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Cover: Strength and diversity, represented by the institutions shown here and on
pages 6 to 11, continue to be the hallmarks of New York Medical College’s
teaching affiliations.

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Dear Fellow Alumni/ae,

As I come to the end of my term of office, it is hard to believe that these four years have passed by so quickly. It has been both an honor and a pleasure to serve as your president. Throughout these years I have been reacquainted with many old friends and have made many new ones and I will continue to cherish the memories of the times I have spent with all of you.

Although I am leaving as president, I will still be involved with the Alumni Association as a past president, and will continue as Trustee of the College. In these capacities I will continue to promote the ideas and suggestions that many of you have expressed to me. Some of these suggestions such as Emeritus and Lifetime memberships have already come to fruition.

There have been many changes in the Medical College administration during these years and I have enjoyed working with the new administration. I can assure you that our school is in good hands as we progress towards the millennium. I can also assure you that your Alumni Association will be in good hands with my successor Dennis Allendorf ’70, when he takes office at the end of this semester.

As you can imagine, being president requires lots of help and I would like to thank all of those alumni/ae who have served on the Board of Governors during my presidency. I would also like to thank the past presidents who have given me the benefit of their experience so that together we have strengthened the Alumni Association. I am especially grateful to Julie Kubaska, our Director of Alumni Relations, who has done so much to make things run smoothly, and most of all I would like to thank my wife, Kathy, giving her time, thought and presence to the many events in which she has participated.

And finally, both Kathy and I would like to thank all the alumni/ae that we have come in contact with during our travels.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Antonelle ’62
THE AFFILIATIONS STORY:

Pacesetting and Productive

This is a time of almost hourly change in the way medicine and health care are delivered, when the buzz words are merger and consolidation, and the headline-grabbing initiative is the decision to pay hospitals not to train doctors. Chironian takes this moment to review the status of New York Medical College’s affiliation agreements and to look at the changes, challenges—and the opportunities—that lie ahead.

New York Medical College currently has a 1,400 residents and fellows in its graduate education programs, conducted at Saint Vincents Hospital and Medical Center of New York, Westchester County Medical Center, Metropolitan Hospital Center, Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center, Stamford Hospital, and Ear Infirmary residents in otolaryngology/head and neck surgery work with outstanding mentor Steven Schaefer, M.D., department chair at the Infirmary and New York Medical College.

Noel I. Robin, M.D. physician-in-chief Stamford Hospital, instructs a group of NYMC medical students on rotation at the Hospital.

Heart surgery being performed by one of Westchester County Medical Center’s world renowned surgical team.

I. Martin Levey, M.D., director of orthopaedics at Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center, in a teaching session with a NYMC medical student.

At New York Eye and Ear Infirmary residents in otolaryngology/head and neck surgery work with outstanding mentor Steven Schaefer, M.D., department chair at the Infirmary and New York Medical College.
St. Vincents Medical Center of Richmond, Bayley Seton Hospital, Sound Shore Medical Center, Mid-Hudson Family Health Institute, and New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

In recent months, NYMC’s President and CEO, Msgr. Harry C. Barrett D. Min., M.P.H. and Provost and Dean Ralph A. O’Connell, M.D., have addressed various questions related to the changing climate for affiliations, including “What is the Catholic Health Care Network (CHCN) and how does the College relate to it?”

Interviewed for the College publication, In Touch, Dean O’Connell explained that the network is a major healthcare system with 31 hospitals and nursing homes that have a combined total of 9,000 beds. He points out that the College is already affiliated with the major hospitals in the system and sees CHCN as an important part of our educational mission. “We look forward to providing significant academic programs to its members,” says Dean O’Connell, who has been asked to chair the medical educational force of the network.

Dr. O’Connell has also addressed the severance of the affiliation agreement with Lincoln Hospital and Medical Center, effective June 30 of this year, noting that the College was not able to reach agreement with the Health and Hospitals Corporation of New York City to continue the College’s academic programs there.

“The good news,” said Dean O’Connell, “is that we have the capacity at our affiliates to handle the undergraduate clerkships and graduate medical education programs that took place at Lincoln.”

Msgr. Barrett has also discussed the College’s membership in the Catholic Health Care Network, citing the College’s mission, “which is based on the common goals we share with the Catholic Church in New York, our public commitment to support the Catholic health care system and our social responsibility to the health of the people we serve.”

“As the only medical school in the network,” explains Msgr. Barrett, “the College will have an essential role in the development of primary care delivery services within the network. We will also build and strengthen specialty training and specialty care by working with other institutions in the network. The College will be responsible for ongoing medical education programs. Our faculty, medical residents and medical students will provide the academic focus, which we all know affords the optimal environment for quality of care,” notes the President.

**CLASSIFICATIONS:**

The College’s teaching hospital affiliates are characterized under five different classifications: academic medical center, university hospital, major hospital affiliate, specialty hospital, affiliate hospital or teaching site.

**Academic Medical Center:**
- Offers clerkships in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, ob/gyn, neurology, and psychiatry.
- NYMC sponsors all graduate medical education (GME) and continuing medical education (CME) programs.
- Primary care preceptors are available.
- Has hospital-based NYMC vice-dean.
- Has 200 or more NYMC full-time faculty.

**University Hospital:**
- Offers clerkships in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, ob/gyn; (neurology and psychiatry clerkships are desirable.)
- NYMC sponsors all GME programs.
- Primary care preceptors are available.
- Has a hospital-based senior associate dean.
- Has 150 or more NYMC full-time faculty.

**Major Hospital Affiliate:**
- Offers at least two clerkships—medicine, surgery, pediatrics, ob/gyn, neurology, or psychiatry.
- NYMC sponsors GME programs in clerkship departments.
- Primary care preceptors are available.
- Has 50 or more full-time NYMC faculty.

**Specialty Hospital:**
- Offers no clerkships.
- Offers electives or clerkships in specialty area(s).
- NYMC sponsors GME programs in specialty area(s).
- Has 50 or more NYMC faculty.

**Affiliate Hospital or Teaching Site:**
- Primary care preceptors are available.
- Offers selected GME programs.
- Has a hospital-based Director of Medical Education.
- Has fewer than 50 faculty.
PRODUCTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Metropolitan Hospital Center

The following overview of ten of our teaching partners begins with one of the longest continuous affiliations of a medical school and a hospital in this country. The historic relationship of New York Medical College and Metropolitan Hospital Center, which dates back to 1875, elicited the following comment in One hundred Years of Medical Progress, the history of the Medical College, written by alumnus Leonard Paul Wershub and published in 1967:

“For many years, in fact ever since the beginning of Metropolitan, its attending staff has been mainly composed of faculty of Flower (the hospital then owned by the College), and many of the resident staff have been graduates of our College. Thus, a very close affiliation has always existed between the College and the Hospital. This has led to the development of a modern medical center.” Dr. Wershub is correct; it has indeed!

Metropolitan Hospital Center, located on the upper East Side of Manhattan, provides medical and mental health services primarily to the residents of East Harlem and Yorkville and draws patients from the neighboring areas of the South Bronx and Queens as well. With 607 beds, Metropolitan admits more than 15,000 patients every year. Visits to its 88 primary care and specialty clinics number some 300,000 annually, with approximately 65,000 visits made to its emergency rooms. A university affiliate, Metropolitan conducts both undergraduate and graduate medical education programs in all the major departments.

A member of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, Metropolitan joined with other HHC facilities in 1994 to form the Generations+Health Network. Now composed of Metropolitan, Lincoln Hospital and Mental Health Center, Morrisania Diagnostic and Treatment Center, and Segundo Ruiz Belvis Diagnostic and Treatment Center, the network is dedicated to improving health care services in North Manhattan and the South Bronx. Significant advances have been made toward achieving its goals.

In 1996, Metropolitan opened its ultramodern labor and delivery suite, a highlight of its ongoing physical plant and equipment improvement program. The four birthing suites, two traditional labor rooms, two delivery and operating rooms, an obstetric emergency room and family waiting rooms provide a family-friendly setting where patients receive excellent care.

