



Medical History Society of New Jersey

c/o UMDNJ – Special Collections
G.F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences
30 Twelfth Ave., P.O. Box 1709, Newark, NJ 07101-1709
Tel: 973-972-7830 Fax: 973-972-7474
email: vietrora@umdnj.edu web site: www.mhsnj.org

NEWSLETTER

May 2008

Volume 28, Number 1

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MORRIS SAFFRON LECTURE

The spring meeting of the Medical History Society of New Jersey will be held on Wednesday, May 21st, at The Nassau Club in Princeton. Anne Wood Humphries, MLS will present the 29th Annual Morris Saffron Lecture entitled “An Enduring Clarity: the Life and Art of Frank H. Netter.” Ms. Humphries has curated two exhibits of Dr. Netter’s medical illustrations for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Health Sciences Library, and has presented lectures on Dr. Netter’s life and art at several universities, including UMDNJ. MHSNJ past president Frederick C. Skvara, MD will display medical philately related to the program. Registration begins at 3:30 pm, and the program begins at 4 pm.

MHSNJ Business Meeting and Election of Officers

Alan J. Lippman, MD, President

The UMDNJ Debacle: A Scandal in Medical Academia

Allen B. Weisse, MD

A Cut Above: Circumcision as an Ancient Status Symbol

David C. Kaicher, MD, Kenneth E. Swan, MD (mentor)

Medical Journalism in New Jersey: The Physician as Communicator

Alan J. Lippman, MD, Outgoing President’s Address

Drs. Francis W. Peabody and William L. Vroom: Two “Caring” Physicians

Michael Nevins, MD

Cocktails and Dinner (6-7:30 pm)

Medical Stamp Exhibit – Frederick C. Skvara, MD

Twenty-Ninth Saffron Lecture:

An Enduring Clarity: The Life and Art of Frank H. Netter, MD

Anne Wood Humphries, MLS

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, P.O. Box 1709, Newark, NJ 07101-1709 or contact vietrora@umdnj.edu or moss.sandra@gmail.com.



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Dr. George J. Hill presented his lecture, “Master and Commander, Surgeon and Spy,” to the New York Commandery, Naval Order of the United States, in New York City, and to the Baronial Order of the Magna Charta, Corinthian Yacht Club, Essington, PA, both in October 2007. His book, *Edison’s Environment: Invention and Pollution in the Career of Thomas Edison*, is now available through Amazon.com. Dr. Hill’s latest book, a currently untitled study of secret United States–Liberian relations from 1925 to 1947, which includes a pivotal West African yellow fever epidemic in 1933, has been accepted for publication in 2008 by VDM-Verlag.

Dr. Sandra Moss’s lectures this year have included “Serpentine Streams and Pulsating Power: The Water Cure and Hygeiotherapy in New Jersey,” at the American Osler Society in May 2007; “The Civil War Navy of Acting Assistant Surgeon Edgar Holden,” Address to Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War in March 2008, and to The Nassau Club in Princeton New Jersey in April 2008; and “Homeopaths and Hydropaths: Holistic Health in New Jersey,” to the Bergen County Senior Citizens course in the history of New Jersey in April 2008, and to Hadassah (Edison Metuchen) in May 2008. This year, Dr. Moss is also serving on the Board of Governors of the American Osler Society.

Karen Reeds, PhD delivered the 19th Annual David L. Cowen Lecture in the History of Pharmacy, sponsored by the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University, in April 2008. Entitled “New Jersey Herbs and World Herbals,” Dr. Reeds’ lecture was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience that included several members of the MHSNJ. An exhibit curated by Dr. Reeds, “Come into a New World: Linnaeus & America,” will be on display at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton from May 3rd to September 30th, 2008.

Dr. Alan R. Rushton’s book, *Royal Maladies: Inherited Diseases in the Royal Houses of Europe*, is expected to be published this June, and will be available at Amazon.com.

Helen E. Sheehan, PhD has joined the Editorial Board of the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* (India). She presented papers at the Second National Bioethics Conference (India) held in Bangalore in December 2007 on “Culture, ethics, and alternative medicine” and “Issues in patient use of Indian Systems of Medicine.”

