

## Some Alumni Find Paradise – in Hawaii

While many Cleveland Clinic alumni stay in Ohio, or at least the mainland United States, some have chosen to make their lives and careers in the Aloha state – about 30 at last count.

Since **A. Michele Aspera, MD (U’01 and Clinical Associate, 2001-2002)**, moved from Cleveland to Hawaii in 2002, the coldest temperature she has experienced there has been 58° F. When you realize that the average daily temperature in Cleveland in January is 33° F and the average in Honolulu is 80° F, perhaps it is needless to say that she does not plan on ever moving back to Ohio.

Dr. Aspera (her maiden name was Ward) moved there for love: she married Steven Aspera, who was born and raised in Hawaii, in October 2000. Although he moved to Cleveland for a while as she finished up her Cleveland Clinic training, the plan was always to return to Hawaii.

“We left our snow blower behind – we gave it to our neighbor in Cleveland Heights,” she recalls with a laugh.

She works today as Chief of Urology at Kaiser Permanente in Honolulu. There are seven urologists in the department, each with their own niche in addition to general urology; she primarily treats women.

She has two young children, Steven and Johnathan, and enjoys taking them to the beach to soak up the beauty



Urologist A. Michele Aspera, MD, sits on the beach with her husband Steven and sons Steven and Johnathan. Although the family makes its home in Hawaii, this photo was actually taken while at a family reunion on the New Jersey shore.

of Hawaii. Surfing, camping and appreciating the kindness of the people are also among their favorite activities. “People here are so pleasant and happy. The culture is very family oriented,” Dr. Aspera says.

The native of New Jersey travels to the mainland about twice a year, mostly to see family, and her parents visit for

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## Getting to Know Our Residents



**Syed Kashif Mahmood, MD**

In recognition of our Future Alumni – interns, residents and fellows – Cleveland Clinic celebrated its first Residents Appreciation Week in March. What is it like to be a resident at Cleveland Clinic? Here is what a few of our house staff members had to say:

### **Syed Kashif Mahmood, MD, a third-year Internal Medicine resident and HSA treasurer**

**On becoming a doctor:** I had good role models growing up, which initially inspired my interest in medicine. Later, I was attracted to the biological sciences in high school and worked to develop a strong base in the field. I also found the intellectual challenge, communicating and the ability to help others appealing. I was confident I would work to develop into a good doctor.

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## Retrospective

# Fireworks Lead to Happy Marriage for Doctor, Nurse

On July 4, 1949, as holiday fireworks flashed in the skies, the medical staff on duty at Cleveland Clinic gathered by windows to watch. A young nurse named Moira and a young doctor named William met each other at one of those windows that night, but it took a while for sparks to fly between the two of them.

“We didn’t start dating for six more months,” recalls Moira Hawk, who was the nurse, formerly Moira Archer. “I tried to get him to date my roommate first, actually.”

Mrs. Hawk and **William A. Hawk, MD (S’51, LMED’55)**, finally started their romance after he convinced her to go to a party with him and his cousin, who, like Mrs. Hawk, was a Canadian. They married in September 1950.

Although Mrs. Hawk eventually quit her nursing job to focus on raising their two daughters, Dr. Hawk spent the next three decades pursuing his career in anatomical pathology at Cleveland Clinic. His work primarily dealt with gastrointestinal disease and thyroid problems.

In 1955, he joined the Department of Tissue Pathology, formed about 10 years earlier when the Department of Anatomic Pathology hired John Beach Hazard, MD, to improve Cleveland Clinic’s capabilities in tissue pathology. As part of the Division of Surgery, the department was located in a small area adjacent to the operating room where surgeons could freely seek consultations. In the

### We Want to Hear from You!

Did you meet your spouse at Cleveland Clinic too? We would love to hear your story. Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs with your tale of love on the job.

beginning, Dr. Hazard was the only physician in a department of technicians, but the growing hospital and surgical services led to the hiring in 1951 of Lawrence J. McCormack, MD. Dr. Hawk became the third member of the team.

Surgical pathology activities continued to expand and the Board of Governors created a Division of Pathology in 1958. For the first time, the Division contained both anatomic pathology and clinical laboratories.

In the 1970s, as awareness grew about the fact that cancer is a term that applies to more than 100 diseases characterized by the abnormal growth and spread of cells, many Cleveland Clinic departments were incorporating cancer



William Hawk, MD, and wife Moira at the 1976 Staff Dinner.

care into their programs. However, Dr. Hawk attempted to organize a centralized cancer program in the 1970s.

His vision focused on aspects of malignant disease that were not yet well represented within the institution, such as basic research, epidemiological studies, cancer rehabilitation and continuing care. He conceived the program in collaboration with Case Western Reserve University, which had an established program in basic cancer research and could contribute to the communitywide efforts necessary for epidemiological studies and rehabilitation. Unfortunately, the activity had little relationship to the cancer treatment services under way in the clinical departments.

It wasn’t until the early 1980s that the Board of Governors perceived the need for a Cancer Center that could coordinate all cancer treatment and research, and it recruited general surgeon John H. Raaf, MD, in 1985 to be the center’s first full-time director.

Over the years, Dr. Hawk continued to move up the ladder at Cleveland Clinic, ultimately holding seats on the Board of Governors (1971-1975) and being head of the Pathology Department. When the “A” Building was being erected in the early 1980s, he was put in charge of managing the construction. It was completed in 1985, and it was rechristened the Crile Building in May 1992 in honor of Drs. Barney Crile and his father, George, one of the four founding fathers of Cleveland Clinic.

Mrs. Hawk recalls that when she moved to Cleveland from Canada for her nursing job, she lived in a little building across the street from the hospital. When the couple was first married, they lived in the Bolton Square Hotel on Carnegie at East 89<sup>th</sup> Street, current site of the Outpatient Surgery Center. Today both locations, like much of the neighboring area, are owned by Cleveland Clinic.

The Hawks later moved to Mayfield Village, where they lived until Dr. Hawk retired from Cleveland Clinic in 1986 and relocated to Naples, FL, to help launch Cleveland Clinic Florida.

As is chronicled in the Cleveland Clinic history book *To Act as a Unit*, the preliminary work needed to establish a Cleveland Clinic group practice in Florida was formidable. In addition to finding the appropriate site, identifying the appropriate physicians and setting up the necessary hospital affiliations, state legislation allowing Cleveland Clinic to practice “corporate” medicine had to be passed.

Dr. Hawk, who was Florida’s first Chief Executive Officer, John Auble, Cleveland Clinic’s general counsel, and James Cuthbertson, Cleveland Clinic Florida’s first Chief Operating Officer, managed to achieve all of these milestones. On Feb. 29, 1988, Cleveland Clinic Florida opened its doors on Cypress Creek Road in Fort Lauderdale with 28 staff physicians and a total of about 100 employees. A month later, Dr. Hawk retired, as had been the plan, and Carl Gill, MD, a pediatric cardiac surgeon and medical director of Cleveland Clinic Florida, became Chief Executive Officer.