In the summer of 1997, the Center will inaugurate its completely renovated, state-of-the-art pediatric clinic; other areas are also undergoing renovation. Metropolitan’s aim is to provide modern, attractive, technologically advanced settings for patient care to the greatest extent possible.
The four Sisters of Charity who founded Saint Vincents Hospital in 1849 would surely be pleased by the words the Medical Center has chosen to describe its mission: Charity • Science • Service. They would also be gratified that today Saint Vincents, an academic medical center of New York Medical College, encompasses a health care system that reaches every corner of the Metropolitan New York region, with care provided “in the honorable tradition of a teaching hospital.”

A Level I Tertiary Care and Trauma Center, Saint Vincents provides expert immediate care 24 hours a day to patients with the most complex illnesses and injuries. Specialties covered by Saint Vincents' physicians span life's stages from obstetrics to geriatrics. Services comprise emergency, outpatient, and inpatient care by experts in virtually every field, including surgery and critical care, cancer and cardiac care, physical rehabilitation, neurosciences, and multidisciplinary pain management. Patients from toddlers to grandparents have relied on the hospital’s psychiatric evaluation and treatment services for decades.

The Medical Center’s many outreach services to the community include the Elizabeth Seton Childbearing Center, maternity and parent education centers, the Chinatown Clinic, and the rape crisis program.

Since 1981, when Saint Vincents became one of the first hospitals to care for AIDS patients, its AIDS Center has become the State’s leader in the number of patients treated. HIV patients receive the full measure of service they need, including home treatment and advanced drug therapies. Homeless people in more than 30 temporary shelters receive counseling and special services.

Primary care health centers affiliated with Saint Vincents are situated throughout neighborhoods of Lower Manhattan. Working together, Saint Vincents and New York Medical College have designed training programs to heighten the knowledge, skills, and caring approach that doctors need to act as care managers.

Further expanding Saint Vincents’ extraordinary system of care and its significance for undergraduate and graduate medical education has been the launching of the Catholic Health Care Network of New York, with the designation of Saint Vincents Medical Center as the “flagship” hospital of the network, which is the largest Catholic integrated health care delivery system in the country.
Westchester County Medical Center

Westchester County Medical Center is a Level I Tertiary and Trauma-Care Center serving more than 3.6 million people in the seven-county Hudson Valley region of New York, Bergen County, New Jersey, and Fairfield County, Connecticut.

As an academic medical center affiliated with New York Medical College, WCMC is on the leading edge of medical research and the latest advances in clinical care. Situated in Valhalla, New York, on 560 acres, the Center's extraordinary specialty services make it the referral hospital of choice for many physicians and patients in the region. It is home to the leading and largest kidney transplant program in New York State, the only liver transplant program in the region, and one of the most highly regarded cardiology and cardiac surgery programs on the East Coast.

The Medical Center's medivac helicopter service, STAT Flight, can respond to accidents in minutes 24 hours a day, carrying critical inter-hospital patient transfers throughout the 5,000 square-mile region served by the Center.

In addition to its comprehensive specialized care services, state-of-the-art care is provided through WCMC's Centers of Excellence. Established to create a seamless continuum of care for patients at every level, its Heart Center, Trauma and Burn Center, Children's Hospital, and Transplant, Cancer and Neurosciences centers offer newborns, infants, children, and adults from around the region and beyond care provided by some of the world's most skilled specialists.

The Medical Center has four components, encompassing more than 1,000 beds: the main hospital, a 524-bed facility including a 109-bed Children's Hospital; a 121-bed Behavioral Health Center that offers a full array of inpatient and outpatient services and is one of the only 14 comprehensive psychiatric emergency facilities in the state; the 400-bed Taylor Care Center, an extended care facility, offering a complete range of medical and rehabilitation services; and the Westchester Institute for Human Development, an academic training and care facility dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of children and adults with disabilities.

In the short span of its 20-year history as a major medical center WCMC has earned a reputation both as a fine training and resource center for the surrounding medical community and as a center of top-level clinical and biomedical research, the results of which benefit both the Medical Center’s patients and the international community.
In November 1996 New York Medical College and Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center signed a new affiliation agreement, significantly increasing the participation of the Medical Center in the College's educational and research programs. To reflect OLMMC's enhanced role, the Medical Center has been designated a university affiliate, integral to the College's academic mission.

The two institutions have been affiliated since 1986 and many alumni and alumnae will recall rotations at the Medical Center when it was a known as Misericordia Hospital. An additional change occurred in July 1996 when OLMMC merged with another College affiliate, St. Agnes Hospital in White Plains, under the Our Lady of Mercy Healthcare System. St. Agnes, a free-standing 184-bed hospital, retains its name and identity as a community hospital. The merger of the two institutions, both members of the Catholic Health Care Network, is viewed as enhancing the medical services of the Hospital and advancing the College's mission.

Under the terms of the new affiliation agreement between OLMMC and NYMC, the College is OLMMC's exclusive medical school affiliate for purposes of educating medical students, residents and fellows. The College will sponsor residency training programs including emergency medicine, medicine, ob/gyn, pediatrics and surgery among others, and fellowship programs as well. The College will also sponsor continuing medical education programs for physicians.

Our Lady of Mercy Healthcare System is a multi-site hospital system with 796 beds serving the public through its 233rd Street and Florence D’Urso campuses in the Bronx, in addition to St. Agnes. Further, the system also operates Medical Villages in Co-Op City, Pelham Bay, Highbridge and Bronx River in the Bronx, and McLean Heights in Yonkers, NY.

OLMMC has provided healthcare to the region for over a century. It was established in 1887, when six Sisters and a nurse were brought to New York by ship from Canada. They worked first on Staten Island, then moved successfully to Yorkville, Harlem, and finally to the Bronx, where the Medical Center has always adapted to changing times and the changing needs of growing communities.

The Stamford Hospital

Connecticut’s Stamford Hospital has been serving the surrounding communities for 100 years as a not-for-profit community teaching hospital. A major affiliate of NYMC since 1973, the hospital provides top quality care and promotes community wellness as it educates future professionals through undergraduate clerkships and graduate medical education programs in internal medicine, ob/gyn, surgery and psychiatry. Starting with 30 beds in a renovated mansion, the hospital today has 305 beds in medicine, surgery, ob/gyn, and psychiatry—all fields in which residency training programs are conducted. Medical and surgical intensive care units include Level II neonatal ICU with pediatricians and neonatologists available 24 hours a day. Psychiatric services include inpatient, outpatient, partial hospitalization and specialized adolescent programs.

Stamford Hospital recently received recertification as a Level II Trauma Center/Emergency Department.

The hospital also includes the Jaffe MRI Center, Bennett Cancer Center, family birthing center, a school of radiology, a health sciences library and various community and outreach programs.

New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, founded in 1820, is this country’s earliest specialty care hospital and the oldest in continuous operation. A teaching affiliate of New York Medical College, it is ranked as one of the best centers for ophthalmology and otolaryngology in the nation, and is a major site for required subspecialty rotation for 4th year medical students. As of early 1997, the Infirmary recorded between 150,000 and 160,000 outpatient visits and 18,000 surgical cases annually. Of these, 12,000-13,000 are ambulatory, same day surgery, and 5,000 are more “traditional” inpatient surgery with a stay of one night or more.

New York Medical College’s Department of
Otolaryngology takes four residents each year in its highly sought graduate education program, based at the Infirmary. Residents are accepted for the program after they have completed one-to-two years of general surgery. In 1997 the residents matched from NYMC, the University of Michigan, Harvard, and Cornell. The Infirmary’s Institute for Continuing Medical Education offers physicians and other health professionals ongoing accredited educational programs.

The Infirmary’s New York Eye Trauma Center is the referral site for the most difficult cases in the region, treating a significant percentage of all cases reported to the National Eye Center. The hospital’s medical staff number 500, many of whom are noted for breakthrough research and the introduction of widely practiced techniques.

St. Vincent’s Medical Center of Richmond

St. Vincent’s Medical Center of Richmond and Bayley Seton Hospital are both major teaching affiliates of New York Medical College. They are part of the Sisters of Charity Health Care System of Staten Island, which operates acute and extended care facilities and home care and hospice programs, as well as a day care center and senior housing. The System is also a member of the Catholic Health Care Network of New York.

