



Medical History Society of New Jersey

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George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences
Editor: bob.vietrogoski@rutgers.edu
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NEWSLETTER

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A Lunar Society Selfie! When Dr. Jeffrey M. Levine arrived at the Rutgers Club to lecture on Philippe Pinel at the MHSNJ's February 2014 Lunar Society luncheon, he was delighted to find two of his professors from New Jersey Medical School in the audience: Dr. Allen Weisse and Dr. Richard Wedeen, both MHSNJ past presidents. Dr. Levine, [a gerontologist and photographer](#), commemorated this serendipitous meeting with a smartphone group self-portrait and a [post on his blog](#).

This issue of the MHSNJ newsletter features reports on the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 "regular" meetings, and several Lunar Society meetings past and future.

We are a busy group!

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MORRIS SAFFRON LECTURE

The spring meeting of the Medical History Society of New Jersey will be held on May 7, 2014, at The Nassau Club in Princeton. **Dr. James M. Oleske** will present the 35th Annual Morris Saffron Lecture, entitled “A Historical Perspective on Perinatal HIV Infection: Major Advancements and Challenges in Caring and Advocacy for Treatment.”

Dr. Oleske, M.D., M.P.H., is the François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Pediatrics, and Director of the Division of Pediatric Allergy, Immunology, and Infectious Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, Rutgers – New Jersey Medical School (NJMS). A 1971 graduate of NJMS, Dr. Oleske has been associated with the medical school and with Newark medical institutions throughout his career. He has also been long involved with international efforts to treat and prevent AIDS.

During the early 1980s, Dr. Oleske was among the first physicians to identify and treat HIV/AIDS in children. The image above (courtesy Dr. Oleske) shows Dr. Oleske with one of the first eight children with perinatal HIV. He was lead author of a landmark article on pediatric AIDS in [JAMA in May 1983](#), and co-author of a [1984 article in Science](#) by Gallo *et. al.* establishing that the virus later known as HIV caused AIDS.

Among his many honors, Dr. Oleske received a 2013 lifetime achievement award from the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Pediatric AIDS for his “contributions in advancing the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Pediatric HIV/AIDS.”

Dr. Oleske is also co-founder and Medical Director of the [Circle of Life Foundation](#), which provides palliative and end-of-life care for children and support for families.

PROGRAM OF THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF THE MHSNJ

MHSNJ Business Meeting
Election of Officers for 2014-2016
Presentation of Cowen Award
Michael Nevins, M.D., President

The Nuclear Pacemaker Bomb: Did It Explode?
Victor Parsonnet, M.D. Past Director of Surgery and Surgical Research, Newark
Beth Israel Medical Center

Claude Schaeffer Beck and the Deadly Triad
Edward Andraos, M.D. Surgical Resident
Kenneth G. Swan, M.D., Rutgers-NJMS, Department of Surgery (mentor)

**Leon Saunders, William Osler, and Rudolph Virchow:
Contributions to Veterinary Pathology and “One Medicine”**
Frank F. Katz, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Biology, Seton Hall University

A Rogues Gallery of Quacks, Con Men, Oddballs, and Villains
Michael Nevins, M.D., President

Cocktails and Dinner

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

Thirty-Fifth Saffron Lecture:

**A Historical Perspective on Perinatal HIV Infection:
Major Advancements and Challenges in Caring and Advocacy for Treatment**
James M. Oleske, M.D., M.P.H.
François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Pediatrics
Director, Division of Pediatrics Allergy, Immunology & Infectious Diseases
Department of Pediatrics, Rutgers – New Jersey Medical

Registration begins at 3:30 p.m., and the program begins at 4 p.m.

Members, students, and friends are invited to attend the dinner meeting. Cost is \$58/members, \$63/guests; advance registration is required.

For further information, contact Dr. Sandra Moss at sandra.moss3@verizon.net or 732-549-5843.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Vincent J. Cirillo, Ph.D., published “Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930): Physician During the Typhoid Epidemic in the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902),” *Journal of Medical Biography*, February 2014, 22(1): 2-8.

Douglas Eveleigh, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers – New Brunswick, was honored in June 2013 by the [Waksman Foundation for Microbiology](#) with a lectureship in his name. The Douglas Eveleigh Lecture on Microbial Diversity was endowed by the foundation in recognition of his efforts to sustain the legacy of Selman Waksman. Congratulations!

Dr. Adam D. Fox reprised his Fall 2013 MHSNJ presentation, “President Garfield: Assassination or Medical Murder?” for the Rutgers University Libraries – George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences History of Medicine Lecture Series in February 2014, before an appreciative audience of nearly forty students, faculty, and staff.