Today, Dr. and Mrs. Hawk enjoy a quiet life in a Naples retirement community. Although Dr. Hawk has Parkinson disease, Mrs. Hawk says they are both doing well and particularly enjoy traveling to see their daughters, who live in Massillon, OH, and Marion, IN, and their five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## Retrospective

# Medicine a Family Affair for the Kiskaddons

Medicine is a big part of the Kiskaddon family tradition. Robert Kiskaddon, MD (IM’46), trained at Cleveland Clinic in Internal Medicine 50 years ago. Today, he has two grandchildren in college who aspire to careers in medicine; they would become the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> physicians in the extended family.

Of his four children, three are physicians: Son Robert practices otolaryngology in Boston, and James in Chambersburg, PA, and Bruce in Tampa, FL, are both ophthalmologists. Dr. Kiskaddon also has a daughter, Barbara, who is a homemaker in Kansas City.

Dr. Kiskaddon’s wife, Joyce, is the great niece of William E. Lower, MD, one of Cleveland Clinic’s founders, who was known affectionately as “Uncle Ed” to the Kiskaddons, and George W. Crile, MD, who was Dr. Lower’s first cousin.

When Dr. Kiskaddon was at Cleveland Clinic, he had a laboratory that focused on gastrointestinal medicine. When he finished his training, he recalls, Uncle Ed wanted him to stay on but he and his wife had other plans.

“I wanted to see my kids more and not be in a laboratory all the time. You have to choose your course in life,” he says. “It paid off in letting me be home with them more. We lived out in the country and enjoyed our family. All of my kids made similar decisions when they had kids.”

He says that he probably would have kept his career focused on gastroenterology if he had stayed at Cleveland Clinic, but instead, he set up a solo internal medicine practice



Robert Kiskaddon, MD, and wife, Joyce.

in Youngstown. “I enjoyed having a broader career,” Dr. Kiskaddon says.

He has fond memories of Uncle Ed. “He and his wife were very good to us. She was the most genteel woman you’d ever meet. They had us over to their home many times.”

He recalls Dr. Crile as a real get-down-to-work type of man. “He didn’t tolerate monkey business. He started early every day,” Dr. Kiskaddon recalls. “He kept a careful eye on everything.”

However, he was also very outgoing and kindly, Dr. Kiskaddon adds. “He always talked to visitors during surgeries and made it a very personal teaching experience.”

Dr. Kiskaddon describes his Cleveland Clinic training as “very fine,” saying that many people contributed to his education and he counts his blessings for the opportunity.

When *Alumni Connections* asked him if he had any photographs from his time at Cleveland Clinic to share, he recalled that it was a time of war and resources were tight.

“We were short-handed and working at maximum. In addition to clinical

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## Alumni in the News

# Dr. Iannitti Brings New Choices in Liver Care to North Carolina

David A. Iannitti, MD (S/HEP'97), has become the “Liver Guy” at Carolinas Medical Center (CMC) in Charlotte, NC.

The Cleveland Clinic alumnus moved from New England to North Carolina in 2006, recruited by doctors and administrators who shared his dream of building a program that would attract other liver specialists and greatly expand their treatment options.

Because of Dr. Iannitti and the medical personnel he has helped recruit, patients with liver disease can now have a wider range of treatments, from medicines to surgery to transplants, without leaving the Charlotte area. The number of liver operations performed at CMC has jumped from 26 in 2005 to 202 last year, according to a recent profile on [www.Charlotte.com](http://www.Charlotte.com).

Among the new options is microwave ablation for advanced liver cancer, a procedure that Dr. Iannitti pioneered at Brown University in Rhode Island. It involves burning away liver tumors with microwave energy.

The [Charlotte.com](http://Charlotte.com) article profiled the first patient on whom Dr. Iannitti performed this procedure in North Carolina, Kevin Heslin. In September 2006, when he met Dr. Iannitti, Heslin had colon cancer that had spread to his liver.

Surgery and chemotherapy targeted the colon tumors, but the ones on his liver couldn't be surgically removed because there were too many, too spread out, and chemotherapy would not kill them.

Heslin's surgeon referred him to Dr. Iannitti, who told him that his chance of surviving five years was less than 1 percent. With microwave ablation, his odds rose to 25 percent.

Karen Garloch, the [Charlotte.com](http://Charlotte.com) reporter, who was allowed to witness the 2007 surgery, writes:

*Standing on a stool for better leverage, Iannitti plunged his gloved hands, up to his elbows, into Heslin's belly and tugged on the reddish brown liver. Colon, stomach and heart are just inches away. “Ooomph,” the doctor grunted as he leaned in to pull.*

*The 42-year-old Iannitti weighs 215 pounds and is 6 feet tall, but it was all he could do to free the liver from its cocoon.*

*It was as slippery as a wet water balloon. The chief surgical resident applied cautery, cutting ligaments and unleashing the smell of burned meat. . . . Holding an ultrasound probe about the size of a TV remote control, Iannitti roved around his patient's liver. A snowstorm of images appeared on the monitor overhead. Dark spots on the ultrasound pictures showed him the tumors. Iannitti started with an easy one, on the exposed surface of the liver. With the ultrasound as his guide, he stuck three long thin antennae, like kabob skewers, in the middle of the lesion. “Ten minutes at 45 watts,” Iannitti told the nurse.*

*She switched on the microwave generator and the surgeon heard a familiar crackling sound, like Rice Krispies in a bowl of milk. . . . The golf ball-sized tumor turned black. . . . (He kept working and when he got to) Heslin's final tumor, he reached deep into Heslin's belly. With one hand, Iannitti held the liver still. With the other, he stuck the three antennae into the tumor. “OK. Fire it up,” he said.*

*Iannitti's cupped hand remained inside Heslin's abdomen, holding the liver still, as the microwave generator worked. . . . Before the allotted time, Iannitti decided to cut the heat. Having done more than 100 of these operations, he knew instinctively when enough was enough, how black the tumor should look, how hard it should feel, how it should smell. When he finished, nurses counted all the gauze sponges that stuffed Heslin's belly. . . . The sponges were pink, not red. After two hours of surgery on an organ that handles so much blood, Heslin barely lost any.*

Six weeks after his operation, Heslin returned to his busy life. He now travels for business and works out daily. He continues on chemotherapy and gets CT scans every three months, which have been clear for a year. But if the cancer comes back, Heslin told [Charlotte.com](http://Charlotte.com) that he will try microwave ablation with Dr. Iannitti again.

CMC is one of only four centers in the United States where microwave ablation is available. Since the first procedure on Kevin Heslin, Dr. Iannitti has performed about 20 in Charlotte.