St. Vincent’s primary service area is all of Staten Island; its secondary service area is South Brooklyn. With the exception of cardiac surgery, St. Vincent’s is capable of all primary and specialty health care services. Cardiac care is not available anywhere on Staten Island.

St. Vincent’s is the most active emergency and acute care center on the Island. Among its particular strengths are its Level I trauma center, an extensive obstetrical and pediatric service, which includes a high risk pregnancy services, and the Island’s only chest pain center.

St. Vincent’s also maintains the most experienced cardiology service on Staten Island; both inpatient and ambulatory oncology services; vascular, orthopaedic, neurosurgical and hand surgery services, an active ambulatory surgery service with laser and laparoscopic capabilities; AIDS services; an interventional radiology service, and one of the largest and most extensive psychiatric networks in New York City, including the Island’s only 24-hour psychiatric emergency services, and the City’s only gamblers treatment program.

New York Medical College sponsors St. Vincent’s residencies in medicine, obstetrics, psychiatry and radiology.

Bayley Seton Hospital

Bayley Seton Hospital was established in 1981. At that time the New York Sisters of Charity, concerned that the projected dissolution of the U.S. Public Health Service hospital system would result in the closing of Bayley Seton and the loss of its services to the community, assumed sponsorship of the hospital.

Today Bayley Seton’s primary area of service is all of Staten Island, and its secondary service is South Brooklyn. Among its strengths are an extensive dermatology service that includes phototheraphy, Mohs surgery, and a laser skin care center; and a comprehensive vision center that includes the Island’s only around-the-clock eye trauma service.

The hospital offers a highly regarded geriatric acute care center and primary care program for low-income seniors, as well as an interventional radiology service, a chronic dialysis center, mental health programs that include an Inpatient unit, and an active ambulatory surgery service, among other excellent programs.

Bayley Seton Hospital serves as a clinical rotation site for residencies in dermatology and ophthalmology in conjunction with its teaching affiliate, New York Medical College.
Sound Shore Medical Center of Westchester

Sound Shore Medical Center of Westchester, the largest private teaching hospital in the County, is a major teaching affiliate of New York Medical College and a major clinical affiliate of Westchester County Medical Center.

The name of the medical center, formerly New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center, was changed in 1996 to reflect the center's growth in clinical services, its role in graduate medical education, and its diverse population of patients who live in a dozen Westchester communities beyond New Rochelle, as well as in the Throgs Neck and Northeast sections of the Bronx.

Sound Shore Medical Center provides comprehensive primary, acute, emergency, specialty and long-term health care to 80,000 people. More than 600 physicians, representing 32 clinical specialties, comprise the medical staff.

Among the services the medical center offers are the only Antepartum Testing Laboratory in Westchester County, a Level II nursery for low birthweight and medically fragile newborns; a regional lead evaluation and treatment center; a pediatric and adolescent subspecialty center; laparoscopic surgery and comprehensive cancer centers; a wide range of radiologic services; a geriatrics institute; cardiac rehabilitation, and mental health services. The center also offers a wide variety of educational and support groups.

Free-standing residency programs in medicine and surgery are part of New York Medical College's Medical Education Consortium and residency programs in anaesthesiology, pediatrics, and pathology have been added. The medical center is also an active site for training third- and fourth-year medical students and for fellowships in geriatrics and laparoscopic surgery.

Mid-Hudson Family Health Services Institute

The establishment of the Department of Family Medicine (DFM) in 1978 helped New York Medical College to extend its clinical campus to the Mid-Hudson region of New York State, an area that has been identified as in need of primary care health manpower.

Under the leadership of the Department of Family Medicine and its corporate affiliate, the Mid-Hudson Family Health Services Institute, educational programs in medicine and the allied health professions continue to expand to address the region's and state's special needs for primary healthcare as well as to facilitate the recruitment of family physicians to medically underserved communities and at-risk populations in New York State.

Since its inception, the DFM has established and sponsors a family practice residency training program in the Mid-Hudson region and has developed academic affiliations with two others: one in Yonkers and another in Stamford. As a result, the DFM offers a range of graduate and undergraduate training opportunities from urban Westchester County to rural Ulster County.

The generalist clerkship has been administered by the DFM since its inception in 1994. This core clerkship places students with community-based primary care physicians in an ambulatory setting for a four-week rotation. The two days of didactics during the rotation are presented largely by family physicians, with other generalist participating as needed.

All told, the Department of Family Medicine has the academic responsibility for training 70 family practice residents as well as the entire third-year class of approximately 190 students each year.
The Alumni Association’s Fourteenth Annual Winter Seminar, held at the Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort and Country Club, Puerto Rico, January 27-January 30, 1997, was one of the best attended since its founding. Sponsored by the NYMC Office of Continuing Medical Education, the Seminar, which met the criteria for 20 CME credits, examined a broad gamut of issues touching on “Health Care Delivery to an Aging Population.”

Joseph E. Dursi ’59, course director and moderator for the event, opened the first session on Monday with an overview of the four-day program. Dr. Dursi is associate professor of surgery and director of health services at NYMC, and chairman for special events for the Alumni Association. He then introduced Michael A. Antonelle ’62, Alumni Association president, who addressed participants on the state of the Association, which he pronounced “good”, and reviewed some high points of his four-year presidency, including innovations in new membership classifications; enhanced connections of alumni/ae with students, faculty and administration; and special events held from coast to coast that involved alumni/ae in both existing and new classifications.

After thanking Dr. Antonelle and his wife, Kathy, for the cordial hospitality they have extended to all seminar participants during the past four years, Dr. Dursi introduced Rev. Monsignor Harry C. Barrett, NYMC President and CEO. Msgr. Barrett presented an update on the Medical College that addressed the high quality of both the faculty and the student body; the state of student housing, which he described as “top flight”; the need for improvements to some parts of the physical plant, “planned as temporary 25 years ago”; his deep concern about the high cost of tuition and the urgent need for funding scholarships for the medical students; as well as studies being conducted and steps being taken by the Medical College to position itself for the growth and for the challenges ahead. He then delivered an address on “Ethical Dilemmas in Health Care Delivery to an Aging Population.” (excerpted on page 13.)

Other speakers on day one of the Seminar were Joseph A. Cimino, M.D., professor and chairman of the NYMC Department of Community and Preventive Medicine, who spoke about “Projections of Disease and Disability in an Aging Population and the Potential for Prevention,” and Steven R. Gambert, M.D., professor of medicine, associate dean of academic programs, and director of the NYMC Center for the Study of Aging, who spoke on “Aging--An Overview.”

On Tuesday, Dr. Gambert’s paper on “Hormonal Aspects of the Aging Process” was followed by a look at “Medical Education for the 21st Century,” delivered by Ralph A. O’Connell, M.D., provost of the University and dean of the Medical College. A presentation by A. Louis Southren, M.D., NYMC/WCMC professor of medicine and chief of endocrinology and metabolism, dealt with “Treatment of the Aging Eye in the Next Millennium.” Dr. Gambert closed the day’s session with a talk on “Impaired Cognitive Function in the Elderly Patient.”

Wednesday’s program opened with two talks on “COPD in the Elderly Patient,” presented by John R. Addrizzo ’64, director of Brook Island Medical Associates of Staten Island. Michael A. Antonelle ’62, medical director and chief of gastroenterology of St. Agnes Hospital, White Plains, spoke next on “Swallowing
Disorders in the Elderly.” Three alumni who are on the staff of Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip, NY, participated in the day’s program: David J. Beccia ’70, chairman of the hospital section of urology, discussed “Urological Disorders in the Elderly Patient”; John A. Pallotta ’55, director of Ob/Gyn, gave a talk on “Hormonal Replacement Therapy in the Post-Menopausal Woman,” and John D. O’Brien ’60, attending ophthalmology, discussed “New Concepts for the Aging Eye.”

On Friday, the last day of the course, John D. Waller, Jr., ’71, chief of the foot service at Lenox Hill Hospital and adjunct orthopedic surgery member of the foot service at the Hospital for Joint Diseases, spoke on “The Aging Foot”; Dr. Antonelle addressed “Management and Treatment of Constipation in the Elderly,” and Alan Baskin, M.D., assistant clinical professor of medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, spoke on “Diagnosis and Treatment of Osteoporosis.”

