



Medical History Society of New Jersey

c/o UMDNJ – Special Collections
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NEWSLETTER

October 2004

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THIRD FOUNDATION OF UMDNJ LECTURE

The fall meeting of the Medical History Society of New Jersey will be held Wednesday, October 20th at The Nassau Club in Princeton. The third Foundation of UMDNJ Lecturer is **Elizabeth Fee, Ph.D.** Dr. Fee is Chief, History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health. She will present a paper entitled "*So, What's New in the Past? Some Treasures from the National Library of Medicine Now Available to You on the Web.*" Dr. Fee's lecture will focus on medical history resources in the National Library of Medicine now accessible through the Internet. Past MHSNJ President, Frederick C. Skvara, MD will display medical philately related to the program. Registration begins at 3:30 p.m.; the program begins at 4 p.m.

MHSNJ Business Meeting, Daniel Greenfield, MD, President

Bateson and the Doctors: The Introduction of Mendelian Genetics to the British Medical Community, 1900-1910

Alan R. Rushton, MD, Ph.D.

Dr. James Hogarth Pringle: The Man Behind the Maneuver

Lowell E. Gurey, BA, UMDNJ-NJMS Class of 2006
and Kenneth G. Swan, MD, UMDNJ-NJMS

Dr. Thomas Kirkbridge and the Greystone Park State Psychiatric Hospital, 1876-1950
Margaret Shultz, MA

Charity Seals and Stamps: The Medical Connection

Frederick C. Skvara, MD, Past President, MHSNJ

Cocktails and Dinner (6-7:30 pm)

Third Foundation of UMDNJ Lecture

So, What's New in the Past? Some Treasures from the National Library of Medicine Now Available to You on the Web

**Elizabeth Fee, Ph.D., Chief, History of Medicine Division,
National Library of Medicine -- National Institutes of Health**

Members, students, and friends are invited to attend the dinner meeting. Cost is \$40/ members, \$50/ guests; advance registration is required. For information, contact MHSNJ, c/o UMDNJ Special Collections, G.F. Smith Library, 30 Twelfth Avenue, Newark, NJ 07101-1709, (973) 972-7830, densky@umdnj.edu.

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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

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Lois R. Densky-Wolff, MA, UMDNJ-University Libraries Special Collections will present a lunch-time lecture at the New Jersey Historical Society on October 27 entitled "New Jersey Tuberculosis Hospitals & Sanatoriums on Postcards." The presentation highlights nearly 50 medical postcards from the Library's extensive postcard collection. The program coincides with an exhibit currently on view at the Historical Society [see note below].

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Gerald Grob, Ph.D. presented a paper entitled "Deinstitutionalization: The American Experience," at a conference on "Cultures of Psychiatry and Mental Health Care in the Twentieth Century: Comparisons and Approaches," in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 2003. Dr. Grob also lectured on "Changing Patterns of Morbidity and Mortality," at the UMDNJ-School of Public Health, Piscataway this past March.

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The Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine and The College of Physicians of Philadelphia will present The Fifth Annual Alma Dea Morani Renaissance Woman Award to **Christine E. Haycock, MD, FACS** on Thursday, October 28. Dr. Haycock will present the keynote address entitled "*The Boomerang Returns.*" According to the award announcement, *Dr. Haycock excelled as a physician, teacher and mentor to other women who sought to become physicians. She is best known for her influence on Sports Medicine for women, her work on the eradication of uterine cancer, and her leadership in the establishment of the trauma center at University Hospital in Newark as well as her post as commander of a trauma unit during her service in the Army Medical Corps.* For additional information or reservations, please call 484-945-2106.

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Richard A. Marfuggi, MD, FACS, DMH was appointed Visiting Fellow of Medical Humanities in Biology at the University of Richmond, where he is teaching a course entitled *The Healing Arts*. The course serves as an introduction for pre-health students to the medical humanities. Dr. Marguggi reports that he is the first MD to hold the degree of Doctor of Medical Humanities from Drew University.

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Sandra Moss, MD reports that she is completing her Masters thesis on the sphygmograph, including an investigation into the work of Edgar Holden, a physician inventor from Newark (NJIT and Rutgers-Newark affiliated program in the history of technology, the environment, and medicine).

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Frederick C. Skvara, MD exhibited a selection of philatelic material and gave an oral presentation on some of the medical advances of World War II resulting in reduced troop morbidity and mortality at the Flag Day celebration, June 14, at the New Jersey Veterans Museum located in the VA Hospital, East Orange. The occasion was the dedication of a new exhibit at the museum honoring the veterans of World War II.

