



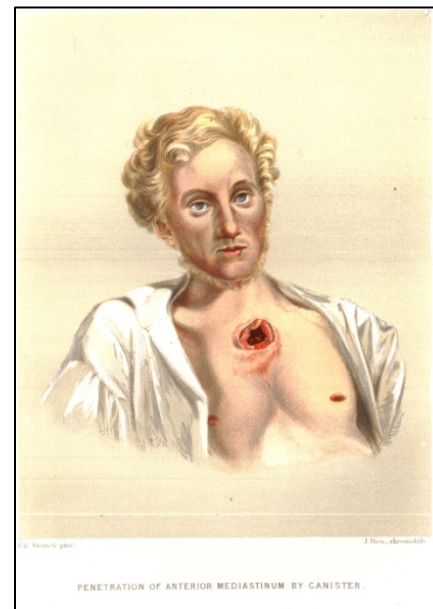
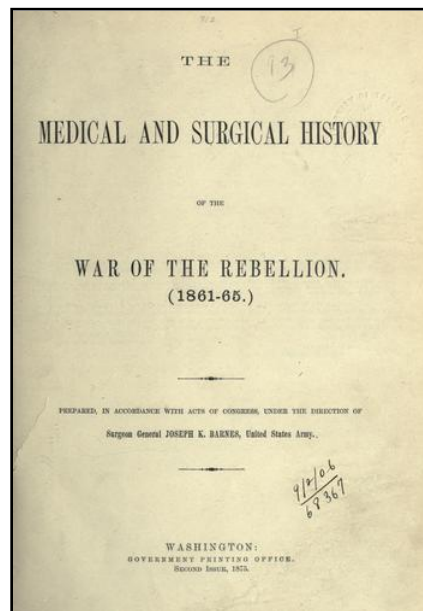
## *Medical History Society of New Jersey*

c/o UMDNJ – Special Collections  
George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences  
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May 2012

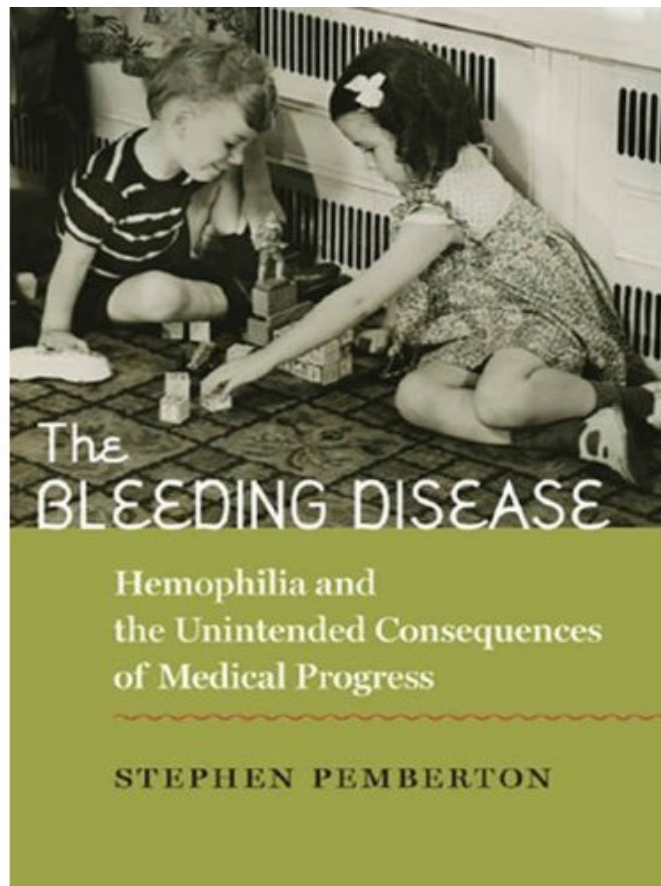
# NEWSLETTER

Volume 32 Number 1



**Civil War Medicine Exhibit:** The George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences is presenting an exhibit commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War, which will be on display through June. The materials were drawn from the holdings of UMDNJ – Special Collections and the personal collections of **Dr. William Sharpe** and MHSNJ President **Dr. Kenneth Swan**. The exhibit featured artifacts, artworks, and classic books, including the above illustration from the landmark six-volume *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion*.

Charles P. Betts from New Jersey survived being shot by a canister of grapeshot in May 1863. He removed the projectile from his chest by himself. Despite his wound, a shattered sternum, and a collapsed left lung, Betts “ultimately recovered perfectly.” In an 1872 letter from Newark, Betts reported that his chest was tender and his lung was susceptible to cold, but “I suppose there is no use crying over spilt milk . . . .”

**THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MORRIS SAFFRON LECTURE**

The spring meeting of the Medical History Society of New Jersey will be held on Wednesday, May 16, at The Nassau Club in Princeton. **Dr. Stephen Pemberton** will present the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Morris Saffron Lecture, entitled “The Bleeding Disease: Hemophilia and the Unintended Consequences of Medical Progress.”

Dr. Pemberton is Associate Professor, Federated Department of History, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University-Newark. He is a historian of medicine and public health, biomedical sciences, and technology, and his research specialty is the history of diseases and their management. His [2011 book](#) pictured above examines the promising and perilous history of American efforts to manage hemophilia in the twentieth century. With 2003 Saffron Lecturer Dr. Keith Wailoo, Pemberton co-authored [\*The Troubled Dream of Genetic Medicine: Ethnicity and Innovation in Tay-Sachs, Cystic Fibrosis and Sickle Cell Disease\*](#) (2006), which treated the histories of these diseases as a lens for understanding how innovative medicine and cultural diversity have intersected in America.

MHSNJ past president Frederick C. Skvara, M.D. will display medical philately related to the program. Registration begins at 3:30 p.m., and the program begins at 4 p.m.

**PROGRAM OF THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF THE MHSNJ**

MHSNJ Business Meeting  
Election of Officers for 2012 - 2014  
Kenneth G. Swan, M.D., President

The Chain Saw During the American Civil War  
Kenneth G. Swan, M.D., UMDNJ-NJMS, Department of Surgery  
Presidential Address

From Horse's Hair to Precious Metals:  
The Technological Evolution of Cerebral Aneurysm Treatment  
Charles Prestigiacomo, M.D.  
UMDNJ-NJMS, Department of Neurological Surgery

Hampton's Hump: The Man Behind the Shadows  
Neal Patel, B.A., and Ronak Patel, B.A., UMDNJ-NJMS  
Kenneth G. Swan, M.D., UMDNJ-NJMS, Department of Surgery (mentor)

Pioneers of the Essex County Medical Society:  
Scenes From a Documentary Film  
Barry Prystowsky, M.D.

Cocktails and Dinner

Medical Stamp Exhibit – Frederick C. Skvara, M.D.

Thirty-Third Saffron Lecture:

The Bleeding Disease:  
Hemophilia and the Unintended Consequences of Medical Progress  
Stephen Pemberton, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Federated Department of History  
New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University-Newark

Members, students, and friends are invited to attend the dinner meeting. Cost is \$58/members, \$63/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](mailto:vietrora@umdnj.edu) or [sandra.moss3@verizon.net](mailto:sandra.moss3@verizon.net).

**Note: 2.5 Category 1 CME credits will be available to meeting attendees at no cost!**

### MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

**Vincent J. Cirillo**, Ph.D., presented a lecture entitled "Detectives, Doctors, and Disease: Sir Arthur Conan Doyle as Storyteller and Physician" at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Retired Faculty Association meeting in February 2012.

**Dr. Norman Ertel** presented "A Medical Adventure in Turkey: Hermaphrodites and Pseudohermaphrodites," as the Fourth Annual Dr. Francis P. Chinard Lecture at New Jersey Medical School in April 2012.

**Dr. George J. Hill** reports that his book [\*Intimate Relationships: Church and State in the U.S. and Liberia. Race, Religion, Rubber, and Politics in the Liberia Education Project, 1917-1947\*](#) is now available in paperback. His book, *Edison's Footsteps: Visits to the Sites of the Homes and Factories of Thomas A. Edison in New Jersey*, is in press. His article, "The Conflicted Legacy of Rev. Dr. Cotton Mather, F.R.S." is in press for *Mayflower Quarterly*. He was elected Chancellor General of the Order of Descendants of Colonial Physicians and Chirurugiens in 2012. On the same night as the spring MHSNJ meeting, he will receive the "Good Scout" Award at the 20th Annual Health Care Awards Dinner, Northern New Jersey Council, Boy Scouts of America. Congratulations!

**Donald M. Levine**, Ph.D., presented a series of three talks entitled "RNA, DNA, and Protein Synthesis" to the Science Group of the Glen Rock Activities Club in April, May, and July, 2011.

**Dr. Sandra Moss** has recently assumed the presidency of the American Osler Society. She is the first woman president in the 42 year history of the Society. Congratulations! She has been chosen to deliver the 24<sup>th</sup> annual David L. Cowen Lecture on the History of Pharmacy at the Ernest Mano School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University, in fall 2012.

