Fall 1989

The Chironian Vol. 106

New York Medical College

Follow this and additional works at: https://touroscholar.touro.edu/nymc_arch_journals

Part of the Higher Education Commons, and the Medicine and Health Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation


This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the NYMC Archives Publications at Touro Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journals by an authorized administrator of Touro Scholar. For more information, please contact carrie.levinson2@touro.edu.
Expanding the Avenues of Communication:
A Message from the Alumni Association President ............. 3

A Talk With Louis E. Fierro '60,
Alumni Association President ........................................ 4

The Annual Banquet: A Celebration of Success ...................... 6

25-Year Reunion:
A Memorable Party for the Class of '64 ............................... 8

Newsmakers ........................................................................ 10

Milestone Reunion Classes Mingle and Make Merry .............. 12

From Generation to Generation:
'89 Yields Bumper Crop of NYMC Offspring ...................... 14

In Memoriam ...................................................................... 17

Honor Roll of Gifts to the Annual Fund ............................. 18

Alumni Association
Board of Governors

Officers
Louis E. Fierro '60
President
Michael A. Antonelle '62
President-Elect
Henry Saphier '61
Vice-President
John D. O'Brien '60
Treasurer
Joseph B. Cleary '73
Secretary
Frank M. Esemplare '58
Archivist

Elected Governors
Philip Cea '70
Anita S. Curran '55
Neil Goldman '66
Donald S. Gromisch '60
Hugo J. Gruendel '50
William A. Healy Jr. '61
Philip A. Marraccini '50
Martin F. McGowan '46
Benjamin J. Sadock '59
Catherine G. Serra '50

Past Presidents
Saverio S. Bentivegna '50
Joseph F. Dursi '59
Cyrille R. Halkin '45
Henry P. Leis Jr. '41
Dav'id T. Mininberg '61
E. Edward Napp '33
Seymour Schlussel '51
Lawrence B. Slobody '36
Martin L. Stone '44
Paul Tartell '52
Bernard J. Wattiker '44

Faculty Governor
Edward Wasserman '46

Chapter Chairpersons
Michael Fezza '54
Connecticut
Richard Rose '64
Florida
David M. Paige '64
Greater Washington, D.C
Frank M. Esemplare '58
Long Island, N.Y
Morris Diamant '78
New England
Bruce M. Burtn '54
New Jersey
Milton Best '62
John Walker '71
New York City
Constance M. Buncke '51
Harry J. Buncke '51
Northern California
Ronald H. Hartman '60
Southern California
Philip A Marraccini '50
Westchester County

Cover: Symbols of a New Beginning
Cover Design and Photography by Helen Antonelle

Inside photo credits: Bachrach, pages 3 and 5; Jerry Reinlieb, page 13; Dynecourt Mahon, all others.
Production: MAK Production Group/Kase Publications
Expanding the Channels of Communication –

A Message from the Alumni Association President

Dear Alumni and Alumnae:

It is my great pleasure, as president of the Alumni Association, to address you through the pages of our journal.

For more than 130 years, the graduates of New York Medical College have been making a significant contribution to the delivery of health care across virtually the entire United States. As the challenges in research, medical education, and patient care have changed from decade to decade, the College, more often than not, has anticipated change and been in the forefront in recognizing the shifting variables. This foresight has positioned the College to fulfill its educational obligations to the student body. That these obligations have been well fulfilled is attested to repeatedly by our alumni and alumnae when they return for homecoming weekends or attend chapter meetings or other special events.

The disruptive changes in the health care system that have occurred over the past 20 years have drastically altered the manner in which medicine is practiced today. One cannot predict—sometimes from one month to the next—what new regulation, legislation, edict, or printed form will be in vogue. Confusion is pandemic: no one is immune, surely not medical educators. We are all in need of guidance and assistance. To this end, I believe our medical school would benefit greatly by increased input from our alumni and alumnae. We want to be in touch with you, to hear from you, and to have you hear from us often.

My goal as president is to continue to expand our avenues of communication and feedback. What more natural forum for these exchanges than the chapter meetings and the other events held during the year? Further, to provide increased communication, the Chironian will now be distributed semi-annually, with publication in November and May.

We encourage you to send us information about yourself and your New York Medical College colleagues—where you are and what you are doing. And write or call the Alumni Association office when you feel we can be of help to you.

You will find a calendar of events on the back cover of this Chironian. Please make note of the schedule and attend when you can. I am sure you will enjoy reconnecting with your fellow graduates and sharing experiences that shape your lives.

I look forward to being with you during the coming year.

With best wishes,

Louis E. Fierro '60
A Talk With
Louis E. Fierro '60, Alumni Association President

To familiarize alumni and alumnae with Louis Fierro, their newly-elected president, Chironian interviewed him in August, 1989, at his office in Lenox Hill Hospital. Dr. Fierro is direct, forthcoming, decisive, sometimes blunt. He speaks with deep conviction about the profession of medicine and the delivery of health care, with fervor about his alma mater and the Alumni Association, and with great warmth about his roots in the profession and his family.

C: Let's start with your 30 years in medicine. Will you tell us how you came to your work and how you have pursued your career?

LEF: From the age of eight or nine, I knew I would be a doctor. And that was, quite simply, because my grandmother—a very strong woman—made that decision early. We were a close family and the children and grandchildren gathered at my grandmother's house for dinner most Sundays and on all holidays.

Two of my uncles were graduates of NYMC. Eugene Fierro '28 was one of the first colorectal surgeons in New York. Frank Fierro '33 was an anesthesiologist who served as chairman of the department from 1956 to 1968, and as president of the Alumni Association from 1962 to 1965. He was awarded the Alumni Medal of Honor in 1963. His wife, my aunt Grace Fierro, is an R.N., a great woman, who was in the last class to graduate from Fifth Avenue Hospital Nursing School.

But to go back to the Sunday dinners. Just about every time the family gathered, talk would turn to the children, and Grandma would say, "Louie is going to be a doctor." It was a "given" that I would apply for admission to my uncles' alma mater. After graduation from Syracuse University, I did apply, was accepted, and entered the Class of '60.

