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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Cause for Great Pride:

the First Funded Chair

I WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT to remind my 8,000 fellow alumni about our current fundraising initiative—the first Endowed Chair in Basic Medical Sciences. Currently, we have raised more than $1.2 million for this important cause, which is consistent with our mission to financially support the College in its efforts to provide superior education to future alumni.

This year's tuition is $27,150, 11th highest among the 125 medical schools in the nation. Our endowment of $43 million is among the lowest of private medical schools. Support for the College must begin with its alumni. We must make a personal commitment to reducing the tuition rank while increasing the endowment.

The medical students are depending on us—those who have preceded them and reaped the benefits of an excellent education. The financial burden of the current students has not affected their academic performance. The future alumni of New York Medical College are indeed an impressive group.

◆ The Class of 2001 had a GPA over 3.5.
◆ The Class of 2000 averaged 30.1 on their MCATs.

◆ 100 percent of the Class of 1999 passed part one of the Boards on their first attempt.
◆ 55 percent of the Class of 1998 has participated in research at the College.

As you can see, our future alumni will continue to make us proud to be graduates of New York Medical College. Our past support is being rewarded by enabling the College to continue to graduate some of the finest physicians in the nation. Let us rededicate ourselves to a fundraising cause which will enable that superior education to continue by seeing the endowment drive through to its fruition.

For years to come, the Alumni Association will be proud to have its name on the first funded chair at the College.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Allendorf, M.D. '70
Students of 2001
Don White Coats at Convocation

New York Medical College’s Fall Academic Convocation for 1997 will go down in the record books of the institution as historic, moving, and immensely enjoyable. Impeccable planning brought together a wonderful combination of elements.

The solemnity of an academic processional blended with a lightness of spirit as The Arrythmias sang the National Anthem. History was made by the first-time White Coat Ceremony for members of the Medical College Class of 2001, who joined in recognition of faculty and academic staff honored by either new appointment or promotion.

Susan A. Kline, M.D., vice provost, university student affairs and executive vice dean, academic affairs, gave a brief background of the White Coat Ceremony. Arnold P. Gold, M.D., professor of pediatric neurology at Columbia P & S, told the assembly that the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, with important help from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is now supporting the ceremony at more than half the medical schools in this country.

"We chose to focus on the whitecoat because it is a recognizable symbol communicating that the doctor/patient relationship is pure and professional," Dr. Gold said, adding the interesting note that Hippocrates originally administered the oath to students before their medical studies began, rather than at the end of the undergraduate years as has been customary in our time.

The ceremony then took on added meaning as the students read the Hippocratic Oath led by Ralph A. O’Connell, M.D., dean of the Medical College and provost of the University, who noted that they would not be asked to swear to the oath until their commencement four years hence when they will have had the education and gained the added wisdom to more fully understand the significance of its words.

Noel I. Robin, M.D., associate dean and professor of medicine, spoke of the need to blend compassion with scientific knowledge and technology in treating patients. He told the students that however much the practice of medicine changes, “what is inherent to the profession—the alleviation of suffering—will never change.”
Health care in the next millennium was the theme of the convocation address delivered by William H. Frishman, M.D., newly appointed professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine (see page 10), who opened his talk with a highly appropriate anecdote about an encounter that profoundly influenced his decision to become a physician.

A YOUNG CHILD living with his family in the South Bronx in difficult financial circumstances, he was stricken with a severe upper respiratory infection. It was the middle of a bitter cold night when his mother called the family doctor, who made a house call. “With snow all over his head and overcoat, he glistened like an angel,” the speaker said. “I can still see his kind face and demeanor as he performed his examination, prescribed penicillin, and probably to distract me from my discomfort asked me about my future career goals. For lack of a better response, I replied, ‘I want to be a doctor.’ When my mother asked what she owed him, he said, apparently sensing our financial stress, ‘There will be no charge. Since Billy is going to be a doctor, I am giving him professional courtesy.’

“Through the years, the example of this man—Dr. Edward Liss, a graduate of New York Medical College—has stayed with me as the kind of bedside physician I have endeavored to be,” Dr. Frishman said.

Citing the concern in the medical profession today that the new health care system allows no place for the close personal relationship of physician and patient, Dr. Frishman nevertheless remains optimistic as the profession and society approaches the millennium. Among the points he made were the following:

- The healthcare system will be more inclusive of the population’s needs, using new technologies to further improve both the span and quality of patients’ lives.
- A rebirth of professionalism is occurring among healthcare workers, who are becoming more proactive on behalf of patients and assuming a greater sense of social responsibility that extends to improving the healthcare system itself.
- A greater role will exist for physician extenders, nurse clinicians, physical therapists, and physician assistants who will provide care in primary settings, with physicians always responsible for complex health problems—creating a continued need for both well trained primary care providers and subspecialists.
- NYMC is a national showcase in educating a new generation of physicians who are being trained with a strong emphasis on primary care and preventive intervention.
- A system of universal accessible healthcare is a necessity in a great society. All-inclusive universal health insurance will become a reality in the new millennium.
- Important ethical problems must be confronted. Physician-assisted suicide is not in the domain of good medical care, and it violates the Hippocratic Oath and Judeo-Christian law. Alternatives include major breakthroughs in palliative care.

Dr. Frishman closed with an admonition to students to protect their own health, not to consider a problem a sign of weakness, but to ask for help from their teachers, who stand ready to give them support. “Respect each other’s differences,” he said, “and be good to one another.”
The Alumni Association honored four of its members during the annual banquet, Saturday, May 17. Michael A. Antonelle '62 and Robert M. D'Alessandri '71 each received an Alumni Association Medal of Honor. Stephan L. Kamholz '72 and Charles S. Kleinman '72 were also honored for distinguished achievements.

**Michael A. Antonelle '62**

Dr. Antonelle was recognized for his outstanding service and initiatives as president of the Alumni Association, 1993-1997. The citation accompanying his medal pointed to the high standards of excellence that have characterized both his presidency and his medical practice.

In talking with *Chironian*, Dr. Antonelle said he looks back on the four years of his presidency as an important time in his life, one in which he came to know many NYMC graduates across the country, and his relationship to them and with the medical school deepened.

"One of my primary goals was to help strengthen the ties of alumni/ae with the medical school and with one another," he said, "and I feel we did move forward through the various means at our disposal—chapter meetings, reunion events, *Chironian*, and letters. We have been receiving an increasing number of Class Notes for *Chironian* and have been very glad to hear from all of you.

"As president, I came to know the people who participated in our activities, such as the annual CME Winter Seminar and the golf outings. My wife, Kathy, and I both feel enriched by the connections we have made with people of different class years and parts of the country.

"In an important move the Board of Governors has established three new classifications of membership. (See *Chironian*, Vol.113, Fall/Winter 1996). Included is an associate membership open to all physicians who have completed their postgraduate training in NYMC programs after earning their MD degrees elsewhere.

"We also worked to strengthen ties with our medical students, helping to enrich their student life. It was a source of pleasure for Kathy and me to host students at our home. Helping them to gain and maintain good feelings about their medical school years makes for a strong positive identification when they become alums.

"Asked to review and update his professional career, Dr. Antonelle told us he took his B.A. at New York University, followed by a year's internship at New Rochelle Hospital and two years of service in the U.S. Navy. A two-year residency in medicine at Metropolitan was followed by an NIAMD PHS trainee fellowship at NYMC under the noted gastroenterologist George B. Jerzy Glass, with study at two hospitals in England. Dr. Antonelle was appointed to the consulting staff of St. Agnes Hospital in 1973 and opened his present office adjacent to the hospital in 1975.

Michael Antonelle is now medical director of St. Agnes, which has merged with Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center. He is chief of the hospital's gastroenterology services, a member of the medical board, and serves on the attending staff. He is also an attending physician at White Plains Hospital Center and a consultant to other area hospitals. His practice now includes his son Robert, NYMC '89.

"The Alumni Association presidency was a lively time, and I know it was a good experience for me," notes Dr. Antonelle. "I hope there will be lasting benefit to the Association as a result of what I tried to accomplish. There is frustration at times because you always wish you could do more, but for me much was very positive." Further, although he has represented the Alumni Association to the Board of Trustees during his presidency, he has now been elected to the Board as an individual member, adding a new dimension to his relationship with his alma mater. "I have great respect for the members of the College's Board, many of whom have been giving their time, thought and funds to the medical school over a long period and serve with genuine dedication," he says.

"I look forward to being of whatever help I can to Dennis Allendorf in his leadership, which is off to a great start. We're fortunate to have him as our president. I know he will accomplish much that is important to the Association and the College. I would urge that all of us support him in his initiatives. Helping our medical school to grow, particularly in these times, is a goal well worth pursuing, and our efforts will have very significant long-term benefits."

**Robert M. D'Alessandri '71**

Dr. D'Alessandri was honored for his superb skills and talents he brings to his multiple responsibilities as teacher, clinician, administrator, and communicator within and outside the university he serves so effectively.

If you ask Dr. D'Alessandri how he views the responsibilities of his three-fold post at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center of West Virginia University, where he is vice president for health sciences, dean of the School of Medicine and professor of medicine, he replies, "That's a good question.

In talking with *Chironian*, he proceeded to give a very clear answer.

"My responsibility starts with assuring that the purpose and core values of our institution are understood both within and outside the University. Making sure that all our constituents — the University family and the individuals of the community outside — understand our mission and goals is of key importance."
"If that were all I did, and did effectively, it would be sufficient," Dr. D'Alessandri said, as he went on to tell us of the myriad other responsibilities he enjoys.