**Dr. Michael Nevins** traveled to Paris this month, and planned to visit Charcot-related destinations. His next book, *More Meandering in Medical History*, contains twenty-one essays about miscellaneous subjects "this time unrelated to New Jersey," and will likely be published in June.

**Frederic C. Pachman**, AHIP, director of the Altschul Medical Library, presented a table-top exhibit commemorating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, during Archives and History Day at the Monmouth County Library in October 2011. A set of facsimile postcards featuring historical views of the medical center was presented to attendees.

**Karen Reeds**, Ph.D. was an invited speaker at the Northwestern University medical humanities conference, "Constructing the Human: Culture and the Body from Antiquity to Vesalius," in March 2012. She discussed her work on St John's wort in the age of Paracelsus and Vesalius. Her essay on her research and the contemporary implications of her findings will appear soon in *Herbs and Healers from the Ancient Mediterranean through the Medieval West: Essays in Honor of John M. Riddle* (Ashgate, 2012, in press).

She also served on a panel of “historians and comedians” discussing “Life, Sex, Death and Food” (!) at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in April 2012 as part of the [Philadelphia Science Festival](#).

**Dr. Alan Rushton**, M.D., Ph.D., will lecture at the European Society of Human Genetics meeting on genetics in Nazi Germany to be held in Nuremberg in June 2012. The topic is "How did Prince Charles Edward, grandson of Queen Victoria, become involved in the Nazi eugenics program?" He presented a preliminary version of this talk at the Holocaust Center at Drew University in April 2012. His article [“Leopold: The ‘Bleeder Prince’ and Public Knowledge about Hemophilia in Victorian Britain”](#) is forthcoming in the *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*.

**Dr. Frederick Skvara** was selected as the American Topical Association's 2012 Distinguished Topical Philatelist. The award will be presented on June 23, 2012, at the ATA annual banquet in Lancaster, PA. In addition to his philatelic presentation at every MHSNJ meeting and the “Philatelic Sketch in Medicine” in almost every newsletter since 1998, he has edited *Scalpel & Tongs*, the quarterly journal of the ATA Medical Subjects Unit, since 2004. Congratulations!

**Dr. Kenneth Swan** presented “Civil War Chain Saw Surgery” at the UMDNJ – Smith Library History of Medicine Lecture Series in January 2012, and the less-gorily titled “The Chain Saw During the American Civil War” at the American Osler Society annual meeting in Chapel Hill, N.C., in April 2012. With Radvinsky, Prestigiaco, et. al., Dr. Swan co-authored “Evolution and Development of the Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) Protocol: A Historical Perspective,” in *Orthopedics* 2012 Apr 1;35(4):305-11. With Kragh et. al., Swan co-authored “Historical review of emergency tourniquet use to stop bleeding,” in the *American Journal of Surgery* 2012 Feb; 203(2):242-52.

**Bob Vietrogoski**, M.L.S., presented “Expelled! A True Story of Race, Medical Education in the 1850s, and the New York City Draft Riots” at the UMDNJ – Smith Library History of Medicine Lecture Series in March 2012.

**Dr. Allen Weisse** has recently published [“Cardiac Surgery: A Century of Progress”](#) in the *Texas Heart Institute Journal* 2011; 38(5): 486-490, and [“Self-experimentation and Its Role in Medical Research”](#) in the *Texas Heart Institute Journal* 2012; 39(1): 51-54. He presented "Noble, Not Nobel: How Not to Win the Most Prestigious Prize in Medicine" at the Annual Society Supporting Leadership in Internal Medicine Lecture at the University of Utah School of Medicine, in October 2011, and at the UMDNJ – Smith Library History of Medicine Lecture Series in April 2012.

**Linda Whitfield-Spinner**, D.M.H., has made her doctoral dissertation, [“A History of Medicine and the Establishment of Medical Institutions in Middlesex County, New Jersey That Transformed Doctor and Patient Relationships During the Early Twentieth Century”](#) available on the MHSNJ website.