Anesthesiology, however, was not part of my original plan. My intention was to specialize in ob/gyn, but during the course of my rotating internship at Lenox Hill, I changed my mind and elected to take a residency in anesthesiology, which I did at Metropolitan from 1961 to 1963. With the completion of the residency, I joined the faculty of New York Medical College and the staffs of Flower and Metropolitan.

I was chief of the service at Flower when, in 1973, I was invited to become director of anesthesiology at Lenox Hill.

I continue to hold that post and, in addition, am medical director of the hospital's respiratory therapy service and the ambulatory surgery center. The center, which was opened in 1983, was one of the first such facilities and is now the site of 40 percent of the surgical procedures done in this hospital. That figure, by the way, will ultimately reach 50 to 60 percent.

I am also an associate attending at Westchester County Medical Center, and an associate visiting attending at Metropolitan, an appointment I've held ever since completing my residency there.

C: What prompted you to change from ob/gyn to anesthesiology?

LEF: I'm very glad to talk of that decision because it is a point on which I have strong feelings. I made the decision—one that was to affect my whole future—because I had enough time, during the rotating internship, to observe and evaluate the appropriateness of the two specialties for me, both as an individual and as a doctor. With the benefit of that time for reflection, I came to realize that I was better suited to anesthesiology.

In my judgment, today's students don't have sufficient time to contemplate the future before making one of the most critical decisions of their lives—decisions that in most cases will involve lifetime commitment.

I also believe that the Alumni Association can actively help students to be better prepared for the major decisions they must make. We plan to provide increased opportunities for them to speak to attendings in various specialties in order to learn more about the actual work in a particular specialty, as well as about the lifestyle and personal and family commitment required. I'd like to encourage increased networking of third- and fourth-year students with alumnae and alumni across the country who are involved in residency programs.

C: You are presiding over the Alumni Association as we enter the '90s. How do you look to the future?

LEF: To project the future, we have to look at the present and the past. What we are now seeing, very distinctly, is the trend toward further regulation, bureaucracy, and surveillance of physicians' activities; and there doesn't seem to be any end in sight. Any hope of countering or modifying this trend lies with the physicians' readiness to be involved, to be heard, to plead our own case. We must educate both those who set and implement policy and the individual members of the public—to whom we are dedicated—about the ramifications and consequences of these regulations.

Further, the almost overriding emphasis on cost containment may be interfering with the quality of care the American people have been accustomed to receiving. The public must be heard on these matters, and we—the
physicians—must help bring about understanding. We know that the doctor-patient relationship works; it is when third parties enter a situation that problems may arise. A physician who knows the whole story of a patient can, to cite just one example, adjust a fee to reflect what the patient is capable of committing to financially. There will certainly be many changes in health care delivery. Emergency rooms are more and more crowded, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to access these and other facilities when needed.

C: What changes do you anticipate in your own specialty?

LEF: In my specialty, we must be aware of changing modalities of monitoring, treatment, and pain relief, so as to utilize them in a safe and efficacious manner. The most significant changes over the past 20 years have been in the pharmacology of agents and the degree of physiological monitoring we can give patients from moment to moment prior to, during, and after surgery. As you know, the support of the patient in the post-op period is getting closer scrutiny, and our conclusion is that more effort should be directed to the recovery period. From early on, I've had a dream—a dream of more monitoring. Now, with the use of transesophageal echocardiography, we can see the heart in function prior to and during an operation. Since we can see the heart functioning from beat to beat, we have the capability of altering aberrations earlier. We are entering a period when people who are over 50 years old constitute more than half the population. Next year more than 40 million Americans will reach the age of 60 or above. Geriatric patients will need more sophisticated monitoring for surgery on a routine basis. This, in turn, will require additional financial resources if we are to procure instrumentation needed in the O.R. We can now monitor a patient who is 75 or 80 years old, and with transesophageal direct visualization, take immediate steps to protect that patient.

C: You've described changes as they affect the elderly. How are changes in your procedures affecting patients at the beginning of life?

LEF: I am happy to say that there is close communication between neonatologists and anesthesiologists, which makes for better monitoring of newborns and better care than we ever knew before.

C: Tell us about your family.

LEF: My wife, Rebecca, and I met at Lenox Hill Hospital, where she was an R.N. and I was an intern. We were married in November 1961 and lived in New York City until 1968, when we moved to Chappaqua in Northern Westchester. We have lived there ever since. Rebecca continued in nursing until the children were born, and her interest in the profession remains strong. For example, she was deeply involved in the development of a hospice program at Northern Westchester Hospital, and was a volunteer in the Chappaqua Ambulance Corps. Then there is her avocation, which is a fascinating one. She is a certified scuba diver and a member of PADI—the Professional Association of Diving Instructors. At this time she is also doing underwater photography. I must say that whatever Rebecca does—whether it's nursing, scuba diving, volunteer work or photography—she does it with commitment and expertise.

We have three children. Catherine specialized in psychology at Clark University and took a master's degree in social work at the University of Pennsylvania. She is now director of admissions and discharge planning at The Bridges in Philadelphia, an institute for the treatment of substance abuse in juveniles. Caroline is a graduate of Drew University, where she majored in math and computers. She is now taking advanced work at Columbia University's School of Special Studies. Louis is a student in business management at Pace University. He is also active in sports and received letters for soccer and football while in high school. He is now a linebacker on the Pace football team. I am most fortunate in having both a wonderful family and a very stimulating, rewarding professional life. I would add that I feel more grateful than I can ever express to our medical college for the overwhelmingly important role it has played in my life.
"I don't believe in long speeches or in too many of them. Just have a great party," said incoming President Louis Fierro '60 at the forty-fifth Alumni Association Banquet held Saturday evening, June 3, 1989. In response, members of classes spanning six decades, including the last class of the eighties, together with their families and friends, followed his instructions to the letter—enjoying the music, the dancing, the dinner, and the pleasure of being with colleagues and classmates for this festive occasion.

The banquet in the Grand Ballroom of the Plaza in New York City was preceded, as is customary, by a sumptuous cocktail reception held in the famed hotel's Terrace Room and hosted by College President John J. Connolly and Mrs. Connolly, who were joined in the receiving line by officers of the College and the Alumni Association.