Each session ended with a panel discussion focusing on the topics covered that day. After the session’s close, participants were on their own to enjoy the outdoors, surf and socialize, or play golf and tennis, until evening when they gathered to savor the attractive events planned for their pleasure.

Blending reason, sensitivity and humor, Msgr. Barrett brought into sharp focus the ethical dilemmas inherent in issues that relate to how our society deals with aging.

“The main topic of this seminar concerns what Americans apparently do best—get older,” said the President, drawing a wave of laughter. He added, “We reach the stage where we have more pills than we have friends. There is that joke about one’s schedule revolving around doctors appointments. That becomes a reality, and it’s probably a good sign, because at least we’re still around to go to the doctor.”

Msgr. Barrett continued, citing statistics. “In the period from 1960 to 1994, the total U.S. population grew 45 percent, while the number of individuals 65 and older climbed 100 percent. The elderly population rose from 17 million, or one in 11, in 1960, to 33 million, or one in eight, in 1994. The questions this trend raises need to be addressed, and a number of them will be during this seminar. I will try to grease the skids a little for those who will speak after me with a few relevant facts about ethics and aging.

“From the day we are born, we are involved with questions on ethics. All of you who are physicians, every one of us in health care professions, has had to deal with ethical dilemmas since our first experience with a patient or in a hospital.

“As a society we have dealt badly with numerous ethical dilemmas. Some of these issues seemingly don’t directly involve us. But issues of aging are universal and affect us all. For me, the issue of physician-assisted suicide is not a theoretical question. If that ground changes, somehow, sometime in my life, my ground...
may shift, too. Even if I am not faced with other ethical dilemmas, I most surely will be faced with the consequence of that one.

"I looked in the thesaurus for phrases that relate to aging. Some are kind of funny—'long in the tooth, no spring chicken, out to pasture'. But in large measure they are negative. In America, the notion that we have got to be young pervades our mentality.

"What concerns do I have about the state we call aging?" Msgr. Barrett asked. "I'm concerned that our elderly are socially isolated. In our mobile society we respond to aging by warehousing people, building long-term care facilities that are necessary for some, but I think tremendously overused. We try to make these places beautiful, we program them, we try to do all kinds of things. But very often parents are just left behind, and that involves ethics. Is that what we want as a society? Is that the right thing to do? Or do we insist that families take responsibility on an ongoing basis, except in the most tragic cases?

"There are also issues related to personal isolation; aging often brings the loss of a life’s companion, the person who was always expected to be there.

"And then there is the diminished value we give to individual human life. Depression in an older population somehow seems less important to treat than the same condition in younger people. Loss of economic means—a nice way of saying you don’t have a job anymore—also has a profound effect on diminishing the value of human life.

"Pope John Paul II has said that one earner’s wage should be sufficient for a family to survive. How many people can do that? Many people hold three or four jobs. Parents, and often children, work just to maintain a minimum economic level.

"There is also groundswell of enthusiasm for suicide that seems strange to me—the feeling that committing suicide is a good thing to do. Nobody will say it, but the idea is there, instead of recognizing that suicide usually comes about because of the conditions I have mentioned—social and personal isolation and the depression that comes with it. We redefine compassion to suit our own purpose.

"What amazes me in the debates over physician-assisted suicide is that in one of its cases the Circuit Court actually suggests there is no difference between taking a person off of life support and actively giving a person the medication that will kill them. That seems illogical at its very base, because what is different is "intentionality", which they never bring up. As we all know the one thing that sets us apart as human beings is our "intentionality".

"What is my intention? I would hope we all try to do the right thing. That doesn’t mean we always will, or that what we do will always have the right consequence. But we must always know what our intention is; we must be able to define it, and then make the right and moral decision.

"And we have to do something to shift the focus in our society, which today centers on a culture of youth. Last year John Paul II issued an encyclical on life. At the very beginning—whether you agree or disagree with his ethical conclusions—he identified a condition he termed 'culture of death', which he viewed as a worldwide phenomenon. People are becoming more and more at ease with diminishing the value of human lives. Societies continue to be extremely oppressive. The question is not just about taking of human life by abortion but also about diminishing individual human life, even about economic systems that do that very thing—including our own.

"The notion of this 'culture of death' scared John Paul II. The conflict is actually a very personal one for him because of what he experienced during the horrors of Nazi Germany, where he was placed in forced labor and almost lost his life, and the experience of Eastern Europe over the past 50 years.

"Just before coming here I read an AMA survey that asked respondents what approach to dying they would prefer: 13 percent answered physician-assisted suicide; 40 percent chose hospice or palliative care. So the message is getting out that you don’t have to die in intractable pain.

"In closing, I will make a suggestion to you relating to ethics. Ethical decision making, for your own life and for your patients’ lives, does not come naturally. We all think we know something about ethics. We think we know how to go about raising a question of ethics and getting an ethical answer. But if we just take a look at some of the courts’ decisions, very often blatant misstatements are made.

"I would encourage you and challenge you: for your own professional capabilities in your own specialties, you really need to keep an eye out for educational opportunities related to ethics, to try to struggle with some case studies. You will begin to see that questions of ethics require really hard work, that they are very tricky and that there are no easy certainties. Again, although this is one of those concepts we think we can deal with naturally, we know that ethical issues that once didn’t touch us directly, now touch us very directly."
President's Advisory Council Formed

The formation of a President's National Advisory Council, aimed at positioning New York Medical College to benefit from the advice of some of its highly experienced graduates, was announced in the spring by President and Chief Executive Officer Rev. Msgr. Harry C. Barrett, D. Min., M.P.H. The Council is composed of individuals with a national perspective on health care who have agreed to share their expertise with the College on issues of major importance. Although the Council will meet annually, it will be available to the president for interim counsel, as needed. Chaired by Albert Willner '43, who has been active in the Southern Florida Alumni Chapter and is a member of the College's board of trustees, the Council will also offer guidance to the College as it implements its strategic objectives, with the goal of advancing the stature of the school nationally.

Fifteen graduates have accepted appointment to the Council. Msgr. Barrett said, "These alumni and alumnae are known for their leadership and prominence in the field of medicine, and they have a grasp of what is happening in education and health care on a national level. Also, as graduates, they have a particular concern for the future of the College."

The agenda for the first meeting, held April 11-12, included presentations on undergraduate and graduate medical education, research, primary care, and College finances. Council members met with students and took tours of the Valhalla campus.
Saluting
Saul A. Schwartz ’30:

Role
Model
Extraordinary

If cloning were an acceptable way to improve the human race, Saul Schwartz would be an ideal candidate. It would greatly benefit humankind to have a world filled with physicians of his caliber and qualities: competence, commitment, and principle, evidenced during close to seven decades of professional life.

Dr. Schwartz started his contribution to medicine as a student, when he was named president of the Contin society, the College’s honorary scholastic society, and literary editor of his class yearbook. He was also instrumental in founding the College’s IOTA Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha, the national honor society, of which he is a member. To honor Dr. Schwartz and in appreciation of his sponsorship of the Chapter’s annual A.O.A. lecture, the physician who gives that lecture is designated Saul A. Schwartz Visiting Professor.

A role model in very many ways, Dr. Schwartz has balanced different facets of life with great success. He did pioneering work in gastroenterology and took superb care of his patients, while working with great effectiveness for the advancement of the Medical College and Alumni Association. Simultaneously, he shared a beautiful way of life with his late wife, Helen Schwartz, and their family.

And, in a very important role for the Alumni Association, Dr. Schwartz was editor-in-chief of Chironian for more than a decade and continues as an editorial consultant.

At this time of his 90th year, the Alumni Association salutes this exemplary physician, who carried his roles as professor of medicine, attending physician and head of a fine family with dedication and dignity, and wishes him many more happy anniversaries as our stellar alumnus.
Class Notes: A reunion for five-year milestone classes was 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).

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, Chirionian, Alumni Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY 10595.