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Allen B. Weisse, MD delivered the inaugural Allen B. Weisse Lecture in Medical History on September 14 at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark Campus. Dr. Weisse's topic was "*On First Looking into Jarcho's Leibowitz: The Small Joys and Great Satisfactions of Medical Sleuthing.*" The Weisse Lecture is sponsored as the 2nd Grand Rounds of the academic year at the New Jersey Medical School-Department of Medicine. A number of MHSNJ members attended the lecture including **Francis P. Chinard, Vincent Cirillo, David L. Cowen, Lois Densky-Wolff, Frank Katz, Christos B. Moschos, Michael Nevins, Karen Reeds, Benjamin Rush, Jr., William D. Sharpe, and Frederick C. Skvara.**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The New Jersey Lunar Society
by
Sandra Moss, MD

During the spring (2004), Vince Cirillo, Karen Reeds, and Sandra Moss began meeting monthly at the home of David Cowen to discuss current projects and issues in medical history. Visiting members reap the benefit of Dr. Cowen's knowledge, experience, memory, and glorious, sagging, bulging library shelves. The group, which calls itself the Lunar Society, will resume monthly meetings in October.

The original Lunar Society, founded in the late eighteenth century was an association of Birmingham (England) men with a shared interest in science. Among the members was William Withering, the physician who researched and introduced digitalis into medical practice. The members met monthly at the full moon in order to facilitate nighttime travel. Despite the fact that the New Jersey Lunar Society meets for luncheon, it was felt appropriate to adopt the name of Withering's group. Any members of the medical history society who wish to join the Lunar Society at a monthly meeting are welcome to contact one of us.

Encyclopedia of New Jersey
by
Vincent J. Cirillo, Ph.D.

Nine years in the making, the recently published *Encyclopedia of New Jersey* is the largest project ever undertaken by Rutgers University Press. More than 600 authors contributed 2,900 entries examining the Garden State's role in the history, health, culture, economy and politics of our nation. No one can ever again think of New Jersey as a "barrel tapped

at both ends," as Benjamin Franklin saw it – a parochial region squashed between New York and Pennsylvania.

The MHSNJ is proud to have been part of this worthy enterprise. David Cowen was a member of the editorial board, and a total of 55 entries were authored by members Sam Alewitz, Vincent Cirillo, Lois Densky-Wolff, Wolfgang Jöchle, Frank Katz, Sandra Moss, Karen Reeds, William Sharpe, Helen Sheehan, Robert Trelstad, Richard Wedeen, and Allen Weisse. Lois Densky-Wolff's article on the MHSNJ, Frank Katz's biography of founder Morris Saffron, and Allen Weisse's entry on member Victor Parsonnet will make readers take notice of our Society's presence on the Jersey scene.

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Two Exhibits of Interest to Medical Historians at the New Jersey Historical Society

"Enduring Tuberculosis: America's Quest for a Cure"

In this exhibit on tuberculosis designed by the Adirondacks Museum in collaboration with the Cooperstown Graduate Program in Cooperstown, NY, The New Jersey Historical Society calls attention to the resurgence of this worldwide "chronic and deadly disease." The display explores the history of tuberculosis and does this through primary documents, photographs, and artifacts. Public health, social welfare, and healthcare in America are topics that are presented in the exhibit. The sanatoria movement is also explored.

"Ellis Island's South Side Forgotten No More"

Thirty buildings on Ellis Island's South Side have yet to be restored. Most of these are hospital buildings, where a quarter million immigrants received medical attention. In producing this exhibit of "historic and contemporary photographs and supporting text," The New Jersey Historical Society has had the cooperation of the organizations Save Ellis Island!, the Paul W. Zuccaire Foundation, and the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

The New Jersey Historical Society is located at 52 Park Place, Newark. Both exhibits will be open until mid-January 2005. For more information, visit the Society's web site, <http://www.jerseyhistory.org> or contact the Society at (973) 596-8500 or contactNJHS@jerseyhistory.org.

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Jewish Medical Heritage Study Trip to Israel, May 14-22, 2005

MHSNJ member, Michael Nevins, MD will be leading a one-week study trip to Israel that is designed to promote appreciation of Jewish medical history and bioethics. Although of special interest to physicians, anyone with curiosity about this field is likely to benefit. The format will be a virtual traveling classroom with programs led by an expert faculty at appropriate venues in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Tiberias, Beersheva and Jerusalem. The trip is co-sponsored by the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel and the Center for Jewish Medical Heritage. For information, contact Dr. Nevins at mnevmd@att.net.

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What's New at UMDNJ Special Collections?

A new exhibit, "*The Physician's Tools: Medical Instruments from the Robert Cuddihy Collection*," opened in June at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences. The exhibit explores the evolution of diagnostic and clinical instruments, primarily during the 19th century, and features instruments collected by Robert V. Cuddihy. Rare books from the Library's Special Collections complement the exhibit.

Mr. Cuddihy has pursued an interest in the history of medicine during the course of several decades of professional employment in the pharmaceutical industry. He is currently a Senior Clinical Scientist at ALTANA Pharma US, in Florham Park, NJ. Mr. Cuddihy's research focus has been directed toward the development of new drugs in various therapeutic areas, including psychotropic agents, antihypertensives, antineoplastic drugs and anti-inflammatory agents.

Mr. Cuddihy is currently working on a book that explores the impact of medical instrumentation on the evolution of the theory and practice of clinical diagnosis over a two-century period, 1750–1950. The instruments on display in this exhibit have been collected from numerous sources and locations in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

The UMDNJ-University Libraries gratefully acknowledges Mr. Cuddihy for the loan of his extraordinary collection and for his co-curatorship of the exhibit.

