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Cover: Graduates of classes spanning 45 years enjoyed the milestone reunion luncheon at the Alumni Center. Pictured from top-left to bottom-right are members of ’51, ’46, ’56, and ’91.

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Dear Colleagues,

At the October meeting of the NYMC Board of Trustees, John Cardinal O’Connor, Archbishop of New York, spoke to the trustees for the first time since the Archdiocese of New York became the sponsor of NYMC. While His Eminence reiterated that the Archdiocese has no intent of directly managing the University, he reaffirmed the guiding principles he had originally presented to the faculty and staff at a meeting in 1986. These are:

1. Professional Excellence: From the students, faculty, staff, and by implication, the alumni. Nothing less is acceptable.
2. Do no harm, as stated in the Hippocratic Oath that we all have taken. This does not mean prolonging the life of the terminally ill by artificial means, nor does it imply withholding medication that would make the patient comfortable. It does mean that the physician is not to be the instrument of the patient’s death.
3. Provide quality care to the underserved, the homeless, the indigent, the uninsured, “the poorest of the poor”.
4. Respect the dignity and the sacredness of all human life, including the unborn.

As I write this message, there are two major issues facing the medical and legal professions. Congress recently failed to override President Clinton’s veto of the bill banning third trimester partial-birth (or live birth) abortions, and the Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments about physician assisted suicides (?) euthanasia).

We have all heard of atrocities accompanying these procedures here and abroad, and aside from the moral and ethical aspects involved, when one considers the money spent on neonatal units struggling to keep tiny fetuses alive and on oncology units providing bone marrow transplants to patients with metastatic disease, it seems foolish to turn around and destroy these same lives we are trying so hard to save!

As these matters are being discussed in our governing bodies, they must surely occupy the thoughts of physicians. Because of the importance of these issues and their long term implications, it behooves each of us to take a stand on these matters and voice our opinions among our colleagues and to our governmental and medical leaders. As in the past, Chironian invites your responses to these sensitive subjects.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Antonelle ’62
The Golf Benefit: A Welcome Prelude to a Wonderful Weekend

NYMC's Reunion Weekend is a vital phenomenon, reflecting the change and growth that befits a dynamic medical school. In 1996, the traditional weekend was extended to begin Thursday morning, May 16, with the Alumni Association's Golf Benefit, which in itself makes an important contribution to student life.

The Golf Benefit, sponsored by the Westchester Chapter, supports medical student activities. Since its inception in 1991, it has gained an enviable reputation: word has spread that participants are excellent golfers, that tournaments are held at country clubs boasting superb courses, and that golfers end the day with a pleasant cocktail hour and dinner during which they review their puts, swings, birdies—and perhaps not so happily their bogies—as they replay the tournament. The reputation of the annual event is further enhanced by the presentation of great prizes for the winning scores and a drawing for highly desirable raffle prizes.

This year's tournament lacked only one element: in place of sun, the day began overcast. A mist soon turned to a drizzle in which the registrants continued to play until the ground became so wet that the event was canceled. But the group showed its sporting spirit by coming in out of the rain cheerfully and using the time to socialize. From the sounds of laughter and the enthusiasm with which the distribution of prizes was greeted, it was clear the day was a success.

One member of the Association's Benefit Committee quipped that this year an "s" had been left out of the Westchester Chapter, making it WETchester Chapter. But in truth, Westchester alumnae/i are a bright, sunny group; their sponsorship is greatly appreciated; and the 1996 Golf Benefit served as a welcome prelude to the weekend events.

Silver Casts Its Spell on the Class of '71

Silver is a metal known for its luster and longevity. Appropriately, the 25th anniversary reunion of the Class of '71, held Friday evening, May 17, was enveloped in a lustrous glow, made radiant by the good looks and smiles of class members and their guests.

The cocktail party and dinner were held on the roof of Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center, the building at Fifth Avenue and 105th Street in Manhattan known as "Flower" to the class during their student years.

From the moment the graduates picked up badge buttons laminated with their yearbook pictures until they said good night, it was obvious they were delighted to be together. Their merry greetings mellowed through the cocktail time, and lively conversation continued at and between tables attractively set for dinner under a large tent.

Fully entering into the mood of the evening, Joseph Dursi '59, Alumni Association chair of special events, Lucille Giardina-Tavema, chair of the Class of '71 Reunion, and Msgr. Harry C. Barrett, University president and chief executive officer, offered words of welcome interspersed with light-hearted humor.

The distribution of impressive silver certificates recognizing a quarter century of service in the medical profession highlights the 25-year reunion of each class. This year the presentation of certificates was a "first" for Ralph A. O'Connell, M.D., whose dual appointment as University provost and dean of New York Medical College became effective January 1, 1996. Throughout the presentations cheers rang out for each graduate. These were followed by quieter but no less happy sounds of recollection and reminiscence until late in the evening, when the departing guests wished one another continuing success and looked forward to other milestone reunions on the path toward their golden anniversary in 2021.
The Annual Banquet: Savoring the Past, Anticipating the Future

Of the many gala functions held in New York Saturday evening, May 18, 1996, none could have brought more pleasure to the guests than our Alumni Association’s Annual Banquet at The Plaza, one of the world’s premier hotels. All the elements that make for a great event were in place. The convivial ambiance started with the receiving line at the cocktail reception and was manifest throughout the evening as alumni/ae of classes from ’46 to ’91 celebrated their special anniversaries, while the members of the Class of ’96 rejoiced in anticipation of their coming Commencement.

Graduates savored recollections of experiences as medical students, cheered on the incoming alums, and joined enthusiastically in paying tribute to colleagues who were honored for special achievements. There was pleasure for everyone in the fine wine, gourmet banquet, and exuberant dancing to lively music—all intermixed during the evening so effectively planned by Alumni Association President Michael A. Antonelle ’62 and Alumni Relations Director Julie Kubaska.

Returning to her table from the dance floor, Kathleen Nelson ’71 expressed the feeling that permeated the party. “This is such a wonderful evening,” she said with a glowing smile, “It should go on forever.”

Dr. Nelson was one of her classmate Rudolph Taddonio were awarded citations for their distinguished achievements. Dr. Nelson is professor of pediatrics and associate dean for students at the University of Alabama School of Medicine. Dr. Taddonio is professor of orthopaedic surgery at NYMC.

The Association’s Medal of Honor for 1996 was presented to Fred Epstein ’63, pioneering pediatric neurosurgeon, who is chairman of the Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery and director of neurosurgery at Beth Israel Hospital Medical Center in New York. In addition, special recognition was accorded Rita Girolamo ’51, professor of radiology and a former president of the Alumni Association, who retired at the close of the academic year after a most distinguished career spent entirely at NYMC.

After the presentation of honors by Dr. Antonelle and the Association’s immediate past president, Louis E. Fierro ’60, the honorees responded to enthusiastic applause. Dr. Antonelle then exhorted the assembled company to “continue to enjoy the banquet, the dancing, and the good fellowship of the evening.” Not surprisingly, this instruction was followed to the letter until, hours later, when the guests went their separate ways to the sound of music and vibrant “good nights.”
The Milestone Reunions: A True Homecoming

The celebration of milestone anniversaries, introduced after the opening of the Alumni Center in 1983, has become increasingly popular. On Sunday, May 19, graduates and their families from many parts of the country gathered at the Center for reunions of classes spanning 45 years. Some of the more recent alums were also accompanied by small persons who might become candidates for admission to the Medical College some time in the next century.

Msgr. Barrett spoke warm words of greeting to the alumni and their guests during Sunday's milestone reunion luncheon.

The day's program began with drinks and hors d'oeuvres as guests gathered, greeted one another with the enthusiasm of long-lost friends, and visited with University President Msgr. Harry C. Barrett and Alumni Association President Michael A. Antonelle '62, both of whom extended a warm welcome to the assembly at the start of the luncheon.

Seated according to class years at tables set invitingly under a large tent, the guests enjoyed conversational interchange of news and views, pausing just long enough to be photographed between courses for the pictures appearing on these pages.