"We put our message out through several means of communication. We use radio and TV a great deal, working closely with different stations across the State. I've learned that one of the best ways to gain and maintain credibility is to actually take a role that people trust—that of commentator. I do that in broadcasting over West Virginia public radio twice a month, and we produce a statewide weekly TV program, 'Doctors on Call.' It's a 30-minute call-in show on which we answer questions and discuss issues, some controversial, such as tobacco and legislation relating to it."

Another form of representation in which Dr. D'Alessandri is actively involved is service on the boards of such regional organizations as a hospital, a bank, and an arts center. In his work with national organizations concerned with the oversight of medical education he has represented the AAMC on the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education since 1991. A member of the ACGME executive committee since 1992, he chaired that organization in 1996.

An alumnus of Fordham University, Dr. D'Alessandri followed his medical school years with an internship at Metropolitan Hospital. After two years of service with the armed forces, he took a residency in infectious diseases at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He completed his residency at West Virginia University School of Medicine, where he joined the faculty in 1977 and has remained for 21 highly productive years.

Widely published in the areas of his expertise, Dr. D'Alessandri writes on topics ranging from his own clinical research to issues of public health. His advice is sought by such diverse groups as a rural health care task force in West Virginia and the Medical and Hygiene Society of Shanghai, China, as well as by an eclectic mix of organizations in between.

Describing his teaching responsibilities, Dr. D'Alessandri says, "They include lecturing on my sub-specialty, infectious diseases, to the second-year students during their microbiology/immunology rotations, and talking with students as they see patients in the clinics. Each Tuesday evening my wife and I host a number of students at dinner in our home; the group of 10 or 12 is small enough to keep us in touch with what's important to them in their medical school life. I also take lunch with the fourth-year students and talk with them about their concerns and interests. I find such exchanges with students very helpful."

"Of serious concern at present are the threats to the educational experience of medical students and graduate students from many quarters: economic, government intervention, and aspects of the changing total health care delivery system. It's my strong feeling that we who have experienced excellent medical education and graduate training ourselves must make our voices heard in both the public and private sectors, where decisions critically impacting our profession are being made."

In accepting his Medal of Honor at the Alumni Banquet, Dr. D'Alessandri urged his fellow graduates to strengthen their medical college by giving both moral and financial support. "Our support is vital," he said, "both for the immediate future and for generations to come."

**Stephan L. Kamholz '72**

The citation given to Dr. Kamholz noted the exceptional competence and congeniality that characterize his work with students and residents and the skill and caring with which he meets the daunting challenges presented by a vast spectrum of patients.

At 7 o'clock Wednesday mornings Dr. Stephan L. Kamholz can be found having breakfast with a group of third-year medical students at S.U.N.Y. Brooklyn Health Science Center, going over cases, philosophy, differential diagnosis, or whatever one of the group brings to the table. The informal exchange and sharing of knowledge that takes place is just one of the ways in which this quintessential teacher encourages a love of learning, for which he is honored repeatedly as an outstanding educator. On a scheduled formal basis Dr. Kamholz teaches internal medicine, pulmonary medicine and critical care and gives lectures in microbiology and pathophysiology. His clinical rotations fill up so rapidly that students "stand on line" to register.

Dr. Kamholz is professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine at the State University of New York Health-Science Center at Brooklyn, chief of the medical service at University and Kings County hospitals, and academic chief at the Brooklyn Veterans Administration Medical Center. His area of responsibility encompasses 14,000 inpatient admissions and one-third of a million ambulatory patient visits at the three sites annually. He is also director of the residency training program for medicine, one of the largest in the country.

A graduate of New York University, Dr. Kamholz took his internship and residency in medicine and a pulmonary fellowship at Montefiore Medical Center. He was then appointed to the attending staff of Montefiore, North Central Bronx Hospital and the medical faculty of Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He joined the S.U.N.Y. faculty in 1986.

Speaking appreciatively of the honor conferred on him, Dr. Kamholz told Chironian how he sees his role in the various aspects of his administrative work: "An award for distinguished achievement is in reality not a personal, individual honor; it represents the aggregate work of the department's members—fellows, residents, support personnel—all of whom contribute to the achievement of significant goals. "To be truly effective and to best represent the department you chair, you have to be involved beyond the department's walls. For example, for the period 1996-2000, I'm the governor of the American College of Physicians for the New York Downstate II Region, an area with 4,000 ACP physicians, and
in October 1997 I became governor for New York City of the American College of Chest Physicians.”

When Dr. Kamholz talks of the changing face of medicine, he points to the unparalleled explosion in medical research, with information coming out of the laboratory that is potentially applicable, very rapidly, at the bedside. “Gene therapy is an example in which we see areas of tremendous conflict: on the one side we hear the voices calling out of the laboratory that is potentially applicable, very rapidly, at the bedside. We see the unprecedented limits on spending for research and health care, and on the other side we have the greatly enhanced hopes and expectations of the public on hearing of the remarkable discoveries in the laboratory.”

The incremental number of people without adequate health care concerns Stephen Kamholz deeply. “We see the shortsightedness of inadequate coverage in Kings County Hospital, the largest hospital in New York’s Health and Hospitals Corporation system, where we get a large proportion of uninsured patients and of diseases associated with poverty: hypertension, stroke, heart failure, very advanced cases of cancer —prostate and colon —in which early detection could make a big difference. Clearly we need health education at every level.”

Dr. Kamholz concluded the interview with Chironian on a thoughtful note about his medical education. “The quality and depth of the education we have received is apparent only as the years go by. Its true value is in strengthening the foundation, mindset, and habits of life-long learning so essential to the physician as we care for our patients, conduct our research, and —in no small measure—as we teach.”

Charles Kleinman '72

Dr. Kleinman was cited for his pioneering research in pediatric cardiology, for his generous sharing of knowledge with students and residents and with colleagues worldwide, and for his deep commitment to his often fragile patients, many of whom he cares for from before birth through adulthood.

On the morning we talked to Dr. Kleinman for Chironian he had just received a letter from a family in Pakistan who had brought their child to him for treatment. It read:

“Zain and the whole family are very grateful to you for giving him a new life, which he is enjoying thoroughly now. Doctors in Pakistan are appreciating your great work. They are really amazed at what you have done for him ... Love from Zain and his parents.”

Charles Kleinman receives letters similar to this one frequently, from far and near. As professor of pediatrics, diagnostic imaging, and obstetrics and gynecology at Yale University School of Medicine and chief of the section of pediatric cardiology, he spends a great deal of time in hands-on care of his patients, some of whom he has treated from before birth until adulthood. He is also deeply involved in the area of research in which he has pioneered —investigation of the pathophysiology of congenital heart disease and cardiac arrhythmias. Further, he is actively engaged and committed to the School of Medicine's undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programs in his specialties, about which he speaks enthusiastically.

“The Fellowship training program in pediatric cardiology calls for at least three years of training, one of which must be a pure research year. In order to become board certified, a physician must have a first-author paper or grant, so pediatric cardiology has tended to be a more academically oriented specialty than adult cardiology, for example, which has no research requirement.

“In my twenty years at Yale, we have never had a trainee who did not obtain and remain in a full-time academic position; the national average is barely 50 percent and we are at 100 percent right now.

“Yale-New Haven is fortunate in being the major medical center in Connecticut, and we get referrals from other centers, including our friends at New York Medical College. We have a patient base that is large enough to allow us to maintain excellence, but we need to have a critical volume of pediatric cardiology patients in order to train the best qualified people. To lose patients to centers that don’t have a post-graduate training program in pediatric cardiology would frankly be very disturbing, which is why our marketing is aggressive. Many people won’t believe that. They think the issue is financial, but it is not. A loss of that kind would be critical for the care of patients.”

Charles Kleinman knows about patient care from the perspective of a patient as well as a physician. In 1980 he underwent treatment, successfully, for Hodgkins Disease. In February 1996 he was stricken with a massive coronary and was grateful to be a patient at Yale-New Haven. He is now “a fanatic proponent of cardiac rehab.”

After earning his B.A. at New York University, he did a year of graduate study in cell biology at Rutgers before entering medical school. He took his internship and residencies at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center and divided his fellowship training in pediatric cardiology between Cornell and the University of California, San Francisco, Cardiovascular Research Institute. In 1977, after completing his fellowship, he went to Yale, where he won a faculty teaching award in pediatrics and an honorary Master of Arts degree.

Speaking of his own medical alma mater, Dr. Kleinman notes, “One of the factors that has always distinguished New York Medical College—as we learned wherever we went for our residencies—is its training of very good hands-on M.D.s who have been exposed to an exceptionally large and diverse spectrum of patients. And we keep learning, when attending meetings and in our travels, how many of our school’s graduates are doing highly respected work in various specialties across the country. For that we are indebted to some truly exceptional teachers. I was inspired by the late great George Rook and will never forget him. When I’m gone, if just one of the fellows I’ve trained thinks of me as I think of Dr. Rook, all my work will have been worthwhile.”
The College recently announced several important faculty and administrative promotions, including the promotions of two prominent NYMC alumni. Brief profiles of the individuals named follow.

**Saverio S. Bentivegna '50**

Saverio S. Bentivegna '50, a past president of the Alumni Association, professor of clinical surgery and associate dean, has been promoted to the post of senior associate dean, with responsibility for building and strengthening the college's Fifth Pathway Program. Dr. Bentivegna was recipient of the Alumni Association's Medal of Honor in 1977.

The promotion recognizes Dr. Bentivegna's outstanding service to the medical school. With the exception of the second of his seven postgraduate training years and two-year military service, Dr. Bentivegna has been associated with his medical alma mater since 1947, when he transferred from Boston University School of Medicine. He took one year of medical residency at Fordham Hospital and completed his postgraduate training in the College's residency training programs at Metropolitan and Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospitals.