Graduates of many classes, including Gold Diploma recipients of the Class of '39 and Silver Anniversary celebrants of the Class of '64, came from all parts of the country for the event—truly a celebration of success.

Members of the Class of '89, celebrating the completion of their medical school program, were toasted and cheered on by their predecessors, the alumnae and alumni whose accomplishments in their chosen profession gave ample cause for celebration.

Presiding at the banquet—a gourmet feast, as always—was outgoing Alumni Association President Paul Tartell '52. He introduced NYMC Board Chairman John K. Castle, College Chancellor Msgr. James P. Cassidy, President Connolly, Dean Karl P. Adler, and Dr. Fierro.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Dr. Tartell presented a Medal of Honor to Lester S. Borden '69, a noted orthopaedic surgeon, and an Academic Achievement Award to Vincent R. De Angelis '58, recognized for his work in general surgery. Incoming President Fierro then took over the podium in order to present a Medal of Honor to Dr. Tartell, who was commended not only for his work as a distinguished radiologist but for his leadership of the Alumni Association during his term as president. (See Newsmakers for articles on the honorees.)

Between the talks and dinner courses, the band played for an appreciative audience, many of whom stayed until the late hours dancing the night away.

The highly successful evening was the result of careful planning and preparations by the Banquet Committee, comprising Seymour Schlussel '51, chair; his wife, Barbara Schlussel; her mother, Norma Barach; Julie Kubaska, director of alumni relations; and James Keller, former director. Their efforts won the deep thanks of all in attendance at the stellar event.
Norma Barach and Barbara Schlussel.

Members of the Class of '39: Frank Romano, Anthony LaSala, Thomas Caceci, Charles Ruvolo, Rosario Gualtieri, George Mastellone, Joseph Catania, Irving Behr.

Thomas De Berardino '89 and his guest, Lorraine Anderson. Captain De Berardino was one of 18 members of the class who were inducted into the Armed Forces at a special ceremony during commencement.

Deborah Foglia '89, Peter Orlic '89, and Christina Egan '87. Both couples were married during the week before commencement.


Diane Levere, Richard Levere M.D., Chairman of the NYMC Department of Medicine; Kathy Bentvegna and Saverio Bentvegna '50, a past president of the Alumni Association and member of the Board of Governors.

President Connolly visits with three graduates of the class of '89: Kanwalwir Sanghera, Ada Wang, Maggy Lesplinasse.
25-Year Reunion

A Memorable Party for the Class of '64

It would have been difficult, on the evening of June 2, 1989, to find a more successful party than the 25-year reunion of the class of 1964, celebrated on the roof of "Flower," now Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. Co-chaired by Richard Rose and Don Minervini, the event was one of the two largest turnouts of a 25-year class in memory, tying the attendance of the class '62, with 60 of the original 121 graduates present. More important, it was a wonderfully festive occasion.

A display of large buttons with photos of each class member at the time of graduation greeted the guests as they arrived at the tenth floor. Donning these I.D.'s, alumni and alumnae moved out to the building's south roof, known to generations of students as "Tar Beach," where they were met by a large, gleaming ice sculpture of the numeral "64."

As the graduates hailed one another joyfully, the decibel level mounted and laughter pealed through the air. Maureen Relland and Beverly Richman, the only women in the class, received an especially warm welcome from their classmates.

Looking at copies of the 1964 Fleur-o-scope, class members chuckled as they spotted pictures of themselves and classmates. One said, "I had mixed feelings about coming here. I really didn't want to see how old everyone had gotten, but I'm very glad I came. Everyone seems just the same."

William Dixon, class valedictorian in 1964, demonstrated that he could still appropriately express the sentiments of his classmates, "I'm thrilled to be back," he said. "After 25 years, this opportunity to relive the times we shared is a heady experience."

At the dinner Joseph Dursi '59, who directs special events for the Alumni Association, thanked the chairs, and commented that the long distance phone bills of Don Minervini and Richard Rose during preparations for the event must have been a source of great joy to Southern Bell Telephone. Richard Rose, who also heads the Association's Florida Chapter, spoke with deep feeling of the special character of the class and of the medical education that had enabled its members to contribute so effectively to the profession.

Don Minervini presented reunion attendees with silver certificates and mementos of the evening.

NYMC President John J. Connolly greeted the group and spoke of the institution's pride in the silver anniversary class, whose accomplishments in their communities have continually enhanced the reputation of the College.

From a display at the entrance to the party, Esther Berger selects button I.D.'s for Jesse Palmer and Michael Feinstein.

William Taylor and Philip Taylor

Greeting joyously are David Nochimson and Stuart Sitzman.
A view of the park and lake from the roof.

Leonard Harrison, Philip Kittner, NYMC President John J. Connolly, Michael Weiss, and Vincent Kiesel.

Rebecca Fierro, Ingrid Connolly, Paul Tartell '52, outgoing president of the Alumni Association, Louis Fierro '60, incoming president, and Phyllis Tartell.


Martha Dursi, Sharon Minervini, Joseph Dursi '59, Chair of Special Events, and Robin Rose.

Jean Dean, William Dean Jr., Harold Chadwick, and Wanda Chadwick.

Fred Seley, Joyce Seley, Judith Kupersmith, and Joel Kupersmith.

The two women in the class, Maureen Relland and Beverly Richman, with (left) Lawrence Prutkin M.D., Beverly Richman's husband, Marvin Ginsburg, and (right) Robert Riggio '58, Maureen Relland's husband.
Lester Borden '69 was awarded an Alumni Medal of Honor in recognition of his distinguished contributions to orthopaedic surgery.

On Christmas Day 1964, a special delivery letter addressed to Lester Borden was delivered to him in Gulph Mills, Pennsylvania, where he was then living. He was at home alone, the other members of his family having gone to early mass.

"I opened the envelope to find that I had been accepted by New York Medical College. To this moment I remember vividly my mixed feelings—great elation at the news but disappointment that no replacements a day. Of course, that changed as soon as my family returned."