The UMDNJ-George F. Smith Library is located at 30 Twelfth Avenue, Newark.

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Robert Trelstad, MD, a MHSNJ member and Director of the Child Health Institute at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS) donated the professional papers of founding department chair of microbiology, R. Walter Schlesinger, MD (1914-2003). Dr. Schlesinger, a distinguished emeritus professor of molecular genetics, microbiology, and immunology, was a noted virologist who developed a vaccine for dengue fever with Dr. Albert B. Sabin and was the first faculty member appointed at RWJMS. Dr. Schlesinger's papers are currently being arranged and described for future use by researchers.

Johnson & Johnson medical artifacts dating from the 1950s and packaged for a New Jersey MASH unit during the Korean War were saved and donated by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Office of Facility Support when Ancora Psychiatric Hospital in South Jersey was emptied and demolished. The artifacts include box lots of plaster of Paris impregnated bandages, sterile gauze, and field compresses, all in unopened packages or boxes.

For more information on the exhibit or medical history resources, please contact densky@umdnj.edu or (973) 972-7830.

MEMBERS' RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Name	Subject
Vincent J. Cirillo, PhD	Currently writing an article on the role of flies in the spread of typhoid fever in 19 th and early 20 th century armies.
Mary Coleman, MD	Materialien zum Sumerischen Lexikon IX (A Lexical medical text in Akkadian And Sumerian).
Gerald Grob, PhD	Mental Health Policy from Kennedy to Reagan.
Wolfgang Jöchle	1. An impure, unclean, even polluted profession: veterinarians' uphill battle in Western society during the 19 th and 20 th century. 2. Stud record or equine breeding program: dating and clarifying cuneiform writings and a pictogram from Elam (2 nd or 1 st millennium BC, Mesopotamia).
Frank F. Katz, PhD	The last epidemic of Yellow Fever in the United States: New Orleans, 1905.
Sandra Moss, MD	Investigation of the effects of the yellow fever epidemics of the 1790s in NJ; Continuing investigation of health and and healthcare among African-Americans in New Jersey.
Alan Rushton, MD, Ph.D.	Evolution of ideas on heredity and Medicine in Britain, 1600-1939

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The *Newsletter of the Medical History Society of New Jersey* is published in May and October by the Society, and is a benefit of membership. **Deadline for the next newsletter is April 1, 2005.** Short articles (250 words) on medical history topics are especially welcome. Please send correspondence and submissions to:

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Thanks to Contributors: Vincent Cirillo, Mary Coleman, Gerald Grob, Wolfgang Jöchle, Frank Katz, Richard Marfuggi, Sandra Moss, Michael Nevins, Alan Rushton, Frederick Skvara, and Allen Weisse.

Philatelic Sketches *in Medicine*

Frederick C. Skvara, M.D.

Charity Stamps & Seals

Charity stamps are adhesive stickers or labels issued by or on behalf of a wide assortment of organizations and causes. They are not valid for postage and while one often finds them on envelopes, the mailing must also show the proper postage.

Probably the most well-known charity stamps are the Christmas seals, first issued by Denmark in 1904. Three years later on December 16, 1907, the first United States Christmas seal (**Fig.1**) was placed on sale through the efforts of Emily Bissell (1861–1948) of the Delaware chapter of the American Red Cross. The national Red Cross took over sponsorship in 1908 (**Fig. 2**) and distributed the seals nationally.



Fig.1 Designed by Emily Bissell



Fig.2 Designed by Howard Pyle

But the story of charity stamps neither begins nor ends with national Christmas seals. The first stamps used to raise money for a charity were issued in the United States during the Civil War—the Sanitary Fair stamps (**Fig. 3**). Sold in various denominations at Sanitary Fairs, the money collected was used to help provide food and medical services for Union soldiers.



Fig. 3 Great Central Fair, Philadelphia, 1864

Local Christmas seals were also created by a large number of organizations, such as the seals (**Fig. 4**) issued by the Lutheran Memorial Hospital (now the Clara Maass Memorial Hospital) in Newark, New Jersey,



Fig. 4 Lutheran Memorial Hospital's first Christmas seal, issued in 1945 is shown on the left. Also shown are its seals from 1946–1949.

The Chicago Heart Association has issued charity stamps since 1925 to aid in the fight against heart disease. While most merely show a simple graphic design such as the one issued in 1950 (**Fig. 5**), a sheet of 21 stamps showing Famous Figures in Medical History was issued in 1952 (**Fig. 6**).



Fig. 5

Another organization which has not been shy about issuing charity stamps is

The American Dental Association. They set up a relief fund in 1906 to aid dentists and their families affected by the San Francisco earthquake and issued their first seal in 1913. Illustrated is the seal from 1929 (**Fig. 7**).



Figs. 7



Fig. 6 Harvey Cushing

These examples represent a small fraction of the thousands of stamps and seals issued by the United States and other countries for medical charities and causes.

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