During active duty as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corp, 1957-59, he was senior general surgeon at Fort McClellan Army Hospital and chief of general surgery at Fort Jackson Army Hospital.

Returning to the College in 1959, Dr. Bentivegna was appointed an associate in surgery. In 1976 he was named professor of clinical surgery and associate dean for continuing medical education. He has been an attending surgeon at Westchester County Medical Center since 1974.

Dr. Bentivegna has also served since 1976 as director of the College's Continuing Medical Education (CME) program, bringing it to full accreditation.

A founding member of the American Trauma Society, he was twice elected to the board of governors of the American College of Surgeons, serving a total of six years, and chaired the education committee of the ACS Westchester Chapter.

**Richard G. McCarrick, M.D., M.H.A., M.Sc.**

To his new post of senior associate dean for undergraduate and graduate medical education Dr. McCarrick brings an exceptional mix of interests and experience. His own education includes a B.A. in history with honors from Harvard University in 1973, followed by his M.D. degree from New York University School of Medicine and two masters degrees, taken on a part-time basis, one in gerontology from the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and another in health management and policy from the New School for Social Research. His research interests include the delivery and funding of health services and the interface of law and medicine.

During the years 1983-1990 Dr. McCarrick was assistant chairman of the Department of Psychiatry of Saint Vincents Hospital and Medical Center of New York, responsible for all training, education, and research programs from medical student clerkships through postgraduate and continuing medical education.

From 1990 to 1996 he was physician-in-chief and clinical director of the 700-bed Connecticut Valley Hospital, an affiliate of Yale School of Medicine that conducts specialized programs in developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, substance abuse treatment and forensic medicine. In that capacity he was academic liaison to Yale University Schools of Medicine, Law, Public Health and Management as well as to the Department of Psychiatry, and taught students in the Yale Schools of Law, Nursing and Management.

**Frank L. Belloni, Ph. D.**

The new dean of NYMC's Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences is Frank L. Belloni, Ph. D., professor of physiology. Dr. Belloni, who had been acting dean since 1993, joined the Medical College as an assistant professor in 1981.
Dean Belloni earned his B.S. degree from Providence College in Rhode Island and his Ph. D. in physiology in 1975 from the University of Michigan, where he continued as an NIH post-doctoral scholar. Before coming to the Medical College he had served for two years on the physiology faculty at the University of Virginia.

Since 1982 Dr. Belloni's work on the control of the sino-atrial node by adenosine has been awarded major research grants from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, in addition to support from the American Heart Association and the Alexandria and Alexander L. Sinsheimer Fund.

His honors include an NIH Research Career Development Award covering five years, as well as six certificates of appreciation for outstanding teaching at NYMC.

Gladys M. Ayala, M.D.

Gladys M. Ayala, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine who has been an attending physician and assistant residency program director of the Department of Medicine at Metropolitan Hospital Center, has been named an associate dean. She has combined responsibility for both student affairs and minority affairs, areas covered previously by Drs. Richard G. McCarrick and Anthony Clemendor, respectively.

Dr. Ayala earned her M.D. degree at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in 1986, with honors in surgery, community medicine, and neurosurgery, having received her B.S degree in biology from Long Island University, also with honors. She took three years of internship/residency training at Roosevelt Hospital in New York and then served for one year as an emergency room physician at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center. Before joining the staff of Metropolitan, she was a physician/medical consultant in ambulatory medicine with the international Focolare Movement centers, first in Italy and then in Switzerland.

William H. Frishman, M.D.

The new chairman of the Department of Medicine is William H. Frishman, M.D. He is also professor of medicine and pharmacology and director of medicine at Westchester County Medical Center.

Dr. Frishman comes to NYMC from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he was professor of medicine, associate chairman of the Department of Medicine, and director of clinical pharmacology and the therapeutic trials unit at Einstein's Jack D. Weiler Hospital, both located in the Bronx. He was also professor of epidemiology and social medicine at Einstein.

He earned his B.A. and M.D. degrees in the Boston University six-year Liberal Arts-Medicine Program and took his internship and residencies in internal medicine at Montefiore and Bronx Municipal hospitals. He completed a fellowship in cardiovascular medicine at Cornell University Medical College. He is board certified in internal medicine, clinical pharmacology, and medical management, with subspecialties in cardiovascular diseases, critical care and geriatric medicine. During his career he has been awarded many major research grants and has published widely. (For Dr. Frishman's convocation address, see White Coat Ceremony, pages 4 & 5.)

In 1977 Dr. Frishman received the high honor of being named by the AAMC one of only four educators of the year. He had been named teacher of the year 20 times by his students at Einstein.

Ernest Y. C. Lee, Ph. D.

Ernest Y. C. Lee, Ph. D., has been named chairman of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He was formerly professor of biochemistry at the University of Miami School of Medicine, where he was first appointed to the faculty in 1967.

Dr. Lee's major research interest is the study of the phosphoprotein phosphatases, a field in which his laborato-

ry has made significant contributions. This work has been supported by a National Institutes of Health grant for the past 22 years. During his years at Miami, Dr. Lee served on the major faculty and administrative committees of the medical school and taught undergraduate, graduate and post doctoral students in his field.

He has also been an established investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the American Heart Association and has served on grant review committees of the AHA and the Biochemistry Study Section of the NIH.

A graduate of the University of Capetown, South Africa, Dr. Lee earned a doctorate in organic chemistry from the University of London and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle.

William T. Couldwell, M.D., Ph. D.

William T. Couldwell, M.D., Ph. D., the new chairman of the Medical College's Department of Neurosurgery, previously served as an associate clinical professor at the University of Southern California School of Medicine and the University of North Dakota. His hospital appointments have included attending neurosurgeon at USC University Hospital, Trinity Medical Center in Minot, ND, and MedCenter One in Bismarck, ND.

Dr. Couldwell took his M.D. degree at McGill University in 1984 and served his internship and residencies in general surgery and neurosurgery in hospitals of the University of Southern California through 1989. He then went on to complete the McGill Ph. D. program in neuroimmunology/molecular biology. He was responsible for the training of medical students and neurosurgical residents at USC.

Among honors awarded to Dr. Couldwell is that of Faculty of Medicine Scholar at McGill, 1980-83, and McGill University Scholar in 1984. He won the Preuss Award of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons in 1991 and the AAMS Young Clinician Investigator Award in 1983.

Continued on page 12
Women’s Health Issues Explored at Winter Seminar

ISSUES of women’s health, including a broad range of considerations, from life-saving to life-enhancing, were examined by a faculty of specialists whose expertise and experience made for a highly productive program at the NYMC Alumni Association’s Fifteenth Winter CME Seminar. The annual event took place from January 26 to 29, 1998 and was again held on the island of Puerto Rico.

Reports from three NYMC representatives opened the seminar. Alumni Association special events chairman and course director Joseph F. Dursi ‘59, who is also associate dean of the College for continuing medical education, outlined the program; Alumni Association president Dennis J. Allendorf ’70 reported on the status of the Association; and the Medical College president and CEO, Rev. Msgr. Harry C. Barrett, D. Min. M.P.H., presented a view of the Medical College as the Millennium approaches.

The four-day program then continued with presentations on the two major “killers” of our time, heart disease and cancer: Cardiologist Carmine A. Sorbera ‘83 presented a new approach to therapy for arrhythmias, and dermatologist Lawrence A. Sibrack M.D., M.P.H., talked of the sun, cancer and photoaging.

Continued on page 14
Editorial:
Chironian! Major Changes for the Future

This is the last issue of the Chironian as you have known it over the last several decades. Starting with the next issue, which is presently planned for late 1998 or early 1999, Chironian will be merged with the College publication IMAGES, and will be published by the College, but will retain the name Chironian. The editor of the new publication will be Marjorie Roberts, the present editor of IMAGES, with an editorial board consisting of representatives from the Alumni Association's editorial board, as well as representatives from other areas of the College.

Chironian was first published in 1884 by the students at NYMC, and was named after Chiron, noblest of the centaurs of Greek mythology, who gave humans the knowledge of herbs and plants. He also raised Aesculapius and instructed him in the art of healing. In 1906 the college assumed responsibility for the journal's publication, which it retained until 1915, when it came under the aegis of the Alumni Association where it has remained until this year. IMAGES was first published in 1982, and after a tenuous start has become the central publication of the College with a distribution of 17,000 copies, compared to 8,000 for Chironian which is sent primarily to alumni/ae.

In June of 1997, a social gathering of the incoming and outgoing Alumni Association presidents, the President of the college, the VP for Development, and the Director of Alumni Relations, was held. During the course of the evening, a discussion began about Chironian, its increasing percentage of the Alumni Association budget and how to expand the readership of the information contained, as well as discussion on all the college publications. It was noted that there was some duplication of material presented and overlapping costs. The group felt that the College would be better served by combining its publications and providing an all inclusive publication touching on all aspects of the University.

The plan was discussed by the Alumni's Executive Committee and the Board of Governors and the College did the same with its editorial staff. The Board of Governors then voted to further explore the possibility of consolidating publications and to have further discussions with the College. Meetings were held with all concerned parties, and at its January meeting, the Board of Governors approved a proposal by the President of the College to proceed with the merger.

The new Chironian will be an expanded magazine and will continue to be published twice yearly. It will continue to cover School of Medicine Alumni Association events, expand to cover the alumni of the schools of Health Sciences and Basic Sciences, and provide more information on College programs, activities, research and faculty highlights.

The advantages to the alumni are that it provides a more inclusive publication, while retaining the name Chironian, frees up Alumni funds for other important projects, and maintains twice yearly publication, which would not have been possible with the increasing costs and decreasing dues income. The advantage to the College is that it will have a magazine representative of the entire university with a name steeped in tradition.