“He is somebody you build around,” said **Todd B. Heniford, MD** (S/LDS'97), a CMC surgeon who trained with Dr. Iannitti at Cleveland Clinic. “He energizes those around him.”

## Office of Professional Staff Affairs Focuses on Diversity Recruitment and Retention

Anthony Stallion, MD, FACS, FAAP, Executive Director, Office of Professional Staff Affairs, Professional Staff Diversity, has learned that while the job he started a little over a year ago is very important, it is not easy.



Anthony Stallion, MD

Dr. Stallion and his co-workers are responsible for helping create a diversity strategy for the 2,300 professional staff physicians at Cleveland Clinic and creating a plan to recruit and retain underrepresented minorities in medicine.

“As a system, we intend to be a leader in the diversity and inclusion strategy,” says Deborah

Plummer, PhD, Executive Director of the Office of Diversity, whose team is responsible for Cleveland Clinic’s diversity strategy and has been working closely with Dr. Stallion and his team. “A critical component of this strategy is assuring that we are representative of the communities we serve and responsive to diverse healthcare needs.”

Professional Staff Diversity has been focusing on attracting and retaining Black, Native American, Pacific Islander, Hispanic and Inuit (commonly referred to as Eskimo) physicians and research scientists. The representation of these physicians and research scientists is under 1 percent at Cleveland Clinic and 5 to 6 percent nationwide.

“We spent the last year getting our arms around the real issues that go into the situation of recruitment and reten-

tion,” says Dr. Stallion. “The recruiting game is tough. Every medical center is facing the same issues.”

Dr. Stallion, who also is Chairman of the Diversity Councils for Cleveland Clinic hospitals and family health centers and a staff surgeon in Cleveland Clinic Children’s Hospital, says that in the medical industry, recruiting can be very difficult.

“The number of well-trained minority candidates is not large,” he says. “There just are not enough to go around.”

Retention can be even more difficult. “Once we get physicians here, we need to figure out how to keep them here,” Dr. Stallion says.

Although Clevelanders know that the city has many natural attractions, luring outsiders can be challenging. “You have to get physicians to Cleveland first,” Dr. Stallion says. But “once they are here, they may not want to leave.” He notes that while Cleveland Clinic’s reputation is a powerful draw for physicians, getting their spouses interested in the area may take a little more effort.

Dr. Stallion’s attention to recruitment and retention has inspired efforts to develop a pipeline from which talent is drawn.

“We want to grow our own,” he says. “People who are born and raised in Cleveland stay here because their family and friends are here.”

As Director of Community Health Outreach at Affinity Baptist Church, Dr. Stallion has been instrumental in

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### Black Academic Surgeons Hold Conference in Cleveland

The Society of Black Academic Surgeons (SBAS), in joint sponsorship with Cleveland Clinic’s Office of Professional Staff Affairs and Office of Diversity, held its 18th annual symposium at the InterContinental Hotel and Bank of America Conference Center on Cleveland Clinic’s campus in April. Anthony Stallion, MD, FACS, FAAP, the activity director for the symposium, says that the event “has been a four-year work in progress.”

Founded in 1989, SBAS’s goal is to address the lack of Black surgeons in academic medicine. It also sought to address the absence of an organized network of Black surgeons to stimulate, mentor and inspire young surgeons and medical students to pursue academic careers. Governed by

an eight-member executive committee, SBAS has more than 200 members throughout the United States. The symposium drew more than 200 participants from around the country.

The agenda for the four-day symposium included workshops, a business meeting, social events and a presidential reception and dinner with keynote speaker Ian Smith, MD, the medical/diet expert on VH1’s *Celebrity Fit Club*. Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson also participated.

On April 18, at the opening meeting, Cleveland Clinic CEO Toby Cosgrove, MD, endowed the Dr. Claude Organ Jr. Resident Award for aspiring young Black surgeons with a check for \$25,000.

## Two New Institute Chairs Named



David L. Brown, MD

David L. Brown, MD, anesthesiologist and pain medicine physician, has been appointed Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Anesthesiology Institute, effective July 1, 2008.

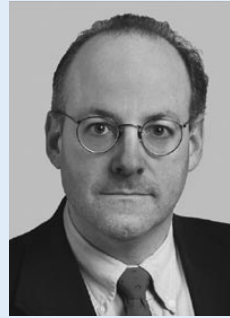
Dr. Brown will be relocating to Cleveland from Houston, where he led the Department

of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center as the Edward Rotan Distinguished Professor and Chairman. During his 30-year career, Dr. Brown has practiced medicine and taught at universities and medical centers throughout the country, including the University of Washington, Seattle's Virginia Mason Medical Center, Mayo Clinic and its Mayo Medical School and the University of Iowa. He also served seven years as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps.

Dr. Brown earned a bachelor's degree in zoology from Iowa State, a bachelor's in medicine from the University of South Dakota and his medical degree from the University of Minnesota. He completed an internship at David Grant USAF Medical Center in California and a residency in anesthesiology at Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center in Texas.

He has written hundreds of academic articles and lectured at universities and medical centers across the country and world. He also has held leadership roles for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education/Anesthesiology RRC, the American Board of Anesthesiology, the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and the Association of University Anesthesiologists. He also has been editor-in-chief of the journal *Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine*.

Dr. Brown's clinical expertise is in the field of regional anesthesia and pain medicine, and he says he still considers it a privilege to care for patients.



Allan Siperstein, MD

Allan Siperstein, MD, a staff general surgeon, has been appointed Chairman of Cleveland Clinic's Surgery Institute. Dr. Siperstein has been a member of Cleveland Clinic's professional staff since 1999 and has served as Vice Chair for the Division of Surgery, Head of the Section

of Endocrine Surgery and Director of the General Surgery Residency Program.

In his new role, Dr. Siperstein plans to establish a comprehensive operating room management team for world-class efficiency and productivity. The Surgery Institute will support educational activities for the General Surgery Residency Program and other surgical specialties, and it will encompass General Surgery practices on main campus and at the regional facilities.

Dr. Siperstein, named a "Top Doctor" by *Cleveland Magazine* in 2007, specializes in endocrine surgery, specifically thyroid and parathyroid disease, as well as minimally invasive endocrine surgery and liver tumors. He serves as the Fellowship Committee Chair of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, and is an active member in many other organizations, including the American Surgical Association and SAGES. He also has published more than 300 scientific papers and book chapters.

Dr. Siperstein's primary research interests include thyroid and parathyroid disease, and in particular, molecular markers identifying thyroid cancers. His clinical studies have focused on approaches to thyroid and parathyroid surgery that involve a minimal incision, and he has had a longtime interest in the development of technologies for the laparoscopic thermal ablation of hepatic tumors.

His current studies continue to focus on technical advances in this area, as well as the impact of the procedure on long-term survival.

