from left: Drs. Peter Gray, John Davis, D.A. Henderson, Erin McKay, Doug DeLong, Ted Ruckert, Don Pollock, Jim Dalton, Wendy Bonnett Bergman, Ken Wilkins, Deb Sentochnik, John Olson, Katrina Harris, Al Kozak, Meredith Davis, Steve Ching, Karen McShane, Tim Whitaker and invited Bassett CEO Bill Streck.

top candidates for Internal Medicine and adhering to new rules regarding work hours and on-site attending supervision in a cost-effective manner.

Finally, it was agreed that the association's bylaws needed no

revision; they have served us well since they were created in 1988, thanks to founding board member John L. Chamberlain, M.D. (Rotating Intern 1957-58). □

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

(Please forward to us information about former Bassett physicians who have passed on.)

ROBERT W. MACKIE, M.D.



Robert W. Mackie, M.D.

Robert W. Mackie, M.D., retired U.S. Navy captain, passed away at age 89 on Aug. 3, 2008, followed by military honors and the spreading of his ashes by airplane over the Mackie farm in Fly Creek. Born in Albany in 1918, he married the former Lidie McWhinney Smith in 1944; she predeceased him in 1998.

After graduating from the Long Island College of Medicine, he entered the U.S. Navy Medical Corps in 1944. At the end of World War II, he served in the Pacific Theater on the USS Sumter. After the war, he completed a fellowship in neurosurgery at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Mackie later became chief of neurosurgery at the U.S. Naval

Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan. He completed his naval career as chief of neurosurgery at the Bethesda Naval Hospital, where he had the distinction of treating President John F. Kennedy, including house calls to the White House.

Board-certified in neurological surgery, Dr. Mackie came to Bassett in 1963 and established the institution's first neurosurgical program, which, with the strictest of standards, extraordinary technical skill, and the unvarnished respect of staff and patients, he led as a vital division in the Department of Surgery over the next 19 years. He retired in 1982 but continued a variety of pursuits, especially related to flying. An avid pilot, he restored vintage aircraft, served as an FAA flight examiner, earned his commercial instrument rating, and served as president of the local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association. The 1,100-foot grass runway behind his Fly Creek home was the scene of frequent impromptu "fly-ins."

Dr. Mackie is survived by his eldest son, Angus, and his wife, Donna, and their two children, Kyle and Morgan, of Cooperstown; Robert W. Mackie

Jr., M.D., his wife, Julie, and their daughter, Leska, of Salt Lake City, Utah; his daughter, Jennie Johannesen, and her two children, Alex and Kate, of Fly Creek; Tom Mackie and his wife, Meg, and their two children, Callie and Sam, of Sudbury, Mass.; and Bo (Steve) Mackie, his wife, Martha, and their three children, Sarah, Erin, and Joseph, of Springfield, Va.

ROBERT H. GREENLAW, M.D.



Robert Greenlaw, M.D.

Robert Hiram Greenlaw, M.D., died on July 25, 2008, at age 80.

Born in Norway, Maine, in 1927, he and Louise (Zurowski) Greenlaw were married Feb. 19, 1955, in Rochester, N.Y. Dr.

Greenlaw received his M.D. at the University of Rochester in 1952, after which he did a two-year Rotating Internship at Bassett Hospital. After 10 years at the University of Kentucky, he joined the Marshfield Clinic in 1970, where he created and developed the Radiation Therapy department. He was a pioneer in his field, exploring and experimenting with alternative methods of treating cancer. During his career, he worked tirelessly to promote smoke-free environments. He was recognized for his work numerous times by the American Cancer Society and the Tobacco Free Wisconsin Coalition.

Dr. Greenlaw had a love of Big Band music, skiing and travel and was actively involved in all three throughout his life. His sense of humor, storytelling and word play created laughter and joy in the lives of his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Louise; his children, Ann Moffat (Verona), Mary Greenlaw-Meyer (Mt. Horeb), Sarah Greenlaw (Verona) and Paul Greenlaw (Black River Falls); his nine grandchildren; and his brother, John Greenlaw (California).

Save the Date

4th Rural Surgery Symposium

May 17-18, 2009

The Otesaga Resort Hotel
Cooperstown, N.Y.

Sponsored by: Bassett Healthcare, Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery,
American College of Surgeons

Program highlights include:

Rural General Surgery • Workforce Issues • Training Solutions
Clinical Updates: Subspecialties – What you need to know

Keynote speakers include:

Training General Surgeons for Tomorrow
Tom Whalen, M.D., FACS (RRC Surgery, Chair)

What Physician Shortage?