A feature of the milestone reunions is the opportunity given to graduates and their guests to get a close-up view of campus buildings and facilities. Student volunteers guide the tours, which are of two types—bus and walking. The guides this year were Mitchell Cortines '98 and Gregory Friberg '99 on the bus tour, and Tricia Shea and Jonathan Reidel, both '99, on the walking tour.

The tours were pronounced a pleasant and informative part of the day, and the four students were given high marks for their knowledge, insights, and the gracious manner in which they presented their medical school.

Back at the Alumni Center, guests preparing to leave the campus described the day's experience as "a wonderful renewal of friendship," "an exciting view of the College today," and "a true homecoming." Once again, alumni/i had returned to the place they helped to create through their generous support; the deeply welcoming Alumni Center that, in a very special sense, will always be home.
For the Class of ’46: Rewarding Moments on a Golden Day

Graduates of the Class of ’46 who came together on Commencement Day, Monday, May 20, brought with them a special aura that surrounds the celebration of a golden anniversary.

The day’s program included a festive luncheon in their honor at the New York Athletic Club, where they received hearty congratulations from University President Barrett and Alumni Association President Antonelle. A short walk following lunch took them to Carnegie Hall. There they were presented with gold diplomas to the vigorous applause of the multitude that filled the hall for New York Medical College’s 137th Commencement ceremony.

An eloquent assessment of the golden day came from class member Elizabeth Shanks, who wrote Dr. Antonelle a beautiful letter, excerpted here:

“What a pleasure it was to attend the 50th reunion of the Class of 1946—pleasure enhanced by the careful planning of you and your staff. The whole atmosphere was one that projected ‘Welcome home,’ with even a sense of spiritual blessing.

“What perfect timing! Time enough for us all to meet and greet each other; time enough to enjoy a delicious luncheon; time enough for us to walk unhurried, as a group, to Carnegie Hall and, once there; time enough to robe.

“Of course, seeing my classmates again was exciting. Although no longer young, they seemed to have gained in stature and character; their wrinkles expressed kindness; their manner expressed a lifetime of dedication to the ideals of the College.

“Simply put, thank you.”

To which Dr. Antonelle and the staff reply: “Thanks to you and your classmates, Dr. Shanks. You bring honor to your Medical College.”


From a Student to Graduates:
A Message of Thanks

“The financial contributions of NYMC graduates to the Medical College directly impact the performance of its students and the College’s reputation,” Mitchell Cortines ’98 told Chironian in a conversation following Reunion Weekend. Mitch was one of four students who volunteered to lead campus tours arranged by the Alumni Association for alumni/ae and their guests on Sunday, May 19.

“The expression ‘The more things change, the more they stay the same’ surely holds here,” Mitch said. “There’s as much hard work to learning today as there ever was. It’s still your brain that must absorb information and make it your own. The difference is that state-of-the-art technology allows us much more time for study and—after study—for sports, clubs, and recreation that renew the zest for learning. We have the tools for learning at our fingertips, and we appreciate the role of those who went before us in making those tools available. For example, there’s no waiting at a library card catalog, no need to consult Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature. Thanks in large measure to support by the graduates for the Computer Center and the Library, we now have whole textbooks instantly available on our computers.

“We also don’t have to endure hardships in lifestyle our predecessors confronted. Having good housing minutes away from classes saves time. Everything is close at hand on campus. We can focus on the reason we’re here—to learn. And that, the results show, is what’s happening.

“New York Medical College had a one hundred percent pass on the National Boards this year. You won’t find that at Harvard,” Mitch continued. “Our graduates should definitely take pride in this achievement and in their contributions to the enhanced reputation of their medical school.”
Achievements. In addition, Rita Girolamo '51 received special recognition.

NYMC graduates honored by the Alumni Association at the annual banquet on May 18 were Fred J. Epstein '63, recipient of the Association's 1996 Medal of Honor, Kathleen Nelson '71 and Rudolph Taddejnio '71, who were awarded Citations for Distinguished Achievements. In addition, Rita Girolamo '51 received special recognition.

Fred J. Epstein '63
Chairman of the Division of Neurology of Beth Israel Medical Center and Director of the Institute for Neurology and Neurosurgery.

During his three decades as a pediatric neurosurgeon Fred J. Epstein has saved the lives of thousands of children whose medical conditions had been considered hopeless. He accomplishes these feats through the application of the techniques he has created for the treatment of brain and nervous system tumors, and he combines his surgical skills with the deep and profound compassion that underscores all his work.

Driven by that compassion Dr. Epstein has increasingly felt the need to provide an environment for his patients and their families that would make their hospital experience tolerable. A dream has been taking shape within him to create an ambience for his patients appropriate to their needs. When the opportunity came this year to realize that dream, Dr. Epstein left New York University Medical Center, his professional home for the past 30 years. He and his colleague, Dr. Alejandro Berenstein, a renowned neuroradiologist, accepted the offer of Beth Israel Medical Center to develop a state-of-the-art neuroscience center, designed to their exact specifications. The new five-story Institute is part of Beth Israel's North Division, located on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

After graduation from NYMC Fred Epstein started post-graduate training with surgical internship at Montefiore Hospital, followed by five years of neurological residency at New York University Medical Center-Bellevue Division, from 1965 to 1970, when he was appointed to the faculty as an assistant professor. He was promoted to full professor in 1983 and in 1985 was named Director of the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery, the post he held until he left the Medical Center.

Dr. Epstein pioneered the founding and development of the specialty of neurosurgery; in 1978 he was one of the founders of the American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery, which he later served in several positions including president. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Pediatric Neurosurgery and has co-authored more than 150 publications as well as the book, Gifts of Time, with Elaine Shimberg, "the human story of his work."

In his response to the presentation of the Alumni Association's Medal of Honor, Dr. Epstein spoke of "the fine education he had received at New York Medical College and noted that his classmates and NYMC colleagues have made many important contributions to medicine. In words directed especially to the Class of '96, who would become physicians in scarcely 48 hours, he spoke of the severe learning disability from which he had suffered and which went undiagnosed for a long time. "It made me try harder," he said, "and somehow kept me from fearing failure." He exhorted the students not to let fear of failing stop them from aspiring to high goals, and to meet head-on the challenges that will confront them, and above all to keep always the feeling of passion for the profession they have chosen.

The citation accompanying Dr. Epstein's medal read, in part, "With your unique blending of science, technology, and humanity you have given desperately sick children and their families, who come to you as their last resort, the gifts of time, hope, and life itself..."

Fred Epstein and his wife, Kathy, have five children, Samara, Ilana, Jason, Joseph, and Benjamin.

Kathleen Nelson '71
Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Dean for Students, University of Alabama School of Medicine at Birmingham.

"Changes and new challenges face physicians today," Kathleen Nelson said in accepting her citation, "but what has not changed—and what I am privileged to see in my job as dean of students—is the continued dedication and commitment of a medical student to the care of a patient, along with the altruistic motivation and the scientific curiosity that, even now, stimulate the best and brightest to desire careers in medicine."

Dr. Nelson's belief in her students is the keystone of her work in helping them prepare for the challenges facing physicians today. One area in which she has a special interest is cultural awareness, and she has developed a Student Cultural Enrichment Program in which students volunteer to work and study in hospitals and clinics in underserved areas both in the U.S. and abroad. During the past summer students participated in the program in Africa, the Caribbean, and Russia. "The program gives real-life work experience and a view outside the typical classroom or hospital," Dr. Nelson says, "broadening students' perspectives on both people and medicine."

Another program she initiated opens doors for nontraditional students, whether they be of a minority group, from rural areas, or older students embarking on second careers. Many of these nontraditional students bring different points of view to medicine and the doctor-patient relationship, she points out, as well as clearly defined goals.

Kathleen Nelson was herself a nontraditional student when she transferred from the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania to NYMC in 1968, one of eight women in a class of 120. She went on to win high academic honors, including election to AOA and the top award in pediatrics. She interned at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles and did her pediatric residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital. In 1976 she completed a fellowship as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Yale and was appointed to the faculty of the University of Alabama School of Medicine.

As a pediatrician, Dr. Nelson has directed a number of important programs at Alabama and her work has been supported by grants totaling $20 million. One grant, for which she is program director, supports primary care residency training in general pediatrics. Another, for which she is co-investigator, is for follow-up studies of fetal growth and perinatal outcome in extremely low-birth-weight babies.