1930
Natalie Goldberg wrote that she had retired after 62 years of dermatology practice and that she had just become great grandmother to a beautiful baby girl. She continues to live in NYC, is very well, and enjoys both travel and study at Hunter C, where she took her pre-med courses in the ’20s.

1941
Henry Reis, Jr. is a consultant in breast diseases at the Columbia Grand Strand Regional Med Ctr in South Carolina. He was recently awarded the Silver Palm of Jerusalem.

1947 50-YEAR REUNION

1948
Sevemour Nochimson is vice president of the Board of Managers of Passaic County Preakness H in New Jersey and has been chairman of its medical division for the past four years. He continues in active practice of medicine.

1949
Clemens Prokesch continues part-time practice of internal medicine and spends his leisure time in philatelic activities. He is also vice president of the German Club of Connecticut.

1950
Bernard Conte retired from ob/gyn practice in 1993. He writes that his son, Harry A. Conte, is a fellow in infectious diseases at Yale U S of M and Yale-New Haven H. His daughter, Felice Conte, is a graduate of Boston College Law School and associate producer of Court TV.

1951
Marvin Linder retired from private practice. He writes that his son Steven is Board certified in internal medicine and pulmonology. Dr. Linder has four grandchildren.

1953
Robert Brennan retired from active pediatric practice. He says he has “eight children and seventeen grandchildren, but no M.D.’s!”

Paul Fuchs writes that he has retired and is living in Arizona half the year and NYC the other half. He recently welcomed a seventh grandchild and is anticipating the marriage of one granddaughter.

1954
Maurice Safir retired in August 1995. He and his wife moved to Seattle, where they found that Ron Ferguson ’95 was their next-door neighbor.

1955
Herve Byron says: “I sold the assets of my practice, the Bergen Eye Institute, to Physicians Resource Group, a New York Stock Exchange-listed company. I will work with them as a consultant for the next two years.” He adds that “This concept of consolidation is penetrating medicine as it has many other industries.”

1956
Paul Palmer was selected by the New York State Academy of Family Physicians as the Family Practice Educator of the Year for 1996, a high honor.

1957 40-YEAR REUNION

1958
Martin Floch was re-elected to his post of governor for Connecticut of the American College of Gastroenterology.

1959
Alfonso Richards continues in solo private practice of urology and writes of his children that his son Christopher is a graduate of Northern Arizona State, specializing in computers; Robert has a PhD in engineering from Stanford; Katherine graduated from the U of Oregon and Elizabeth from the U of California. Dr. Richards adds, “All are independent and self-sufficient.”

1960
James Leach wrote that he and Evelyn had greatly enjoyed the ’96 40th reunion of the class in May. He said he had seen quite a few classmates and talked with Ron Pion and his wife at lunch. Dr. Leach commented that it hadn’t seemed like 40 years. He added, “Hello to all who couldn’t make it and a big thank you to Steve Roux, who worked so hard to make it happen.”

1961
Mark Anapoiell and his wife, Maureen, have three children, about whom he sends a progress report. Steven is a lawyer, Bill is an internist, and Kim is an accountant—all practicing in California. Bill and his wife now have a son, Jacob Ryan, born in July ’96. Mark adds that he and Maureen “would love to hear from and play hosts to anyone visiting our area from NYMC.”

1962
Richard Cobb is chief of radiology at Bassett Healthcare in Cooperstown, NY. He and his wife, Pat, returned to Kuala Lumpur last August to attend the graduation of the master students he had taught during his six-month stay in 1995 as a visiting professor (see Chirionian, Volume 112, Spring ’95). The Cobbs found the return trip immensely gratifying from the moment the students met them at the airport until they left five days later. During their visit, the students showed deep appreciation for the learning experience they had received and for the friendship of both Richard and Pat, who had kept their promise to return for the graduation. On their way home the Cobbs celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a stop in Paris.

1963
Robert (Sandy) Littlejohn reports that he and his wife, Judy, are active—he with his family practice of 39 years, as well as public health, school health, Kiwanis, and church; she as an RN. He recommends exercise, racquetball, biking, weights, and aerobics as the secret to good health.
**Thomas Mathews** has retired “for the third (and last?) time” but is still teaching residents at UCSF a few days a month. He planned to move to Petaluma, CA, in January ’97.

**Guy Settipane** is a clinical professor of medicine at Brown U S of M.

**John Tracy** was honored by Sound Shore Med Ctr of Westchester (formerly New Rochelle Med Ctr) for his 39 years of outstanding service, including his contributions as chief of general medicine and chairman of the medical education and quality assurance committees and, after his retirement from his practice, for his work as physician director of quality management. He was one of the leaders cited at the Center’s annual gala in November ’96 for the level of their professional excellence.

**John Lynch**, the oncologist who is associate medical director of the Washington (DC) H Ctr Cancer Institute, has been elected president of the newly formed Mid-Atlantic Division of the American Cancer Society. Dr. Lynch chaired the ACS Committee that merged the operations of the Society in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Delaware into one division. Dr. Lynch has been associated with the ACS since 1965, serving on the national board of directors for five years and chairing several important committees; he has served as trustee of his local district since 1974.

**William Melford** writes that he has “finally limited my practice to gyn only—4 partners, 32 years, and 8,000 deliveries were enough to convince me that it was time to stay home at night. Claire and I are enjoying more time to see the grandchildren.”

**Charles (Skip) Bechert** was named Tulane’s outstanding alumnus for ’96 and was honored at the annual Tulane Eye Alumni Day held in conjunction with the O’Brien Professorship on June 14-15. Dr. Bechert presented the James Allen Lecture entitled “The Historical Evolution of Intraocular Lens Implantation with a Current Comparison of No-Stitch Surgery, Using Both a Foldable and a Nonfoldable Implant.”

**Richard Byrne** is medical director of the Department of Radiology at Desert Hospital in Palm Springs, CA, and chief of the subsection of angiography and interventional radiology of the hospital.

**Harold Engelke** spent February ’96 as the ship’s doctor on a cruise ship in Antarctica and signed up for two cruises, whale watching in the Sea of Cortez off Baja, CA, in January ’97. He adds, “Retirement is wonderful.”

**William Mahoney** was one of the five leaders honored by Sound Shore Med Ctr of Westchester (formerly New Rochelle Med Ctr) at the Center’s annual gala in November ’96 for professional excellence during “over 25 years of outstanding and lasting contributions to expanding and improving the quality of care provided to patients.”

**Rafael Perez**, a family physician in Los Angeles, was honored for long-term service in the American Academy of Family Physicians, of which he has been a member for 25 years.

**Howard Harrison** writes that he has retired “to sunny (sometimes) Florida, where we are on the West Coast near Sanibel and Captiva, across from Ft. Myers.”

**David Mininberg** has been honored by the National Kidney Foundation of New York/New Jersey with presentation of the Foundation’s “Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding accomplishments in the field of urology.” The prestigious honor was presented at the organization’s annual Pediatric Awards Banquet, April 9, 1997. Dr. Mininberg is a clinical associate professor of urology at New York H-Cornell U M Ctr. He was president of the Alumni Association for the years 1977-78.

**James Walker** wrote that his wife of 35 years, Pamela Ashton Walker, who was a graduate of Flower and Fifth Avenue Nursing School, died of ovarian carcinoma February 26, 1996. “She is missed by all who knew her,” he said.

**1962**

**Aileen Kass** writes that her middle daughter, Robin Kass, MD, is completing a neurology residency at Columbia Presbyterian H in NYC.

**1964**

**Melvin Gerber** writes that his son Eric is a member of NYMC’s Class of 2000.

**1965**

**Howard Cantwell** is “still practicing orthopaedics despite HMO’s. Now all our traveling seems to have a grandson at the destination—one in Hong Kong, two in Connecticut.”

**Leonard Krich** writes that his son Mark is in the NYMC Class of ’97, looking forward to a career in emergency medicine. Dr. Krich is enjoying his 13th year in sunny Arizona, where he is anesthesia chairman for CIGNA Healthcare of Arizona.

**Alan Wecksell** completed his 25th year in North Shore U H’s Department of Radiology in ’96.

**1966**

**Gary Donshik** writes that his son, Jon, graduated from U of P with an MD and an MBA and is now a third-year orthopaedic resident at Albert Einstein C of M.

