

**MEDICAL  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNING  
BOARD  
2009-2010**

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MD '86

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MD '97, PhD

**TREASURER**  
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MD '00, MPH '05

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PhD '81

Michael Zjonts,  
MD '98

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MD '76

Helen M. Cappuccino,  
MD '88

Margaret W. Paroski,  
MD '80, MMM

**GUEST MEMBER**  
Mark Falco, Class of 2012  
President, Medical Student  
Polity 2009-2010

## My Fellow Alumni,

**A**s I write this article in May, I am excited to begin my year as president of the Medical Alumni Association (MAA). I am very grateful for the excellent education I obtained at the medical school and, for me, serving on the board of the MAA is one way of giving back to the school. I thank Chuck Niles, MD '83, outgoing president, who now steps into an advisory role on the board as past president. I am happy to say that the outgoing past president, Helen Cappuccino, MD '88, will stay on the board as an emeritus member.

One of the first things I did upon assuming the MAA presidency a few weeks ago was to reread the constitution and by-laws. From my standpoint, the purposes of the organization as listed in the by-laws serve as a mission statement. These purposes include (1) representing the alumni, which includes arranging for Reunion Weekend each spring; (2) promoting the interests and general welfare of the school; (3) providing programming and support for the medical students; and (4) advancing the cause of medical and biomedical education. We as a board are striving to engage with the masters of science and PhD students; board member Elizabeth Repasky, PhD '81, is facilitating our efforts.

Our board of the MAA needs to recruit new members. The constitution states that members of the MAA who wish to serve on the board should express their interest in a written note to the board president. In our ongoing effort to achieve diversity on the board, we are doing well with regard to the age and gender mix of board members, but we are falling short with regard to diversity of race/ethnicity. If you would like more information on the responsibilities of a board member, please contact me. If you would like to serve on the board, please send me an email or a written note explaining briefly the reasons you would like to serve.

Our board meets six to eight times per year on Thursday afternoons at 1 pm for 60 to 90 minutes. Much of the work between board meetings is handled by our superb staff liaison, Jennifer Lobaugh, director of special events and constituent relations, in the Office of Medical Development and Alumni Relations. Thus, including board meetings, attendance at board functions, travel time and work to implement the various programs sponsored and supported by the board, typical total time commitment for board members not on the Executive Committee is two to four hours per month. If you are not able to make the time commitment to serve on the board, but would like to offer suggestions to the board, please contact me by email or "snail mail."

Sincerely,



SANFORD H. LEVY, MD '86  
President, Medical Alumni Association  
Shlevy@buffalo.edu

Office Address: 5110 Main Street, #101;  
Amherst, NY 14221



# CLASSNOTES

S U M M E R 2 0 0 9

## 1950s

**Edward Hohensee, MD '54,** writes: "I retired June 12, 1992, and never looked back. My wife, Elaine, and I moved to Bend, Oregon, as our second retirement home. Our first retirement home was in Pensacola, Florida, where we were for 11 years, but had no family near. Two of our daughters now live in Bend, and two more offspring live elsewhere in Oregon. We are happy as can be. I'd love to hear from colleagues. My email is: edhohensee@aol.com."

## 1970s

**Dana P. Launer MD, '73,** writes: "I'm still alive after being diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease as a second-year medical student. I was recently appointed vice president of medical affairs



at Scripps Memorial Hospital-La Jolla. This followed a two-year term as chief of staff at the same facility. I've maintained a surgical practice in La Jolla since 1979 and specialize in the surgical management of inflammatory bowel disease. My wife, Elaine, and I have four children in college: Kathleen, Morgan, Hunter and Spencer. Email address is: launer.dana@scrippshealth.org.

## 1980s

**Richard M. Rosenfeld, MD '84, MPH,** has been named professor and chair of the Department of Otolaryngology at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Rosenfeld has



been a member of the SUNY Downstate faculty since 1992, serving as director of the Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology. He

has also been chair of the Department of Otolaryngology at the Long Island College Hospital since 2007.

A native of New York City, Rosenfeld attended Hamilton College prior to entering the UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He trained in surgery and otolaryngology at Mount Sinai Medical Center and then pursued further subspecialty training in pediatric otolaryngology at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, where he also earned his master's in public health degree. After completing an NIH research fellowship and a clinical fellowship, he served as a faculty member at George Washington University before joining Downstate as an assistant professor in 1992, reaching the rank of full professor in 1999.

## CME SESSIONS—NO CHARGE

### *Cardiovascular Disease Prevention in Women*

**The Research Center for Stroke and Heart Disease at UB is hosting several free CME sessions for primary care providers about the evidence-based guidelines for cardiovascular disease prevention in women. The sessions are in partnership with the Western New York Rural-AHEC, and presenters include cardiologists and family practice physicians.**

**Educational objectives are to (1) assess cardiovascular disease risk in the female patient, (2) make treatment recommendations (lifestyle and pharmacologic) according to risk level, (3) develop a plan for improving office systems to support adherence to clinical guidelines (except for Wellsville and Olean sessions), and (4) discuss Medicare reimbursable health services related to cardiovascular disease risk.**

### *Sessions are being held:*

August 19, 6-8 pm, Old Library Inn, Olean  
September 17, 1-5:15 pm, UB Family Medicine wGrand Rounds, Hearthstone Manor, Depew  
September 22, 6-8:30 pm, White Inn, Fredonia

To register and for more information about the sessions, call (716) 859-7140, or visit [www.primarycarepartnerships.org](http://www.primarycarepartnerships.org).



