Spring 2007

BUFFALO PHYSICIAN CLASSNOTES

1950s
Larry Beahan, MD ’55, has published a new book titled Adirondack Pulp Fiction, which he describes as “a collection of juicy, pulpy fiction from the Adirondacks.” “In Adirondack Pulp Fiction,” he says, “you will find six tales of crime and passion. Despite what Chambers of Commerce and Adirondack Park authorities may claim, these human qualities do four souls inside the Blue Line as well as out.”

1960s
Donald C. Scheiber, MD ’64, recipient of UB’s Medical Alumni Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 1999, completed 20 years as chief executive officer of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in June 2006. He maintains academic professorial appointments at Northwestern University Fein-stein School of Medicine and at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

The American College of Psychiatrists has chosen Scheiber to receive the Distinguished Psychiatrist Service Award in recognition of his contributions to American psychiatry, including his leadership in gaining recognition for 10 new subspecialties in both disciplines since 1989. The American Board of Medical Specialties, the umbrella organization that oversees the work of the 24 medical specialty boards, has selected him to receive the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his contributions to the organization, as well as to recognize his continuous service to the field.

The American Psychiatrist Association (APA) has announced that Scheiber will receive the APA/National Institute of Mental Health Vestermark Award at its annual meeting, where he will be invited to deliver the Vestermark Lecture. This award is in recognition of his lifetime work in psychiatric education over the last 36 years. The Association for Academic Psychiatry (AAP) conferred one of its inaugural Life Fellowship Awards to Scheiber at its fall annual meeting. He had received the Lifetime Educator Award from the AAP in 2002.

1970s
Thomas Lawley, MD ’72, dean of Emory University School of Medicine and professor of dermatology, received the 2006 Stephen Rothman Memorial Award from the Society for Investigative Dermatology at the society’s Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA. The Rothman Memorial Award is the society’s high-
est honor and has been presented annually since 1967 for distinguished service to the specialty of investigative dermatology.

Award recipients are selected based on their scientific achievement, commitment to teaching and recruiting the next generation of scientists, and impact upon the course and image of dermatology and its related fields.

Lawley currently is the William Patterson Timme Endowed professor of dermatology at Emory, and has been dean of Emory’s Medical School since 1996. He also is chair-elect of the Council of Deans for the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Dennis M. Ogiela, MD ’77, received notice from Congressmen Tom Reynolds that I have been selected as a “2006 Physician of the Year.” E-mail address is DOgiela@aol.com.

Leonard E. Feld, MD ’79, PhD ’76, MNN, has been appointed chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Carolina’s Medical Center (CMC) and chief medical officer of Levine Children’s Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina. Levine Children’s Hospital, a 12-story, 234-bed facility currently under construction, will become the focal point for all pediatric care at CMC when it opens this fall. The new hospital will be one of the three largest children’s treatment facili-
ties in the Southeast, and the largest between Atlanta and Washington D.C.

Feld was previously chair of pediatrics at the Atlantic Health System and physician-in-chief of Goryeb Children’s Hospital in New Jersey. He was also medical director for the Office of Grants and Research for Atlantic, and professor of pediatrics at UMDNJ in Newark, NJ.

Prior to that, he served as chief of pediatric nephrology in the Department of Pediatrics at Women’s and Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and vice chair of pediatricists and professor of pediatrics at UB.


Feld received his medical degree and doctorate in pathology from UB and completed postgraduate training in pediatrics and pediatric nephrology (kidney disease) at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York.

He also holds a master’s in medical management degree from Carnegie Mellon University.

“We are delighted that Dr. Feld has joined Carolinas Medical Center to lead the Department of Pediatrics,” said James McDavitt, senior vice president for medical edu-
cation and research, at the time the appointment was announced. “He brings a wealth of experience that will be invaluable as we move toward the opening of Levine Children’s Hos-
pital next year.”

Carolinas Medical Center is an Academic Medical Center Teaching Hospital and the flagship facility of Carolinas HealthCare System (CHS), the largest health-care system in the Carolinas, and third-largest public system in the nation.

1980s
Margaret E. McDonnell, MD ’82, has been appointed director of perinatal services Sisters of Charity Hospital at Buffalo. McDonnell joined the hospital in 2001 as super-
vising attending in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She received her undergraduate degree from Canisius College and her medical degree from the UB, after

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SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

Scott Bookner, MD ’89, and Scott Bookner MD ’89, celebrated the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ilana, on October 22, 2006. Pictured here are alumni who joined them in the celebration at Lake Isle Country Club in Eastchester, NY. Bottom row, left to right: Elissa, Ilana and Scott Bookner.

TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Joseph Ferraro, JD ’88, Jennifer Hinkley, MD ’01, David Borkan, MD ’88, David Cranwell, MD ’89, Kings Ilfeld, MD ’01, and David Cohen, MD ’89.

Scott Bookner is in private practice in pediatrics in Scarsdale, NY, and Elissa practices emergency medicine in Bronx, NY.

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Elissa Bookner, MD ’81, and Scott Bookner MD ’89, celebrated the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ilana, on October 22, 2006. Pictured here are alumni who joined them in the celebration at Lake Isle Country Club in Eastchester, NY. BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Elissa, Ilana and Scott Bookner.

TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Joseph Ferraro, JD ’88, Jennifer Hinkley, MD ’01, David Borkan, MD ’88, David Cranwell, MD ’89, Kings Ilfeld, MD ’01, and David Cohen, MD ’89.

Scott Bookner is in private practice in pediatrics in Scarsdale, NY, and Elissa practices emergency medicine in Bronx, NY.
which she completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology and a fellowship in maternal-fetal medicine through the UB Consortium.

Robert Herman, MD ’83, has been elected as a fellow in the American Psychiatric Association. E-mail address is herman@health.uvm.edu

Burga Loxa, MD ’03, writes: “I am now a staff physician (internal medicine/primary care) at the Veteran’s Administration community-based outpatient clinic in The Villages Florida. It is a great place to work and a good change of pace from the hustle and bustle of private practice. My wife, Sandra, and I have four-year-old sons, Matthew. I also have two children from a previous marriage: Larry (17) and Michael (14) who still live in Buffalo but came down to visit often. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the 15th year reunion. E-mail address is deschla@hotmail.com.

1990s

Karen Morse, PhD ’99, and husband, Noah Schwartz, have joined Lifetime Health Medical Group in Buffalo. Currently she is seeing patients at two of the organization’s area health centers: Amherst University Health Center and the William E. Mosher Health Center.

Nirmal Kaurer MD ’94, writes: “I am finishing my residency in internal medicine at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. I’ll be staying at UM for a fellowship in gastroenterology, beginning in July 2007, and will earn a master’s degree in clinical epidemiology during my fellowship. I plan to pursue an academic career in inflammatory bowel disease. I keep in close touch with Ravita Hyalonda, MD ’94, who will be a chief resident at Case Western Reserve University in July 2007, as well as Nina Butta, MD ’04, who will be completing her combined internal medicine/MPH program at Yale University in July 2008. She also just got back from Tucson, AZ, where she was visiting Sara Banerjee, MD ’94, who is a radiology resident at the University of Arizona. All four women are doing very well!” E-mail address is nirmal@med.umich.edu.

2000s

Emily Williams, MD ’02, completed residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at UB and has joined Lifetime Health Medical Group in Buffalo. Currently she is seeing patients at four of the organization’s area health centers: Amherst University Health Center and the William E. Mosher Health Center.

Don Collure, MD ’02, (groom), Victoria Brooks, MD ’02, and Matthew Beatty, MD ’02.

Shawn, are enjoying the birth of their new baby girl. Liza Chopra is an emergency medicine attending at Millard Fillmore Hospitals. Cristine and her husband, Tom Morrissette, and I welcomed our first son, Dylan James, into the world December 15, 2006. E-mail address is nausicaae@yahoo.com.

Dana Collure (bride), was the best man and was a bridesmaid. Also in attendance were David Binder, Matt Beatty, Cristine Connery, Liza Chopra, and Linae Schwartz—all MD ’02.

On September 30, 2005, Don Collure, MD ’02, married Dana L. Stannard, PA (Daemen College ’93) at the St. John Catholic Church in Cheektowaga, followed by a grand reception at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in downtown Buffalo.

Philip J. Scorrill, MD ’02, was the best man and Jamison R. Ridgeley, MD ’02, was a groomsman. Victoria Brooks, MD ’02, was a bridesmaid. Also in attendance were David Binder, Matt Beatty, Cristine Connery, Liza Chopra, and Linae Schwartz—all MD ’02.