Dr. Borden, who is today one of the country's foremost orthopaedic surgeons, came to medicine by a circuitous route, to say the least. After graduating from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, he worked as a naval architect and marine engineer at the U.S. Naval Base in Philadelphia, and planned to stay in that field. "But," he explains, "three of my cousins persuaded me to change direction. Bill Healy '61, Bill Walsh '64, and Frank Walsh '67 all believed that medicine would appeal to me as much as it already did to them—and they were right."

After earning his M.D. degree, he did his postgraduate training at two New York hospitals, St. Vincent's and University. A fellowship at the New England Baptist Hospital in Boston followed, and while there he was invited to join the staff of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

"The Foundation was held in high esteem for pioneering work in many fields," Dr. Borden noted, "and was the up-and-coming center for joint replacement, which interested me very much. I made the decision to join the staff and have been here, very happily, ever since."

Indeed, the word "happily" appears not to be an exaggeration. "One reason this place is so good," he says, "is that it is governed by a board of physician governors." The board administers the Foundation's annual budget of $550,000,000. Dr. Borden, now 49, smiles as he says that he is an emeritus governor, having served on the board from 1978 through 1986, with a year as vice chairman. He also served two years as a trustee of the Foundation.

Asked to discuss his work in orthopaedic surgery, Dr. Borden says, "We have seen major changes through the years, the most significant of which are the design of the prostheses and the techniques of putting the prostheses in place."

His teaching activities—in addition to his work with students at the Foundation—include lectures, conferences, workshops, and courses given under the auspices of both the Foundation and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery. He is one of only 12 physicians who are members of both the Knee Society and the Hip Society, the two most prestigious organizations in his field.

"I believe firmly," Dr. Borden says, "that despite the problems of our time, medicine is still the best profession. Certainly, there are things I'd like to see changed. The wrong groups are directing the course of medicine—among them insurance companies, which are, after all in business, and commissions, which are leaving endless trails of paperwork.

"In fact, academic medical groups—the educational bodies in the various specialties—are the ones who should be tackling the problems and setting standards. Physicians should be in control of their own destinies and most assuredly in charge of the care of their patients. Moreover, if we set the highest standards for ourselves and teach young doctors to do the same, costs will be reduced and the quality of care will improve."

"The educational process has become too passive," Dr. Borden continues. "You know, when I was a student at New York Medical College the greatest thing about our education was our involvement in the process, particularly during the last two years we literally lived in the hospital. Today's medical students should be more involved clinically—obviously under very careful supervision.

"Despite its undeniable problems, American medicine is light years ahead of every other country," he maintains. "But, we have to get out of this hyperlitigious mode and the mode of 'treating' charts and figures. We must return to putting the realistic assessment of patient needs in the hands of practicing physicians whose high quality of care must be assured by the nature and content of their training, undergraduate and graduate."

When we talked in late June, Dr. Borden was planning a number of trips, the first being a vacation in Alaska fishing for king salmon with his 15-year-old son, Lester Jr. In addition to Lester, Dr. Borden and his wife, Jean, have two daughters, Kristine, 13, and Katherine, 10. He anticipates that in a few years the whole family will go on a fishing expedition together.

He speaks warmly of his trip to New York on June 3 to accept the Alumni Association's Medal of Honor and visit with classmates at the reception and banquet on the twentieth anniversary of their graduation. "I have a very warm feeling about our medical school, and fellow graduates, and I intend to keep and strengthen our mutual ties."

Paul Tartell '52 was awarded an Alumni Medal of Honor both for his contributions as a radiologist and his leadership as president of the Alumni Association from 1987 to 1989. He was profiled in Chironian at the start of his presidency. Following is an update.

Paul Tartell has has many happy and significant experiences—entry into medicine, marriage to Phyllis Glass, his wife of 36 years, parenthood, and a successful career, among them.
of a new life-cycle experience: the addition to the family of 
Jacqueline Sylvia Tartell, daughter of Jay Tartell '82 and his wife, 
Deborah. "This beautiful grandchild has Phyllis and me enthralled," he says, adding, "our son Brian is equally captivated."

Human relationships, both family and professional, have always 
come first with Paul Tartell. From his earliest days in medicine, 
he has placed great value on a warm and meaningful rapport with 
his patients. He has remarked with pleasure that he and some of 
the patients who came to him at the start of his practice "have 
gotten wrinkles together." Now this physician is deeply 
enthralled," he says, adding, "our son Brian is equally captivated.

Deborah. "This beautiful grandchild has Phyllis and me 
enthralled." He says, "Our son Brian is equally captivated."

"Medicine is a science and an art, but we are being viewed as an 
industry," he says. "We are being restricted, regulated, and to my 
mind vastly over-regulated. My concern is for the effect of all this 
on our relationship with our patients.

"We are healers, but I am afraid our patients are seeing us as 
part of a vast machine that includes vendors and pharmaceutical 
companies. I don’t see great hope for change, but I think we 
must find a way to keep giving our patients the time and attention 
they rightly deserve, lest they become accustomed to 
substandard medicine."

Dr. Tartell has been joined in practice by his radiologist son. 
"Jay has imparted an added dimension to the practice," he notes. 
"Coming out of a high quality, modern training program, he brings 
the most recent concepts in teaching programs to the practice. It 
is also gratifying to see your son relating so well to your 
colleagues. And the bedrock of his expertise is NYMC."

A practicing radiologist for three decades, Paul Tartell has been 
director of radiology at Astoria General Hospital for the past 15 
years. He is also currently chairman of the hospital’s medical 
board. A past president of the Long Island Radiological Society, 
he is a delegate to the New York State Radiological Society, an 
arm of the American College of Radiology, of which he is a fellow.

Vincent De Angelis '58 was awarded a citation for 
distinguished work in surgery. He 
and his wife, Jeannette De Angelis 
'61, were profiled in the 1983 issue 
of Chironian. An update on him 
follows.

Vincent De Angelis had just 
returned from a week’s holiday in 
Italy when Chironian talked with 
him. On the trip were his wife, 
Jeannette, two of their fellow 
alumni, Frank Esemplare '58 and 
William Tesauro '62, and their 
wives, Lenore Esemplare and Patricia Tesauro. "We had a great 
time," he said. "We moved around a lot, visiting new places and 
places we’d been before. We swam and snorkled. It rained a little 
at the beginning, but when you travel in good company, it’s 
evertheless fun, rain or shine."