Dr. Henry Sherk’s new book, *Getting It Straight: A History of American Orthopaedics*, premiered at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in San Francisco in March 2008. The book was published by the Academy in celebration of the 75th anniversary of its founding, and can be purchased through the AAOS website. Sample chapters may be found at www.aaos75th.org.

Dr. Allen B. Weisse presented “The UMDNJ Debacle: A Scandal in Academia,” at the spring 2008 meetings of the American Association for the History of Medicine and American Osler Society, as well as at the current MHSNJ spring meeting. His vantage point as former President of the New Jersey Medical School Faculty, hospital chief of staff, and chairman of the admissions committee at the New Jersey Medical School provided him with the basis for his talk



IN MEMORIAM

Howard D. Slobodien, MD (1923–2007)

Howard Slobodien, colleague, friend, and long-standing member of the Medical History Society, passed away on September 8th, 2007.

A 1943 graduate of Rutgers, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, he graduated from NYU Medical School

in 1947. He trained in general surgery at Morrisania City Hospital, Bronx, N.Y., and practiced General Surgery in Perth Amboy for more than fifty years, receiving special recognition in 2006 for distinguished service at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy.

Active in medical politics, Howard served as President of the Middlesex County Medical Society (1970-71), President of the Medical Society of New Jersey (1982-83), and Editor-in-Chief of *New Jersey Medicine*, the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey (1988-98). As editor, he championed the publication of medical history articles.

In 1997, Howard was given the "Lifetime Achievement in the Profession" award by the Middlesex County Medical Society. He was listed in Marquis' *Who's Who in America*. In 2004, Howard's family established the Annual Howard D. Slobodien, MD Breast Health Lecture series at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division.

Howard's interests, in addition to medical history, included art, music, literature, sports, and politics. He was an avid golfer and an accomplished pianist. He will be missed.

Christine E. Haycock, M.D. (1924-2008)

On January 23, 2008, Dr. Christine E. Haycock, a devoted member of the Medical History Society of New Jersey, died from complications following abdominal surgery. She was 84 years of age.

Dr. Haycock was born in Mount Vernon, New York, and raised in Richmond, Virginia, before moving to Nutley, New Jersey. After graduating high school, she attended the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing and served in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II. However, she always intended to become a physician, and in 1952 she earned her medical degree from the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center (Brooklyn). She also earned a B.S. degree from the University of Chicago and a masters degree in political science from Rutgers University.

She entered the field of surgery, a daring effort at a time when women were not made welcome in medicine, especially in this highly competitive specialty. She began as a military surgeon and became the first woman to transfer directly from the U.S. Army Nurse Corps to the U.S. Army Medical Corps, and the first woman to intern at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. After serving on active reserve status for many years, and being the first woman president of her class at the U.S. Army War College in 1977, she retired in 1984 with the rank of colonel.

Following her active military service and residency, she opened a private practice in surgery in Newark. In 1968, she joined the New Jersey College of Medicine as an associate professor of surgery and director of emergency services at University Hospital. She taught, lectured, and published extensively about trauma, sports medicine, and women's health. She retired as emeritus professor in 1992.

Dr. Haycock received many honors during her long career. She was a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. She also served as President of the American Medical Women's Association and the New Jersey Women's Medical Association.

Her wide-ranging interests outside of medicine included amateur radio, photography, and the breeding of championship Miniature Schnauzers. Her interest in videography made her especially valuable to the MHSNJ because she videotaped many of its semi-annual meetings between 1992 and 2007. Her recordings of MHSNJ events remain in the archives of the organization, and memories of her unique and stimulating personality remain in our hearts.



MHSNJ ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

In February 2008, the Medical History Society of New Jersey inaugurated a new series of online publications on its website, www.mhsnj.org. Dr. Frank F. Katz's "The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research and a Change in the State of New Jersey's Animal Experimentation Laws in 1915" is the first of an ongoing series of

scholarly articles that will appear in the months ahead. This article can be accessed from the MHSNJ home page by clicking on the "Publications" navigator button.

The MHSNJ welcomes the submission for online publication of papers presented at any of our regular meetings. All manuscripts will be reviewed by the Website Publications Committee, comprised of Drs. Vincent J. Cirillo (chair), Karen Reeds, Alan Lippman, and Ms. Lois Densky-Wolff. If needed, outside experts will be consulted. All articles will be copyrighted, and all illustrations will cite the appropriate permissions.



MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 2007

Cirillo, Vincent J., and Karen Reeds. "Eloge: David L. Cowen, 1 September 1909 - 14 April 2006." *Isis* 98 (2007): 351-353.

Cirillo, Vincent J. Review of John T. Greenwood and F. Clifton Berry, Jr., *Medics at War: Military Medicine from Colonial Times to the 21st Century* (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 2005). In *Army History* (Fall, No. 65): 27-28.

Grob, Gerald N. "The Rise and Decline of Tonsillectomy in Twentieth-Century America," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 62 (October 2007): 383-421.

Hill, George J. *Edison's Environment: Invention and Pollution in the Career of Thomas Edison* (Morristown, N.J.: New Jersey Heritage Press, May 2007).

------. "Signatures of Two 17th Century Emigrants Once Believed to be the Same Henry Herrick," *The Mayflower Quarterly* (March 2007), 46-49.

------. "Intimate Relationships: Secret Affairs of Church and State in the U.S. and Liberia, 1925-1947," *Diplomatic History* 31 (No. 3, June 2007), 465-503.

Moss, Sandra. "The doctor as weatherman: medical topography in nineteenth-century New Jersey," *Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries* 62, 2006, 59-74.

<http://jrul.libraries.rutgers.edu> (published in 2007)

------. "The yellow fever epidemic of 1793," *Social Science Docket* 7: 29-30, 2007.

------. Review of Alan and Deborah Kraut, *Covenant of Care* (a history of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center) for H-Net NJ, 2007.



WHAT'S NEW AT SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

UMDNJ Special Collections has had an exciting year of new acquisitions:

In the fall, Special Collections began receiving the papers of the late Dr. Carroll Leevy, a major figure at UMDNJ as an administrator, faculty member, and researcher who was involved with the school since its founding as the Seton Hall College of Medicine. Dr. Leevy conducted pioneering liver research, founded the Sammy Davis Jr. National Liver Institute at UMDNJ, and figured prominently among African-American physicians nationwide. Photographs from the Leevy papers were shown at the Leevy memorial service on March 12, 2008 (at which MHSNJ members Dr. Allen Weisse and Dr. Francis Chinard were among the speakers), as well as in an exhibit on display at the New Jersey Medical School. Additional donations of papers are anticipated.

Dr. Francis Chinard donated a collection of newspaper clippings that document the media presentation of the recent scandals at UMDNJ (2005-07).

Archives and Special Collections, Columbia University Medical Center, donated three boxes of books and journals duplicated in their holdings. Among the most notable items were 18 of the 23 volumes of the *Medical Repository* (1797-1822), the first American medical journal, and 4 volumes of the *American Medical & Philosophical Register* (1810-14), edited by Dr. David Hosack.

Dr. William Sharpe donated several rare journals and books, including 4 issues of *The Annalist* (1847-48), and Hermann Köhler's *Monographie der Meningitis Spinalis* (1861).

From UMDNJ's Digital Media Department, Special Collections received over 20+ cubic feet of photographs, negatives, and contact sheets from the 1970s through the early 2000s. These images document many of the individuals and events at UMDNJ, and when organized (which will take years!), will be a major source of images in modern New Jersey medical history.

Karen Reeds donated a colorful early 20th-century trade card from Snell's Pharmacy in Trenton promoting "Walpole's Creo-Terpin."



HISTORICAL EXHIBITS

"Crafting Cures: The Practice of Medicine in Early America" is currently on display at the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts in Madison, NJ. The exhibit includes a period medical chest, early surgical kits, and letters and diaries concerning disease and treatment. The museum promises that viewers will "discover the story of the men and women whose experiments with primitive remedies paved the way for today's medical marvels." The Museum will also be hosting a "Spring Botanical Remedies Walking Tour" through the Great Swamp on Sunday, June 1st, from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. See www.metc.org for more information.

From May through June, UMDNJ's George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences will host the short form of the traveling exhibit "Opening Doors: Contemporary African American Academic Surgeons," curated by the National Library of Medicine and the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture. The exhibit is a celebration of the contributions of African American academic surgeons to medicine and medical education. See www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/aframsurgeons/index.html for more information.

