



## CLASS NOTES

**'40s** **ROY CHARLES MONSOUR**, MD '43, still practices full-time at the age of 83. He practices in Jeannette, Pennsylvania, and was just named a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

**'50s** **CYRIL H. WECHT**, MD '56, of Pittsburgh, was one of the recipients of the first Annual Community Recognition Awards, given by the William P. Fralic Foundation. (Bill Fralic was a Pitt All-American and Atlanta Falcon All-Pro.)

**'80s** **KEVIN O'TOOLE**, MD '83, is an associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine as well as associate director of emergency medicine and director of hyperbaric medicine at UPMC Presbyterian.

**'90s** **KEVIN P. HAYES**, MD '90, is associate medical director and vice-president of UnumProvident Insurance in Los Angeles, California. He serves as clinical instructor of psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine.

**DIANA L. (BUSHLESS) METZGER**, MD '91, was assistant professor of clinical medicine at Ohio State University before moving to Orange Park, Florida, to join Clay Cardiology.

**EMANUEL N. VERGIS**, MD '91, is now associate clinical chief in the Division of Infectious Diseases at UPMC Health System after receiving an MPH in epidemiology from Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health in 1999. He can be reached at [verge@pitt.edu](mailto:verge@pitt.edu).

**ALLAN WEBER**, MD '93, is chief resident in neurology at the Medical College of Pennsylvania/Hahnemann University, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He can be contacted at [aaweber@earthlink.net](mailto:aaweber@earthlink.net).



*The Owl, 1945*

**JODI SEGAL**, MD '94, received a master's in public health in 1998 from Johns Hopkins University, in Baltimore, Maryland. She joined the faculty there in July as a general internist, with an appointment to conduct clinical research in the Division of Hematology.

**AMY HURRIANKO WEBER**, MD '96, has completed her residency in ophthalmology at Wills Eye Hospital, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was given the Ketan Patel Award for her professionalism, compassion, and care for patients. She can be contacted at [aaweber@earthlink.net](mailto:aaweber@earthlink.net).

**LYNN E. TAYLOR** and **CHRISTINE HENDRICKSON**, both MD '97, were recognized as the best resident teachers by the senior class at Brown University's medical school. Taylor writes that she is an attending physician at the Miriam Hospital's Immunology Center, also in Providence, Rhode Island, caring for HIV-positive patients and those who are HIV-negative but considered at high risk for contracting the virus. —MJ



*The Owl, 1983*

## REUNIONS

The **CLASS OF '55** is one that Medical Alumni Association (MAA) officials would like to "clone for its enthusiasm." This year's July 16-19 reunion did nothing to alter that opinion. Held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania, the four-day retreat included great food, local sightseeing tours, ongoing games of bridge, and, of course, lots of great golf. (Although none shot their age.) Among the speakers at the surf-and-turf dinner finale was Samuel A. Tisherman, MD '85, whose late father, Samuel E. Tisherman, MD '55, had been the doctors' classmate. The younger Tisherman's ties to Pitt also run deep: He is married to Susan Dunmire, MAA president, and teaches surgery and anesthesiology/critical

### MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

SUSAN M. DUNMIRE, MD '85, President  
ROBERT BRAGDON, MD '73, President-elect  
PAUL M. PARIS, MD '76, Vice-president  
GRAHAM JOHNSTONE, MD '70, Secretary  
PETER FERSON, MD '73, Treasurer  
RICHARD MORIARTY, MD '66, Historian  
JOHN WEIGEL, MD '54, Member-at-large  
PETER SHEPTAK, MD '63, Member-at-large

JOANN NARDUZZI, MD '62, Member-at-large  
JENNIFER RUBIN GRANDIS, MD '87  
Member-at-large  
ROSS MUSGRAVE, MD '43  
Executive Director  
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Members of the Class of '55 regroup.

care medicine and advises students for the annual Scope and Scalpel production. He spoke poignantly about carrying on the Scope and Scalpel tradition that began with his father's class.

Other alumni also gathered in the mountains of western Pennsylvania. During the weekend of September 8-10, the **CLASS OF '60** reunited at Hidden Valley Resort. They kicked off the festivities with a barbecue at the home of Richard Kalla, MD '60. The reminiscing continued on Saturday while classmates and their spouses snuck in a round of golf, played tennis, or toured nearby Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob.

On September 15, the eve of the big Pitt versus Penn State clash, bold predictions permeated the Pittsburgh Athletic Association as glasses were raised at a cocktail reception organized by Mark E. Thompson, MD '65, for his classmates. The day of the big game started early at the University Club with the School of Medicine's inaugural homecoming brunch, which is slated to become an annual event. Those not making the afternoon trek to Three Rivers Stadium visited the Frick Art and Historical Center, the Phipps Conservatory, and the Carnegie Museum of Art. The **CLASS OF '65** met up again at the end of the day for dinner and post-game analysis at the Grand Concourse in Station Square. (If any Penn State undergrads were in attendance, they were lying low.) —MJ and RM



(from left) Of the Class of '55: Robert Eisler and Charles R. Wilson Jr. with reunion cochairs Bebe Miller and Al Perfett

## KENNETH D. ROGERS

MAY 23, 1921 – JUNE 6, 2000

For Kenneth D. Rogers, a doctor's job didn't start after a patient became ill. It began on a street corner where a 13-year-old boy was about to smoke a cigarette for the first time.