Dr. De Angelis seems busier than ever and talks of trying to cut 
back on some activities. His own group practice of general, 
vascular, and thoracic surgery has grown to include five members 
with a sixth to start next summer. As director of the department 
of surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital at West Islip, NY, he 
oversees orthopaedic, vascular, plastic and reconstructive, oral, 
and thoracic surgery, and urology.

Like his colleagues, Dr. De Angelis is troubled by the restrictive 
nature of medical practice today. "Quality assurance has 
advantages, but there is far too much intrusion, too many 
agencies looking over a physician’s shoulder," he comments. "As 
a member of the Quality Assurance Committee of the hospital, I 
spend a great deal of time on these issues, and as head of a 
department, I am responsible for enormous amounts of 
paperwork. One reason for adding another member to our group 
is to permit me to spend more time in overseeing the department 
administratively and to try to get a better grip on quality 
assurance."

Despite the problems of the profession, Dr. De Angelis says, "I 
am happy with my life today. My family are all doing well. Gia 
graduated from our medical school in '85 and is finishing her 
residency in radiology at St. Luke's-Roosevelt in New York. She 
will be taking a fellowship at Thomas Jefferson in Philadelphia. 
Adriane is in her last year at the New York College of Osteopathic 
Medicine. Marisa is a stock market specialist in bond trading, 
and Mark, having graduated from Boston College, is a builder on 
Long Island. Jeannette is now retired from anesthesiology and 
enjoying her many activities."

Biondi Named to College 
Vice Presidency

Richard P. Biondi joined the NYMC 
administration in June, 1989, as vice 
president for institutional advance-
ment. In this post, he is responsible 
for developing and directing 
philanthropic support, community 
relations, and alumni relations 
programs.

Prior to his appointment at NYMC, 
Mr. Biondi enjoyed a nine-year career 
at General Foods, where for the last 
three years he was manager of 
government and community affairs. In 
that post he acted as liaison with local governments and 
communities across the United States, wherever General Foods 
has a presence. He was also responsible for the disbursement 
of the corporation’s Westchester County philanthropic budget and 
developed policy and action programs for legislative areas. Earlier he had been in charge of college relations and 
recruitment.

Before his appointment at NYMC, 
Mr. Biondi enjoyed a nine-year career 
at General Foods, where for the last 
three years he was manager of 
government and community affairs. In 
that post he acted as liaison with local governments and 
communities across the United States, wherever General Foods 
has a presence. He was also responsible for the disbursement 
of the corporation’s Westchester County philanthropic budget and 
developed policy and action programs for legislative areas. Earlier he had been in charge of college relations and 
recruitment.

Mr. Biondi and his wife, Maureen Biondi, and their children, 
Jennifer and Richard, live in White Plains, NY.

Awarded a B.A. degree from Iona College, he went on to take 
an M.P.A. degree from the Rockefeller School of Public Affairs of 
the State University of New York at Albany, and did further 
graduate work at John Carroll University in Ohio and the City 
University of New York.

Speaking of his work at the College Mr. Biondi said, "I am 
enormously impressed by the graduates I met during the alumni 
weekend last spring and at other events since then. They are 
an outstanding group, and I look forward to being a catalyst in the 
achievement of our mutual goals."
MILESTONE CLASSES
MINGLE AND MAKE MERRY

Graduates of classes spanning 45 years -- from '39 to '84 -- gathered at the Alumni Center on Sunday, June 4, 1989, for the milestone reunions to which all alumni and alumnae are invited at five-year intervals. They came from many sections of the country for the festive midday event at which they were joined by members of the College administration, the Alumni Board of Governors, and several faculty members.

The magic numbers for this year’s reunions were those of classes ending in 4 or 9, and included '39 and '64, the gold and silver anniversary classes.

The Classes of '44 and '64 took honors as the largest contingents of graduates and spouses present, followed by '79. A number of alumni and alumnae took advantage of the special weekend package, which included attendance at the banquet the previous evening.

On Sunday, the Alumni Center was once again the scene of warmth and conviviality as members of the reunion classes mingled and made merry at a cocktail reception and buffet barbeque. It was truly a milestone day for classmates who had shared cadavers, cram sessions, and confidences during four of the most memorable years of their lives.


Burton Feinerman '54 holds the plaque presented to him by Alumni President Louis Fierro in recognition of his leadership of the Florida Chapter.

Photographing their children were William Wittman and Carlo Annese, both '79.
Austin Hogan '49, with members of the class of '54: Herve Byron, Bryn Byron, Arthur Campbell, Astry Campbell, Meg Weigers, Edward Weigers, Donna Cole, Herbert Cole, Raymond Voulo, Judy Feinerman, Burton Feinerman. Norman Isaacs had to leave before the picture was taken.


Joseph Guiffrida '42, Noreen Ferrante '84 and her husband, John Piccione; Dante Bizzarri '42, Suzanne Shroba '90, and Douglas Shapiro '84.

The Class of '79 was represented by 14 members and their spouses: Susan Freeman, chair of the class reunion, Marvin Weingarten; Lawrence Choy and his wife, Dana Choy; William Wittman; Moira Shea; Eileen Sheehy; Carlo Annese; Thomas Facelle; William Berger; Richard Becker; Sharon Yost and her husband, Joshua Guttman; John McGurty. The group included three pairs of classmates who married—Susan Freeman and Marvin Weingarten, William Wittman and Moira Shea, and Eileen Sheehy and Carlo Annese.

Ward Glenn Gypson Jr. and Joseph Dursi, both '59, at the milestone reunions. Dr. Gypson's son graduated in the class of '89. (See page 16.)

Members of the Gold Diploma Class of '39 and their marshals photographed at Commencement: Michael Antonelli '82, marshal, Charles Ruvolo, Francis Gagliardi, Frank Romano, Rudolph D'Amato, Thomas Caceci, Saul Schwartz '30, marshal, Joseph Catania, George Mastellone, Irving Behr, Harold Jellinek, Rosano Gualtieri, Mario Mondello, Frederick Clarke, and Anthony La Sala.
FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION '89 YIELDS BUMPER CROP

An increasingly prominent feature of NYMC alumni/ae weekends is the presence of family groups in which one or more parents, children, and even grandchildren are graduates of the College. The Class of '89 included a bumper crop of alumni offspring. On these pages Chironian presents brief sketches of 12 of these intergenerational families.