Dr. George J. Hill published [Proceed to Peshawar: The Story of a U.S. Navy Intelligence Mission on the Afghan Border, 1943](#) (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2013) in November 2013. Both *Midwest Book Review* and *Asian Affairs* reviewed the book as “Highly recommended.” [Naval Historical Reviews](#) regarded the book as “A valuable contribution to the history and culture of the region.” Dr. Hill has given presentations and book signings to the Naval War College Foundation Museum, “Eight Bells” Discussion Group, in Newport, Rhode Island in March 2014; the Virginia Festival of the Book in Charlottesville in March 2014, and the Harvard Club of New York City in April 2014.

Valerie Josephson has given numerous presentations related to her book [Stirring Times: The Lives of New Jersey's First Civil War Surgeons](#), to groups including the Palisades New York Historical Society; the Essex County Medical Society (Founders Day Lecture: "Edward Pierson, M.D., American Aristocrat"); the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable of Philadelphia in October 2013; and the Southampton NJ Historical Society in Vincentown, N.J. in November 2013.

Dr. Sandra Moss presented “Women Healers in the Civil War” to the Union County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee in Elizabeth, N.J. in March 2014. She is also completing her definitive biography of Dr. Edgar Holden.

Dr. Michael Nevins presented a series of six lectures entitled “Meanderings in Medical History” at Long Island University's Learning Collaborative in Orangeburg, N.Y., and he reports, “I plan to do six more -- yes, ‘More Meanderings. . .’” in the fall of 2014, as well as a presentation on “Plagues, Pestilences and Epidemics.”

Frederic C. Pachman, AHIP, Director of the Altschul Medical Library at Monmouth Medical Center, received the 2013 Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award from the New Jersey Library Association during its annual conference in June 2013. The Swartzburg Award “recognizes a New Jersey Library Association member who, over a substantial number of years, has made exceptional contributions to the awareness, understanding, and/or preservation of archival and library materials in New Jersey.” In his remarks, Pachman celebrated librarians who “promote services that showcase history,” urged his audience to recognize preservation of history and archives as a “core function and service that we provide our patrons,” and noted that “it is vital for libraries to ‘do history.’” Congratulations!

Dr. Alan R. Rushton published an invited editorial, “[Diagnosing the Dead: The Retrospective Analysis of Genetic Diseases](#),” *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh* 43(1): 11-14 (2013) and also published, “William Bateson and the Chromosome Theory of Heredity: A Reappraisal,” *British Journal for the History of Science* 47: 147-171 (2014).

Nicole Salomone lectured “on how the 18th century London vampire scare was brought about by a misunderstanding of medicine and the romantic minds of early vampire literature” at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association conference in Atlanta in November 2013. She will be lecturing on popular medicine of the 18th century, the 18th century vampire scare, and medical reasoning concerning premature burial (!) at the 18th Steampunk World’s Fair in Parsippany this later month.

Bob Vietrogoski, M.L.S., presented “How New Jersey’s Governors Created the State’s Medical Education System” to the Robert Wood Johnson Retired Faculty Association in Piscataway in October 2013, and to the Rutgers University Libraries – Scholarly and Professional Activities Committee in March 2014. A summary of his presentation was published in the January 2014 *Newsletter of the Robert Wood Johnson Retired Faculty Association*. He was also elected to a two-year term as Member-at-Large for the [Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences](#).

Dr. Allen Weisse recently published “[HIPAA: A Flawed Piece of Legislation](#),” *Baylor University Medical Center Proceedings* 2014; 27(2): 163-165. Dr. Weisse hosted the 10th annual Weisse Lecture in the History of Medicine at Rutgers - New Jersey Medical School in September 2013. Dr. Barron H. Lerner presented, “When Superstition Meets Science: The History of Screening for Disease.”

REPORTS OF EARLIER MHSNJ EVENTS:

PROGRAM OF THE FALL 2013 MEETING OF THE MHSNJ

MHSNJ Business Meeting

Michael Nevins, M.D., President

The Discovery of Streptomycin: Selman Waksman and Albert Schatz

“Measure not the work until the day’s out and the labour done. Then bring your gauges.” E.B. Browning

Douglas E. Eveleigh, Ph.D.,

Rutgers University School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology

Storming the Gates of Bedlam:

How Dr. Nathan Kline Transformed the Treatment of Mental Illness

Meredith Platt, Ph.D.,

The Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research (ret.)

President James Garfield: Assassination or Medical Murder?

Adam D. Fox, D.P.M., D.O.

Rutgers - New Jersey Medical School

Division of Trauma Surgery and Critical Care

Autoimmunity in the White House: From Dogs to Presidents

Robert Lahita, M.D., Ph.D.

Chairman of Medicine and Vice President, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Cocktails and Dinner

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

First Annual Donald F. Kent Memorial Lecture:

The Anatomy and Physiology of Medical Medals

Ira Rezak, M.D.