In closing we would like to thank Ruth Oliver for her dedication and her expertise which has made Chironian the excellent publication that it is today. (see pages 18 and 19 for Ruth's reflections.)

Michael A. Antonelle, M.D.
Editor

PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS continued from page 10

Joseph T. English, M.D.

Joseph T. English, M.D., a nationally respected leader in psychiatry, has been appointed chairman of the NYMC Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, succeeding Edward Brownstein, M.D., who retired. Dr. English has been a professor of psychiatry at NYMC since 1979 and served most recently as chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Saint Vincents Hospital and Medical Center of New York, the Medical College's academic partner in New York City.

Among the major posts Dr. English has held are two of the highest in the field of psychiatry: Administrator of the Department of Health Services and Mental Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Health Education and Welfare (now the Department of Health and Human Resources) and first president of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, the nation's largest municipal hospital system.

Dr. English is past president and currently a member of the board of trustees of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and is chief delegate of the APA to the AMA. He is also a trustee of the Menninger Foundation. The recipient of many honors in his field, he has also authored or co-authored more than 100 publications.
A Gift for the Children

The Blanche and Albert Willner Playground at the NYMC Student Housing Complex was dedicated on November 23, 1997. The playground is named for the couple who are known for their generous philanthropy, which includes funding for the construction of the playground.

Dr. Albert Willner, '43, a member of the Medical College's Board of Trustees, who is also chairman of the NYMC President's National Advisory Council, has recently been elected president of the American Committee for the world-renowned Weizman Institute of Science in Israel, comprising "2,400 scientists, students, technicians, and engineers conducting basic research in a quest for knowledge and and betterment of the human condition."

Dr. Willner has been actively involved with New York Medical College for more than 50 years. He co-chaired the 40th anniversary reunion of his class in 1993 and offered a challenge grant that raised $50,000 for the College. A New Jersey resident for many years, he was affiliated with the Alumni Association's New Jersey chapter. Recently, he and Blanche Willner have been cordial hosts to alumni/ae and College colleagues at their home in Delray Beach, Florida.

Dr. Willner retired in 1989 after a productive career in orthopaedic surgery. Among his posts was clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery at New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark. At his retirement he was named emeritus chief of orthopaedic services of three New Jersey hospitals, United Hospitals of Newark, Crippled Children's Hospital of Newark, and West Hudson Hospital of Kearney.
CALIFORNIA, FLORIDA and other attractive points in between were sites of a variety of events hosted by the Medical College and Alumni Association last year. Graduates of the M.D. program and physicians who completed their residency training at the College, parents of current students, and College faculty had a choice of Chapter meetings, receptions, luncheons, and dinners held in conjunction with specialty society assemblies in San Francisco and Philadelphia. Florida alumni/ae held a series of pleasant gatherings in their area.

In conjunction with the annual meeting of the American

Women's Health Issues Explored at Winter Seminar  Continued from page 11

Dr. Sorbera is an assistant professor of medicine at NYMC/Westchester County Medical Center and director of electrophysiology at WCMC. Dr. Sibrack is associate clinical professor of dermatology at Yale University School of Medicine and chairman of the Yale Department of Medicine's section of dermatology at Danbury Hospital. He is also president of the Association of Clinical Attendings in Dermatology at Yale School of Medicine.

The next day's sessions were devoted to breast cancer, with three presentations by radiologist Ann Cea M.D. and one by David Palaia, M.D., plastic and reconstructive surgeon. Pointing to the high incidence of breast cancer in the U.S. and citing the statistic that cancer afflicts one in every eight women in the Northeast, Dr. Cea urged that every woman over 40 have routine mammography at a fully certified center. She then discussed the planning of treatment options for cancer patients, saying that, depending on the diagnosis, the planning might well involve a surgeon, a chemotherapeutic oncologist, and a radiologic oncologist. Dr. Cea is clinical assistant professor at NYMC, a member of Rye Radiology Associates in Rye Brook, NY, and a member of the American College of Radiology Steering Committee. Dr. Palaia's lecture involved various aspects of post-mastectomy reconstructive surgery. He is on staff at Northern Westchester Hospital Center.

Susan A. KLINE M.D., NYMC vice dean, academic affairs and vice provost, University student affairs, led Wednesday's sessions with an all-encompassing presentation on medical education at the College.
Connections

Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons held at the San Francisco Hilton, a lively reception took place, and parents of current students were entertained at a luncheon hosted by the College and Alumni Association at San Francisco’s Metropolitan Club.

Both the Greater Philadelphia Chapter and the Washington, D.C. chapters held meetings in March; colleagues also enjoyed reconnecting at an ACP reception hosted by the College at the Philadelphia Marriott.

Southern Florida alumni/ae enjoyed meetings last year at the Governor’s Club in Palm Beach, Dominique’s in Miami Beach, and the Harbor Beach Resort in Ft. Lauderdale.

Some of the gatherings are pictured here.

She was followed by John A. Pallotta ’55, who discussed gynecological evaluation, Dr. Cea, who spoke on techniques for diagnosis of ovarian cancer, and Alan R. Baskin, M.D., whose subject was hormonal replacement therapy and heart disease. Dr. Pallotta is director of ob/gyn at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center in West Islip, NY. Dr. Baskin, an assistant clinical professor of medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, is president of the New Jersey Society of Internal Medicine.

A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS marked the last day’s schedule, starting with plastic surgery. Philip C. Bonanno M.D. opened with presentations on the aging face, and body contouring. Dr. Allendorf spoke of the medical consequences of starvation, specifically in malnutrition of anorexia nervosa. Dr. Baskin addressed the subjects of obesity and weight loss.

Dr. Bonanno is a clinical professor of plastic surgery at NYMC, associate clinical professor at NYU School of Medicine, and chief of plastic surgery at Northern Westchester Hospital Center and WCME. Dr. Allendorf is an attending pediatrician at St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center and adjunct assistant professor at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Reviewing the four-day seminar for Chironian Dr. Dursi said: “From the start of this CME series in 1983 we have had excellent responses to our seminars. The speakers and their topics have been very well received. This year’s program brought the most positive response of all. Attendance at the presentations was very high from beginning to end and the comments to me were personally very rewarding. I am very grateful to the speakers for their outstanding contributions.”
Reunion Weekend: Reminiscence and Renewal

'71 Marks Silver Anniversary; Banquet Fetes Alumni/ae and Students; Milestone Classes Gather; Golden Jubilee Class Honored

Turning back the pages of the calendar, NYMC alumni and alumnae whose classes spanned the years 1947 to 1992, came together May 16-18, 1997, for a rare weekend that combined nostalgia and renewal. At the annual banquet, May 17, alumni/ae were joined by the soon-to-be-graduates of the Class of '97.

Friday evening, May 16, members of the Class of '72 marked their silver anniversary with a cocktail party and dinner at the place they knew as “Flower,” now Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. Attendance for this anniversary was small, with a number of classmates sending regrets because of unavoidable conflicts. What the group lacked in numbers, however, they made up for in enthusiasm. As College and Alumni Association officers noted in their greetings, two of the four honors presented at the annual banquet the next evening went to members of this class, when Stephan L. Kamholz and Charles S. Kleinman were recognized with the prestigious awards presented annually for distinguished contributions to the medical profession.

The Class of '47 had the largest turnout in memory for their golden anniversary as they attended the banquet, the milestone picnic and the jubilee luncheon in their honor. Members of the class staying in Manhattan took advantage of the special bus provided for their travel to the Alumni Center on Sunday; they thoroughly enjoyed both the chance to be together and a student-
led bus tour of the campus that followed the midday picnic luncheon. On Monday they were clearly delighted with the further chance to meet, reminisce and renew friendships when they were guests of the medical school at the New York Athletic Club for the luncheon that paid tribute to their record over 50 years. Climaxing the weekend was the presentation of a gold diploma to each '47 graduate attending the university's 138th commencement exercises.

One of the most attractive features of Alumni Weekend is the multigenerational nature of this annual event. In 1997 it was clearly evident at the luncheon for the fifth-year anniversary classes held on Sunday, May 18, where young couples with small children and older graduates with their families all had a wonderful time. Classmates enjoyed sitting together during lunch and occasionally table-hopping to greet colleagues they knew from interclass activities while medical students, later met as residents, and have since reconnected from time to time at specialty society meetings. Pictured here are members of the silver anniversary and gold diploma classes as well as members of the Class of '58.

A number of alumni and their wives, who attended the banquet and spent the night at the Plaza, had signed up for a bus chartered by the Alumni Association to take them to the Sunday luncheon and campus tour. The trip provided the group an additional opportunity to visit with one another and to enjoy recollections as the bus passed neighborhoods they had known when on rotations and living near "Met" and "Flower" a half-century earlier.
Ruth Oliver Reflects on 30 Years

This issue is Ruth Oliver's last Chironian. She has been executive editor of the journal since 1967.

In writing and editing more than 60 issues of your alumni Journal, I have come to know many New York Medical College graduates across the country. It has been three decades: the first 15 years on staff at the College, the past 15 on retainer from the Alumni Association; and I have found among you some of the most highly skilled, talented, and committed physicians and extraordinary human beings with whom one could hope to have contact and connection.

Because so many of you have become very real to me as I've received your Class Notes and have written about the honors you've been awarded, the promotions you've earned, and the families you've raised, this has not been "just a job." It has been a chance to help portray late 20th-century American medical practice in microcosm by exploring life among the graduates of one medical school. And all things considered, I think your journal, Chironian, has done it well.