Beth Piper

In her first year at NYMC Beth Piper '89 and a group of her classmates were returning from spring break in Florida when their van was in a bad accident. Beth was hospitalized with such critical injuries that the continuation of her medical training was in doubt. And even if she were able to return to school eventually, it seemed impossible that she would graduate with her class. But the story has a happy ending.

At the Senior Honors program last June 4, Beth Piper was honored with the annual award given by the Board of Trustees to a graduating student who, "through inner strength and determination, has succeeded in meeting and overcoming unusually difficult and testing challenges in the course of earning a medical degree."

Dr. Piper is now doing a preliminary year in internal medicine at Cabrini Medical Center in New York and is applying for a residency in ophthalmology, the field in which her father specializes.

Frank Piper '58, whose first love was always ophthalmology, spent ten years in general practice before returning to graduate training in a three-year ophthalmologic residency at Albany Medical Center. "I would have done it much sooner," he says. "But with three kids, a dog, and two cats, I couldn't afford the time." Since completing the residency he has been in the private practice of ophthalmology in Syracuse, NY. He is a clinical associate professor of ophthalmology at SUNY-Upstate Medical Center and is a past president of the New York State Ophthalmologic Society. He is married to Tam Piper, a graduate of Flower Nursing School, whom he met when they were both students.

Robert Pataki

Robert Pataki '89 is enjoying the first year of a three-year residency in family practice at Wheeling Hospital in West Virginia. It is a small group program, he reports, that involves a lot of patient contact. He and his wife, Jeanne Pataki, who has a master's degree in medical biology, like the area, plan to stay there, and recently bought a house. One of Wheeling's attractions for them is that it is only an hour's drive from the Pennsylvania home of Robert's parents, Judith and Richard Pataki. In addition to Robert, the Patakis have another son, Ira, now at Northwestern University Law School.

For the past 14 years Richard Pataki '62 has been a pathologist at Washington Hospital in Washington, PA. He has served as president of both the Pittsburgh Pathology Society and the Washington County Medical Society and is again president-elect of the latter organization. A regular participant in the Alumni Association's CME programs, he has lectured at these meetings on topics ranging from autopsy findings and blood banking to military medicine.

In addition to being intergenerational graduates of NYMC, both Drs. Pataki are alumni of Columbia University.

Corinne Tobin

Corinne Tobin '89 is the fourth member of her immediate family to graduate from NYMC. She follows her father, Seymour Tobin '52, her sister Kathy '84, and brother, Keith '85. Seymour and Gloria Tobin say that medicine was always part of their children's lives, particularly since his office is connected to their family home on Long Island. "I have been in family practice ever since the completion of my training, sometimes working up to 20 hours a day," he says. "The children lived with medicine, and my complete enjoyment of my work rubbed off on them."

Kathy Tobin took residency in radiology at Winthrop Hospital in Mineola, NY, followed by a fellowship in body imaging and CT scanning at SUNY-Stony Brook. Now an assistant professor of radiology at NYMC, she is on the radiology staff at Metropolitan Hospital. Keith Tobin is a third-year radiology resident at Lenox Hill Hospital.

A Yale graduate, Corinne Tobin has also chosen to specialize in radiology. Now a resident in internal medicine at Beth Israel in New York, she has been accepted for a radiology residency at Albert Einstein. She and David Ritterband '90 plan to be married next September.

"It's interesting that all three of the children have opted for radiology," Seymour Tobin comments. "There's so much that's new and innovative in that field. They should find it very rewarding."

Robert Antonelle

Robert Antonelle '89 has known since childhood that he wanted to be a doctor. "I saw what my Dad did when I spent time with him in the office, and he often brought home slides and reports that we would talk about," he recalls. He took his premedical degree at Notre Dame and is currently doing a year of internal medicine at Westchester County Medical Center. "I'll be taking my further graduate training in gastroenterology," he says, "and I hope some day to be doing the same level of work as my Dad."

Michael Antonelle '62 came to his specialty at the moment of revolutionary change in gastroenterology, effected by the introduction of the flexible endoscope. "I had completed my training in gastroenterology with a residency and an NIH.
fellowship at Flower and Met when modern endoscopy came into its own," he says. "When I began practice in Westchester in 1968, I was one of the first in the area to use the new instrument.

Michael and Kathy Antonelle met at New York University, where he was taking a bachelor's degree and she was taking her degree in physical therapy. Subsequently, she was a physical therapist at Metropolitan and Flower. The Antonelles' children, in addition to Robert, are Jean, Michael, and Helen.

A fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology, Michael Antonelle is president of the medical staff at St. Agnes Hospital in White Plains, NY. He is currently president-elect of the Alumni Association and editor of the Chironian.

Margo Aswad
When she was a little girl Margo Aswad '89 looked with trepidation at her mother's sewing machine with its needle and black thread and thought "That's what they use on you if you get a cut and go to the hospital to be sewn up." A career in medicine was far from her thoughts. Today she is in the first year of a five-year residency in surgery at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York and loving it. "I knew from the first day of my surgical rotation that this was the greatest thing," she says.

Margo's parents are Joanne Aswad, who has a B.S. in nursing, and Charles Aswad '57, who is boarded and recertified in family practice. He was a founder 25 years ago of Physicians Service Associates, the first group of private physicians to enter into the full-time practice of emergency medicine. "It has been in continuous operation," he says, "providing 24-hour coverage for the full-time practice of emergency medicine. "It's our own," he says. "When I began practice in Westchester in 1968, I was one of the first in the area to use the new instrument."

Charles Aswad is a past president of the New York State Academy of Family Physicians and is currently vice president of the New York State Medical Society. He and his wife live in Binghamton. They have four daughters in addition to Margo.

John Fox '89 says that he "sort of fell into medicine" while in college. "I enjoyed my science courses and realized that the only kind of career I wanted was one that would involve both science and contact with people."