## EXHIBITS GALORE

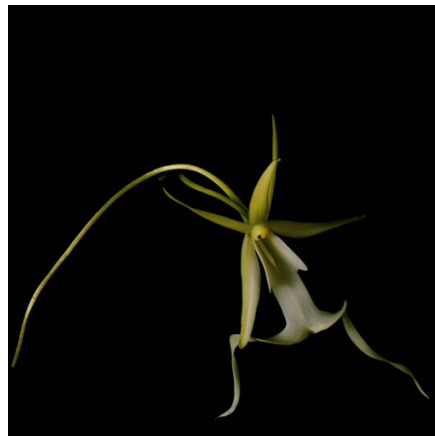
### Trail of the Magic Bullet:

#### The Jewish Encounter with Modern Medicine, 1860 – 1960

The [Yeshiva University Museum](#) is currently displaying “Trail of the Magic Bullet: The Jewish Encounter with Modern Medicine, 1860 – 1960.” An article from [New Jersey Jewish News](#) notes that the exhibit features 40 items from Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, including “the hospital’s original charter and minutes from its board meetings, as well as ledgers, photographs, medicine bottles, and nurses’ items from capes to caps.” These items are on loan from the Jewish Historical Society of Metrowest in Whippany, which holds a notable collection concerning the history of “the Beth.” For more information, see the exhibit’s [tumblr site](#). The exhibit runs through August 12, 2012.

### Botanica Magnifica: Photography of Jonathan Singer

MHSNJ past president **Karen Reeds** is the Guest Curator for the exhibition, "Botanica Magnifica: Photography of Jonathan Singer," now showing at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton through August 26, 2012. The exhibition brings together Dr. Singer's spectacular, huge digital closeups of beautiful, rare flowers with 18th and 19th natural history illustrations by Mark Catesby and John James Audubon in the museum's collection.



“Ghost Orchid” from Singer exhibit

Dr. Singer was a foot surgeon in Bayonne until Parkinson's disease forced him to retire from his practice and return to his early passion for art and photography. Dr. Singer has collaborated with scientists at the Smithsonian and New York Botanical Garden on the volume, *Botanica Magnifica: Portraits of the World's Most Extraordinary Flowers and Plants* (Abbeville Press, 2009). His new book, *Fine Bonsai: Art and Nature*, is due out later this year. In a glowing review from the May 2012 issue, the leading contemporary art journal, *ARTnews*, described Dr. Singer's photographs as "irresistably seductive ... faithful to the scientific...yet filled with esthetic revelations of form...a radiant vision of the delicate, and threatened, natural world."



[New Jersey State Museum](#), 205 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 609 292-6464  
Tues-Sat 9-4:45 pm, Sunday 12-4. Closed Mondays and public holidays. Free admission!

### **The Weary and the Wounded: 72 Hours in the Life of a Civil War Nurse**

At [Liberty Hall Museum](#) at Kean University, the ongoing exhibit during 2012 is “The Weary and the Wounded: 72 Hours in the Life of a Civil War Nurse.” Not long after the Civil War broke out, Christine Kean Griffin, a widow from Elizabeth, volunteered to serve as a battlefield nurse with the U.S. Sanitary Commission, and served as a nurse and administrator during the Battle of Seven Pines/Fair Oaks in General McClellan’s Peninsula Campaign in 1862. Mrs. Griffin and her colleagues saw firsthand the horrors of the war. The exhibit is based on the letters of Christine Kean Griffin, which describe a 72-hour span of ceaseless effort as nurses tended to wounded soldiers. This exhibit commemorates Christine Kean Griffin’s service, and the service of all Civil War nurses.

The exhibit runs through August 31, 2012. Admission to this exhibit is free; a fee applies for a tour of Liberty Hall, located at 1003 Morris Avenue in Union, New Jersey, and open to the public Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Mali Today**

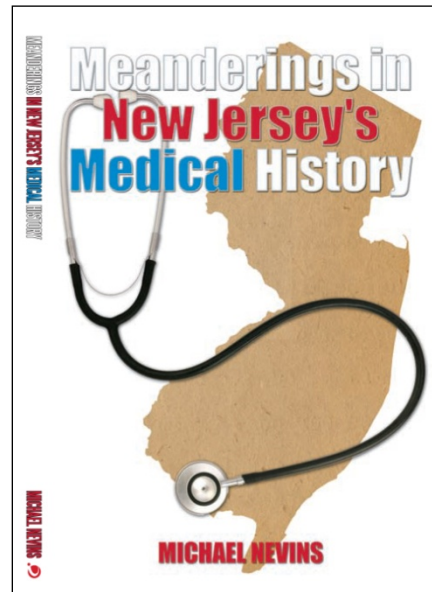
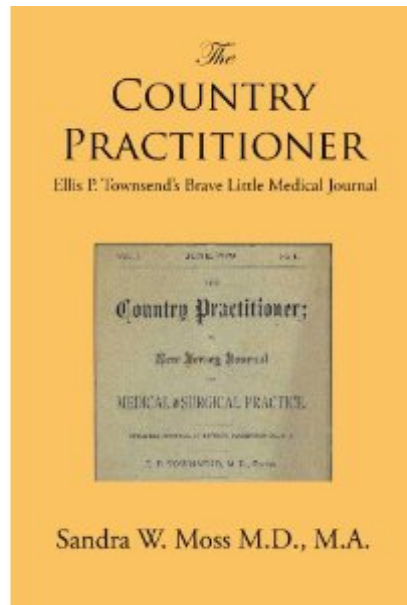
Photographs by MHSNJ past president **Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.**