Kathleen Nelson has worked at the national, regional, and local levels in organizations representing high standards and progress in the fields of her concern. Awarded a fellowship in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) in 1978, she has been actively involved in committee work of the Academy's Alabama Chapter, including service since 1991 on its Committee of Adoptions and Dependent Care and, at the national level, as a member of the AAP's Committee on Pediatric Workforce. She is a member of the board of directors of the North Central Alabama Chapter of the National S.I.D.S. Foundation, is medical advisor of the chapter, and serves on the Perinatal Advisory Committee of the Alabama State Department of Health. She is also on the editorial board of Pediatrics, and is a reviewer for the Journal of Pediatrics.
The citation presented to Dr. Nelson noted that "the honors you won as a medical student were accurate predictors of your accomplishments as pediatrician, teacher, and scientific investigator. . . . in tribute to the creativity, commitment, and wisdom you bring to the preparation of tomorrow's physicians, your fellow graduates take pleasure in honoring you on the 25th anniversary of your Medical College Commencement."

Dr. Nelson is married to Robert L. Goldenberg, M.D. They have three children: Matthew, 18; David, 16; and Kera, 10.

Rudolph Taddonio '71

Director of the Scoliosis and Spinal Surgery Section, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Westchester County Medical Center; Clinical Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, New York Medical College.

For Rudolph Taddonio, the most rewarding part of his work as an orthopaedic spinal surgeon is seeing its results in his patients, both children and adults, who have scoliosis. “Most of the time the surgery changes their lives,” he says. “Pain goes away. If there is deformity, it is improved; self-esteem is improved; and function is improved. There is great gratification in seeing this happen.”

Dr. Taddonio’s preparation for his outstanding work in his specialty began in Italy with four years of study at the Medical School of the University of Bologna. He came to NYMC in 1969, where he completed the course for the M.D. degree in two years. Following his internship, residency in orthopaedic surgery, and chief residency in orthopaedics, all at Metropolitan Hospital, the University of Illinois College of Medicine awarded him a fellowship in spine surgery, which he served in Chicago at Rush Presbyterian, St. Luke’s Hospital, and Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children.

He was appointed to the faculty of Louisiana State University School of Medicine in 1977 as assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery and director of the research fellowship in spinal surgery. Four years later he joined the faculty of NYMC and the staff of Westchester County Medical Center, where he is now an attending physician in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in addition to directing the Scoliosis and Spinal Surgery Section.

Widely recognized for the remarkable skill with which he applies his comprehensive academic and clinical training, Dr. Taddonio has been actively engaged in research and is currently working on the outcomes of the bracing of children with scoliosis. He is also involved with an exciting new technology using stereotactic equipment that makes it possible to instrument the spine more precisely. He has published extensively on his work as author or co-author of journal articles and abstracts and has made more than 100 academic presentations.

The citation accompanying Dr. Taddonio’s Distinguished Achievement Award read, in part, “Your global practice of spinal surgery calls forth your unique skill in the management of scoliosis and other complex problems of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbosacral spine in children and adults. Your help in the development of instruments and implants adds significantly to the surgical armamentarium, as does your generous sharing of your expertise through teaching and publication.”

In his acceptance remarks, Dr. Taddonio told the banquet guests that he was humbled by the citation and felt, in fact, that all his classmates deserved to be honored. “I thank the Medical College for my education,” he said, “and I’m happy to be continuing with the teaching of residents at Westchester County Medical Center, a commitment I find deeply stimulating.” He then thanked his parents, his wife, and their children, all of whom were present, for their loving support of his life’s work.

Rudolph and Karin Taddonio have three children: Meegan, 13; Brad, 11; and Julia, 10.

Rita Girolamo '51

Professor Emeritus of Radiology, NYMC.

Throughout the distinguished career from which she retired in June 1996, Rita Girolamo was at the cutting edge of advances in medical science and education.

Often described as a “Renaissance woman,” she came to NYMC after graduating from Barnard College, where she studied science and math, the arts, speech, and drama. As a medical student, she was drawn to radiology by the strong curriculum of the College’s Department of Radiology and its dynamic chairman, Frank Borrelli ’33, NYMC’s hospital, “Flower,” was at the height of the art of radiology and had the first image intensifier installed in New York, the third in the country. The department was a single unit, incorporating diagnosis, radiation therapy, and the new field of nuclear medicine, called radioisotopes until the 1950’s.

During her residency at St. Vincent’s in New York, Dr. Girolamo took an M.S. degree in radiology and was subsequently certified by both the American Board of Nuclear Medicine and the American College of Radiology. Still another of her interests was the new technique of mammography, which she learned by working with two physicians who continued to be outstanding leaders in the field, Henry Leilis ’41 and Maurice Black ’43. Mammography was surrounded by a mystique in those early days, and Dr. Girolamo tells of the “500 Club,” of which she became a member, “One could be admitted only after having done 500 mammograms,” she recalls, “It was felt you had to do at least that many in order to know what you were seeing.”

On completing her residency Dr. Girolamo joined the NYMC faculty and was named professor of radiology in 1966. The following year, when the century-long association of the College and Metropolitan Hospital was formalized in an affiliation contract, she was appointed chief of the radiology service at Met. In another pioneering step, she was the first woman to be elected president of Metropolitan’s Medical Board.

In 1981 she entered another career path when she was named associate dean for students, contributing her insights and wisdom to student issues, both curricular and extra-curricular. Asked at the start by Dr. Samuel Rubin, then dean of the College, to help with specific concerns that women students faced, Dr. Girolamo worked on a program that came to be called Women in Medicine, which was later integrated into the Westchester Chapter of the American Women’s Medical Association.

Rita Girolamo has also been a highly productive leader of the Alumni Association, which she served both as an officer of the Board of Governors for many years and as president, 1985-87. The recipient of the Association’s Medal of Honor in 1986, she was cited for her distinguished work as professor of radiology and associate dean, and the citation added, “Her personal contributions to our Alma Mater as an outstanding alumna place her in a class of her own.”

New York Medical College conferred its highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, on Dr. Girolamo in 1987. Referring to her as “an impeccably professional,” the award citation stated, “to her roles as physician, teacher, and administrator she has brought profound knowledge, keen insights, and superbly honed judgement. As mentor and guide to medical students and residents, she offers both women and men a role model of wisdom, caring, and courage. As scientist, colleague, and friend, Rita Girolamo holds herself to the highest standards of integrity”.

The Medical College has now conferred another richly deserved honor on Rita Girolamo, appointing her to the rank of professor emeritus of radiology. Her fellow alumnae wish her joyous times with her husband, Armand Leone ’47, their sons, Armand Jr. ’82, Peter and Mark, and their families.
The countdown to the end of my stint in the Navy is under way. On 30 August 1996, I will turn the ignition key in my car and drive with my daughter and my mother to Augusta, GA, leaving Twentynine Palms and the High Desert in the dust. In August I will join the Summerville Women's Medical Group, a five-physician ob/gyn practice. My husband, Martin Hadman, will join us in about a year.

I have been counting the days and thinking about the events since the time when, along with several of my classmates, I raised my right hand at our medical school graduation to be sworn in as an officer in the U.S. Armed Forces. Reflecting on my experiences in the U.S. Naval Service, including my training as an obstetrician/gynecologist, I concluded that, although I was eager to put some aspects of my military career behind me, I would in fact accept a military scholarship again. I would do it primarily because of the excellent training I received in the Navy. There are many highly qualified physicians in the military; they share their knowledge generously in the areas of both teaching and patient care. Further, being stationed in remote places without every state-of-the-art piece of equipment immediately at hand can challenge your own resources and strengthen your capabilities as a physician.

Why, then, am I so ready to leave? There are several reasons, primarily the degree of discrimination I have witnessed, and felt, and which I find unacceptable. Despite all the attention the Tailhook scandal received, sexism is still rampant in the Navy. For example, female residents have to be better than their male counterparts to be graded equally; female physicians are not accorded the respect that is their due, despite the M.D. they have earned. These conditions must change, and I'm sure they will as more women enter the military. However, that's the way it is now—and a major reason why I have chosen to leave the life I have known for close to eight years.