## Additional Appointments

**Abby M. Goulder Abelson, MD, FACR**, has been appointed Interim Department Chair for the Department of Rheumatic and Immunologic Disease in the Orthopaedic and Rheumatologic Institute. She joined Cleveland Clinic's staff in July 1997. A graduate of Case Western Reserve University, she also serves as Vice Chair for Education.



Abby M. Goulder Abelson, MD

**Brian Harte, MD**, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Hospital Medicine. Appointed to Cleveland Clinic in 2004, Dr. Harte earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania and completed an internship and residency at the University of California's San Francisco School of Medicine. His specialty interests include acute care medicine.



Brian Harte, MD

**Bruce D. Lindsay, MD**, a world-renowned heart rhythm specialist, has been named Director of Electrophysiology of Cleveland Clinic's Department of Cardiovascular Medicine. Previously, he was Professor of Medicine and Director of Cardiac Electrophysiology at Washington University in St. Louis. An established leader in the field of electrophysiology, Dr. Lindsay is the President of the Heart Rhythm Society, a member of the Board of Trustees for the American College of Cardiology and former chair of the college's Board of Governors. He is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College and completed a residency in internal medicine at the University of Michigan. He served in the National Health Service Corps from 1980-83 at a rural health initiative project in East Jordan, MI. He completed a cardiology fellowship at Washington University, where he undertook additional training in the treatment of heart rhythm disorders. He joined the faculty in 1985 and became director of the electrophysiology program in 1994.



Bruce D. Lindsay, MD

**Joseph F. Sabik, MD (TS'96)**, a Cleveland Clinic staff member since 1996, has been appointed Chair of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. He earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and completed specialty training at Massachusetts General Hospital and residencies at Cleveland Clinic and Massachusetts General. His specialty



Joseph F. Sabik, MD

interests include adult cardiac surgery, valvular heart disease, coronary artery disease, diseases of the thoracic aorta, minimally invasive cardiac surgery and off-pump coronary artery bypass surgery. His wife, alumna **Ellen L. Mayer Sabik, MD (CARD/95, CARD/'97)**, is a member of Cleveland Clinic's Department of Cardiovascular Medicine.



A. Michael Lincoff, MD

**A. Michael Lincoff, MD (CARD'92, CARDIN'93)**, has been appointed Chair of the Lerner Research Institute's newly created Center for Clinical Research, which will be responsible for providing and coordinating the administrative resources required by clinical researchers throughout Cleveland Clinic. He will remain Vice-Chair for Research in Cardiovascular Medicine. A Physicians' Board with representatives from Cleveland Clinic's Institutes and major clinical areas will help steer the direction of clinical research initiatives. The Center will be a central source for a variety of services required by clinical research programs. Among the resources will be supervision of regulatory compliance, financial budgeting and tracking, assistance with grant and proposal writing, and computational and analytical services through the Institute's Department of Quantitative Health Sciences.



James Gutierrez, MD

**James Gutierrez, MD**, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Community Internal Medicine within Cleveland Clinic's Medicine Institute. Dr. Gutierrez, an internist at the Westlake Family Health Center, has been a member of Cleveland Clinic's professional staff since 1997. In his new role, Dr. Gutierrez will supervise the 75 internal medicine specialists at Cleveland Clinic's family health centers, coordinate resident and student education in the department and assume responsibility for the overall quality of care within the department. Dr. Gutierrez's interests include general internal medicine with a focus on preventive care; chronic disease management of diabetes, hypertension and dyslipidemia (a disorder of lipoprotein metabolism); and clinical quality improvement.

## Hawaii (continued)

several weeks each year. She travels to occasional urology meetings as her schedule with the kids and work allows, and she encourages old friends to come anytime. “We love visitors! We love to share our beautiful state.”

As much as she loves Hawaii, she also has high praise for the preparation she received at Cleveland Clinic. “It allowed me to go anywhere I wanted. It was the best place I could have trained,” she says.

## Wanted: warmer terrain

Ophthalmologist **Joyce H. Cassen, MD (OPH’85)**, also was lured to Hawaii by the climate. A native of Cleveland, she grew tired of bundling up her son every time she wanted to take him out of the house. She and her husband, Norman



Ophthalmologist **Joyce Cassen, MD**, believes that if you enjoy your practice, you can be happy anywhere.

Levey, MD, an oncologist who did his residency at MetroHealth, decided it was time to find warmer terrain.

They considered Florida but they were discouraged by the humidity. Then, they found good jobs in Hawaii and have never looked back. “It was exotic, it had a great climate – so why not,” Dr. Cassen recalls now, 22 years later.

“The only real downside to being here is that we are at least a five-hour plane ride away from academic meetings and such,

but computers and emails help fill that gap,” adds Dr. Cassen, who practices at Aina Maina Eye Center in Honolulu.

She and her husband both enjoy their jobs so much, though, that the occasional travel hassle is worth it. “If you are happy in your practice, you could live anywhere and be happy – even the North Pole.” she says. “Technology is so standardized today that working here is much like working anywhere except that we get to see palm trees out of windows instead of barren land.”

At first, they spent a lot of time enjoying the beach, but now, she says, they live a more routine life filled with work and home life. Their daughter recently graduated from the University of Michigan and plans to stay in that area for a while. Their son was tragically killed in a hiking accident in 2003 when he was 19. He fell in the Ko’olau summit area. Although the grief is still very real, Dr. Cassen finds some comfort in knowing that “he died doing what he loved.”

She and her husband return to the mainland a few times a year, most often to meet her brother, who still lives in Ohio, for a few days in Las Vegas. She has visited the Cole Eye Institute, which was built after she left in 1985, and

thinks it is a lovely place. But she’s not moving back to Ohio anytime soon either.

“We’ll be here for a while,” she says with a laugh.

## Setting down new roots

Add **Frank W. Uhr, MD (SM’90)**, to the list of people who meant to go to Hawaii for just a few years. He went after completing a sports medicine fellowship at Cleveland Clinic.

“I grew up in Wisconsin and went to medical school and did my residency there, so I was ready for a change. I found a job in Hawaii, and it seemed like a pretty place. The plan was just to stay two or three years. Eighteen years later, with a wife, three kids and a house, I guess I’m staying,” he says.

His wife Tamara, a physical therapist, had similar plans, he recalls. She had come from Colorado.

He doesn’t think that the three girls, Lauren, Anna and Natalie, ages 13, 11 and 8, fully appreciate how lucky they are to be living in Hawaii.

“They were born and raised here. They love it but they also see the things they don’t have, like snow or skiing. I guess the grass is always greener,” he laughs. “But it’s home and they are like kids anywhere else – they complain about school and homework. At least they don’t have to bundle up to go.”

Dr. Uhr practices with Hawaii Permanente Medical Group. He primarily treats knee problems – ligament reconstruction, knee replacements and arthroscopy.