What am I most proud of? What one story stands out? What was most challenging? What was the most difficult? That's hard to say, impossible to choose. We did many articles on significant and pioneering research by both alumni/ae and non-alumni/ae faculty. Our Newsmakers section provided further opportunity to showcase the outstanding work of NYMC women and men in vastly different specialties and modes of professional life. The Family Affair series led to some extraordinary two- and three-generation physician families among you.

Major Historic Developments — the College's move from Manhattan to Westchester, and its transition to a medical university under the aegis of the Archdiocese of New York — received continuing coverage in Chironian, as did the planning, funding, and opening on the Valhalla campus of the Alumni Center, which is the Association's headquarters. Seeing the photo shown on this page that appeared in the Spring 1984 issue, just before the Center was dedicated, brings a lump to my throat as I think of the late James Keller, with whom I worked closely for more than 20 years — first when he was administrator in the Office of the College President and later in his post of Director of Alumni Relations.

High on the list of stories that were exciting to write was the two-issue feature on our graduates serving in the armed forces during the Gulf War. This was one of those "from little acorns big oaks grow" stories that shows clearly how the Class Notes you send in spark coverage of events and trends.

In 1990 notes began coming to my desk reporting that alumni were on active duty in the Persian Gulf. As we wrote in Chironian at the time, the networking among alumni and alumnae that brought this information to us was heart-warming. The first contact had a remarkable ripple effect, leading from graduate to graduate and family to family. Thanks to their wonderful cooperation, I was able to make overseas calls to graduates who spoke to me from portable phones in the desert war zone. I was then able to communicate to you through the pages of this journal the immediacy of their experiences, from performing surgery while the OR shook from explosions to sleeping in bunkers in full chemical protective gear and gas masks.

It was also the news items you sent for Class Notes that generated the Alumni/ae Notebook series telling of your adventures and medical achievements abroad. In planning these articles I talked with each of you, some in person and others by phone, and enjoyed getting to know you.

March 14, 1984: Joseph Dursi '59, the late James Keller, then-Director of Alumni Relations, and Charles McCullough '58 with champagne chilling in the snow outside the new Alumni Center (where refrigeration had not yet been installed). The occasion, the first Board of Governors meeting in the new Center, included a celebration and preview of the building, which was dedicated later that spring.
and Looks Ahead

*Chironian* also reported on all the annual reunions, where I met many of you, as well as chapter gatherings throughout the country. When these were held in the Northeast, I covered them in person. I particularly enjoyed the New Jersey Chapter party hosted by then Alumni President Rita Girolamo '51 and her husband, radiologist Armand Leone '47. Held in their stadium-sized barn adjacent to their home in the beautiful New Jersey hill country, it was a delightfully different evening where appropriately garbed alumnae/i, their costumes embellished with bandanas and straw hats, square danced vigorously to country music late into that memorable night.

The current turbulence in medicine and health care delivery has called for discourse on the trends resulting in HMOs of various sizes and descriptions. We contacted graduates all over the country to obtain their thoughts on the changing healthcare scene, which we then reported in two special issues that included presentations from the Alumni Association's 13th Annual CME Seminar. We have, in fact, covered each of the winter seminars, held in different tropical locations and concerned with a wide range of topics.

As I LOOK BACK I want to express my appreciation to Saul Schwartz '30, always a very active alumnus, now NYMC professor emeritus of medicine, who was editor during my early years with *Chironian* and has been our consulting editor since then. During the past two decades I have worked closely with six Alumni Association presidents: Seymour Schlussel '51 (1978-81), with whom I had valuable and informative meetings during a time of complex negotiations that he handled admirably; Joseph Dursi '59 (1981-85), a prime mover in the completion and opening of the Alumni Center, who gave most generously of his thought, time, and highly infectious enthusiasm to our coverage of the Center, and who has continued to work with us in connection with the CME seminars he directs; Rita Girolamo '51 (1985-87), whom I first came to know through her distinguished work in radiology and whose effective efforts on behalf of students, including the concerns of women in medicine, I will never forget.

The late Paul Tartell '52 (1987-89) was also a splendid radiologist and dedicated clinician, whose work with Westchester County officials as a governor was an integral step in the development of the Alumni Center; Louis Fierro '60 (1989-93), whom I have known both as a deeply committed president and as a professional who caringly saw me through major shoulder surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital where he headed anesthesiology until his recent retirement; and Michael Antonelle '62 (1993-97), who was both a splendid president and, for the past 15 years, the editor of *Chironian*. Mike has brought enthusiasm, interest, and wise professional knowledge to this post and it has been a continuing pleasure to work with him. Here I want to record my thanks to Kathy Antonelle, Mike's wife, for her ever gracious help to me. Julie Kubaska, Director for University Alumni Relations, brought her exceptional talents and warm style to the College nine years ago, and we have shared memorable experiences. Julie and her skilled assistants, Geraldine Gallagher and Joyce Pitcher have been splendid colleagues and I much appreciate their support. I have not had the opportunity to work with the new president, Dennis Allendorf '70, except for the brief interview with him in this issue, and I wish him all the best in his administration. Last, a few words about the pleasure of writing about a special individual. Monsignor Harry C. Barrett, D. Min, M.P.H. I met Monsignor Barrett at the time of his installation as NYMC's President and CEO, which we reported as a *Chironian* cover story. From time to time since then we have included excerpts of formal addresses by him or of informal talks he has given at alumni/ae gatherings. Monsignor Barrett has been unfailingly accessible, forthcoming, and cordial, and I thank him.

As for me, in the days ahead I will be continuing my work as an independent writer and editor, focusing on science and healthcare. I will miss you, but perhaps some of our paths will cross again. Peace and good health to you always.

Sincerely,

Ruth N. Oliver
CLASS NOTES

1930
Saul Schwarz has been named emeritus professor of medicine at NYMC, a high honor conferred by the College's board of trustees on recommendation of the faculty.

1937
G.W. Monteleone would like to hear from classmates. His address is 15 Brook Haven Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850; phone number, 607-257-1983.

Edward Rohmer writes that he lives at 11 Pky Drive, Pocasset, MA, a small town three miles from the Bourne Bridge on Cape Cod. He would be happy to hear from any classmate who might be nearby.

1940
Hunter Harris retired from his psychiatry practice in 1987. He supervises psychiatry residents from Baylor College of Medicine, maintains his license, and attends CME courses. He keeps very busy with a number of volunteer commitments, of which the principal one is working at the Child Development Center of Houston Psychosocial Analytic Institute. Dr. Harris sends greetings to all.

1943 55-Year Class Reunion
Samuel Cytryn wrote that he had retired from private practice and now works as medical director for social services in Mineola, NY.

Albert Willner chairs the NYMC President's Advisory Council and is a member of the College's Board of Trustees. (See page 13 for further word of his activities in the U.S. and Israel.)

1944
Mavis Kaufman writes that she has retired from Columbia P & S, where she was associate professor of neuropathology. She would enjoy hearing from classmates. Her most recent address in the Alumni Association records is PO. Box 176, Layton, NJ, 07851; telephone (973) 948-5289.

George Potekhen has retired, sold his house in Arizona, and moved to the new address in Cheyenne, WY that is now in the Alumni Association records. His companion, Opal Tomkin, died July 20, 1997.

1948 50th Year Reunion

1950
Saverio Bentivegna, professor of surgery, has been promoted to the rank of senior associate dean of NYMC. He has also been appointed to the New York State Board for Medicine for the term July 2, 1997 to June 30, 2002. The letter of appointment says, "You and your colleagues on the Boards contribute in many ways to governing the licensed professions." Dr. Bentivegna is a past president of the Alumni Association and an active member of its board of governors.

Robert Niehaus wrote that since retiring from his pediatric practice in Cincinnati in February, he and his wife have moved to Pinehurst, NC, where they are building a new home on the golf course.

Bernard Wetchler is clinical professor of anesthesiology at the U of Illinois C of M. He teaches practice management to residents at five Chicago training programs for anesthesiologists. He adds that in April in London the International Association for Ambulatory Surgery made him its first honorary member. He is currently serving a four-year term as vice president of the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists.

Joseph Whelan celebrated the 50th reunion of his class at Williams College and "saw folks I had not seen in 45-50 years. Had a great weekend. The College went all out in honoring the 50-year class," he wrote. He added that he is still living in Manhasset, LI, and has been retired two years.

1951
John Vagell does part-time medical work at Manchester Memorial Hospital in Connecticut and enjoys winters in Florida. He sends best wishes to all his classmates.

1952
Robert Gaffney reported that he has retired to a work schedule of one day a week.

1953 45-year Class Reunion

Sanford Angel was honored by UC Irvine for 30 years of service to the orthopedic residency program.

Roger Duvoisin retired last year as professor emeritus of UMDNJ, Robert Wood Johnson M S in New Brunswick, NJ. He wrote that he moved to Los Angeles in September "to commence a new life!" He added that he visited classmate Frank Donaldson at his home/office in Newton, MA, last spring.

1954
Howard Christ enjoys retirement in Florida and writes "doing great—top Ca prostate; looks like a cure. So a word of advice to all you 'Y' chromosome people: get your PSA!"

Martin Norton is an active emeritus professor of anesthesiology at the U of Michigan M Ctr. Practice manager for 31 years in the family as she is a justice of the California Supreme Court. We have two sons; Maurice, a businessman in Palo Alto, and Matthew, a law student at Stanford."

1955
John Wright was named professor emeritus, U of Louisville, in 1995, and now has a part-time practice with a nursing home, evaluating Gulf War veterans. He writes that he has 11 grandchildren, five of whom are quintuplets. Also, "four horses (Tennessee walkers), four dogs, three cats, on seven acres. Spouse, Kay T. Roberts, RN, MSW, Ed.D, is a professor of nursing at Louisville School of Nursing."