## Spring Clinical Day a Success

Spring Clinical Day and Harrington Lecture was held on April 19, 2009, at the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo. Pictured, from left, are Michael E. Cain, MD, dean of the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; speaker Benjamin S. Carson, MD, director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Charles R. Niles, MD '83, president of the Medical Alumni Association.



FROM LEFT: UB medical students Swapnil Kachare; Eva Lewin; Stephanie Andrus; Spring Clinical Day speaker Benjamin S. Carson, MD; Lawrence Jenkins; Janel Smietana; Clairice Cooper; Joel Urena; and Justin Van Klein.



## C L A S S N O T E S

### 1990s

**Stephanie Fretz, MD '92,**



has joined Lifetime Health Medical Group and began seeing pediatric patients at the William E. Mosher Health Center in January 2009.

After earning her medical degree from UB, Fretz completed her residency at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She has been practicing in the Buffalo area for more than 13 years.

Fretz is board certified in pediatrics, and is an associate clinical instructor of pediatrics at UB. She is a member of the American

Academy of Pediatrics and the Buffalo Pediatric Society.

**Daniel A. Monti, MD '92,** announces the publication of his book *The Great Life Makeover* (Harper-Collins Publishing), which outlines an integrative medicine approach to improving health and quality of life during the middle decades, covering topics such as diet, lifestyle, stress, sleep hygiene, hormonal issues, menopause and andropause. Monti is director of the Jefferson-Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University and Hospital in

Philadelphia. He also is associate professor of psychiatry and emergency medicine. He sends a warm hello to all of his classmates and fondly recalls all of the terrific parties after exam blocks and cool outings throughout the year. "I miss you guys!" Email address is: daniel.monti@jefferson.edu.

### 2000

**Troy Pittman, MD '06,** matched in plastic and reconstructive surgery at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois. Email address is: troypittman@gmail.com.

## IN MEMORIAM

FREDERICK J. SZYMANSKI, MD '39, of Naples, Florida, and Glencoe, Illinois, died on April 9, 2009, in Naples. He was 93.

Szymanski was born on May 16, 1915, in Rochester, New York. After earning his medical degree from UB in 1939, he completed a postgraduate course and fellowship at the University of Illinois.

Szymanski served in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps during World War II, after which he entered into dermatological practice with Clark W. Finnerud, MD, in Chicago. After Finnerud retired, Szymanski maintained the practice for over forty years in the Pittsfield Building, 55 East Washington.

He also served as clinical professor of dermatopathology at the University of Illinois School of Medicine and clinical professor of dermatology at Rush-Presbyterian/St. Luke School of Medicine.

Szymanski was a founding member of the American Society of Dermatopathology and a member of the Chicago Dermatological Society. He authored a book titled *Centennial History of American Dermatological Association 1876-1976* and was the author of over 25 scientific articles on skin pathology.

Survivors include his wife of 14 years, Madeleine (Somes) Szymanski; five sons, Peter J., Steven P., Frederick J., Michael W. and John R.; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 49 years, Frances (Myers) in 1989.

**Joseph Gordon, MD '55,** born in 1926, died on April 9, 2009.

**Ira Miller, MD '56,** born in 1930, died on March 31, 2009.

**Sabah E. Zara, MD '59,** born on July 8, 1934, died on February 27, 2009.

**Cheryl C. Rosenblatt, MD '69,** born on March 23, 1941, died on January 9, 2008.

**William I. Cohen, MD '75,** born on February 13, 1946, died on February 6, 2009.

**Robert A. Cunningham, MD '78,** born on August 24, 1945, died on March 30, 2008.

# Reunions 2009

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, AND SATURDAY, APRIL 19,

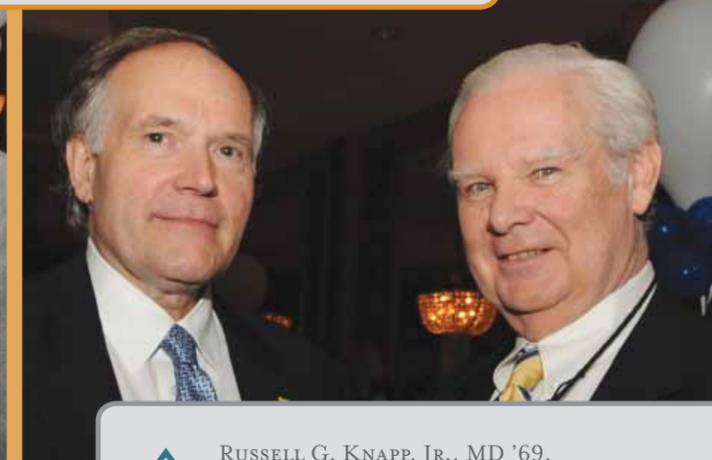
PHOTOS BY NANCY PARISI

*A time for old friends*

AND CLASSMATES TO REUNITE  
AND REMINISCE ABOUT THEIR  
MEDICAL SCHOOL YEARS



FRANK SCHRECK, MD '79,  
CHARLES NILES, MD '83,  
AND DONALD ARMENIA, MD '79



RUSSELL G. KNAPP, JR., MD '69,  
AND TIMOTHY F. HARRINGTON MD '69



CAROL ANN KILLIAN, MD '94,  
KIM GRISWOLD, MD '94, AND  
THOMAS M. BURNETTE, MD '94