**1967**

**Paul Baxt** has retired from active practice and divides his time between New York, Colorado, and Florida.

**Victor Ettinger** wrote that he would take the post of network medical director of Bakersfield Family Med Group in Bakersfield, CA, in January ’97. He had been regional medical director for Correctional Medical Services in New Mexico.

**1969**

**Richard Hirsh** reported that he continues humanitarian mammography teaching projects, having completed one in August ’95 on the West Bank of Israel and another in Honduras in February ’96. He was planning to take donated equipment, including a new dedicated mammography machine, with his team to the Republic of Armenia in April ’97.

**1970**

**Michael Bonder** has been appointed medical director of Women’s East Pavilion, a new 16-bed LDRP facility with 12 associated gyn beds, in Chattanooga. The facility is a joint venture of Erlanger and Memorial hospitals in Chattanooga. Dr. Bonder has been on the clinical faculty of the U of Tennessee for 19 years and has chaired ob/gyn at Erlanger H, a tertiary care center, for the past five years.

**Ann-Marie Paley** wrote a very special note, printed here in full: “One graduates from medical school with the assumption that one’s classmates are reasonably competent physicians. For the past several years I have had the opportunity to see what a fine physician one of them is. Eight years ago, when my mother died suddenly, I knew it would take a miracle to keep my father’s spirit going. Dad’s physician, our classmate Fred Fensterer, was part of the miracle. When Dad could no longer come to him, Fred came to Dad. He respected Dad’s dignity and his right to make his own choices. His unfailing support of me, the rest of the family, and Dad’s caregivers touched our hearts. In the last weeks of Dad’s life, Fred’s wife, Beverly, worked her own magic and made Visiting Nurse Service appear at Dad’s house to assure that his final days would be as comfortable as possible.”

**1972**

**Robert Restuccia** wrote that he hoped to return for the 25-year reunion of the class this spring. He will retire from the U.S. Army in December, having been chief of pediatrics and program director at William Beaumont AMC in El Paso, TX, since 1993. His Army service began in 1980, when he completed a pediatric residency and pulmonology fellowship at the U of Colorado. During his service he was stationed at Letterman AMC in San Francisco, 2nd General H in Landstuhl, Germany, and Walter Reed AMC in Washington, DC, before moving to El Paso.
His Army career also included a critical care fellowship at Children's H of Philadelphia in 1987-88.

**David Young** wrote: "We gave up city life to have a life in a town of 4,000. Son lan is a freshman honor student in high school, and daughter Danielle is an honor student at Creighton U, majoring in pre-med and drama. My wife, America, is a home health nurse. Life is wonderful."

1973

**Alan Berkeley** wrote that he was reporting with great sadness "the passing of our classmate and my longtime friend **Michael Dunn**, of brain cancer. He is survived by his devoted wife, Barbara, and two children, Leonard and Meredith."

**Thomas Flannery** has been appointed medical director of Healthsource, New York, Inc. in Syracuse. He completed internship and residency at St. Vincent's H and Med Ctr in NYC and a two-year fellowship in gastrointestinal diseases in the Brown U medical program. He practiced in Milton, MA, where he and his family lived for 17 years. While in practice he held hospital medical staff leadership positions and oversaw managed care activities. Prior to assuming his current position Dr. Flannery was senior vice president for medical affairs for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Utica-Watertown, NY. He and his wife, Mary, a pediatrician at Bassett Healthcare, live in New Hartford, NY, with their three children.

1974

**John Pruie** is in private practice of ob/gyn at Staten Island U H.

1975

**Joseph Castellano** and his wife, Heather, both ophthalmologists, practice in Tarrytown, NY. They live in Irvington, NY, with their four children.

**Barbara Roth** writes from Ohio: "For me, there is a wonderful balance out here in the Midwest. My time and energy are divided between my busy GP office practice and cooking and homemaking in a rural college town. While far different from what I expected, it is much more satisfying to me."

1976

**Jeffrey Bicker** has been elected to fellowship in the American College of Nuclear Medicine and is serving a three-year term on the College's board of directors. He has also been elected a fellow of the American College of Nuclear Physicians.

**I Martin Levy** has been appointed director of orthopaedic surgery at Our Lady of Mercy Med Ctr, where he is developing an orthopaedic center of excellence.

**Edward Moss** is editor of the newsletter of the Columbia Presbyterian H Department of Urology.

**Graham Whitfield** has been appointed a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Surgery at Nova Southeastern U—College of Osteopathic M in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He is also an attending orthopaedic surgeon at JFK Med Ctr in Lake Worth and Wellington Regional Med Ctr in West Palm Beach.

1977

**Douglas Byrnes** practices cardiology at St. John's Episcopal H in Smithtown, NY, and at St. Francis H, Huntington H, and University H at Stony Brook. He adds, "Elizabeth graduates from Hofstra this year; Jake is a junior pre-med at Albany, where he plays football; Erin is a freshman at Oneonta; and Kathleen is working part-time in the office."

**Stanley Weintraub** is chief of hematology at Hackensack (NJ) U Med Ctr and is one of the managing partners in the Northern New Jersey Cancer Ctr, which he describes as the largest cancer center in that state.

1978

**David Andrews** sends an update on his family and professional life, saying: "It has been ten years since Libby's death, and I have been remarried for eight years to Jan, who was also widowed. Our combined family consists of six children, ages 13 to 24, the oldest of whom just graduated from West Point. The only 'ours' of 'yours, mine, ours' is a standard poodle puppy. Jan has been a great support and a busy mother. I have an active anaesthesia practice at Mercy H in Portland, ME, where we live. Ken Blazier '86 is a member of our five-person group. For a change of pace I have a part-time practice as a flight surgeon with the Maine Air National Guard, a position that affords me the opportunity to combine work and travel. These years have gone by very quickly and I appreciate the support of so many classmates when it helped so much. Warm greetings to all. Come visit."

**Jack DiPalma** was promoted to professor of medicine at the U of South Alabama C of M, where he has been director of the division of gastroenterology for 10 years. He was elected best clinical instructor by the members of the 1996 graduating class of the medical school, who also elected him to give the "Charge to the Class." He and his wife, Ann, have two daughters, Beth, 17, and Jennifer, 15.

1979

**Nicholas Bonvicio** has "started a new career as a director of Prudential HealthCare's eastern states health plan." He adds that his regional responsibility remains in northern and central NJ, and he and his wife, Nancy, and daughters Andrea, 8, and Claudia, 3, continue to live in Park Ridge, NJ. He had been regional medical director of the Garden State Medical Group for the past five years. He wrote, "I would be happy to assist any NYMC student who is interested in a career as a Physician Executive."

**Barry Jacobs** is associate chief of pathology at New Britain General H in Connecticut. He did his residency training in anatomic and clinical pathology at Stanford H and a fellowship in hematology/transfusion medicine at UConn Health Ctr, where he is now an assistant professor of laboratory medicine and pathology.

**Mark Sinneid** has been promoted to chief of orthopaedic surgery at Miami Heart Institute in Florida.

1980

**Anthony Ardola** wrote, "Recently expanded to a four-man practice in Central Florida. Am interested in contacting or hearing from members of the Class of '80."

**Jonathan Ballon** says: "While managed care continues to erode my income and my autonomy, my Amway business is flourishing. Coming soon: elective neurosurgery as a hobby."

**Sarina DeStefano** continues her ob/gyn practice with offices in Tarrytown and Briarcliff, NY. Her children, Sean, Genevieve, Katrina, and Juliette, are now 11, 10, 7, and 3, respectively.

1982

**Beth and Barry Karon** wrote that they were looking forward to the Bar Mitzvah of their oldest child, David. They added, "Beth ran in the 1995 Twin Cities Marathon and Barry survived his third year of baseball fantasy camp."

**Brian Solow** is in family practice in Irvine, CA, where he is chief of the Department of Family Practice at Irvine M Ctr.
1984

DENNIS MCGILL is assistant director of the Emergency Department of Robert Wood Johnson U H in New Jersey.