This fall, Smith Library will celebrate the 150th anniversary of *Gray's Anatomy* with an exhibit drawn from the recent gifts and loans of Dr. George Kozam, including British and American first editions of *Gray's*, and a spectacular 1555 second edition of Vesalius' *De Humani Corporis Fabrica*.

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 September 15, 2008. Short articles (250 words) on medical history topics are especially welcome. Please send correspondence and submissions to:

Medical History Society of New Jersey
c/o UMDNJ Special Collections
George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences
30 Twelfth Avenue
P.O. Box 1709
Newark NJ 07101-1709
Tel: 973-972-7830
Fax: 973-972-7474
Email: vietrora@umdnj.edu

Thanks to Contributors: Vincent J. Cirillo, Gerald N. Grob, George J. Hill, Alan J. Lippman, Sandra W. Moss, Karen Reeds, Alan R. Rushton, Helen Sheehan, Henry Sherk, Frederick C. Skvara, and Allen B. Weisse.

Philatelic Sketches *in Medicine*

Frederick C. Skvara, M.D.

Medical Illustration in Philately



Model of inner ear and frequency curve of basic membrane illustrating mechanical processes involved in interpretation of sound

Schematic model of axon and ionic mechanism involved in excitation and inhibition of nerve cell impulses

Schematic of nerve cell and symbolic nerve ending showing release and uptake of humoral transmitters

Representation of split-brain theory in which the left hemisphere controls linguistic and cognitive functions, while the right brain responds to artistic expression and spatial relationships

Sagittal section of eyeball with visual nerves and cells

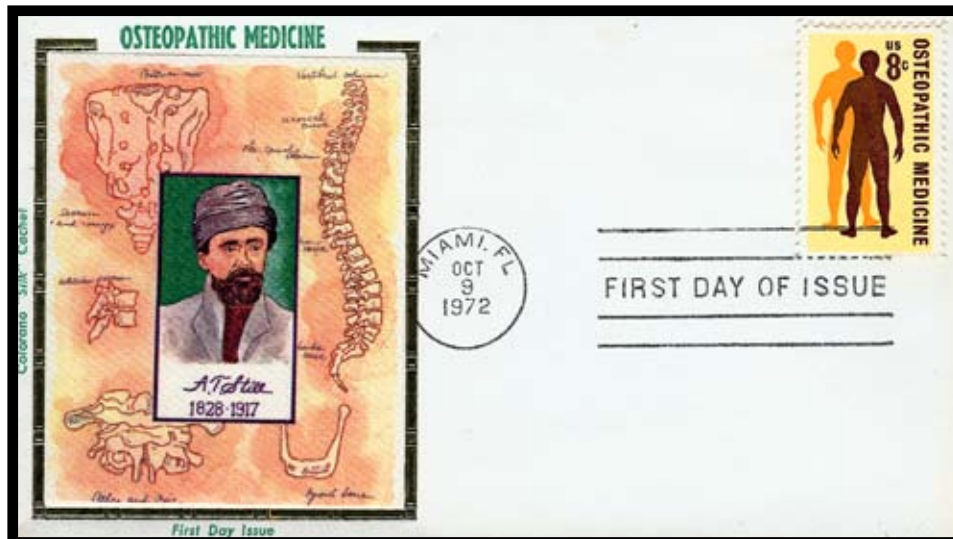
The strip of five stamps was issued by Sweden in 1984 for Nobel Prize winners in Physiology or Medicine.



Vesalius dissecting muscles of right arm. Belgium 1964 [400th death anniversary of Andreas Vesalius]



Cross-section of kidney, dialyzer and site after bilateral nephrectomies and kidney transplant. Austria 1990 [27th Congress European Dialysis and Transplantation Society]



Drawings of vertebral column and other bony structures and portrait of Dr. Andrew T. Still (1828–1917), who developed the principles of osteopathy in 1874. United States 1972 [75th anniversary of American Osteopathy Association, founded by Andrew Still]



Heart with cardiac and pulmonary vasculature. Greece 1981 [15th Intl. Cardiovascular Surgery Conference]