Now in the first year of a three-year residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel in New York, John speaks enthusiastically of the program. "It's a good residency," he says. "We get a great concentration of clinical exposure, particularly in unit work in both medical and cardiac intensive care."

John's mother is Marie (Pulda) Fox '51, who combined a career in medicine with family life that has included her physician-husband, James Fox, an obstetrician and gynecologist, and their eight children. After the youngest of the children started school she accepted an appointment in the emergency room at Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, NJ, where she remained for 14 years, retiring as chief of emergency medicine three years ago.

Henry deBlasi
While an undergraduate student at Fordham University, Henry deBlasi '89 decided to follow the career path of his namesake. He is currently doing a residency in general surgery at St. Vincent's in New York in preparation for further training in otolaryngology and head and neck surgery.

Henry was elected to AOA in his junior year at NYMC. "He's very keen and quick," says his father, Henry deBlasi '55, who adds, "he must have inherited it from my wife."

The senior Henry deBlasi is chief of breast surgery at Metropolitan Hospital in New York, where he has been on the attending staff for 22 years. Some 10 years ago he became particularly interested in tumor work and the management of patients with cancer, and he speaks with pride of the care given in the breast service and clinic: "We see patients very early, not only referrals, but also those who come to us directly. Close to half our patients are women who walk in and say 'I feel a lump.' We see them promptly and we follow them forever."

His wife, Virginia deBlasi, teaches English at Evander Childs High School in the Bronx. The deBlasis have a daughter and another son in addition to Henry.

Lauralyn Frederickson
Elected to AOA in her junior year, Lauralyn Frederickson '89 is presently taking an internship in medicine at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York, which she describes as "a good place." She is planning a career in psychiatry and will start the three-year training program at St. Luke's-Roosevelt, also in New York, next June. "I'm interested in the way the human mind works -- how people think and why they think as they do -- and I look forward to learning and then putting what I learned into practice," she said.

"My father always told me that in medicine I could become whatever I wanted to and that the options are endless," she says. "Seeing him function as a doctor always filled me with respect for him and for the profession. And now, at St. Vincent's, I feel that I'm doing what I've always wanted to do."

Laurie's father, Robert Frederickson '51, a general surgeon, took five years of postgraduate training, the first three at Hartford Hospital, the fourth at Memorial Center in New York, and the final year again at Hartford Hospital. Since completing that training in 1956 he has been in solo practice in Hartford. He is on the attending staff of Hartford Hospital, and is an assistant clinical professor of surgery at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine in Farmington.
Generations: continued

Robert Carrellas

Robert Carrellas '89 is taking a three-year family practice residency at Middlesex Memorial Hospital in Middletown, CT. "I really lucked out" he says. "We work hard but are really happy. Everyone chips in, making the training program a good and enjoyable learning experience."

"Medicine was always in the back of my mind, having watched my Dad through the years, but I took time out after graduation from the University of Rhode Island to do commercial fishing and some construction work before entering medical school. My wife, Mimi, is a health and physical education teacher, and we're both enjoying our work and life here in Connecticut," he says.

Anthony Carrellas '49, Robert's father, has been in the solo practice of pediatrics in Newport, RI, since finishing his postgraduate training in 1955. "My wife, Mary Lou, and I have three daughters and two sons," he said. "Ann is in the Peace Corps in Africa, Joan is in public health in Michigan, Pat is a junior at the University of Rhode Island, and David has just completed an M.B.A. at the same university.

"Solo practice of pediatrics can be pretty time consuming and between the work and the family, we've been busy. But it's all been very good. Now we're taking some time to travel," Dr. Carrellas added, "and we're just back from Italy."

Ward Glenn Gypson III

Three generations of the Gypson/Clarke family were active participants in the College's homecoming weekend. Frederick Clarke '39 received a gold diploma, marking his 50th anniversary as a physician. Ward G. Gypson Jr. '59 marked 30 years in the profession, and Ward Glenn Gypson III '89 was awarded his M.D. degree.

Dr. Clarke, now retired from practice and living in Florida, was especially pleased to see his great-nephew enter the medical profession during ceremonies at which his own professional life of half a century were honored.

Ward G. Gypson Jr. enjoyed being part of the family threesome on this memorable weekend. He has been in private practice in Bronxville, NY, since completing service in the U.S. Navy and a tour at the Naval Hospital at Annapolis, which he concluded at chief of ob/gyn. A former director of ob/gyn at Lawrence Hospital in Bronxville, he continues on the attending staff, and now limits his practice to gynecology. Active in the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, he is also treasurer of the Westchester Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, and traveled to Ireland in October for the meeting of the ACOG District II.

Ward Glenn Gypson III has chosen the path of physical medicine and rehabilitation on which to follow the family tradition in medicine. He is currently in the first year of a four-year program at the University of California-Irvine Medical Center, which he is enjoying greatly.

Beverly Giannotto

Beverly Giannotto '89 brings a love of ice skating and the dance to her choice of the path she will follow in her medical career. "I've been in ice shows and competitive skating and in ballet and jazz dancing, and have also known since my high school days that I wanted to be a doctor. Now I know that the place for me is in physical medicine and rehabilitation, which combines my interests very well. If I needed any reinforcement of that feeling I found it when I took a job one summer at Blythedale Children's Hospital, which is just around the corner from the medical college, and where the world of rehab is very real."

Anthony Giannotto '44 acknowledges being a bit surprised when Beverly said she wanted to become a physician. Two of my children followed me to the University of Pennsylvania, and my son Ronald graduated from our medical school's class of '84, but, frankly, Beverly's decision came as a surprise--a very pleasant one --and Bernice and I are very proud, as we are of all our children. Ronald is in group practice of anesthesiology in Stamford, CT, and on the staff of Stamford Hospital. My son Jeffrey graduated from Seton Hall College and has taken a different course. He drives for a bus company.

"I'm retired now after my many years as a family physician. I delivered hundreds of babies, cared for them as they grew up, and then cared for their children. My patients are disappointed about my retirement, and I miss them," he says, adding, "once a doctor, always a doctor."