STEVEN ROSENFIELD has been living in Tucson, AZ, for the past eight years with his wife, Jill, and children, Dana, 11, Andrew, 8, and Brandon, 1. Dr. Rosenfield founded El Rio Ob/Gyn Associates, now consisting of six physicians. For the past two years he has also chaired the ob/gyn department at St. Mary’s H.

RUSSELL SETTIPANE wrote that he unexpectedly ran into classmate EMILIO MUSSO while waiting for a bus in Casper, WY.

1985

PETER BENTIVEGNA and his wife, Laurie, reported the birth of Morgan Shea in August ’96.

JONATHAN JAHR and his wife, Jamielyn Hanam Jahr announced the birth of their son, Jacob-Josef Jahr, July 6, 1996.

HELENE PRICE writes that her first child, a daughter, Jaime Rebecca Gropper, was bom in June ’96. Dr. Price is a neurologist at Mt. Sinai Med Ctr, and her husband, Charles Gropper, MD, is a clinical assistant professor of dermatology at NYMC.

STEVEN SCHEINER and his wife, Nuchi Scheiner, became parents of triplets, a son, Reuven, and two daughters, Sione and Ashuche, on September 10, 1996. The family live in Albany, NY, where Dr. Scheiner is associate medical director of the Center for the Disabled and is on the staff and faculty of Albany M Ctr, where he specializes in neurology.

1987

10-YEAR REUNION

MARGARET GENNARO reports that she and her husband, Ed, now live in Florida, where she has joined a practice started by classmate RUSSELL BAIN. She adds: “If anyone is in the area, call and say hello. The practice is called 21st Century Pediatrics, and we have two locations, New Port Richey and Spring Hill.”

WILLIAM GREENBERG and his wife, Hilary Gleekman-Greenberg, welcomed their first child, Robert Owen Greenberg, in January ’97. Dr. Greenberg co-founded Physicians Online and is pursuing new projects melding medicine and the Internet, as well as venture capital endeavors.

JOSEPH RAFFERTY, JR., his wife, Kathe, and their daughter, Kaylene, welcomed a new family member, Luke Joseph, in September ’96. Dr. Rafferty is a family practice physician in Marshfield, MA.

ANTHONY REINO is assistant clinical professor of otolaryngology at Mt. Sinai S of M and associate director of the Department of Surgery, section of otolaryngology, at Bronx VA Med Ctr. Dr. Reino wrote that he planned to open two new offices, one in Manhattan, the other in New Rochelle, in late ’96.

STUART SHERMAN is chief of interventional radiology at Danbury Hospital in Connecticut. He and his wife, Pamela, have two children, Jordan and Zachary.

JOSEPH STAVOLA is an assistant professor of pediatrics and attending in pediatric infectious diseases at New York H-Cornell M Ctr. He was awarded an educational grant from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) to attend an international conference on infectious diseases, where he presented a paper entitled “Interleukin-6 Levels in Newborn Infants with Probable Serious Bacterial Illness.”

1988

CHARLES EPISALLA of Rock Hill, NY, was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons during ceremonies at the Academy’s 64th annual meeting, held in San Francisco in February ’97.

NORA HANSEN finished her general surgery residency and a fellowship in surgical oncology at the U of Chicago. She wrote that her clinical year of fellowship was spent at the John Wayne Cancer Ctr in Santa Monica, CA, and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Ctr in NYC. She is now an assistant professor of surgery at Northwestern U Med Ctr in Chicago.

RICHARD SCHULTZ completed a year of training in interventional cardiology at the Arizona Heart Institute in Phoenix and has joined a practice in Hickory, NC. He wrote that he and his wife, Linda, were expecting their first child in November ’96.

1989

THERESA CHRISTIE writes from Evans, GA, where she now lives and is practicing ob/gyn, that she is “lovin’ civilian life.” Dr. Christie’s Alumnae Notebook, printed in the last issue of Chironian, reported on her life in the Navy.

1990

DENNIS BEGOS is completing a colon and rectal surgery fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. In July he will start private practice in Medford, MA, doing general and colorectal surgery at Lawrence Memorial and Winchester hospitals. He reported, also, that he and Debbie “have two great boys, DJ, 3-1/2, and Stephen, 7 months old.”

ELIAS CHUA wrote that he is practicing anaesthesia at the Med Ctr of Delaware in Newark.

YOLANDA JOHNSON has joined North Shore Gastroenterology Associates in Kenilworth, IL. She is on staff at Evanston H, where her work includes teaching Northwestern U medical students, residents, and interns on clinical GI rotations.

SHARON AND GREGG SCHUBACHI, both of whom are radiologists, welcomed their first child, Sarah Allison, April 13, 1996. Gregg practices nuclear medicine, Sharon, mammography, in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania.

1992

5-YEAR REUNION

RONALD HICKS wrote that he and his wife, Diana, have a new baby, Isabella Victoria, born in July ’96, and a new home in Reno, NV.

STEPHANIE PEDUTO was married in September ’96 to John Ladetto, MD. Dr. Peduto completed a residency and fellowship in pediatrics at New York H-Cornell Med Ctr and wrote that she was working in a pediatric clinic in Manhattan.

LISA VASAK wrote that she was married to Chuck Motena in September ’96. Classmate ERICA CARGILL JONES; her husband, Douglas; and her daughter, Serena, made the trip to California for the wedding.

1993

MARIO AMLETO and his wife, Josephine, announced the birth of their son, Marco, in March '96.

MICHAEL BERNOT is chief resident in psychiatry at Long Island Jewish Med Ctr-Hillside H. He reported that he and his wife, RANDY RESNIK ’92, celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary in November ’96. She is now an attending in emergency medicine at Elmhurst H Ctr in Queens. They have a son, Matthew, born in October ’95

1994

JAMES JANUZZI, JR., was married to Roberta Sensenhauser in October ’95 in Rome, Italy. He wrote that he was finishing his medical residency at Brigham and Women’s H and would then start a fellowship in cardiology at Mass General.

JOANNE SPALDING wrote that she was in her last year of a family medicine residency and would embark on repayment of her National Health Service Corps scholarship at a location to be determined.

1995

MATTHEW BANK is “alive and well” and continues his surgical residency at Long Island Jewish Med Ctr.

BRADLEY CASH married Jennifer Greene in April ’96. They live in NYC, where he is a resident in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Mt. Sinai Med Ctr.

LISA VEHRA gave birth to a second child, Lindsay Rose, May 14, 1996. Alex is now four years old.
Oscar Auerbach, 1905-1997

Oscar Auerbach ’29, who first proved the link between cancer and smoking, died January 15, 1997. An obituary in the New York Times the next day noted that he was “credited with discoveries that turned millions of people away from cigarettes.” Two days later, a Times editorial entitled “The Man Who Helped Indict Smoking” said that “Dr. Auerbach, a compulsively meticulous and hard-working pathologist, produced critical research findings that greatly strengthened the case against tobacco.” Dr. Auerbach’s research on lung cancer, conducted with Dr. Cuyler Hammond and epidemiologist Lawrence Garfinkel, both of the American Cancer Society, and supported by ACS grants, was a key factor in the decision to put health warnings on cigarette packages.

The Times editorial said further that “Dr. Auerbach and his colleagues, at a particularly critical juncture in the history of smoking research, peered through their microscopes and saw the awful truth.” He died at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ. He was 92 and lived in Short Hills, NJ.

Dr. Auerbach studied cellular changes related to smoking in the tracheo-bronchial tree and other organs taken at autopsy. Because his work linked smoking with a common, important cancer—not with a rare disease—it helped convince many physicians and laypeople who were unwilling to accept epidemiologic studies alone of the cigarette/cancer relationship, and it changed forever a number of concepts regarding carcinogenesis. In 1967 he was cited by the Surgeon General for this work.

Oscar Auerbach took postgraduate training at Sea View Hospital, a tuberculosis center run by New York City, and at Halloran Hospital, both on Staten Island, during the 1930s and ’40s. His extraordinarily productive career spanned more than 40 years at the Veterans Administration Hospital in East Orange, NJ, where he held the title of senior medical investigator at the time of his death. During this period he taught pathology at New York Medical College for 12 years and was awarded the Alumni Association’s Medal of Honor in 1973.