They travel to the mainland about three times a year, mostly to see his family in Wisconsin and his wife’s in Oregon.

“I miss the seasons, but overall we don’t regret our decision to stay in Hawaii at all,” Dr. Uhr says. “We enjoy the weather, ocean activities like paddling and surfing, as well as the mix of cultures.”

After all, paradise is where you find it. The diversity of lifestyle options and practice opportunities is no doubt why Cleveland Clinic-trained physicians and scientists live in every U.S. state and territory, plus 70 foreign countries.

Feel free to let us know what is special about your part of the world!



Sports Medicine Specialist **Frank Uhr, MD**, and his wife **Tamara** enjoy sharing the beauty of Hawaii with daughters **Lauren, Anna and Natalie**.



## Residents (continued)

**On specializing in internal medicine:** I chose internal medicine for my residency because of its broad-based applications. The field gives me the flexibility to subspecialize, but I knew I wanted to be a good internist first. My training has only left me more confident I made the right choice.

**On hospital-based TV shows:** I like watching Scrubs. Regarding residents, the professional and emotional aspects are accurate. However, I wish residency always allowed residents to have such an active social life!

**On becoming a staff physician:** I am excited and apprehensive about the responsibility. I will be moving to Boston in September and look forward to having more free time to spend in the bustling city.

**On leaving Cleveland Clinic:** Cleveland Clinic is a great hospital. I've made good friends and have learned from amazing mentors. I would absolutely consider coming back to Cleveland Clinic.



Jennifer Lucas, MD

**Jennifer Lucas, MD, a second-year Dermatology resident and HSA vice-president**

**On free time:** I enjoy hanging out with my friends and family, working out, playing softball and spending time with my dog Madison, an adorable miniature schnauzer.

**On working at Cleveland Clinic:** Since I was a little girl, I knew I wanted to be a doctor. Growing up around the Cleveland area, I aspired to train at Cleveland Clinic.

**On the city of Cleveland:** Once you get past the weather, Cleveland has a lot to offer. Cleveland is like living in a bigger city without the hassle. There are great restaurants, theater and orchestra. Cleveland gives me a chance to live in the suburbs without having a very long commute to work.

**On mentors:** I have really had a lot of mentors. As a medical student, Dr. Robert Brodell [a dermatologist in Warren, Ohio] was an inspiration, teacher and friend. At Cleveland Clinic, I could include the entire dermatology staff directory. In particular, Drs. **Allison T. Vidimos (D'89, DS'91)**, **Kenneth Tomecki, James S. Taylor (GL-1'67, D'70)** and

**Philip L. Bailin (GL-1'69, D'74)** have been great role models and teachers.

**On interaction with patients:** I think the best way to learn how to treat a patient is by realizing what it is like to be a patient. I try to treat all patients with compassion and engage them in a friendly way, facilitating open communication. I want my patients to feel comfortable and to feel like they can play an active role in their medical care.



Mohammed Alghoul, MD

**Mohammed Alghoul, MD, a fourth-year General Surgery resident and HSA president**

**On his daily routine:** I wake up at 4:30 a.m.; check on patients from 6-7 a.m.; spend the day in the operating room or clinic; do evening rounds and go home around 6:30 p.m.

**On weeknights:** It is hard to do anything after work. I exercise and swim a few times a week. I also love to play tennis and soccer.

**On the House Staff Association (HSA):** The HSA is the representative body of residents and fellows. It promotes the well-being of residents and their interests. I became involved two years ago when the president asked me to be treasurer. I decided to run for president this year.

**On Residents Appreciation Week:** I proposed the idea last year because I saw residents as an important component of the hospital. I think it is important that they are recognized. This is the first year of Residents Appreciation Week, and we are pleased that we received such great support from all the departments.

**On coming to Cleveland Clinic:** It has been a dream come true to come to Cleveland Clinic. I first came here from Amman, Jordan, as a medical student and loved the hospital. I am privileged to be a member of the medical and surgical teams of this great institution. I have been here for six years.

**On future plans:** I plan on doing a fellowship in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

## Research Roundup

# Cleveland Clinic, Rutgers to Lead Institute for War Wounded

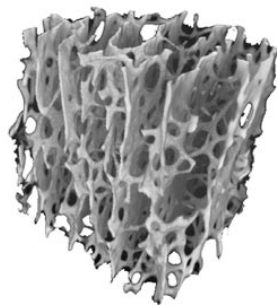
Cleveland Clinic and Rutgers University are leading one of two civilian research consortia to develop innovative medical therapies for the treatment of wounded service members. Cleveland Clinic will receive more than \$10 million from a total of \$42.5 million awarded over five years to create a new institute called the Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM).

**George Muschler, MD**, Biomedical Engineering and a Cleveland Clinic orthopaedic surgeon, is AFIRM's Co-Director, in collaboration with AFIRM Director Joachim Kohn, PhD, of Rutgers University. Together Drs. Muschler and Kohn will head a collaborative network of leading clinician scientists drawn from 15 premier institutions and more than 20 commercial partners nationwide.

"The AFIRM team is deeply committed to offering new recovery options for the brave men and women who have served our country," Dr. Muschler says. "Our collaborative mission is to translate opportunities that are now available in regenerative biology as quickly as possible into practical tools that can be used on the front lines or here at home."

The mission of AFIRM is to accelerate the development of new technologies in the field of regenerative medicine and tissue engineering to effectively serve the needs of injured service members. The research and development of new therapies will focus on regenerating bone, muscle, tendon, nerve and blood vessels, as well as new methods for transplanting limb and facial tissue and treating burns.

Cleveland Clinic President and CEO Delos "Toby" Cosgrove, MD, has experienced the devastation of war firsthand and commends the AFIRM project.



The adult stem cells help to create new bone cells faster and more efficiently.

"Early in my career, I served as an Air Force surgeon in Vietnam, where I saw military casualties firsthand and witnessed the impact of combat injuries on the fine men and women of our Armed Forces," Dr. Cosgrove says. "I am honored that Cleveland Clinic is part of the team awarded this opportunity to serve these heroes and potentially help several thousands of others who suffer from similar injuries."

AFIRM is a national effort to address the healthcare challenges of severely injured service members returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, says Dr. Kohn of Rutgers.

"Our foremost goal is to alleviate the human suffering associated with debilitating blast injuries and to enable our injured men and women to return to productive lives," he says.

AFIRM will be a collaborative virtual institution working in conjunction with the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (ISR). A second AFIRM consortium will be managed by Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and the University of Pittsburgh, which will receive another \$42.5 million in funding.