David Goodman, M.D., Center for the Evaluative Clinical Sciences, Dartmouth

Surgical Care for the Rest of the World

Adam Kushner, M.D., N.Y., Society for International Humanitarian Surgery

American Board of Surgery Update

Steve Stain, M.D., FACS, Albany Medical Center

A History of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum

Jeff Idelson, President, National Baseball, Hall of Fame and Museum

Practical Solutions to Practical Problems – Participant Forum

10-minute presentations from symposium registrants.

Submit ideas by e-mail to david.borgstrom@bassett.org

The program committee will choose five in advance.

Deadline: March 15, 2009.



The Mithoefer
Center For
Rural Surgery

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

1940s

John W. Severinghaus, M.D.,

(Two-year Rotating Intern 1949-51) writes that he “thought it was time to say hi and catch up on 70 years past. Henry Cooper (Henry S. F. Cooper, M.D., member Bassett Board of Trustees, 1927-77) at P&S was my surgery professor and was partly responsible for my decision to come to Cooperstown. I was sent to Bassett in the early fall of 1947 as a P&S third-year student. As a result, on graduation I chose a two-year rotating internship at Bassett, bringing my new wife, Elinor, and living in the hospital duplex at 57 Fair St. My first scientific paper was published with Joe Ferrebee (Joseph W. Ferrebee, M.D., Research Physician 1948-74) who was chief of the lab, a very stimulating teacher and Professor of Medicine. I had proposed generating a method for doing blood plasma calcium by flame photometry, since the instrument was already there for sodium and potassium. [Severinghaus JW, Ferrebee JW: Calcium determination by flame photometry; method for serum, urine, and other fluids. *J Biol Chem* 187:621-630, 1950]. During my second year, I considered coming back to settle after residency in anesthesia at Penn, but I soon was involved in respiratory physiology



John W. Severinghaus, M.D.

research, spent five years directing the anesthesia research lab at the NIH Clinical Center, and then became professor of anesthesia at UCSF, 50 years ago this summer.”

My major contribution has been the introduction of blood gas analysis, in which I used and modified inventions of the CO₂ electrode by Stow and the O₂ electrode by Clark. My first blood gas analyzer was shown in 1957 and published in 1958. [Severinghaus JW, Bradley AF Jr: Electrodes for blood pO₂ and pCO₂ determination. *J Appl Physiol* 13:515-520, 1958]. Most of my career both at NIH and UCSF has been in using my physics background to improve health care. As a result, the American Society of Anesthesiologists has established an annual John W. Severinghaus Lecture on Translational Science. (Editor's note: Dr. Severinghaus delivered this lecture in October 2008 at the ASA annual meeting in Orlando.) I also was granted a Doctor of Medicine Honoris Causa by Uppsala University in Sweden this past January, part-

ly because my historic writing and speaking helped Uppsala establish their claim to the discovery of oxygen two years before Priestley.”

1950s

Fred D. Holford, M.D., (Assistant Resident in Medicine 1957-58) reports that his wife, Doris Hadley Holford, Ph.D., died in July 2007. Dr. Holford has moved from Wyoming to 714 Hemlock, Media, PA 19063 to be near his children.

1970s

We have received word that **Dan M. Westphal, M.D.,** (Assistant Resident in Medicine 1973-75) has been named chief medical officer of Florida Medical Center, a 459-bed acute care hospital in Fort Lauderdale.

Following his residency years at Bassett, he did a pulmonary fellowship at Harvard's Massachusetts General Hospital. He also served as the chief of Emergency Services at the U.S. Ireland Army Hospital in Fort Knox, Ky. Dr. Westphal received his MBA in Health Services Administration from Nova Southeastern University in 2004. Before joining Florida Medical Center, Dr. Westphal was the medical director of Clinical Effectiveness and for the past year served as chief medical officer at the Boca Raton



Dan M. Westphal, M.D.

Community Hospital. Dr. Westphal also previously served as the chief medical officer for North Broward Medical Center and formerly was in a private practice specializing in pulmonary, critical care and sleep disorders medicine.

1990s

Kelton Burbank, M.D., (Transitional Resident 1991-92) laments that he “was very disappointed to have to miss the reunion. I still have great memories and strong feelings for Bassett. I do, however, have a good excuse. My wife and I adopted twin girls from China and they came home that weekend.

Please give my best to everyone there. I often reflect on how great an experience I had in Cooperstown.”

Joel P. Maier, M.D., (Surgery Resident, including Chief, 1996-2002) sends word that “since graduation from the Bassett General Surgery program in 2002, I have completed plastic surgery training at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. I

relocated to Portland, Ore., and started private practice. In December of 2007, I got married to Martha Huller (also a Vanderbilt grad) and she is an attending radiologist at Oregon Health Sciences University. We just had our first baby in October 2008, Ruth Frances Maier. All is well and miss you all!” □



Kelton Burbank and twins



Joel Maier with daughter Ruth Frances. “Touchdown!”