Lee Angioletti

"I am fortunate to have had my grandfather as my role model," says Lee Angioletti '89 of the late Louis Angioletti '38. "I have great respect for him and the doctors of his generation. He was a caring, dedicated physician, and although he was deeply devoted to his family, he spent many long hours away from home treating those in need of his care. As a teenager I would make rounds with him and later with my Uncle Lou (Louis Angioletti '66) who has the same gentle, caring way with his patients that my grandfather had."

Lee did his undergraduate work at Manhattan College and, as a student at NYMC, was elected to AOA. Presently he is in his first year of postgraduate training in medicine at Darbury Hospital in Connecticut, where he and his wife, Dianne Angioletti, a mechanical engineer, are now living. Next summer he will start a residency in ophthalmology at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Lee's parents, Lee N. and Barbara Angioletti, have another son who is a physician and a daughter who is also studying medicine. The caring, dedicated physician whose descendants to the third generation have followed in his footsteps—Louis Angioletti '38—died July 27, 1989.
In Memoriam

Frederick Margaretten '21, a retired practitioner of obstetrics and gynecology, died on May 4, 1989. A native of Hungary, he came to the U.S. as a young child. After completing his medical education he helped to found Israel Zion Hospital, Brooklyn, which later became Maimonides Medical Center. He was the first electron microscope at NYMC and was a recipient of the Medal of Honor of the Alumni Association. He is survived by his wife, Dorothea Angioletti, Drs. Angioletti's family and friends of the deceased.

Julius Blankfein '28, who practiced internal medicine in Flushing, NY, until 1983 and was a former president of the NYMC Alumni Association, died on June 2, 1989. For many years he was an attending physician at Queens General Hospital, where he was recognized as an inspiring teacher of interns and residents. He was also a founder, past president, and chairman of the board of Physicians Hospital in Jackson Heights.

A Yale graduate, he served on the university’s alumni board and was a founder and president of the Yale Alumni Club of Queens. He was also active in Jewish philanthropy.

In the 1950’s Dr. Blankfein was instrumental in obtaining the first electron microscope at NYMC and was a recipient of the Medal of Honor of the Alumni Association. He is survived by his wife, Freida Blankfein, and two sons, Richard Blankfein and Robert Blankfein '58.

Elsie (Kraemer) Snell '33, a family practitioner in Amherst, OH, died on June 17, 1989. She was the first president of Amherst Hospital when it was established in 1948 and had also been on the staffs of Lorain (OH) Community Hospital and Womens Hospital, Cleveland. She was predeceased by her husband, a physician.

Louis Angioletti '38, a family physician in Fort Lee, NJ, and formerly director of surgical clinics and chief of the general practice department of Englewood Hospital, died on July 27, 1989.

During World War II, Dr. Angioletti was commanding officer and surgeon of an Army hospital platoon that took part in the U.S. invasion of North Africa. He returned from military service with four Bronze Stars and a Presidential Distinguished Unit Citation.

A graduate of Manhattan College, he completed his postgraduate medical training at Englewood Hospital. During his nearly five decades of practice he was the recipient of many honors, including the New Jersey Medical Society’s Golden Merit Award. In addition to his wife, Dorothea Angioletti, Dr. Angioletti’s survivors include his sons Louis Angioletti '66 and Lee Angioletti, father of Lee Angioletti '89.

Michael Antopol '69, a cardiothoracic surgeon and a U.S. Army colonel, died August 8, 1989, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center following an acute myocardial infarction and coronary artery bypass grafting. He was 49.

In 1987, Col. Antopol was named commanding officer of Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, TX, where he had previously served as chief of surgery and director of medical education. Last summer he went to Washington as a special assistant to the Surgeon General of the Army and was scheduled to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces when he was stricken.

A graduate of Johns Hopkins University with an M.S. degree from New York University, Dr. Antopol served in Vietnam after graduating from NYMC. He did his postgraduate medical training at Letterman Army Medical Center, SF.

A fellow of the American College of Thoracic Surgery, he held academic appointments that included clinical professor of surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio. He is survived by his wife, Lt. Col. Beverly Belew Antopol, Army Nurse Corps.

Rebecca Gray '80, who practiced obstetrics and gynecology in Wantagh, NY, died December 4, 1988, after a four-year battle with multiple cancers. She was 35.

A cum laude graduate of Barnard College, she completed her postgraduate training at Nassau County Medical Center.

Her husband, Christopher Puca '80, wrote, "My wife was an exceptionally courageous young doctor...During her remissions, she devoted her energies whole-heartedly to her family and to her career." She continued to work until five days before she died. In addition to her husband, her survivors include their son, Zachary.

The Alumni Association reports with regret the death on August 20, 1989, of a good friend, Joseph C. Addonizio, M.D., professor and chairman of the NYMC Department of Neurology. He was 59 and had been a member of the faculty for 30 years.

Under his leadership the department expanded, advanced, and became recognized nationally and internationally. Most recently he was instrumental in acquiring a state-of-the-art lithotripter that will soon be available for patient care.

Earlier this year Dr. Addonizio was named president of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Information for "In Memoriam" comes from a number of sources including notices in JAMA and letters to the Alumni Association from family or friends of the deceased.

If you should learn of the death of a classmate or graduate please send word to the Alumni Association so that appropriate action can be taken.
Annual Fund Honor Roll

Following are the names of alumni and alumnae who contributed to the Annual Fund Campaign for the fiscal year July 1, 1988 – June 30, 1989.
## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday January 20, 1990</td>
<td>Southern California Chapter meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3-10, 1990</td>
<td>Winter Seminar VII Cruise and CME Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday March 24, 1990</td>
<td>Florida Chapter Meeting and CME Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday April 7, 1990</td>
<td>Greater Washington, DC Chapter meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday April 21, 1990</td>
<td>New England Chapter Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday May 2, 1990</td>
<td>Westchester Chapter meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday May 9, 1990</td>
<td>Alumni Association Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>June 1 - June 4, 1990</strong></td>
<td><strong>Alumni/Alumnae Weekend</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday June 1, 1990</td>
<td>25-Year Reunion, Class of 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday June 2, 1990</td>
<td>Annual Banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday June 4, 1990</td>
<td>NYMC Commencement Class of 1940 Luncheon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1989 meetings of the New York/New Jersey and Connecticut Chapters were held in November.