Successful inter-institutional and commercial partnerships like AFIRM have become a hallmark of biotechnology in Ohio, thanks to investments made by the Ohio's Third Frontier Project (TFP), which is working to expand biotech research and business in the state. In 2005, the state initiative funded the Clinical Tissue Engineering Center (CTEC), a collaboration among Cleveland Clinic, Case Western Reserve University, University Hospitals Case Medical Center (who are also part of the Rutgers-Cleveland Clinic AFIRM team) and several other Ohio institutions and companies.

CTEC is a key partner in the larger National Center for Regenerative Medicine (NCRM), which integrates several regional programs and an international education effort focused on developing therapies based on non-embryonic stem cells and regenerative medicine strategies.

Regenerative medicine in Ohio enjoys broad support from Ohio Governor Ted Strickland and federal government

officials, including Ohio Senators George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones and Congressman Ralph Regula.

“This extraordinary grant is a testament to the outstanding work being conducted among the partners and the Department of Defense’s recognition of this work,” Congressman Regula says. “I am pleased to have been an early supporter of this initiative, as I believe it will profoundly improve the lives of our service members and their families.”

The core academic partners in the Rutgers-Cleveland Clinic consortium are: Case Western Reserve University, Carnegie Mellon University, Stony Brook University, Dartmouth College, MIT, Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, Mayo Clinic, Northwestern University, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, University of Cincinnati, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University.



George Muschler, MD, of Lerner Research Institute’s Department of Biomedical Engineering and Cleveland Clinic’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, leads research in the use of a person’s own adult stem cells to heal bones that are chronically broken or fractured.

## College of Medicine Class of 2009 Gets Ready to Apply for Residencies

The Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine (CCLCM) Class of 2009 soon will be applying for residency programs. Many students have already decided what specialty they are interested in or have narrowed it down to a few choices.

This summer will be busy as the Class of 2009 heads into its final year. Information on writing personal statements, consideration in selecting residency programs and financial planning for the application process already have been discussed.

During the spring, students had the opportunity to listen to and ask questions of a panel of residency program directors regarding what they look for in applications and interviews. This summer, students will be writing and fine-tuning their personal statements, filling out applications, requesting letters of recommendation and generating a list of residency programs to which they are interested in applying. In addition, students can take a two-week personal development elective to help them work on their residency

applications as well as their Year 5 summative portfolios. Students also will have opportunities for mock residency interviews.

The Student Affairs Office, including Kathleen Franco, MD, Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs; Richard Prayson, MD, Pathologist and CCLCM student Physician Advisor; and Wilma Doyle, MA, Administrator, will be helping students navigate the process.

Residency interviews will begin in October and run through January. Students applying to early match programs, such as Urology and Neurosurgery, will find out in January where they will be going. The regular match lists are submitted by students in early February. Match Day is in the middle of March.

*Alumni who are interested in providing any type of assistance to the residency process for our Lerner College of Medicine graduates – from local hosting to providing advice and counsel – are encouraged to contact the Office of Alumni Relations.*

## Fiscal Fitness

# Gifts You Can Make During a Recession

In today's uncertain economic environment, it is more important than ever to carefully review your finances and create a plan to preserve your hard-earned assets for the future – yours, your heirs' and those of your charitable organizations.

Alternative gift options are available if you wish to make a charitable gift but hesitate to make an outright gift now. Additionally, the following choices may help you avoid or reduce gift and estate taxes.

### Charitable Gift Annuity

By transferring some of your assets into a gift annuity, it will provide you with a fixed stream of income during hard times, in exchange for leaving a portion of those assets to support the area of Cleveland Clinic that is most dear to you or to any other worthwhile cause.

A gift annuity can give you a higher rate of return than you currently are receiving in other investments today. For example, a 70-year-old with \$10,000 invested in a money market earning 3 percent could establish a charitable gift annuity and receive 6.5 percent for life, while also making a gift to Cleveland Clinic:

	Charitable Gift Annuity	Money Market
Amount	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Income (during a projected lifetime of 18 years)	\$ 10,400	\$ 4,800
Immediate Charitable Tax Deduction	\$ 3,686	\$ 0
Benefit to Cleveland Clinic	\$ 11,394	\$ 0

On April 2, 2008, the American Council of Gift Annuities reduced the annuity rates in response to weak economic forecasts. The new rates become effective on July 1, 2008, and will be, on average, 0.5 percentage point lower than

the current rate we are offering. Until then, however, there is a window of opportunity that will allow you to take advantage of the higher rate.

### Charitable Lead Trusts

Falling interest rates are likely to make you look harder at a charitable lead trust, which would enable you to set up a trust that pays a current annual income to Cleveland Clinic. A trust may be established to last for your lifetime or for a set number of years. At termination of the trust, whatever is left goes back to you or your heirs. With this type of arrangement, Cleveland Clinic receives the income now instead of later.

The appeal of a charitable lead trust – especially to those of you looking for a way to pass on your wealth to children and grandchildren – is that when interest rates are low (as they currently are), the Internal Revenue Service anticipates that the value of the assets ultimately going back to your heirs also will be low and will not increase. The result is that you may pass more money to your heirs and may avoid or reduce estate or gift taxes.

### Charitable Bequests

Financial advisers are increasingly likely during a recession to advise wealthy, mature clients to forego a large outright gift and instead put a charity in their will or a trust. This option would enable you or your financial manager to set aside assets and manage them until they are given to Cleveland Clinic. The terms of both of these gift vehicles can be changed if your financial situation changes.

### Testamentary Gifts

You can name Cleveland Clinic as a beneficiary of your IRA/retirement plan. Did you know that 75 to 80 percent of a retirement plan account could be lost to federal, state and local estate and income taxes if it were to pass directly to children or grandchildren? All of these taxes could be avoided if the assets were used to make a testamentary gift to Cleveland Clinic.

*For more information, please contact the Gift Planning Team at [giftplanning@ccf.org](mailto:giftplanning@ccf.org) or call 216.444.1245.*

## Campus Clips

**Cleveland Clinic co-sponsored the Arab Health Congress 2008**, the region's leading medical event Jan. 28 to 31 in Dubai. In addition to the sponsorship, President and CEO Toby Cosgrove, MD, and eight other Cleveland Clinic physicians and professionals, including four alumni, spoke at the congress. More than 50,000 healthcare professionals attended the event.

"We value this significant opportunity to share our expertise, knowledge and insights, and to learn from other specialists from around the world about some of the most important topics facing medical professionals and patients today," Dr. Cosgrove says.

Other Cleveland Clinic physicians and executives who participated in the event include Paul Matsen, Chief Marketing, Communications and Planning Officer; Martin Harris, MD, MBA, Chief Information Officer; Philip Schauer, MD, Director of Advanced Laparoscopic and Bariatric Surgery; **E. Murat Tuzcu, MD (CARD'88)**, Director of the Intravascular Ultrasound Laboratory in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine; **Wael K. Barsoum, MD (ORS'00)**, Vice Chairman, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery; Joseph Iannotti, MD, Chairman of the Orthopaedic and Rheumatologic Institute; **Sandip P. Vasavada, MD (U'97)**, Urologic Director at the Center for Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery; and **Daniel J. Mazanec, MD (RH'80)**, Vice Chairman of the Center for Spine Health.