1956
Martin Floch has been elected clinical councillor of the American Gastroenterologic Association, which places him on its board of governors for three years. He reports also that he continues as chief of gastroenterology and nutrition at Norwalk H and clinical professor of medicine at Yale S of M. He adds, "The Floch family has paid its dues to medicine and we now have three sons all of whom are physicians and a maverick daughter who is an attorney. They have blessed Gladys and me with six wonderful grandchildren to date."

1957
Mark Anapoell is president of the Foothill District of LACMA. A general surgeon, he is co-chair of the Alumni Association's Los Southern California Chapter. He and his wife, Maureen, live in Covina, CA. They have three children.


John Steinhibler wrote that he and Betty "have moved from the Boston area after 29 years of psychiatric practice to St. Simon's, one of Georgia's golden isles, a truly beautiful venue on the southeast coast. Am currently doing locum tenens about nine months a year. Love it."

1958 40-Year Class Reunion

Howard Kline writes, "I still have medicine and baseball in my veins. Am practicing cardiology and playing in a semi-pro handball league in San Francisco."

William Mulford retired from active practice in March '97. He plans to travel but says that "maintaining a 76-acre farm with a 150-year-old farmhouse keeps us busy with just the normal upkeep."

Robert Milora reports: "Have arrived at the tender age of 70. I've loved medicine but don't miss the work a bit."

Edwin Smith retired from the faculty of Indiana U after 23 years and was named professor emeritus of medicine/nephrology. He and his wife, Sherry, plan to spend winters in Las Cruces, NM.

Roger Smith wrote, "Will semi-retire on 1/1/98 to become professor emeritus of pathology at the U of Cincinnati M C, but will continue to teach and do some research and service (renal pathology)." He adds, "I chaired the Department of Pathology from '72-'90 and am happy to be out of administration and back to pathology practice and education."

Please keep in touch! Send items for inclusion in the Class Notes or other sections, together with pictures, if possible, to: Alumni Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY 10595.
1959
Joseph Dursi has been appointed associate dean of NYMC for continuing medical education. He is associate professor of surgery and director of health services at the College and affiliated Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center. He is a past president of the Alumni Association and chairs its special events program.

1960
John Duffy assumed the post of medical director, Charter Behavioral Health Systems, a division of Magellan Health, Inc., effective September 1, 1997. On September 12 in Rochester, MN, Dr. Duffy gave the address at the dinner celebrating the golden jubilee of the Mayo Clinic, attended by many distinguished alumni of Mayo and leaders in psychiatry.

William Flynn wrote that he retired from practice on July 31, 1997 and was stepping down as director of the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at Sound Shore M Ctr of Westchester (formerly New Rochelle H M Ctr). He added that he would be retiring to Amagansett, LI, and that his son Bill, Jr. practices orthopedic surgery at Waterbury H, CT.

1961
William Healy, Jr. wrote that his son, William Healy III '91, is associated with him in the practice of orthopedic surgery, and went on to say that father, son, and cousin Lester Borden '69, "won the golf tournament at the Irish-American Orthopedic Society meeting in Adore Manor, Ireland, and Drs. Borden and Healy III each presented a paper."

Robert Hirsch continues to practice ob/gyn in Teaneck, NJ. He writes also that his father, Solomon Hirsch '29, still keeps up with his journals and medical education at age 92.

Neil Kurtzman has been elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in recognition of his "pioneering studies on renal acidification mechanisms." He was inducted during the AAAS Fellows Forum on February 14, 1998, in Philadelphia. Dr. Kurtzman is Arnett Professor of Medicine, professor of physiology, and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Texas Tech U S of M.

Edwin Stempler writes: "I have changed my practice to non-operative orthopedics. In addition I purchased a bone densitometer (dual X-ray absorptiometry-DXA), and I am also treating and evaluating osteoporosis patients." His office is now in Palm Desert, where his son practices consumer law. Dr. Stempler added that he does keep up with some fellow-students and "was saddened to hear of the demise of the brilliant classmate Roy Steinberg." An obituary of Dr. Steinberg appears in this issue.

1962
Henry Abrams reports that his daughter is a radiologist, practicing on Long Island, and he has two grandchildren.

William Tesauro has been appointed chairman of the Department of Ob/Gyn at Good Samaritan M Ctr in West Islip, NY.

1963
Charles Lomanto has been elected to the board of directors of the San Benito County (CA) Health Care District.

Charles Umhey, Jr. has been elected president of the Upstate New York Chapter of the College of Surgeons. He is a urologist and maintains offices in Port Jervis and Goshen, NY.

1964
Joel Kupersmith has been appointed dean and vice president for clinical affairs and professor of internal medicine at Texas Tech U Health Sciences Ctr S of M, Lubbock, TX. Dr. Kupersmith, who has a distinguished career in academic medicine and research, came to his new position from Michigan State U, where he chaired the Department of Medicine. He is a member of many academic organizations, including the American Society for Clinical Investigation, and has published widely. He was honored by the NYMC Alumni Association in 1992 for his outstanding contributions to cardiology. For news of Judith Kupersmith, see Class Note at 1969.

1965
Richard Allen, who served as chairman for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for 1996, has been reelected by the AMA House of Delegates to a new four-year term on the Council.

Qwie Chew continues as director of all imaging services at Bayonne Hospital in NJ. "Also," he adds, "my basketball game is still on par, I'm still playing full court, no-holds-Barred games."

1967
Jane Greenberg has been appointed chief of plastic, reconstructive, and hand surgery at Saint Vincents H and Med Center of New York, an academic affiliate of NYMC.

1968
Stanley Friedman is director of the Department of Radiology at Westchester Square M Ctr in the Bronx, NY. He is married to Janet Taubman, Ph.D., and they have two daughters, Jackie and Diana. Thomas Noble

Kenneth Juechter, who is chief of ophthalmology at Our Lady of Mercy M Ctr in the Bronx, a university affiliate of NYMC, was named the center's Physician of the Year at a gala ball September 11 at the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan.

1969
Richard Hirsh writes that he was awarded fellowship in the American College of Radiology in recognition of his mammography teaching missions to developing countries. His most recent mission was to Armenia last April, and his next was scheduled for Havana, Cuba, in January 1998. Dr. Hirsh is chief of diagnostic radiology at Akron City H in Ohio.

Judith Friedman Kupersmith has been appointed associate professor of psychiatry at Texas Tech U Health Sciences Ctr S of M. She comes to the post from Michigan State U S of M, where she was associate professor of psychiatry. Dr. Kupersmith is recognized for her leadership in developing therapeutic programs for performing artists, a role in which she combined her early experience as a ballet dancer with her medical expertise. She and her husband, Joel Kupersmith (see Class Note at 1964), have three children: David is a commodities trader in Manhattan; Rebecca is a glass blower; and Adam is a junior at Brandeis U.

Ronald Platt has been appointed vice president, medical services, and chief medical officer of the Atlantic Region of NYLCare Health Plans. He is senior attending physician on staff at Monmouth M Center Department of Pediatrics. Since 1973 he has been clinical associate professor of pediatrics at Hahmemann M C and H of Philadelphia.

1970
Joel Brenner wrote that he was pleased to have celebrated 20 years on the faculty of the U of Maryland S of M and with his involvement in the division of pediatric cardiology, founded in 1976. He wrote: "I still hold Drs. Slovis and Robert Kahn responsible for my career choice and will always be grateful to them."

Thomas Graboys has been appointed to the cardiac-renal advisory board of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. He will serve as the patient advocate on that board.

William Lipsky writes that his practice of ophthalmology in Houston, TX, continues to expand in new directions. His oldest son is a student at Einstein C of M, and Dr. Lipsky is trying to convince his daughter to apply to NYMC. Anyone visiting in the Houston area is welcome to contact him.

1971
Govind Gill practices endocrinology in Poughkeepsie, NY, and is a clinical instructor of medicine and endocrinology at NYMC.

Joel Schwab is director of medical student education of the Department of Pediatrics at the U of Chicago.

1972
Jane Greenberg is proud and happy to announce that her son Jonathan graduated from Riverdale Country School in June and entered Vassar College.

Thomas Noble writes that he is sorry to have missed the 25-year reunion of the Class but his GI specialty meeting was held the preceding week, and he was on call during reunion weekend. "Hope there were lots of good times and I look forward to attending one in the future," he added.

1973
John Willems has been named head of the division of ob/gyn at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, LaJolla, CA.

CLASS NOTES continued on page 22
1974
Steven Samuels is director of infectious diseases at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip, NY.

Steven Weinstock writes that he has been practicing gastroenterology in Torrence, CA, since 1979. "Am taking piano lessons and doing long ocean swims as my three kids are in college and grad school. Still married (happily) to Shelley," he says.

1975
Catherine Dunn says, "looking forward to seeing all my former roommates at our 25th reunion in June 2000."

R. Nicoll Pratt reports that he recently returned to active duty in the Navy and is now a captain, stationed at Naval Medical Center, San Diego. He says he and Carol continue to enjoy San Diego very much, and the children, David, 11, and Lancey, 10, are a delight.

Martin Schwartz wrote "moved to the San Diego area so that my wife, Dr. Susan Boiko, can resume her career in dermatology."

1976
Jeffrey Singer is associate editor of "Arizona Medicine," the journal of the Arizona Medical Association. He also co-chairs and serves as medical spokesman for Arizonans for Drug Policy Reform, the group that drafted the state's "Medical Marijuana" initiative (Proposition 200), which was passed in 1996.

Robert Stern is associate director of ob/gyn at Vassar Brothers H in Poughkeepsie, NY. He writes that his daughter Karyn is a first-year dental student at Tufts S of D M. Jodi is pre-law at U of Rhode Island, and Joshua is pre-med at Brown U.