"Ken was involved in public health long before it was fashionable to do so," recalls Seymour Grufferman, a professor of family medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. "In many ways, he was ahead of his time."

Rogers's time at the School of Medicine began in 1953, after earning his MD at the University of Cincinnati and serving as a navy surgeon in World War II. By 1960, he was chair of the Department of Community Medicine. He held that position and also was a professor of pediatrics until 1988, when Grufferman succeeded him as the department chair. During his tenure, Rogers established a slew of community programs that had one common denominator: keeping people well. Rogers helped found the Matilda Theiss Health Center and was active in the Western Pennsylvania Health Preceptorship Program, to name just a few of the ways he directed his passion for community work. He died this June at the age of 79, and his contributions are more than remembered.



THE PITT PHYSICIAN, 1968

Kenneth D. Rogers championed prevention.

"Right now we're embarking on a prophylactic pneumococcal vaccination program with all of our 17 University affiliated hospitals," says Donald Middleton, interim chair of the family medicine department (the grandchild of community medicine). Many such preventive medicine programs in Pittsburgh exist in large part because Rogers and others like him planted those seeds at the University, notes Middleton. He adds that the preventive health community will deeply miss Rogers's insight and critical skills. —RM

## IN MEMORIAM

**ROBERT C. BURT (MD '41)**  
JUNE 5, 2000

**JOHN J. CONLEY (MD '37)**  
SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

**JULIUS A. FINO (MD '43)**  
MAY 30, 2000

**JAMES R. HUGHEY (MD '44)**  
JUNE 22, 2000

**WILLIAM C. JONES (MD '53)**  
APRIL 24, 2000

**PAUL L. KLOSE (MD '52)**  
APRIL 30, 2000

**GEORGE W. PATTERSON (MD '36)**  
MAY 19, 2000

**KENNETH D. ROGERS (FACULTY)**  
JUNE 6, 2000

**MILTON SINGER (MD '43)**  
JULY 20, 1999



## SUSAN M. DUNMIRE: THE MAA PRESIDENT SPEAKS OF ROLE MODELS

BY JENNIFER ANDREWS

It was during her residency, on an emergency flight—a tractor trailer had plummeted off a bridge, onto the road below, and landed on a car—when Susan Dunmire, MD '85, knew the medical life was for her. “We landed the helicopter,” says Dunmire, “and saw the crushed car. The trailer had killed everyone in the family but a 10-year-old girl. But despite all she’d been through, she knew what had happened, and on the way to the hospital, she said to me, ‘I have no one else in the world now; please stay with me.’ I did. I held her hand, and I stayed with her. And I knew then, this was what I wanted to do.”

Though medicine was part of her daily learning, until that awful day, it never rang true. Yet it was in her blood. As a child, Dunmire would go on Saturday morning rounds with her father, Lester A. Dunmire, MD '48. She recalls those quiet moments, watching her dad with patients, as he held hands and listened to stories.

Today, when she’s with students, when she sees patients, Dunmire remembers his words. *No matter how tired you are, when you see patients, sit down with them, hold their hand, and give them all the time it takes to answer their questions and get through their fears.*

A tradition of compassion runs deep in her family. Dunmire’s maternal grandfather, Harold Mitchell, MD '21, was once chair of the Department of Neurology at Pitt. “Up until the day he retired, my grandfather made house calls in poverty-stricken areas—places no one else would go,” says Dunmire. Mitchell came from poor rural roots himself, riding a horse into Pittsburgh to attend medical school. At the heart of his philosophy for doctoring, for life, was a simple belief: No one was better than anyone else.

Dunmire is an emergency department (ED) physician at UPMC Presbyterian; and like her father and grandfather before she is a teacher. As an associate professor of emergency medicine, she conducts a fourth-year elective in emergency medicine. She also is



Susan Dunmire, MD '85

**“On the way to the hospital, she said to me, ‘I have no one else in the world now; please stay with me.’”**

on a physician team that presents case studies to second-year students in preparation for their boards. In addition, she has created an interactive computer course to augment students’ ED experiences.

“Once,” she explains, “we just taught whatever came into the ED. Now, students can be introduced to cases outside the ED, on the computer, and discuss them. It’s a constructive way to continue learning.” This year, students recognized Dunmire’s dedication by giving her the school’s Golden Apple award for teaching.

The Medical Alumni Association (MAA) is now a direct beneficiary of Dunmire’s fidelity and talents. She will serve this year as the association’s president, and she is ready to dig in.

“I’m going to sit at that table with alumni—some of them my teachers, my mentors

—and learn,” she says. She also wants to use her position, as someone who works closely with students as a professor and advisor, to serve as a bridge.

“I’m going to offer ways to relate to students, address issues relevant to them, and with the MAA, learn how to best serve them.” One need the MAA has already identified, and Dunmire wholeheartedly embraces, is building on the number of student scholarships it offers. That way, new graduates can focus more on patient care and not be distracted by their debt load.

Even higher up on Dunmire’s wish list is increasing the number of alumni involved in the med school. “Get them involved with the students as teachers, as mentors, as role models,” she says. Little wonder. Dunmire, after all, is living testimony to the value of passing knowledge and experience from one generation of physicians and teachers to another. ■