**Scott Meit, PsyD, MBA**, Psychiatry and Psychology, and colleagues recently presented "The Implementation of an Intensive Fourth-year Doctor-Patient Communications and Psychosocial Interviewing Curriculum" at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Predoctoral Education Conference of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.

**Dr. Meit, Craig Newman, PhD, and Sharon Sandridge, PhD**, Audiology, presented their work on tinnitus in April as part of the American Academy of Audiology's Learning Lab. Additionally, Dr. Meit was invited to speak at the national convention of the American Psychological Association (APA) on the ethics of specialization and board certification in professional psychology. Dr. Meit is one of eight elected psychologists nationwide who serve on the APA's Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology.

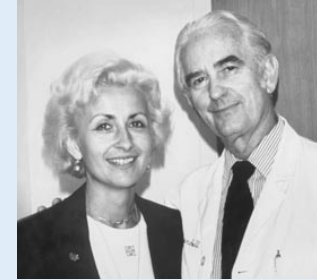
**Charles Modlin, MD**, Founder and Director of the Minority Men's Health Center, and staff member of the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute, has been appointed to the Ohio Commission on Minority Health by Gov. Ted Strickland. This is the first state commission on minority health and seeks to eliminate health disparities in minority populations.

### A Milestone in ET/WOC Nursing:

## 50 Years of Helping Patients Return to Normal Lifestyles

This year marks the 50th anniversary of enterostomal therapy, conceived by Cleveland Clinic's **Rupert B. Turnbull, Jr., MD (S'48, S'49)**, in 1958.

Dr. Turnbull named the specialty from the Greek enteron (intestine) and stoma (mouth) and in 1962 founded the Enterostomal Therapy/Wound, Ostomy, Continence (ET/WOC)



**Nortrud Schindzielorz Loy, RN, and Rupert B. Turnbull, Jr., MD**

Nursing School, the first of its kind in the world. In honor of the occasion, Cleveland Clinic hosted a conference April 14 and 15 at the InterContinental Hotel that provided a review of the state-of-the-art nursing and surgical management of patients with wounds, ostomies and incontinence, through lectures and case studies. The conference also reunited several graduates of the program, including Nortrud Schindzielorz Loy, RN, who worked with Dr. Turnbull and started the first ET program in Dusseldorf, Germany, when she returned there after 12 years as a nurse recruiter for Cleveland Clinic (1968 to 1977). It is critical to prepare patients who undergo an ostomy for life after surgery, and to support them as they recover. And no one knows this better than those who experience it firsthand. In fact, providing support to ostomy patients is what motivated Cleveland Clinic patient Norma Gill to begin working for her surgeon, Dr. Turnbull, after recovering from ostomy surgery in 1954. Together, Dr. Turnbull and Ms. Gill founded the ET/WOC School at Cleveland Clinic in 1962. Over the years, the field has grown tremendously. Treatments have been streamlined and improved; professional organizations have been formed; length of stay has been shortened; and caregivers have learned to better meet the needs of people with ostomies. Now, more than 55 countries recognize stoma therapy nursing, and there are schools in 21 countries. Cleveland Clinic is at the forefront as the leading innovator in the management of patients with wounds, ostomies and incontinence, with a Digestive Disease Center that is ranked No. 2 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**Cleveland Clinic celebrated Women's History Month by recognizing key women from the institution's past and present.** Three alumnae were among the honorees:

**Melinda L. Estes, MD (NPTH'84)**, was appointed to the Department of Pathology in January 1985. After serving as Head of Neuropathology, she became Chief Medical

## Campus Clips (continued)

Officer and Chief Executive Officer at Cleveland Clinic in Florida. In 1990, she became the first woman elected to Cleveland Clinic's Board of Governors. Dr. Estes is currently President and Chief Executive Officer at Fletcher Allen Health Care with the University of Vermont in Burlington.

**Harriet Pearson Dustan, MD (RES'49)**, who joined the Research Division in 1948, became an instant innovator in the field of hypertension (high blood pressure) and was one of the first to suggest that reducing dietary sodium could lower heart risks and hypertension. She was the first editor-in-chief of the American Heart Association journal, *Hypertension*, the first woman to serve on the Board of Governors of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the second female president of the American Heart Association. She was also the first female to receive the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1992.

**Geraldine S. Hall, PhD (MB'79)**, has served Cleveland Clinic since 1981 and works in both Clinical Pathology and Infectious Diseases. Mikkael Sekeres, MD, MS, praises Dr. Hall for "exemplifying the pursuit of perfection, quality in the workplace and dedication to colleagues and the people she has mentored. She is an inspiration to me, other colleagues, and to the many medical students she has taught since the medical school's inception." Dr. Hall also received glowing praise from Charles Tannenbaum, PhD, for her spoken word: "Gerri's oratory prowess is nothing

less than stunning. I've never heard anyone else speak with the combination of eloquence, efficiency, perfect enunciation and lightning speed that invariably characterize her contributions. All this Dr. Hall does with perfect humility and not a whit of self-importance."

**Delos (Toby) M. Cosgrove, MD, President and CEO of Cleveland Clinic, is among the 50 most powerful health-care executives in the country**, according to rankings published in the April 14, 2008, issue of *Modern Physician* magazine. Dr. Cosgrove, who earned spot No. 28, was the only physician from Ohio to make the list, which is compiled as part of the annual 50 Most Powerful Physician Executives recognition program. More than 7,300 nominations were received for the 2008 program. Finalists are selected by readers of *Modern Physician* and its sister publication, *Modern Healthcare*, who are invited to cast their vote for one of 100 pre-selected physicians. The 50 physicians who receive the most votes are recognized.

**Bruce Wilkoff, MD, Director of Cardiac Pacing and Tachyarrhythmia Devices, has been approved** to become president of the Heart Rhythm Society for the 2011-12 term. Dr. Wilkoff will be the second vice president in 2008, then will become the first vice president in 2009, president elect in 2010 and president in 2011.

**M. Elaine Husni, MD, MPH, Director of Clinical Outcomes Research in the Department of Rheumatic and Immunologic**

**To help reduce healthcare worker shortages and create new opportunities for our employees, Cleveland Clinic partnered with Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) in 2005 to create on-site associate degree programs in nursing and radiography.** The inaugural class of 35 nursing students – who received full tuition support from Cleveland Clinic in exchange for a two-year, full-time job commitment – graduated recently. For 15 months, this group spent hours together each day. It didn't take them long to realize that without each other, failure was inevitable. Some of the graduates recently discussed teamwork, much-needed support from their families and co-workers, and why it feels like they are receiving a group diploma.