I applied for the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program during my first year at New York Medical College. I was selected by the Navy and on graduation received orders to the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, VA, where I served my internship and residency in ob/gyn. I was fortunate to be able to complete my training without interruption; the majority of physicians must spend "operational" time in support of the fleet before being allowed to complete their postgraduate training. Since at the time ob/gyn was considered to have a "critical shortage," we were exempted from the interruption. Our teachers were superb, and I would later come to find that contact with them would be invaluable when medical problems dictated specialty consultation.

In my final year of residency I was able to submit a "wish list" of the places I would most like to be stationed, understanding that the final decision would, of course, be based on the needs of the Navy. My first choice was Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan. I was assigned to Naval Hospital Okinawa, which was my second choice.

On 15 August 1993, I left Portsmouth and my husband behind, taking our daughter, Kaitlin, with me. I had met and married my husband while I was in medical school. He was a graduate student in the Pharmacology Department and transferred to Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, where he earned his Ph.D. in molecular biology. He is now a postdoctoral fellow at the Burnham Institute/La Jolla Cancer Research Foundation in San Diego. Katie was born at the Westchester County Medical Center and has been with me throughout her seven-and-a-half years except for nine long months during my internship, when she stayed with my husband's family. On leaving Portsmouth, Katie and I flew by commercial plane from Norfolk to St. Louis, then by Air Force Airlift Mobility Command to Los Angeles before going on to Yokota Air Base in mainland Japan, and finally to Kadena Air Base on Okinawa. We arrived at the airstrip exhausted after 26 hours of travel, having been packed like sardines in a jumbo jet that seats 460 passengers.

Okinawa is the largest of more than 140 islands in the Okinawa Prefecture of Japan. It is a very pretty coral island.
part of the Ruyuku chain, and is located closer to the coast of China than to mainland Japan. Its civilian population numbers nearly one million. The people prefer to think of themselves not as Japanese, but rather as Okinawans. They practice Shintoism and Buddhism and are primarily an agricultural people, farming sugar cane, pineapples, and sweet potatoes, and raising pigs. Their homes, very small by American standards, are mostly constructed of cement or wood and are designed to weather the many typhoons. The landscape is beautiful, with lush green fields and palm trees abounding; driving through the towns reminded me of driving through Mexico.

The Naval Hospital on Okinawa is the Navy’s largest overseas medical facility. The Ob/Gyn Department consists of five to six ob/gyn physicians and three certified nurse midwives. The hospital serves a local military population of about 55,000, made up of service personnel, D.O.D. civilian employees, and their dependents. In addition, it provides support to all the military bases and embassies in mainland Japan, Korea, Guam, and the rest of the fleet in the Western Pacific (WESPAC). All seriously complicated cases that the smaller hospital commands are not able to care for are medevaced to Okinawa. The closing of the bases in the Philippines transferred this awesome responsibility to us. We were very, very busy, sharing our call in handling between 100 and 120 deliveries a month. As department head during my second year on Okinawa, I put in at least 100 hours a week between clinical and administrative duties.

Despite our readiness to help, there were some patients we could not care for or accept at our hospital. For example, any patient requiring dialysis had to be sent to Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. Transporting patients could pose real problems, such as finding an Air Force transport plane in the area that could hold enough fuel for a direct trip from Okinawa to Hawaii. Much as we would have liked it, the Air Force did not keep all of its transport planes on Okinawa fueled and ready to go at the air strip. In one case, a pregnant patient presented to us complaining that she was leaking fluid. She was at 23 weeks in her gestation and, after determining that her membranes were in fact ruptured, I performed an ultrasound to evaluate her fetus. Much to my dismay, I soon discovered that all I was able to identify on her fetus were a head, legs, a heartbeat, and a breech presentation; I could not identify any abdominal structures. I felt that if this fetus had any hope of surviving, it needed to be at Tripler, since I did not have the equipment or expertise to deliver a 23-week breech fetus vaginally, and I could not bring myself to perform a hysterotomy on a patient with an apparently nonviable fetus without confirmation that her fetus had no hope of surviving.

There were several critical steps that needed to be taken almost simultaneously. This was an instance when I was glad I had compiled a list of perinatologists from each of the time zones in the U.S. Logistically, I had to contact one of the Tripler perinatologists, who was most certainly at home in bed, and I had to locate a plane in the Pacific that could medevac the patient to Hawaii. It took 18 hours to finally get her on her way to Tripler, and two days after she arrived she was delivered vaginally. Her fetus, as it turned out, had significant body stalk anomalies and did not survive.

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High risk obstetrical cases would come from our own island population or from any one of the WESPAC bases. One Saturday afternoon I received a 23-year-old active-duty patient from the 121st EVAC Hospital in Seoul, Korea. She was 24 weeks and 6 days and had evidence of severe preeclampsia. Since I knew the perinatologists at Portsmouth from my training, I called one of them at home for consultation. On his recommendation and armed with a faxed consult for the chart, I placed the patient on an antihypertensive medication and administered steroids. I had daily telephone conversations with the perinatologist to assess her condition and discuss her management, and we were able to prolong her pregnancy for five days before delivering her. The mother recovered; the infant was discharged from our NICU after two months, and at that time was doing very well without evidence of the severe complications that can accompany a preterm delivery.

During my tour in Okinawa I had phenomenal support from the physicians at Portsmouth and Tripler. I also found the network of military physicians at any of the bases I contacted, whether for medevac or advice, to be extraordinary in their responsiveness and helpfulness.

I left Okinawa in August, 1995, and was assigned to the Naval Hospital at Twentynine Palms, a very different command from my previous two. First, it is a family practice hospital with less than one-third the patient load of Okinawa. Second, it is located in the southern part of the Mojave Desert—all sand, no surf! My partners have been two physicians and two certified nurse midwives, and our primary responsibility has been specialty support to the Family Practice Department, staffed by seven physicians and three nurse practitioners. My workload during a busy week has been, at most, 60 hours, a welcome rest after Okinawa.

During my tour in the Navy I became active in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG.), which has a district composed of ob/gyn physicians in each branch of the Armed Forces. I’ve held the elected positions of secretary-treasurer, vice chairman, and chairman for the Junior Fellow Division of the Armed Forces District and was granted permissive travel from each of my commands to attend district and national meetings and meetings of the Junior Fellow College Advisory Council (JFCAC). I plan to remain active in ACOG throughout my professional life.

I love my chosen specialty. Teaching women to know and take care of their bodies and helping them to have good pregnancies and healthy babies is a great joy and blessing for me. I am delighted to see more attention being focused on women’s health issues. Such discussion and information helps individuals, families, and society today and can have a positive effect on future generations.
Two New Governors Elected
Alfred T. Culliford '69 and Jacqueline L. Rookwood '93 have joined the Board of Governors of the Alumni Association.

Alfred T. Culliford '69

Dr. Culliford is an associate professor of surgery at New York University School of Medicine and an attending in cardiothoracic surgery at NYU Medical Center. He is also an attending and consultant in surgery at both Bellevue and Manhattan Veterans Administration hospitals.

He took his bachelor’s degree with honors from St. Bonaventure University. After graduating from NYMC, also with honors, he did a surgical internship at the Hospital of the University of Cincinnati and a four-year general surgery residency at NYU. He served as a major in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1972.

During the last year of his residency, 1973-74, Dr. Culliford was a clinical fellow of the American Cancer Society. He then completed a two-year fellowship in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at NYU Medical Center.

He has lectured and presented papers, both at home and abroad, and has co-authored scientific publications on various aspects of his specialty.

Jacqueline L. Rookwood '93

Dr. Rookwood is an attending in internal medicine at Metropolitan Hospital and Medical Center in New York.

A graduate of Cornell University, she took a double undergraduate program, receiving bachelors’ degrees in both chemistry and African-American Studies. She then did graduate study in applied physiology at Hahnemann University before entering NYMC where, between September 1992 and August 1993, she fulfilled the requirements for the fourth year of medical school and the first year of an internal medicine residency, as approved by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

In 1995 Dr. Rookwood completed her residency in internal medicine at St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center in New York. She is currently a seminar leader in NYMC’s primary care program.