Pictured l to r: Raul Monzon, M.D., (Transitional Resident 1996-97, Surgical Resident, including chief, 1998-2003); Bridget Monzon, M.D., (Transitional Resident 2002-03); Joel and Martha Maier, Lillian Goudas, Peter Hoffmeister (Medicine Resident 1998-2002), and Melissa Hoffmeister.

ALUM JOINS BASSETT'S SURGICAL TEAM

Stephanie Strauss, M.D., has returned to Bassett as an attending surgeon, specializing in gastrointestinal surgery with special qualifications in metabolic and bariatric surgery.

After her surgery residency here (2002-2007, including chief resident), she completed a fellowship in minimally invasive surgery at the University of Virginia. “I enjoyed the unique atmosphere and the other people at Bassett, and decided to come back as an attending,” she says.



Stephanie Strauss, M.D.

Dr. Strauss is a graduate of Bowdoin College and Dartmouth Medical School.” □

BUILDING THE DR. WALTER A. FRANCK—EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

On Friday, Oct. 10, Scott A. Barrett, executive director of the Friends of Bassett, provided an update to the Medical Alumni Board on the status of medical education endowment funds, including the Dr. Walter A. Franck Excellence in Education Endowment Fund. At that time, just over \$150,000 had been raised in cash and pledges.

Since then, many of you have received solicitation letters as medical alumni in which the theme “Chance favors the prepared mind” was emphasized. It bears repeating that your commitment and dedication to patient care, education and research have brought Bassett the successes it is experiencing today. Members of the medical staff have also been encouraged by Dr. Streck to honor Dr. Franck’s inspiring 30-year Bassett career in Medicine and Medical Education.

As the first permanently endowed fund for Bassett’s medical school campus, the Dr. Walter A. Franck Excellence in Medical Education Endowment will advance the med-

ical school initiative through the creation of the Franck Award for Medical Student Teaching Excellence. A portion of the income generated from the fund will be used to honor and help pay stipends to physicians who teach medical students. For the fund to be effective, a long-term, minimum goal has been set at \$500,000. As of December 2008, over \$200,000 had already been secured, including a number of life income plans that pay the donor and their spouse guaranteed income for life. Upon their deaths, the remaining principal will be added to the Franck Endowment. One efficacious way for alumni to donate to the fund would be to make or renew your annual gift to the Friends of Bassett at the President’s Forum-level of \$1,000-a-year and designate it to the Franck Endowment.

For more information on ways to contribute to the Franck Endowment, contact Scott A. Barrett at the Friends office: (607) 547-3556 or scott.barrett@bassett.org. □

NEW: IRA TRANSFER

When the U.S. Senate approved the historic \$700 billion bailout bill to rescue the troubled financial sector, it attached a package of tax benefits. Of note to prospective donors who wish to make a charitable contribution is the new rule for donating to charity from your IRA.

The act permits the owner of an IRA who is 70 years or older to make a direct transfer to a tax-exempt charity in each of the years 2008 and 2009. The transfer may be up to \$100,000 in one year. Donors who give any amount can save taxes since the distribution is not included in taxable income. Additionally, the distribution will count toward the IRA owner’s mandatory withdrawal amount.

To qualify for IRA donation treatment, the donor must direct the IRA manager to transfer funds directly to a charity. A withdrawal followed by a contribution will still have to be reported as income. Therefore, the gift must be outright; transfers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust, do not qualify. Similarly, outright distributions to a charity from employer-sponsored retirement plans, such as Simple IRAs, 401(k)s, and 403(b)s, do not qualify.

For detailed information on IRA transfers, visit www.pgcalc.com/about/featuredarticle08.htm from the PG Calc Inc. Web site.

PHYSICIAN OPPORTUNITIES AT BASSETT

To explore these opportunities, please go to www.bassett.org/careercenter/phys_opp.cfm or contact Debra Ferrari at debra.ferrari@bassett.org or (607) 547-6982. All positions are primarily at the Cooperstown campus unless otherwise indicated. There are also many opportunities for physician extenders and others.

- Anesthesiologist
- Cardiologist, General
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Practice (Norwich)
- Family Practice (Richfield Springs, NY)
- Family Practice (Sidney, NY)
- Gastroenterologist
- General Surgeon
- Hospitalist - Cooperstown
- Hospitalist - Hamilton
- Internal Medicine / Herkimer
- Internal Medicine / Family Practice / Delhi
- Internal Medicine / Oneonta
- Internal Medicine / Prime Care
- OB / GYN Physician
- Ophthalmologist
- Optometrist
- Orthopaedic / Hand Surgeon
- Orthopaedic / Joint Reconstruction
- Pediatric Hospitalist
- Pediatrician (Herkimer)
- Pediatrician (Oneonta)
- Pediatrician, General
- Physiatrist - Interventional
- Psychiatrist
- Radiation Oncologist
- Radiologist

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