Don completed his residency in emergency medicine at UB in ’05 and is now an attending at Niagara Falls Memorial Hospital. Dana is a cardiovascular physician assistant at ECMC. They have recently built a home in Grand Island, NY.

Philip Scorrill is a fourth-year resident in urology at UB and the proud father of a seven-month baby boy, Ryan. Jamison Ridgeley, after completing a locum tenens year, is in a third-year otolaryngology resident at UB and is planning to return to the military following residency. Victoria Brooks graduated from her psychiatry residency this past year and is now an attending at ECMC. David Binder completed his residency in rehabilitation medicine at the New England Medical Center and is now in the Harvard Combined Pediatric and Adult Pain Management Fellowship. Matt Beatty, after finishing his emergency medicine residency at UB in ’05, is serving as an attending in Woodland Hills, CA. Cristine Adams, formerly Connery, graduated in ’05 as chief resident of the Emergency Medicine Program at UB and is now an emergency medicine attending at Millard Fillmore Hospitals. Cristine and her husband, Matthew, are enjoying the birth of their new baby girl. Liza Chopra is an emergency medicine attending at Rochester General Hospital. Linae Schwartz is an emergency medicine attending at New York City.

Submitted by Jamison R. Ridgeley, MD ’02.

CLASS OF 2002

to update them, just complete the online submission form at www.smbs.buffalo.edu/bp/classnote

Things your fellow alumni tell us they would like to read about:

- Family updates
- Interesting ‘trips and trails’
- Happy occasions, humorous interludes
- Moves/promotions
- Retirement

What’s Up Doc?

Your classmates would like to hear from you!

SCUBS AND SCOPE

Catherine Consey MD ’84, writes: “I am completing my residency in family medicine at the University of Virginia in August 2007 and plan to enter practice in either Charleston, WV, or Athens, NY. My husband, Tom Morrisette, and I welcomed our first son, Dylan James, into the world December 15, 2006. E-mail address is nausicaae@yahoo.com.

Seated, left to right, Jamison Ridgeley, MD ’02, Dana Collure (bride), Don Collure, MD ’02, (groom), Victoria Brooks, MD ’02, Stumbling, left to right, Linae Schwartz, MD ’02, Liza Chopra, MD ’02, Dana Binder, MD ’02, P.J. Scorrill, MD ’02, Cristine Adams, MD ’02, and Matthew Beatty, MD ’02.

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To view other alumni, please visit the Office of Planned Giving: Wendy Irving, Esq., Assistant Vice President for Planned Giving Toll-free (877) 835-3422 (UB Legacy) 716-829-2555, ext. 210 dev-pg@buffalo.edu http://giving.buffalo.edu/planned

They met over a cadaver in 1948, started dating in 1949, and married between semesters in 1950.

Charlotte Choper ’52 was a first-year medical student and Hyman Weiss ’52 was a first-year dental student. The circumstances of their meeting weren’t glamorous but the connection they forged created a lifetime love and bond.

The Weisses were married for 54 years. “We had a wonderful life, a great time together,” says Charlotte. She enjoyed a private practice in psychiatry until she retired in 1989. Before Hyman died in 2004, they traveled together, hiked, skied, and sailed in the Caribbean. Their three children all became physicians.

“Our UB education was superior,” she says. “And UB was central in the happiness we enjoyed.” Like her late husband, who set up a bequest to benefit the Dental School, Charlotte has remembered the medical school in her will. “UB helped us establish the quality of the life we enjoyed. Without UB, our lives together never would have happened!”

Building UB’s future

For information about including UB in your will, please contact the Office of Planned Giving: Wendy Irving, Esq., Assistant Vice President for Planned Giving Toll-free (877) 835-3422 (UB Legacy) 716-829-2555, ext. 210 dev-pg@buffalo.edu http://giving.buffalo.edu/planned

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In Memoriam

John G. Robinson, MD ’45, died on October 9, 2006, in Oxford Village nursing facility at Canterbury Woods, in Amherst, NY. He was 89.

Robinson was born in Delaware, OH, and attended Ohio Wesleyan University. Following graduation from the UB School of Medicine, he was commissioned into the Public Health Service and was assigned to psychiatric services at hospitals in Baltimore and Ellis Island.

After the war, Robinson joined UB, where he served on the faculty in the Department of Psychiatry for 35 years. He developed the first UB Alcoholism Rehabilitation Clinic and served as its chief psychiatrist. In 1951, he was named chief psychiatrist at E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital, and in 1962, he was appointed associate professor in the UB School of Medicine.