As a medical student, Dr. Rookwood was active in student affairs. She served in the Student Senate and was honored with a citation for service by Cor Et Manus.

Nominate Candidates For High Honors:
Help Choose Alums for the Medal of Honor and Citations

Here is your opportunity to nominate for high honors an alumnus/alumna whose professional accomplishments you find especially noteworthy.

Each year the Alumni Association honors NYMC graduates for exceptional work in patient care, research, or medical education, or a combination thereof. Honorees are chosen from among all active alumni/ae. Awards are presented at the Annual Banquet, held during reunion weekend.

To recommend a candidate, send an up-to-date curriculum vitae of the person you are suggesting and a brief letter stating your reason for the choice to: Marvin Weingarten, M.D., Chair, Alumni Association Awards Committee, Alumni Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY 10595.
Opportunities for Alums as Primary Care Preceptors

Martha Grayson, M.D.

Nationally recognized for innovative policies and programming, NYMC’s Center for Primary Care Education and Research is offering alumni and alumnae expanded opportunities to serve in its excellent preceptorship program and to benefit from their service.

Martha Grayson, M.D., senior associate dean for primary care, who spearheaded the growth of the primary care curriculum, heads the Center. She and the staff speak with infectious enthusiasm about the contributions of alums who have been serving as preceptors and seminar leaders and of their role as mentors.

“All students, no matter what they go into, will have to be prepared for the world of health care as it will be structured in the year 2000 and beyond,” Dr. Grayson told Chironian. “They will need familiarity with the primary care model, and besides fundamental skills, will need to understand the ethical considerations, relationships, and basics of effective communication.

“Our goal is to enhance education for all our medical students, giving them exposure to the principles and practice of primary care, teaching them the skills and understanding that will be required of them, and preparing them for work that will help meet the national needs.

“In our preceptorship program the students and graduates of our College have been developing one-on-one relationships that give the students a first-hand view of the world of medical practice. They observe physicians in office settings, treating patients for a variety of conditions, and they get a realistic picture of primary care practice. And the College’s alumni and alumnae have been doing an excellent job as preceptors.”

“It’s a mutually beneficial arrangement,” says Karen Edwards, M.D., director of primary care education and associate professor of clinical pediatrics. “The alumnae/i preceptors tell us they learn from the students and value the interchange with those currently studying medicine; they tell us working with the students has been very rewarding for them.” And one second-year student describes the program as “an invaluable experience.” Adding, “there is no place I’d rather be”--a conclusion students frequently reach.

A preceptor commits to giving 10 to 16 afternoons a year to working with a first- or second-year student in a private office, group practice, HMO, or neighborhood health center that is within approximately one hour’s travel time from the Valhalla campus.

Preceptors must be board certified or eligible in internal medicine, family medicine, or pediatrics. Describing the programs value for preceptors, Katherine Hudson, coordinator of medical education programs, says, “Benefits include eligibility for appointment to the NYMC faculty, direct access to the College’s informatics systems, the opportunity to participate in CME programs helpful to the generalist physician, a 50 percent reduction in tuition for some courses in the NYMC Graduate School of Health Sciences, and potential recruitment of future partners or associates.

To participate in the program, preceptors must have office hours on Wednesday afternoons or Saturday mornings. Physicians in the program care for patients with both acute and chronic diseases, with attention to preventative medicine and health maintenance, incorporating psycho-social aspects of disease.

“I’m starting my sixth year as a preceptor this fall, and I relish the experience,” alumnus William Zarowitz ’78, a primary care internist with Kaiser Permanente in White Plains, told Chironian. “It gives me a chance to help a student know what it’s really like to be a doctor, and a chance for the student to see primary care practice as a viable option. It’s also stimulating to me to hear students’ thoughts. I’ve developed warm relationships with several students, inviting them home to share holidays with my family.

“I wish I’d had the experience of working with a preceptor when I was a student,” Dr. Zarowitz added.
The Golden Years

Lawrence B. Slobody '36, a former president of New York Medical College and now a vital 86-year-old whose brain is as sharp as ever, has written The Golden Years: A 12-Step Anti-Aging Plan for a Longer, Healthier, and Happier Life. It is a how-to-do-it manual to accomplish just that.

Dr. Slobody, known originally as an outstanding pediatrician, has been deeply involved in the study of gerontology and geriatrics, since long before those topics became the focus of the widespread attention they receive today.

In his introduction to the book, Dr. Slobody says, "Our 12-step anti-aging plan is directed toward lengthening your life and improving the quality of your health... and daily activities." He writes that "memory and self-esteem will improve and there will be fewer periods of depression. It seems reasonable," he continues, "that the earlier you start the anti-aging plan, the better the results will be," and he recommends starting at age 50 or earlier to produce the best results. "But even starting right to the 70s will pay rich dividends," he says.

This is decidedly a reader-friendly book. Those who know Dr. Slobody will recognize his buoyant manner intermixed with solid recommendations for practicing good nutrition and combining it with physical and mental exercise—strongly urging that you "use it or you will lose it." The Golden Years is edited by David Oliphant, an educational publisher and contributing editor to books on children's medical care.

The 12 steps described in the book include nutrition do's and don'ts with a discussion of the anti-free radicals, or anti-oxidants (the author calls them "the good guys"), which aid in preventing the early development of killer diseases and are available in foods and supplements. Other steps relate to strengthening the immune system and eliminating allergies; controlling stress and anxiety; the prevention and treatment of conditions associated with aging; and recommended anti-oxidant diets with recipes, including those for the "nutritionally very powerful sardine."

The last chapter offers daily anti-oxidant diet and menu plans at three levels—1,200, 1,500, and 2,400 calories—with specific menus for breakfast, lunch, snack, and dinner for 15 days at each caloric level. The book also contains a glossary and a cordial invitation, complete with Dr. Slobody's mailing address, to write him "if at any time any of the 12 anti-aging steps need clarification."

It should be noted that wherever Dr. Slobody feels it appropriate he urges the reader to seek the advice or supervision of a physician. He closes the section on prevention and treatment of conditions associated with aging with these words:

"Finally, the establishment of confidence and an ongoing relationship with a caring and involved physician is most important. This goes beyond the periodic checkup; it provides emotional security and confidence in the knowledge that there is someone professional available to you for advice and counsel, not only physically but for mental and psychological problems as well."

"Equally important, your physician can help you guard against succumbing to fad diets, overnight cures, and quackery of every shape and form, which can be harmful to your overall health and financial well-being."

The Textbook of Penetrating Trauma

In his foreword to The Textbook of Penetrating Trauma, Louis R.M. Del Guercio, M.D., NYMC professor and chairman of surgery, expresses his gratitude to the co-editors, Rao R. Ivatury, M.D., and C. Gene Cayten '67, both professors in his Department. "Theirs was a labor of duty if not also of love," he says. Dr. Ivatury is director of trauma and co-director of SICU at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center. Dr. Cayten is director of surgery at Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center and heads NYMC's Institute for Trauma and Emergency Care.

Dr. Del Guercio notes the escalation of the kinetic energy of weapons—from knives and homemade rubber-band-fired 22-caliber zip guns to automatic assault rifles and 50-caliber Glock handguns—as well as the overflow of the field of combat from the urban ghetto to the suburbs and rural communities. "No surgeon today," he writes, "can be excluded completely from the care of devastating penetrating injuries."

A second foreword to this book is contributed by F. William Blaisdell, M.D., professor and chairman of Surgery at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. Dr. Blaisdell writes that this textbook "exhaustively covers the field of trauma and is more than just a work on penetrating injury. It will be of interest to all physicians who have occasion to see penetrating trauma, whether in our emergency rooms or in our hospital wards."

Each of the book's 88 chapters is written by an authoritative expert. A unique feature is the inclusion at the end of each chapter of a commentary by a second expert on the particular topic. As Dr. Cayten told Chironian, "This provides dialogue; the exchange of views and, in some instances, controversy, gives a special dynamic that we felt would be stimulating and valuable."