Emeritus Professor of Clinical Medicine

Stony Brook University

ANNOUNCING THE DONALD F. KENT MEMORIAL LECTURES

**In honor of
DONALD F. KENT, M.D., Ph.D.
Physician ∞ Teacher ∞ Mentor ∞ Friend
October 4, 1913 – June 20, 2009**

As the Medical History Society of New Jersey prepares for the inaugural lecture of this endowed series, it is right and just to recall the reasons behind its establishment. There is no better place to start than William C. Campbell's tribute, which begins:

Had the term *medical humanities* not existed, it might well have been coined to accommodate the interests and activities of Donald F. Kent. A physician and pioneer in the practice of family medicine, he was first and foremost a man who cared. He cared for the sick and devoted his life to making them well. Indeed, he cared for people of every description. He cared for fairness and humility in the practice of medicine. He cared for science, history, and language and, as realist and humanist, he cared about the socio-political issues that swirled around him.

Donald Kent made that diversified caring manifest not only through his medical practice but also in his zealous pursuit of life's treasures. At the age of 82, when most are content to reflect upon their life accomplishments, Don became the oldest person to earn a PhD from Drew University and began teaching history of medicine courses at Drew University's Caspersen School of Graduate Studies.

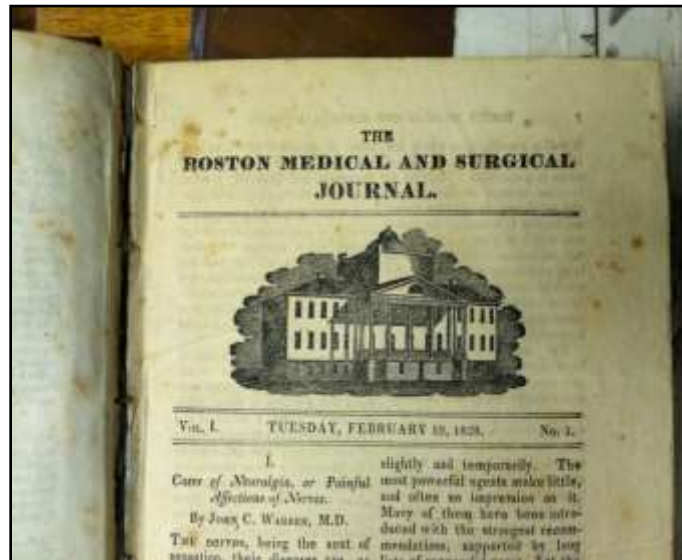
In 1998, I entered Dr. Kent's world. Over the next few years, Don became a founding faculty member of what grew into a new doctoral program in medical humanities at Drew University. Our association, which began in his amazing seminars on the history of medicine and the history of plagues, grew into a most valued friendship. He introduced all his students to the Medical History Society of New Jersey and encouraged us to become members.

Though age imposed some limits on his activities, Don never seemed to tire in his roles. He often colored his presentations with personal vignettes that could only have come from a long and full life such as mentioning that he thought he had suffered from influenza in 1918 (he never told us his current age) or that he had been trained in the art and science of cupping while a medical student. I remember one October 4, as we were leaving our seminar room, his telling me that it was his birthday. After my offering of felicitations he added, with a smile, 'I'm older than you think.'

As history recounts the narrative of lives well lived, we can take pride in knowing that one of our own has set an example well worth remembering.

By Richard A. Marfuggi, M.D., FACS, D.M.H.

**THE MHSNJ LUNAR SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 2013:
A TOUR OF THE LOMAZOW COLLECTION**



On November 13, 2013, approximately 20 MHSNJ members and guests were treated to a tour of incoming MHSNJ President Dr. Steven Lomazow's absolutely jaw-dropping collection of American serial publications of all varieties throughout the history of American publishing. A delicious lunch set the stage for an afternoon of exploration and discussion of the treasures housed in Dr. Lomazow's basement. Medical gems include volume one, number one of *The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* (seen above), which later evolved into the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Dr. Lomazow is a blur in the picture below because he was in constant motion in exhibiting his collection. Pictured with Dr. Lomazow are Dr. Richard Wedeen, Dr. Alan Lippman, and past and present MHSNJ treasurers Frank Katz and Linda Spinner. All attendees left knowing that they had seen a truly unique and astounding collection.



THE 2014 MHSNJ LUNAR SOCIETY WINTER MEETING

The MHSNJ Lunar Society returned to the Rutgers Club in New Brunswick on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 for its second (now annual?) mid-winter daytime luncheon meeting. A full house of more than thirty members attended. Following a delicious buffet, **Dr. Jeffrey M. Levine** (shown below) presented “Philippe Pinel and the French Revolution: Off With Their Chains!” illustrated with many photographs he had taken in Paris.

Next, MHSNJ past president **Dr. Daniel Greenfield** presented “Syphilis, Neurosyphilis, and Criminal Responsibility: What Does It All Mean?,” which included an audience vote concerning a case of criminal insanity. Both presentations were well-received by the attendees, and generated animated discussion.