Vincent Vigorita is medical director of both Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY, and the Greater Metropolitan Bone Bank, which he co-founded 14 years ago. He is also professor of pathology and orthopedic surgery at SUNY Health Sciences Ctr at Brooklyn (Downstate). He and his wife, Patty, have two sons, Vincent and Tommy.

1977
Douglas Byrnes has opened an office in Huntington, NY for the practice of cardiovascular disease. He is an instructor in the Department of Medicine at SUNY, Stony Brook, and past director of coronary care at Huntington H.

1978 20-Year Class Reunion
John Repke, who is at Brigham and Women's H in Boston, has been elected vice president and president elect of the North American Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy.

1979
Nicholas Bonvicino reports that he is now regional medical director for North Jersey at HMO-Blue, BC BS NJ.

Gregory Dick is in his seventh year of private practice of plastic and reconstructive surgery in Maryland and is completing a two-year term as president of the Montgomery County Unit of the American Cancer Society. As a clinical consultant to NIH he did research on silicones that culminated in his co-authoring a chapter in a book entitled Immunology of Silicones. A Washington Magazine poll named him one of the area's top doctors. He and his wife, Shirley Olsen '79, have two sons.

Eleanor Bellucci Handler has joined the active medical staff of Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast, ME, where she and another physician have formed an ob/gyn practice, located in a medical building of the hospital. Dr. Handler practiced in New York City for 15 years and taught at Cornell U M C for 13 years. Boarded in ob/gyn, she is a fellow of both ACOG and ACS. During her residency at North Shore U H in 1986, D. Handler was designated a Galloway Fellow in gynecological oncology at Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute. An announcement from Waldo Hospitalquotes Dr. Handler as saying that the combination of an opportunity to "build better and closer relationships with patients offered by a community-based hospital," combined with the beauty of outdoor life in Maine, influenced her decision to relocate. She and her husband, Russell Handler, now live in Northport, ME.

Pearl Herskovitz-Steinmetz wrote from Israel that she has not been in touch with other alumni for many years and particularly wanted to contact several classmates, a request to which the Alumni Office has responded. She reported that she is currently the attending radiologist responsible for the CT unit at the Hadassah Medical Center in Petach Tikva. She and her husband, Martin, have three children: Yaakov, 16, Netanel, 13, and Re'ut, born last spring. She gave her address as 143 Rothschild Street, Petach Tikva, 49370, Israel, and added, "Please be in touch."

John McGurty, Jr. advised the Alumni Association that in the 1997 Harris directory of NYMC alumni/ae, he is listed as deceased. He points out that it is his father, John McGurty, Sr., who is deceased, having died in April 1990. Dr. McGurty, Jr. is the director of emergency services at the Hudson Valley M Ctr, Peekskill, NY.

Philip Butler writes that his son Mathew is now 10 and Michael is 7. He adds "Can you believe we're old enough to be board re-certified."

Jill Hirsch, who is a pediatrician at Maimonides Family Health Ctr in Wurtsboro, NY writes, "We are celebrating the Bar Mitzvah of our twin daughters, Allison and Jessica."

1980
Lorraine Driscoll moved into the historic home of William Carlos Williams, MD, in Rutherford, NJ and now has her practice there.

1982
Michael Barboni writes that he is currently with the Center for Health and Human Services of Southeastern MA, working in Wareham, New Bedford, and Fall River.

Beth Kalman Karon and Barry Karon, who met on their first day at medical school, have celebrated their fifteenth wedding anniversary as well as the Bar Mitzvah of their eldest child, David.

1983 15-Year Class Reunion
Amy Battersman-Ditchek and her husband, Alan Ditchek, are proud to announce the arrival of their fourth child, Samuel, in June. He joins Rebecca, 6, Lisa, 4, and Brandon, 3.

Sue Mandell sent the following update: "I am a radiation oncologist in private practice at Central Maine M Ctr in Lewiston. My husband, Steve Steinbock (married '89) is a writer and house hubby for our two boys, Nathaniel, 4, and Samuel, 1. This is a wonderful part of the country in which to work and live. I'm very good friends with Ken Blazer '86, an anesthesiologist in Portland. There are a number of NYMC graduates on staff here as well."

1984
Kevin Delahanty reported news of summer '92: "Classmates Kevin Delahanty, Mark Cerbone, and Mario Tagliagame reunited on the sands of Newport Beach for the annual amateur Extreme Volleyball Competitions, respectively finishing 8th, 9th, and 496th in a field of 500. Look out next year!"

Peter Killcommons writes, "Founded Medweb, medical imaging network, and PACS equipment vendor. Recently awarded major Department of Defense contract to provide Medweb Telemedicine on WWWW servers throughout the Pacific."

Douglas Shapiro, who practices ophthalmology in Miami, sends an invitation to classmates, saying "Give me a call when you're in town."

1985
Peter Bentivegna was recently elected to fellowship in the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. He writes that his wife, Laurie, and their children, Matthew, Devon, and Morgan, are all well.

Irene Shulman-Cohen and her husband, Barry Cohen, joyfully announced the birth of their son, Jason Seth, in August 1996.

Steven Scheiner, who is a microbiologist at Albany (NY) M Ctr, writes that he and Nuchi celebrated the first birthday of their triplets, Reuben, Sione, and Aucere, on September 10, 1997.

1987
William Kaiser is chief of the vascular surgery service at William Beaumont Army M Ctr in El Paso, TX. He and his wife, Shannon Bowen Kaiser, DDS, a lieutenant in the USPHS, would...
A story is told of a golf caddy who was giving pointers to a university professor on the links of the famed Royal and Ancient Golf Club in Scotland. The professor, upset and struggling with the problem, said, "Why is it so difficult?" To which the caddy, also out of patience by then and becoming vexed, turned to him, saying, "You see, professor, as long as you are learning those lads at the university Latin and Greek it is easy work, but when ye come to play golf, ye maun hae a heid!"

Which, translated, means, "to play golf you must have a brain!"

The participants in the NYMC Golf Benefit, sponsored by the Alumni Association’s Westchester County Chapter Thursday, May 29, 1997, being well endowed with the significant organ the caddy found missing in the professor, thoroughly enjoyed the day’s program, particularly since their game benefitted the educational programs of the Medical School. As in the six preceding years, alumni/ae, spouses, faculty and friends were welcome to participate in golf or just to join the players for the cocktails and dinner that followed.

Golf began with a shotgun start at 1 o’clock, following registration and luncheon, and continued until the cocktail reception at 6:30 o’clock. When all had enjoyed an excellent dinner the program culminated with the awarding of golf and raffle prizes.
MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF '47 brought a special dynamic to Reunion Weekend. They clearly enjoyed their participation in various events, including the banquet and the luncheon for the milestone, 5-year-reunion classes. Of particular meaning to this Class were the very significant events of commencement day, when they were honored twice: a jubilee luncheon at the New York Athletic Club tendered in tribute to them was followed by the presentation, during commencement, of gold diplomas, handsome and stirring recognition of their professional contributions over the years.

(Photos) Honored for their splendid careers in the medical profession, Class of '47 members and their guests shared memories and admired photos, exchanged news and views, while looking back to the '40s and ahead to the new millennium, during the jubilee luncheon preceding commencement.
ANNUAL GIVING HONOR ROLL

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PLEASE NOTE: The compilers of this report have carefully reviewed the names that are included. Nevertheless, in listings of this length and complexity, errors and omissions may occur. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies and bring the mistake to our attention.
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Edward M. Coe ’41
Richard Allen Gaillard ’41
Charles Dusenberry ’42
Henry V. Kagut ’43
William J. Reid ’43
Victor Tchertkoff ’43
George F. Verdone ’43
Milton Pack ’44
Gerard Evans ’45
Robert D. McKay ’45
Arnold M. Salzberg ’45
Jerome J. Hoffman ’46
George J. Keating ’46
William James Nelson ’46
Paul S. Entmacher ’47
Eleanor E. Wachter ’47
Thomas J. O’Connell ’48
Vance E. Kondon ’48
Waleed G. Maloof ’48
Mortimer Weinberg ’50
Franklin S. Alcorn ’51
Joseph P. Rossi ’51
Robert H. White ’51
Dorothy Flood ’52
Gerard J. McGrade ’52
Joseph S. Hassenfratz ’53
Robert G. Faux ’53
Fred R. Hays ’53
David J. Kiernan ’57
Bruce S. Mix ’58
John G. Tully, Jr. ’58
Orlin Vincent Wry, Jr. ’58
Robert J. Cronin ’59
Sanford W. Stein ’60
Roy Herbert Steinberg ’61
James V. Diadato, Jr. ’62
Sol Levine ’63
Arthur Bergner ’65
Gerald M. Bilick ’74
Henry F. Olivier, Jr. ’76
Deborah R. Winters ’80
James T. Miglietta ’81
Richard E. Simkover ’94

ROBERT J. CRONIN ’59

Robert J. Cronin ’59, an anesthesiologist who worked largely in transplant
and open heart surgery, died October 18, 1997, at his home in North
Haven, Connecticut. He was 64. The cause of his death was cancer.

Dr. Cronin was a senior attending in anesthesiology at Hartford
Hospital, whose staff he joined following his internship at St Vincent’s
Hospital in Bridgeport and residency at Hartford. He joined the
Hartford Anesthesiology Group in 1960 and was a senior partner at
the time he stopped practicing.

Robert Cronin and his twin brother, William, were part of the group
of friends in the Class of ’59 who participated in all the CME winter
seminars, among other activities of the Association. William Cronin
spoke of his brother to Chironian, as did classmates Joseph Dursi,
Joseph Connolly, and David Connor, each of whom expressed a
degree of warm affection and admiration reserved for special people.