The first section gives the evolution and historical background of trauma care and education and is followed by chapters on epidemiology, economics, and prevention of injury to adults and children. Severity of injury, initial and secondary assessment and resuscitation are covered in 28 chapters, and include discussion of diagnostic peritoneal lavage, CT and MRI, ultrasound, angiography, and cavitory endoscopy. Twenty-nine chapters are devoted to the management of specific organ system injuries, three chapters cover pediatric trauma, and 14 discuss various aspects of critical care. A section headed "Special Considerations" discusses problems related to alcohol, illicit drugs, transmissible diseases, and organ procurement, as well as forensic, rehabilitative, and psychologic issues. The closing chapter considers future directions of trauma systems.

Dr. Cayten has a strong, long-standing interest in the public health aspects of injury. He told Chironian, "Many trauma organizations have become deeply involved in prevention and reimbursement, as well as trauma care system policy, but most textbooks relegate relatively few pages to such issues. Providing this content enables the reader to prepare to readily participate in these non-clinical areas."

Dr. Cayten has also emphasized to Chironian that editing of the book would not have been possible without the substantial collegial support of the New York Medical College surgical and anesthesia faculty. Many authors, coauthors, and commentators and former New York Medical College faculty are represented. Having such a strong base among colleagues made the difficult task of dealing with over 150 contributors possible."

14
New Membership Classifications Established

As President Michael Antonelle says in his letter of September 12th, the Board of Governors has established three new classifications of membership. Chirionian reprints the information here with the thought that the changes will be of special interest to many graduates now or in the future and to other colleagues as well.

Member Emeritus: From now on, 50-year graduates of NYMC will be entitled to all the privileges of membership without paying dues. Dr. Antonelle notes, “this is a way of showing the respect and appreciation we feel for all our colleagues who have served our profession for more than half a century.”

Lifetime Member: An alumnus or alumna may join this group with a one-time payment of $1,000, to be placed in a special fund, with the interest used only as needed. (As Chirionian went to press a gratifying number of responses to this initiative had been received.)

Associate Member: The Alumni Association has opened up the category of associate member to all physicians who completed post-graduate training in NYMC programs after earning their MD degrees elsewhere. The Board of Governors asks the help of all members in spreading the word of this opportunity to friends and colleagues. With the exception of holding office, associate members will be entitled to all membership benefits.

For further information, contact the Alumni Center, Valhalla, NY 10595, (914) 993-4555; Fax (914) 993-4682; E-mail, julie_kubaska@nymc.edu

For the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery:

A Very Significant Step

When Dr. Robert Zickel came to NYMC as chairman of Orthopaedic Surgery in 1995, he said his primary mission was to restore the accreditation of the Department’s residency program. He has reached that goal with dispatch, for which he credits “the common purpose and cooperation of New York Medical College, Westchester County Medical Center, and St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center of New York.”

“We have made a very significant first step,” Dr. Zickel said. “We applied in March 1995 as a new residency program, and we have been given accreditation until the next review in 1998. This is very good because there is still much to be done in revamping, improving, and expanding the program. It is difficult in light of the curtailment of money all medical schools are facing today, but we will do our best to make the service grow.

“There was much that needed to be fixed when I came,” Dr. Zickel told Chirionian, “but I found the teaching program in good shape; the lecture schedules were appropriately set up and adhered to, and the teaching component was satisfactory. And in working toward our goal we had strong support from all—administration, faculty, house staff, and residents.

“The Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) approved the new program for twelve residents who will rotate through Westchester County Medical Center and St. Vincent’s,” Dr. Zickel said. “They will also learn pediatric and adult reconstructive surgery by working at St. Agnes Hospital,” he added.

Dr. Zickel is particularly pleased with the outcome because, he points out, “the ACGME holds the view that there are too many specialists. Many of the country’s leading hospitals are in danger of losing orthopaedic accreditation.”

To accomplish his goal the chairman is bringing in the staff needed to provide the strength he believes essential for a successful program. “We must be sure the program meets all the criteria,” he says. With great vigor he adds: “We must reach the top and stay in top form!”
Class Notes: A reunion for five-year milestone classes will be held on Sunday, May 18, 1997, at the Alumni Center on the campus at Valhalla.

Editor’s Note: As we announced in the last issue, we are now abbreviating names of institutions and locations in order to have space for a greater number of Class Notes. In addition to familiar abbreviations such as WCMC for Westchester County Medical Center and UMDNJ for University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, we use Ctr for Center, C for College, H for Hospital, M for Medicine or Medical, S for School and U for University; thus, UC San Diego S of M, Baylor C of M, Harvard M S, Texas Tech U S of M, NYH-Cornell U M Ctr, Einstein C of M. We will, as appropriate for clarity, use the Postal Service’s abbreviations for states when they are part of institutional names, as in Massachusetts General Hospital (MA Genl H).

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When sending us information for Class Notes, don’t worry about following any particular form of abbreviation. However, if the name of an organization or institution is not widely known, please provide its full name—and always include the location (town, city, or campus, and state). If an academic institution is well known, but has several campuses, please name the campus involved. This is still a “work in progress” and we will welcome your comments. Address: Editor, Chirontian, Alumni Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY 10595.

1925
Matthew Warpick notes that he is now 95 years old and reports that after leaving the Harlem office where he practiced for nearly three-quarters of a century, he set up an office in his apartment in order to treat some of his old patients whom he considers his friends.

1936
Lawrence Slobody, a former NYMC president, has written The Golden Years, a book on how to live a longer, happier, healthier life. (See Ex Libris)

1941
Merrill Grayson wrote that he regretted having missed the 55-year reunion of the Class but had been in Cambodia and Vietnam. He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology at Indiana U, Indianapolis. He enclosed a summary of his career highlights that cites his nationally recognized investigations and publications, including the textbook Diseases of the Cornea. Dr. Grayson has established an ophthalmology foundation, and his residents have founded the Merrill Grayson Research Endowment in Ophthalmology. He added that because his career was centered in the Midwest he has been out of touch with many classmates and would like to resume contact with them.

1942
Paul Lazar wrote that he is now emeritus professor of dermatology at Northwestern U M S, associate editor of the Journal of Toxicology, and chair of the ethics committee of the American Academy of Dermatology. He retired in January 1995 and his son, also a dermatologist and an associate professor at Northwestern, took over his practice.

1947

1950
Gregory Zann writes that his wife, Phyllis, has died, and that he marked their 50th wedding anniversary with their children, grandchildren, and friends.

1951
Paul Tucci has been elected vice president of the board of trustees of Mount Vernon Hosp in Mount Vernon, NY. An attending urologist, he has served as president of the medical staff and vice president of the medical board. Dr. Tucci is a clinical professor at NYMC and an associate editor of the N Y Medical Quarterly. He and his wife, Berta, live in Rye, NY, and have three children, John Paul, Brenda Jean, and Andrea Paula.

1952
Kenneth Trout, who was a cardiologist in White Plains, NY, died Tuesday, May 21, 1996, at St. Agnes Hospital, where he had been affiliated for many years. He was 68. “He was loved by all here,” said the hospital’s president, William Tan. “He will be missed by everyone.” This fall the hospital’s Section of Interventional Cardiology was named for Dr. Trout.

Dr. Trout was also assistant chief of cardiology at WCMC from 1971 until recently and held many offices in the community, including the presidencies of the Westchester County Medical Society and the Westchester Academy of Medicine. He was married in 1952 to Marie Buskist, who survives him, as do their four sons, Charles, Peter, Daniel, and Douglas, and six grandchildren.

1953
Ernest Mathews is a member of the neurosurgery service at Mass General in Boston.

Maurice Saphin reports that he retired from practice of internal medicine in August of 1995.

1955
James De Luca writes that he pioneered the clinical application of mammography successfully and was the first National Cancer Institute project director for mammography. He is currently in private practice in Glen Cove, NY.

1956
Stephen Rous, who chaired the 40-year reunion of the class, is professor of surgery/neurology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Med Ctr, Dartmouth Med S in Lebanon, NH. The following news comes via a letter to Dr. Rous from classmate William Hart, who writes:

“Sandy Sherman, his wife, Jane, and their three children stopped by to visit us here in Ventura; they are all doing well. Sandy retired in June but will consult for Kaiser in the Bay area. He was a pediatrician who early on entered the field of genetic counseling and has been outstanding in the field.