From 1966 until his death, Dr. Auerbach taught pathology at New Jersey Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and trained residents at St. Barnabas and University hospitals until a few days before he died.

Dr. Auerbach’s wife, Dora Herman Auerbach, whom he met while studying pathology in Vienna, died in 1984. He is survived by two sons: Richard C. of Missoula, MT, and Dr. Bruce E. of Pottstown, PA; a brother, William of Englishtown, NJ; and five grandchildren.

The Fleur-O-Scope of the Class of ’29 said of Oscar Auerbach: “Not a moment of his life is wasted, every moment is filled with activity.” How richly Dr. Auerbach continued in that mode throughout his immensely prolific life.

Matthew Warpick, 1901-1997

Matthew Warpick ’25, family physician to thousands of poor and underserved patients in Harlem for 70 years, died Saturday, January 4, 1997, at his home in Manhattan. He was 95.

Dr. Warpick had treated his last patient, a man suffering from the flu, the day before, had risen as usual on Saturday, dressed, and prepared his morning tea before succumbing to a heart attack.

When Dr Warpick closed his office on 138th street and Broadway in 1994, he had been the source of health care to generations of patients and felt a deep sense of loss and concern at leaving. Placing his key into the lock for the last time, he recalled how he and his late wife, Judith, had scouted the neighborhood and decided to set up both the office and their home in the building.

At that time the area was populated by immigrant Irish, Jewish, Italian, and Greek families and Black families from the American South. Dr. Warpick considered his patients friends, all of whom needed him and kept him at work six days a week and half days on Saturday.

As the years passed, the neighborhood became crime-ridden. Ultimately, after his office had been ransacked and burglarized, after he had been mugged and tied up, after he had installed bullet-proof glass in the entrance and his concern for
the safety of his staff had been heightened, Dr. Warpick heeded the urging of his family and agreed to leave the building—but not to close his practice. Instead, he transformed the livingroom of his East 89th Street apartment into a medical office and continued to practice there.

During most of his years in Harlem, Dr. Warpick treated an average of 25 patients each day, ranging from pregnant women and their children to cases of TB, pneumonia, kidney disease, and arthritis. Over the decades, the practice changed to include many cases of gunshot and stab wounds, drug related diseases, and AIDS. Patients often paid him just what they could afford and would bring him cakes, pies, and crocheted toys for his daughter.

Dr. Warpick liked to tell the story of a couple whose home delivery of their baby he attended—walking up several flights of dimly lit stairs to make the house call. When the baby boy was born, the parents told him that out of gratitude for his help they were naming the child Matthew Warpick Washington. Telling the story, Dr. Warpick smiled and said, “Somewhere out there is a Black man in his 60s who shares my name.”

Dr. Warpick’s enjoyment of medicine through the years was paralleled by his delight in his avocation—the form of musical expression known as barbershopping. It started in medical school when he and some fellow students formed a group known as “The Doctors of Harmony” and continued during his clerkship years at Metropolitan Hospital and throughout his life.

A member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in the United States, Dr. Warpick celebrated his June birthday each year by hosting a party on the terrace of his apartment, abloom with his carefully nurtured spring flowers. Quartet members gathered with his family and sang joyfully, the sound of their music filling the air late into the evening.

Judith Warpick died in 1979. Dr. Warpick is survived by their daughter, Francine Grossman, and her husband, Stanley Grossman, NYMC ‘57; a grandson—soon to become a physician; two granddaughters, and two great-granddaughters.

**Bernard J. Wattiker, 1920-1997**

Bernard J. Wattiker ’44, who was known to his peers, medical students and residents as “a truly great teacher and an outstanding surgeon,” died Sunday, April 6, 1997 at the Navesink House in Red Bank, NJ, from complications of a stroke he suffered in 1995. He was 77 and lived with his wife, Barbara, in Red Bank.

Dr. Wattiker, an associate professor of surgery at the Medical College, was president of the Alumni Association, 1965-1967.

Joseph F. Dursi ’59, NYMC associate professor of surgery, remembers Dr. Wattiker well: “He was a close friend and associate of another remarkable surgeon, Department Chairman Walter F. Mersheimer ’37, and was held in high esteem by his peers, by the students he taught, and by the residents he trained in the operating room. I feel greatly privileged to have had him as my teacher.”

A graduate of Fordam University, he was a medical officer in the Navy during World War II. He took his internship and his surgical residencies in the New York Medical College program at Flower and Fifth Avenue, Metropolitan and Bird S. Coler Hospitals, and completed an additional surgical fellowship at Mayo Clinic.

After several years on the faculty and attending staff of New York Medical College and its hospitals, he joined Jersey City Medical Center, where he established an accredited surgical fellowship and served as chief of surgery. He was also chief of surgery at St. Mary’s Hospital in Hoboken and St Francis in Jersey City.

Dr. Wattiker also served as medical director for Twentieth Century Fox and Delux Laboratories.

Surviving besides his wife are two sons, four daughters, a brother, and 12 grandchildren.

**Charlotte D. Yudell, 1911-1996**

Charlotte Dorothy Yudell ’33, who brushed aside obstacles women faced in her time—becoming an exemplary role model for women in medicine and beyond—died December 13, 1996, at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York. She was 85.

Charlotte Yudell earned her B.A. at Hunter College during summer sessions, while simultaneously pursuing her M.D. degree. On her first day at medical school, then at York Avenue and 63rd Street, she met Alexander Richman ’32 on a subway platform. They made the trip together and soon afterward he asked her for a date. Before accepting, she asked him if he believed in equality for women and if he read *The Nation*. They married four days after Dr. Yudell’s graduation; she was determined to receive her medical degree under her birth name, which she retained throughout her life.
Dr. Yudell took her internship at Morrisania Hospital in the Bronx and would later recall that "so little thought was given to women entering the medical profession that I was cold when I rode the ambulance because the hospital had no coats small enough to fit female interns."

Drs. Yudell and Richman set up a joint office in the Bronx. Dr. Yudell practiced general medicine, ob/gyn, pediatrics, and infertility for 17 years, at which point she decided to switch to psychiatry. She took a residency at Grasslands Psychiatric Institute in Valhalla, followed by the NYMC Comprehensive Course in Psychoanalysis and a further residency in the Medical School’s program for physician-mothers at Metropolitan Hospital.

In honor of Dr. Yudell’s 70th birthday, her four daughters and their families established an award to be given annually to a woman in the NYMC graduating class who exemplified their mother’s exceptional qualities. At that time Chironian interviewed Dr. Yudell (see Volume 99, Spring 1983). “In recent years,” she told us, “my psychiatric practice has included women who were having difficulty handling their changed position in society and reconciling the conflicts their multifaceted roles created. Working with these women has become almost a specialty of mine,” she noted, adding, “I see women struggling to balance the responsibilities of marriage, motherhood, career development, and jobs outside the home.” She spoke ardently of the importance of women being respected for their competence in many different areas. “At the very least, we have to provide equal opportunity for women,” she said with the same conviction she brought to the “test” of her husband-to-be 50 years earlier.

Alexander Richman, a highly esteemed gastroenterologist on the Mt. Sinai Medical Center faculty and medical staff and a distinguished Judaic scholar, died in 1982. The couple’s 49-year marriage of loving support resulted in four daughters who continue to reflect the lives and values of their parents: Myra Togut ’62 and Beverly L. Richman ’64 chose careers in medicine and are NYMC alumnae; Janice Sufrin, Ph.D., is a research scientist; and Harriet Richman, J.D., M.L.I.S., is a librarian. Ten grandchildren also find inspiration in the lives of their grandparents.

In acknowledgment and recognition of their extraordinary parents, the family has decided to extend and perpetuate the award originally established to honor their mother. The Charlotte D. Yudell/Alexander Richman Annual Award will be conferred on a female or male member of the graduating class who best exemplifies the qualities of both their parents: dedication to the highest standards of excellence in patient care, pioneering spirit, absolute integrity, and social conscience in the practice of medicine.

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In the Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Children's Center of Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center, Alicia Romano, M.D., director of pediatrics, confers with Shushila Kample, R.N., about the patient Dr. Romano is holding.