#### [An Online Exhibition](#)

From the website of the [African Art Museum](#), Society of African Missions (SMA):

“These photographs of Mali were taken in November and December 2011 by Richard P. Wedeen, M.D. They were intended to capture the vitality of the contemporary indigenous culture. Handmade textiles were collected along with the photographs of everyday life in Mali. Although these textiles are often treated as souvenirs, they represent the finest artistic traditions in continuous use in Africa. Unlike modern art that is dominated by individualism, traditional textiles hold tenaciously to communal designs modified by subtle changes introduced by individual artisans within socially defined limits of color and style. They reflect community traditions more than individual invention. Dr. Wedeen has done similar photography and textile collecting in India, Laos, Cambodia, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia.”

“Dr. Wedeen is a Professor of Medicine, and Professor of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – The New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ. As a physician-scientist, he has used photomicroscopy professionally for five decades. His photographs of indigenous people have won three First Place Awards and a Best in Show Award in New Jersey.”



### **MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 2011**

Appio, Melissa R., and Kenneth G. Swan. "Edgar Van Nuys Allen: the test was only the beginning," *Annals of Vascular Surgery* 2011 Feb; 25(2):294-8.

Cirillo, Vincent J. "Wonders Unconceived; reflections on the birth of medical entomology," *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, 2011 Summer; 54(3):384-398.

Grob, Gerald N. "The Rise of Fibromyalgia in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century America," *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, 2011 Autumn; 54(4):417-437.

----- "The Attack on Psychiatric Legitimacy in the 1960s: Rhetoric and Reality," *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, 2011 Fall; 47(4):398-416.

----- "Pathologizing Old Age: The Case of Osteoporosis," *MDAdvisor*, 2011 Spring; 4(2):20-27.

----- "From Aging to Pathology: The Case of Osteoporosis," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, 2011 Jan; 66(1):1-39.

----- "Mental Health Policy in Modern America," in *Oxford Textbook of Community Mental Health* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011), 19-25.

Grob, Gerald N., and David Mechanic. "Social Policy and the American Mental Health System of Care," in *Population Mental Health: Evidence, Policy, and Public Health Practice*, ed. by Neal Cohen and Sandro Galea (New York: Routledge, 2011), pp. 119-138.



Horwitz, Allan, and Gerald N. Grob. "The Checkered History of American Psychiatric Epidemiology," *Milbank Quarterly*, 89 (2011): 628-657.

Kelleher, Mary E., Kenneth G. Swan, and Denis P. Kelleher. "George Ryerson Fowler: Brooklyn's surgical pioneer: a biographical sketch based on historical documents," *Annals of Surgery*, 2011 June; 253(6):1230-2.

Lomazow, Steven. "The Epilepsy of Franklin Delano Roosevelt," *Neurology*, 2011 Feb 15; 76(7):668-9.

Moss, Sandra W. [\*The Country Practitioner: Ellis P. Townsend's Brave Little Medical Journal\*](#) (Xlibris, 2011).

Nevins, Michael. [\*Meanderings in New Jersey's Medical History\*](#) (iUniverse, 2011).

Salamone, Nicole. *Forgotten* (Wasteland Press, 2011).

Sekar, Thillai, Kenneth G. Swan, and Robert A. Vietrogoski. "[A beeline through Sir Peter James Kerley's life.](#)" *AJR. American Journal of Roentgenology*, 2011 Apr; 196(4):W375-9.

Sharma, Amit, Robert A. Schwartz, and Kenneth G. Swan. "Marjolin's warty ulcer," *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, 2011 Feb; 103(2):193-5.

Weisse, Allen B. "Cardiac surgery: a century of progress," *Texas Heart Institute Journal*, 2011; 38(5):486-90.

### **THE USUAL EDITORIAL FINISH :)**

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. Short articles on medical history topics are especially welcome. Please send comments, suggestions, and submissions to:

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