“Jim Woodburn (Woody) is semi-retired, doing office surgery and assisting his two sons, James D. III ‘82 and Douglas ‘83, in general surgery. His sons, both of whom graduated from New York Med, are super-trained surgeons and a genuine asset to our community. Woody lost his wonderful wife, Audrey, three years ago.”
Dr. Hart then gives news of himself, saying he has been "blessed with over 30 wonderful years of practice and 20 stimulating years on the UCLA faculty. I was privileged to be the first board-certified cardiologist in Ventura County, so I was able to start the open-heart team and introduce heart cath and interventional cardiology to the area. I retired three years ago, serve on the hospital board and with various charitable organizations, and am generally enjoying retirement. Our daughter, Karen, an MBA, is a financial planner and has survived limb-salvage surgery for sarcoma of the right upper femur—very resilient and bright lady."

JO SEPH FENNEL Y, while attending the 40-year reunion of the class, gave Chironian a copy of the paper he delivered at the conference held in Princeton, NJ, in April, marking the 20th anniversary of the day Karen Ann Quinlan lapsed into the coma from which she never recovered. Dr. Fennelly was the physician chosen to care for Karen after she was taken off the respirator in this landmark case. Dr. Fennelly's presentation at the conference was entitled, "The Gift of Karen Ann Quinlan: The Healing of the Art." He said that Karen's gift, at the cost of her life, has been to focus worldwide attention on the immense ethical issues involved. He formed a committee of six colleagues to help deal with these issues and later chaired a newly formed nursing home ethics committee, "proving that the doctor does not have to be alone with Solomon-like decisions on life and death and the use of high technology." He concludes that "we will need to institutionalize humanistic values in our medical training. We need the caring language that acknowledges the mutual pain the doctor and patient and family share in healing and in death. "The high calling of medicine and the legend of Karen Ann Quinlan demand no less."

1965

MICHAEL LAPKIN has been elected president of the medical and dental staff of Somerset Med Ctr in Somerville, NJ. Dr. Lapkin is a board-certified pediatrician associated with Somerset Pediatric Group, a practice with locations in Bridgewater, Hillsborough, and Lebanon, NJ. He also serves on the faculty of Columbia-Presbyterian Med Ctr in NYC.

1966

STEPH EN GREENBERG wrote: "Kindly express my sincere regrets at not being able to attend the 30-year reunion of our class." He explained that his eldest son, Lior, graduated on the same day from Binghamton U in Binghamton, NY. Dr. Greenberg included an article on a trip he had taken recently with the U.S. Navy to Alaska, which he described as "the ultimate community outreach." He concluded: "Best wishes for good health and all that is good to each and every member of the class."

1967

C. GENE CAYTEN has been named to the board of directors of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma and to the American College of Surgeons committee on trauma. Dr. Cayten is co-editor of the Textbook of Penetrating Trauma, published by Williams-Wilkins. (See Ex Libris.)

MARC LOWEN is president of the medical executive committee of Sinai Hosp in Baltimore. He and his wife, Elaine, have three grandchildren, Ezra, 3, Yael, 2, and Zahava, 1 year old.

FRANCIS WALSH has been reelected chief of the medical staff of Greenwich (CT) Hosp. An attending physician at the hospital since 1974, he is board certified in nephrology and internal medicine. He has served as section head for the Department of Nephrology for the past 22 years and is currently a member of the hospital's board of trustees. Dr. Walsh is also an assistant professor at Yale S of M.

1968

STEPHANIE BELING is medical director of Canyon Ranch, a health spa in Lenox, MA. Before going to Canyon Ranch, she was in private practice of endocrinology in MA and NY. She taught at Albert Einstein C of M and directed the nutrition clinic at Montefiore Hosp. She has had a long-standing interest in the relationship of nutrition, health, and disease and has been a correspondent for Massachusetts Public Radio and the TV Food Network.

1970

DONALD RUDICK is now on the medical staff of St. Mary's Regional Med Ctr, St. Mary's, PA. He is board certified in urology and had been on the staff of U.S. Family Care in Pamona, CA, before going to St. Mary's.

1972

SUSAN SKALSKY is director of the Hartsdale Health Ctr, which is part of the Rutgers U Student Health Service. Dr. Skalsky reports that the Center records approximately 40,000 visits annually for a full range of primary care services to Rutgers students.

DONALD and LAURA STEMMLE write that they continue to do well. Their daughter, Monica, graduated from Howard U in June, 1996; their son, Jonathan, was to start at Stanford U in September.

1973

CHRISTOPHER NOGEIRE has been named a fellow of the American College of Physicians. An internist on staff at Providence Newberg Hosp in Newberg, OR, he is also a professor in the Department of Hematology at Oregon Health Science U.

CHARLES POLNITSKY is medical director of the Waterbury Regional Sleep
Laboratory of Waterbury Hosp in CT, where he has been associated since 1978. He reports that the Laboratory is now in completely new quarters that accommodate state-of-the-art monitoring techniques.

1975
CLIFFORD AMEDURI practices physical medicine and rehabilitation in Slidell, LA.

BARBARA ROTH writes that she divides her time between general practice in the foothills of Appalachia "and being a happy housewife in a small college town of southeastern Ohio (not what I envisioned, but it's wonderful)."

ANTONIO CARDONA died on December 23, 1994, from complications of AIDS. He was 45. The Alumni Association was informed of his death in a letter from his wife, June Frey-Cardona, who wrote that he had spent his last three years in medical practice treating HIV/AIDS patients in the State of Ohio Correctional System. June Frey-Cardona said, "Tony had looked forward to attending the 20-year reunion of the class in May 1995 but became too ill to travel from our home in Maryland."

Dr. Cardona, an internist, was born in Sarturce, Puerto Rico. He practiced in NY before going to Ohio. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Matthew, three daughters, Marisa, Inez, and Alisita Cardona, all of Holmes, NY, his father, Antonio Cardona, and his mother, Fior Pagan, both of Puerto Rico. June Frey-Cardona suggested that those wishing to make contributions in her husband's memory might donate to AmFar (American Foundation for Aids Research). The address is 733 Third Avenue, NY, NY 10017.

1976
MARTHA KRAMER has been appointed chief of thoracic surgery at Our Lady of Mercy Med Ctr in the Bronx. Dr. Kramer, now an assistant professor at NYMC, served a residency in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at Harvard S of M hospitals and held a National Science Foundation fellowship at the Lahey Clinic.

1977
20-YEAR REUNION

LLOYD HASKELL, who continues as senior director of clinical research at ASTRA Pharmaceuticals, reports that he and his wife, Jean, adopted a baby boy in 1994. His name is William and he is now 2 years old.

1979
ELLEN FRANKEL was recently appointed chief of dermatology at St. Joseph's Hosp in Providence, RI.

CELINA POY WING, who specializes in ob/gyn in Broward County, FL, heads the All Women's Ob/Gyn Group, staffed entirely by women, with offices in Plantation and Coral Springs. The group's motto is "Women caring for women."

1980
JILL HIRSCH practices pediatrics in Wurtsboro, NY. She and classmate/husband, RANDOLPH COHEN, who practices ob/gyn in Liberty and Goshen, NY, have three children, 11-year-old twins, Allison and Jessica, and 8-year-old Larissa.

1982
15-YEAR REUNION

LESLIE LEVINE is an internist with Physician Specialty Group in Boca Raton, FL.

JAY TARTELL and his wife, Deborah, welcomed their third child, Paula Meredith, December 11, 1995. Paula is named after Jay's father, the late PAUL TARTELL '52, who was president of the Alumni Association from 1987 to 1989.

1983
ANDREW ANTOZSYK reports that he was nominated as one of the best doctors in America-Southeast Region for 1996-97. He has served as consulting professor of ophthalmology at Duke U Eye Ctr and has been an assistant professor of surgery at SUHSHS, Bethesda, MD.