In 1964, Robinson studied at the Institute for Community Psychiatry and was a member of the Inter-University Forum for educators in community psychiatry at Duke University, which promoted the concept of community mental health services.

From 1970 to 1972, he served as chair of the medical school’s admissions committee, where he promoted affirmative action.

In 1975, Robinson was named chief psychiatrist at Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Buffalo, where he focused on treatment of veterans of the Vietnam War who suffered from posttraumatic stress disorder.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Pauline; two sons, Craig H. and Gerard E.; and a daughter, Mary J. Harper.

Roger W. Seibel, MD ’66, a surgeon who helped found the trauma unit at Erie County Medical Center (ECMC), died February 13, 2007, in the Cleveland Clinic after a brief illness. He was 66.

A native of Lancaster, NY, Seibel graduated from Lancaster High School, the University of Vermont and the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

He completed a medical internship and began his residency at E. J. Meyer Memorial Hospital, now ECMC, before he joined the Air Force in 1968.

He served as a surgeon stationed in Texas for a year and in Vietnam for another year, rising to the rank of captain.

After his military service, Seibel completed his residency at the Meyer.

He taught surgery and orthopaedics at UB from 1974 to the present, most recently holding the title of clinical professor of surgery and orthopaedics.

Seibel joined the staff in ECMC’s surgery department in 1973 and held a number of positions there, including clinical and assistant director of surgery. He was instrumental in founding ECMC’s trauma unit, which was one of the first in the United States and which became one of the busiest trauma centers in the state.

At the time of his death, Seibel was director of ECMC’s burn-treatment center and its trauma services, as well as medical director of the Regional Evaluation for Quality Improvement in Trauma.

He also served as director of state prison surgical services at the medical center, coordinating a surgical clinic at Wende Correctional Facility.

In addition, he directed a surgery and orthopaedic clinic at Buffalo Psychiatric Center.

Seibel was a board-certified member of the American Board of Surgery, an advanced trauma life-support instructor and an advanced burn life-support instructor.

He was honored in 1995 at ECMC’s Springfest Award Dinner and recently was named the state’s Physician of Distinction for 2006.

Surviving are his wife of 25 years, Kathleen Hasset Seibel; two sons, Mark W. and Todd D.; and a brother, Leon A.

In memory of Dr. Seibel, a fund has been established to support resident education in the Department of Surgery. To make a gift to The Roger W. Seibel, MD Memorial Residents’ Fund, call the Office of Advancement at (716) 829-2773, or toll-free 1-877-826-3246, or return the giving envelope included in this issue and indicate “Seibel Residents’ Fund” in the gift support section.

Where did you earn your undergraduate degree, and what did you major in?

I attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where I earned a bachelor of science degree in brain and cognitive sciences, with a minor in Spanish.

Why did you choose UB Medical School?

The first thing I liked about UB was the people, especially in the Office of Medical Education. If I had to do it over again, I would choose UB, not only for the people and student organizations, but for its new high-tech facilities, the physician-mentors, the diverse and interesting patient population, and Elmwood Avenue.

How did your scholarship make a difference?

One of the most humbling things about being a medical student is opening up your loan letter and seeing the cumulative amount in medical school tuition jumping out at you. It’s like buying a brand new car, every year, for four years. I am extremely grateful for UB’s scholarship program because it made a difference in helping me decide where to attend medical school. When I learned that I was a Sung Scholar, my first thought was of surprise that a Buffalo physician could have such faith in my abilities as to provide me with financial assistance to encourage my medical training. I felt honored.

What would you tell others who are interested in UB Medical School?

Students may be concerned that UB does not have a university hospital. From what I’ve heard from upperclassmen, this, in fact, turns out to be an unexpected strength. Third- and fourth-year students are trained to adapt to a variety of different hospital settings and staff, and so they become prepared to excel in any future medical environment. If you come to UB, in four years you’ll leave a well-trained physician.

Goal: $1.25 Million

Help UB Medicine reach its goal and enroll the best and brightest students with your gift to the Practice Giving campaign.

To make a gift simply complete and return the giving envelope included in this issue, or make your gift online by visiting www.practicengiving.org.

Learn more about how to include UB in your will and the benefits of deferred gifts for the Medical Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund by contacting the Office of Advancement at the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at 716-829-2773 or Toll Free 1-877-826-3246.