“I think of him every day and always will,” William Cronin said.
“We were close for as long as I can remember, making decisions
together, doing things together. Bill was devoted to Lorraine, the
children and the grandchildren, all of whom were a great joy to him.
He was valiant in his struggle with the disease that finally overtook
him and was up and around until the last day.”

Robert Cronin was a member of the President’s Circle of the Fairfield
University Alumni Association.

Besides his wife, Lorraine Desco Danielson Cronin, and his twin
brother, William, he is survived by another brother, Timothy Cronin,
and a sister, Nancy Krugel, as well as by four children, Janice
Cunningham, Cheryl Cronin, Robert Cronin and James Cronin; two
step-daughters, Terri Budney and Penni Rose; and 12 grandchildren.
Dr. Cronin was predeceased by his first wife, Irene Bak Cronin.

MOSES NAFTALIN, M.D., PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Moses Naftalin, M.D., NYMC professor emeritus of psychiatry, died
February 2, 1997 at the Chelsea Jewish Nursing Home in Massachusetts.
He was 93. A member of the College’s faculty for 14 years, he was
clinical professor of psychiatry when he retired in 1975.

Joining the faculty in 1962, Dr. Naftalin was placed in charge of the
fourth-year clerkship in psychiatry. A measure of his effectiveness was
the improvement in NYMC students’ National Board scores in psychia-
try, which reached first place in the country in 1969.

In early 1970s Dr. Naftalin was director of clinical services in psy-
chiatry at Metropolitan Hospital. Described by Samuel Rubin, M.D.,
former dean of the College, as “a physician's physician and a first-class human being.” Dr. Naftalin was known for his warmth, humor, and sympathy for the needs of students as well as his reverence for learning.

A native of Scotland, Dr. Naftalin earned his medical degree from the University of Glasgow and interned at Glasgow Royal Infirmary. He migrated to the U.S. in the late 1930s and served psychiatric residencies at New York State Psychiatric Institute and Bellevue Hospital. He was also a graduate of the Comprehensive Course in Psychoanalysis of NYMC. Before coming to the College, he was an associate in the psychiatry department at Columbia P & S, where he taught medical students in the Vanderbilt Clinic.

Dr. Naftalin was fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and the Academy of Psychoanalysis, among many other affiliations. His wife, Ruth, died in September, 1997, just seven months after her husband’s death. They are survived by their daughter and her husband, Alixandra and Peter Kolbe, of Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, and three grandchildren.

Victor Tchertkoff, a pathologist who exemplified the highest level of excellence in teaching, research and the care of patients throughout his career of more than a half century at New York Medical College and Metropolitan Hospital, died at the hospital on April 9, 1997 following a heart attack. He was 78.

Dr. Tchertkoff was born in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1919. When he was five years old his family came to the United States and settled in New York City, where Victor attended schools, receiving his B.S. degree from the College of the City of New York and his M.D. from New York Medical College. He completed an internship at Beth Israel Hospital before entering the Army Air Force in 1944. During his tour of duty as a captain, he was chief of laboratory and medical services at the Fort Worth Army Air Field in Texas.

Upon returning to New York, Dr. Tchertkoff completed his residency in medicine at Metropolitan, served as a research fellow with Dr. Kurt Lange at NYMC, and remained with the Medical College and Metropolitan for the rest of his life. Boarded in anatomical pathology in 1966, he became pathologist in charge at Metropolitan and, in 1967, director of laboratories, the post he held at the time of his death. After five years as associate professor of pathology at NYMC, he was promoted to professor in 1967. From 1988 to 1991 he was also acting chairman of the Department of Pathology.

Author of many articles and abstracts, he took special pride in his residency program at Metropolitan and of the more than 50 graduates of the program currently holding positions in both academic institutions and community hospitals across the country.

Dr. Myron Melamed, professor and chairman of the NYMC Department of Pathology and Dr. Augusta Belmonte, associate professor and chief of pathology at Metropolitan, spoke to Chironian about Dr. Tchertkoff, saying, “A dedicated and greatly productive member of the New York Medical College family for all his life, Dr. Tchertkoff was as responsible for the excellent training of pathologists in the metropolitan New York area as any single individual in any hospital anywhere.”

Dr. Belmonte, who trained with Dr. Tchertkoff, noted: “Dr. Tchertkoff demanded excellence of all his residents. He was a no-nonsense professional and an exceptional educator. He cared deeply for his patients’ well being and spoke often of the need for patients to have equal access to quality health care.”

Dr. Tchertkoff is survived by his wife, Mildred Schwartz, daughters Susan and Bonnie, two grandchildren, and a great granddaughter, born last year.
ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 22, 1998
American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons Alumni Reception, New Orleans, LA.

April 3, 1998
American College of Physicians Alumni Reception San Diego, CA

April 5, 1998
American Academy of Pediatrics Alumni Reception Atlanta, GA

June 9, 1998
Alumni Golf Benefit Knickerbocker Country Club, Tenafly, New Jersey

REUNION WEEKEND

May 15, 1998
Class of 1973–25th Reunion and Silver Diploma Presentation: University Club, New York City

May 16, 1998
Annual Alumni Banquet and Awards Presentation Class of 1948–50th Reunion and Gold Diploma Presentation: The Plaza, New York City

May 17, 1998

IN MEMORIAM Continued from page 29

ROY HERBERT STEINBERG ’61

Roy Steinberg ’61, professor of physiology and ophthalmology at the University of California, San Francisco, died at his home in San Francisco, July 26, 1997, of multiple myeloma. He was 61.

Dr. Steinberg was widely recognized for his research on the structure and function of the retina. He and his colleagues found that the cone cells of the retina renew themselves daily by shedding used-up parts that are then absorbed by the pigmented cell layer. He also advanced understanding of the pigmented layer’s function in electroretinograms, which provide a non-invasive measure of retinal activity.

Working with Dr. Matthew LaVail in the late 1980s, Dr. Steinberg demonstrated that injecting the eyes of laboratory rats with newly discovered growth-factor molecules preserved the rods and cones. At the time of his death he was exploring the treatment of retinitis pigmentosa and macular degeneration by means of these growth factors. For breaking new ground in this direction, he and Dr. LaVail were awarded the John A. Moran Prize in Visual Science in 1997.

Dr. Steinberg earned his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Neurophysiology from McGill University. He joined the University of California medical faculty in 1969.

In a letter to The New York Times published the day after his death, Dr. Steinberg wrote of his terminal illness:

“My philosophy is to fight like hell to stay alive while at the same time readying myself for death, spiritually and practically. I took extreme measures and got 42 months of life from two bone marrow transplants and an additional nine months from transplant number three.

“Was it worth it, you may ask. My child has had her daddy for nine more months, and my wife has had her husband. From these simple facts, I conclude it’s worth it.”

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Jane Gitscheir; their daughter, Annie; his son Julian; and a sister, Norma Fox, of Hartsdale, NY.
Dennis J. Allendorf '70, who succeeded Michael A. Antonelle '62 as president of the NYMC Alumni Association last spring, is a general pediatrician in practice with two colleagues in New York City.

A 1965 graduate of Georgetown University, he took postgraduate training at St. Luke’s and Roosevelt hospitals and completed his pediatric residency at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, where he remained on the pediatrics staff until 1978.

Dr. Allendorf served on the clinical faculty of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in the 1970s and was a member of that school’s faculty council from 1980 to 1983. He is a member of the attending staffs at both Columbia Presbyterian and St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center, where he has also been on the executive committee of the medical board and held the posts of director of in-patient services and director of pediatric education.

"I LOVE MY WORK," the new president told Chironian. Watching him, unobserved, as he gently greets a small patient in an examining room, one appreciates the accuracy of that statement. "In my practice, I have two partners—Richard L. Mones, a graduate of our Class of '71, who by coincidence was a student of Mike’s, and J.P. Pleno Moise, M.D. We have a broad spectrum of patients we see in three offices in Manhattan—one on West 86th Street, another at 118th Street in Harlem and a third at Babies’ and Children’s Hospital."

Turning to his plans as president, Dr. Allendorf said, "My aim is to continue on the path Mike Antonelle has charted: to foster a collegial, mutually beneficial relationship with the College. The College has provided an excellent medical education to all alumni and alumnae with an opportunity to pursue one of the greatest jobs in the world—that of being a physician. For both the College and its graduates this opportunity comes with both debts and benefits.

"As I wrote in my dues letter, the children of alumni/ae seeking admission to the College—our legacees—are finding that the picture is positive. A qualified relative of a graduate has a good chance of being admitted to the College. Of the 8,451 applicants to NYMC in 1997, 127 were relatives of graduates; of the 517 acceptees, 32 were legacees, 20 of whom have come to our College. This is a dramatic change from 1993, when I first joined the Board of Governors. That year there were no legacees.

With a nurturing attitude, people at the College are making an extra effort to see that qualified legacee applicants are accepted. Going from no alumni/ae legacees to 20 in an entering class is a great accomplishment, and one that I want to see continue.

"It is to Mike’s great credit that an environment and philosophy of mutual support and help are clearly evident today, that the College considers us all part of one family and shares the position that support and help are what a real family is all about. The roots of this collegial relationship are there; we can keep them there with the support of both the College and its graduates. The College is doing its part. Now it is especially important that we do our part. Corporate and individual donors are strongly influenced in their giving by the level of support an institution receives from its alumni/ae. The phenomenon of support resembles a pyramid, increasing rapidly and on a widening base. If you can get a groundswell going, all sorts of things become possible. I am at a significant juncture as president. Most of the groundwork has been done. I want to make sure that we continue on this encouraging, challenging path. Working together, we can reach that goal."