STEPHENS HOROWITZ, a surgeon, is co-director of Hahneman Regional Musculoskeletal Tumor Ctr in Philadelphia, where he and another surgeon treat a large number of the bone-cancer-related surgeries in the region. He is a full-time professor at Hahneman. Dr. Horowitz followed an orthopaedic surgery residency at Johns Hopkins with fellowships in musculoskeletal oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Ctr and Cornell U's Hosp for Special Surgery.

PHILIP GOLDSTEIN is an interventional cardiologist, practicing in Norfolk, VA.


1984
DANIEL ROSENBERG is in private practice in Hyde Park, NY, and is a clinical assistant professor of rehabilitation medicine at NYMC. He also does consultant work with BERNARD WEISS '51. He adds that he has "published seven articles in peer review journals and is board certified in PM&R and electrodiagnostic medicine."

1986
FELIPE DIAZ is vice president of medical services at Syracuse (NY) Community Health Ctr.

RAMZI SAAD has been appointed to the staff of Jordan Hosp in Plymouth, MA. He completed his internship and residency at Walter Reed Army Med Ctr and is board certified in dermatology.

JAMES MARINO is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics and practices at Sebastian Family Care Walk-In Clinic in Vero Beach, FL.

1987
10-YEAR REUNION

ANNE MULLIN is medical director of the Family Health Ctr of Newburgh (NY). She did her residency training at Montefiore M Ctr in the Bronx, and is board certified in internal medicine. Dr. Mullin lives in Cornwall, NY, with her husband and two children.

1988
MICHAEL FREDERICSON is an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Stanford US of M and one of the team physicians for the Stanford sports medicine program.

WILLIAM VARIARHOS is an assistant professor of radiology and chief of orthopaedic and emergency radiology at U of KentuckyMed Ctr in Lexington. He completed his radiology residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Fl., 1992 and a musculoskeletal radiology fellowship at NC Baptist Hosp/Bowman Gray S of M in Winston-Salem, NC, in 1993. He and his wife, Jill, were married in 1992 and have a one-year-old daughter, Olivia Grace.

PETER ZACHARIAH has joined the staff of the Eye Institute of the Wheeling Clinic in Wheeling, W VA; his practice is limited to glaucoma. He held a glaucoma fellowship at the New England Eye Center of Tufis U S of M and an assistant professorship at Massachusetts M Ctr in Worcester. He has also served at King...
Khaled Eye Specialist II in Ryahd, Saudi Arabia, an internationally known tertiary care eye hospital.

1989
Beverly Giannotto Pattillo writes that she is a physiatrist at Reading Hospital in Reading, PA, and her husband, Robert Pattillo, is a cardiologist at the same hospital. Their twins, Caroline and Robert, were born in May '96, in Redding PA.

1990
Roman Bilinsky wrote in July that he had completed his pediatric neurology fellowship at Walter Reed Army Med Ctr. He said that he and his wife, Tamara, and their three children, Dmytro, 5, Julianna, 3, and Maria, 2, would move during the summer to his next duty station, in Germany.

Donna Ingram, a clinical cardiologist with special expertise in echocardiography, has joined the Katonah (NY) Medical Group. Prior to joining the group she was an instructor and assistant attending in the Department of Internal Medicine, Cornell-New York Hosp, and completed a cardiology fellowship at Cornell. Dr. Ingram lives in Westchester with her husband, a Manhattan attorney, and their two sons.

Dawn Rush has been appointed to the medical staff of Putnam (NY) Hosp Ctr. A pediatric ophthalmologist with a private practice in Yorktown, NY, she completed an internship and a residency in ophthalmology at Montefiore Hosp Med Ctr, followed by a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology at Children's National Med Ctr in Washington, DC.

Timothy Skovrinski has joined the Division of Adult Medicine at Carle Clinic.

1991
Nancy Olinger is serving a fellowship at Kresge Eye Institute in Detroit, MI, where she is doing work on the cornea.

1992
5-Year Reunion

Mindy Steinholz has joined the staff of Phelps Memorial Hosp in North Tarrytown, NY. She is certified in advanced pediatric life support and practices in Briarcliff Manor, NY. She lives in Mount Kisco.

Jennifer Tillman is in family practice at Columbia Valley Community Health Service in Wanatchee, WA. Her special interests are women's health and obstetrics.

1994
Kenneth Wells is serving a one-year tour of duty as a flight surgeon for the U.S. Navy in Manama, Bahrain. He reports that he has flown missions with H-53 helicopters and C-130 planes to Oman and the United Arab Emirates, and notes that with temperatures regularly above 100° he treats quite a few cases of heat exhaustion.

Eyad Ali and Keith Berkowitz report that they are co-authors with Mary Ross-Dolen, M.D., of a recently published book entitled Princeton Review's Medical School Companion.

Renowned Pathologist
Maurice M. Black '43 (1918-1996)

Maurice M. Black '43, NYMC Emeritus Professor of Pathology, who taught at the Medical College for more than three decades, died Saturday, September 14, 1996, at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Complications related to liver cancer were given as the cause of death. He was 78 and lived in Hewlett Harbor, Long Island.

Dr. Black, known to his students and colleagues at the Medical College as a remarkable teacher and brilliant pioneering researcher, directed the College's Institute for Breast Diseases for 20 years. He pioneered in identifying characteristics of the nuclei of cancer cells that, when viewed microscopically, were useful in predicting the survival probability of a patient with breast cancer. As early as 1953, in an article published in the New York State Journal of Medicine, he questioned the use of "ultra-radical surgical attempts to cure breast cancer."

"New York Medical College marks the passing of our alumnus, esteemed colleague, and friend," NYMC leaders Msgr. Harry C. Barrett, president and CEO, and Ralph A. O'Connell, M.D., provost and dean, said in an obituary published in the New York Times. "Dr. Black, who retired as Emeritus Professor of Pathology in 1992 after an almost lifetime career with the College, ranked among the world's most eminent pathologists. He was known for advancing knowledge of breast cancer and its pathology, and particularly for his investigations into the implications of breast cancer immunity. He was a dedicated teacher and author of more than 250 scientific publications."


Born in Cleveland, Maurice Black received his bachelor's degree from Long Island University. During World War II he served as an officer in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and was awarded the Silver Star and three battle stars.

Dr. Black is survived by his wife of 55 years, Beatrice Gilbert; two daughters, Andrea Jeffries, of Mohoegan Lake, NY, and Elizabeth Shapiro, of Owings Mills, MD; three grandchildren; and two brothers, George, of Jamesburg, NJ, and Leonard, of Catskill, NY.
Following are the names of alumni and alumnae who contributed to the Annual Fund Campaign of the fiscal year July 1, 1995 - June 30, 1996.
## Calendar Of Events – 1996-1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 1996</td>
<td>American Academy of Pediatrics Reception - Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 27, 1996</td>
<td>New England Chapter Meeting - Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 7, 1996</td>
<td>NYS Society of Anesthesiologists Reception - New York City</td>
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<td>January 26 to</td>
<td>Winter '97 CME - Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort and Country Club, Puerto Rico</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 1, 1997</td>
<td>American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Reception - San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14, 1997</td>
<td>Luncheon for Parents - San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15, 1997</td>
<td>Northern California Chapter Meeting - San Francisco</td>
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<td>March 21, 1997</td>
<td>Washington, DC Chapter Meeting</td>
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<td>March 22, 1997</td>
<td>Greater Philadelphia Chapter Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23, 1997</td>
<td>American College of Physicians Reception - Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25,26,27, 1997</td>
<td>Southern California Chapter Meetings</td>
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### MAY 1997

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>REUNION WEEKEND</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 16, 1997</td>
<td>Class of 1972, 25-Year Reunion</td>
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<td>Roof of Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center (formerly “Flower”), New York City</td>
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<td>May 17, 1997</td>
<td>Annual Alumni/ae Banquet and Awards Presentation, The Plaza, New York City</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18, 1997</td>
<td>Alumni/ae Milestone Reunion Luncheon and Campus Tours</td>
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<td>All classes ending in “2” and “7”</td>
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<td>Alumni Center, Valhalla, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19, 1997</td>
<td>138th NYMC Commencement Golden Anniversary of the Class of 1947, Carnegie Hall, New York City</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29, 1997</td>
<td>Annual Golf Benefit-Scarsdale Golf Club</td>
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