### Why was teamwork imperative to your success?

**Brigid Fejes, who has been working as a unit and administrative secretary for six years on main campus. She will soon be in the Pediatrics Department at Fairview Hospital:** The program was very intense and very difficult. We had to rely on and support each other, not just for the schoolwork, but also for our sanity.

**Michael Mackow, who has been a nurse assistant for three years on main campus. He will soon move to the Surgical ICU on main campus:** Our instructors told us that nursing classes traditionally break off into smaller groups. But our group came together as a team.

**Suzanne Sullivan, a service relations coordinator who will soon move to the Neonatal ICU on main campus:** I think that's because we had such a range. People came from different jobs, different backgrounds – everyone had something to offer.

**Pam Profusek, who has been on main campus for eight years, most recently in Vascular Surgery research. She is headed for a job in Orthopaedic Surgery:** The program was just so demanding that everyone had to pull together to make it through.

**Derrick Tripp, who works in the East region and plans to stay in the East region:** You didn't have time to master everything, so you each had to share what you knew and rely on everyone else's strengths.

**Diseases, is among a panel of physicians** who led a discussion of the documentary, "INNERSTATE," after a free screening of the film on April 16. The film reveals the "inner states" of three adults with chronic, life-altering inflammatory diseases who tell the stories of their journeys toward living normal lives.

**Lisa Gallagher, MA, MT-BC, a music therapist in Cleveland Clinic's Harry R. Horvitz Center for Palliative Medicine, received a first-place award** in the International Healing Arts competition at the 19th annual conference for the Society for the Arts in Healthcare on April 18 in Philadelphia. Gallagher's award will allow for further controlled studies in music therapy at the Harry R. Horvitz Center for Palliative Medicine.

**Huron Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital, successfully matched all residency positions in the 2008 National Resident Matching Program.** The former Huron Road Hospital, located in East Cleveland, filled all positions in both accredited programs in General Surgery and Internal Medicine. More than 3,500 candidates world-wide applied for 24 available residency positions. The General Surgery Program interviewed 78 candidates for 6 positions, while the Internal Medicine Program interviewed 172 candidates for 18 positions. The Graduate Medical program includes former Cleveland Clinic personnel, Raphael (Ray) S. Chung, MD, General Surgery Chairman and Program Director,

and Laura Tripepi, Graduate Medical Education Manager. Andrei Brateanu, MD, is the Internal Medicine Program Director, and Keyvan Ravakhah, MD, is Chairman of Internal Medicine. Congratulations also to Surgical Chief Residents, Viney Mathavan, MD, and Sanajay Thekkeurumbil, MD, and Medicine Chief Residents, Agni Mirza, MD, and Giorgi Tserediani, MD, who also were instrumental in this year's successful match.

**Dale H. Cowan, MD, JD, Regional Oncology, received the Special Honors Award** for his contributions to the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio (AMCNO) during its Annual Meeting Dinner and Awards Presentation on April 25. For other staff/alumni honorees, see the "Contacts" column, 70s, **John A. Bergfeld, MD (GL-1'65, S'67, ORS'70), John D. Clough, MD (GL-1'66, IM'67, IM'71), and Raymond J. Scheetz, Jr., MD (IM'71, RH'73).**

**The First Music and the Brain Symposium at the Salzburg Festival 2008, co-sponsored by Cleveland Clinic and The Cleveland Orchestra,** will be held in Salzburg, Austria, on Aug. 16, 2008. This is part of The Cleveland Orchestra's summer tour of Europe that includes Salzburg and Lucerne, Switzerland festivals, and first-time appearances in Milan and Turin, Italy. The orchestra, under the direction of Franz Welser-Most, announced the tour schedule that includes 13 performances from Aug. 17 through Sept. 3.

**Charlotte Augustin, who plans to move to a medical/surgery floor; she currently works in Facilities Engineering on main campus:** I know I left the program with a whole new respect for nurses.

**Megan Capek, a medical assistant at the Strongsville Family Health and Surgery Center who will soon be in Labor and Delivery at Fairview Hospital:** Me, too. Now I know why nurses always make sure there's an 'RN' after their name. It's like, 'I've earned this!'

#### **What kept you motivated?**

**Capek:** Graduating. I had that motivation of, 'I'm going to finish this.' If I let myself think, 'I can't do this,' then I knew I'd be done.

#### **What kind of support did you receive from colleagues and nursing staff?**

**Sullivan:** I think the nurses were supportive because of their level of investment. They knew that in a few months, I could be the one they're giving a report to.

**Mackow:** Nurses on my floor helped me better understand things when I had questions.

**Capek:** Family support was huge; co-workers' support was huge. I personally don't think I would be here if I didn't have that flexibility from my supervisor.

**Augustin:** We also had fantastic clinical instructors. They really felt invested in us.

#### **What aspects of teamwork will you carry into your new jobs?**

**Tripp:** When I work on a project now, I'll ask each person right away, 'What do you bring to the table?' Everyone has a strength. It's better to know that up front and then divide up tasks.

**Profusek:** Before, all of my jobs were solitary jobs, but here, everything is a group effort. You couldn't be an island and survive in this program. You really learned to appreciate teamwork.

**Capek:** I don't know that any of us would have graduated without each other. It kind of feels like a group diploma.

## Contact Information

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### Weston, FL

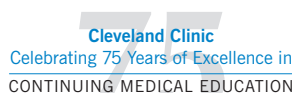
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www.clevelandclinicflorida.org

**Alumni are entitled to a substantial discount on CME** sponsored by the Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education, Cleveland, OH, and by Continuing Medical Education of Cleveland Clinic Florida.

### Center for Continuing Education www.clevelandclinicmeded.com

The Cleveland Clinic Center for Continuing Education is responsible for one of the largest and most diverse CME programs anywhere in the US, awarding more than 109,000 live and online CME certificates in 2006. Stay informed of all the available live and online CME opportunities by signing up to our monthly news-flash: [www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/SignMeUp](http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/SignMeUp)

**NOTE:** All courses are at the spectacular state-of-the-art InterContinental Hotel & Bank of America Conference Center on the Cleveland Clinic campus in Cleveland, OH, unless otherwise noted.



## July 2008

- 10** Dr. Lawrence "Chris" Crain (IM'97, H/N'99) Memorial Lecture  
Kenneth A. Jamerson, MD, Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan  
"Contemporary Insight into Excessive Cardiovascular Risk in African Americans"  
Cleveland Clinic Bunts Auditorium, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

- 16-22** Cleveland Spine Review – Hands-On Course

- 16-22** Managing Spine Tumors

## August

- 1-2** 7<sup>th</sup> Audiology Symposium – Innovations in Hearing: The Aging Patient

- 13-15** Objective Correlates of CRPS: Utility for Diagnostic Criteria  
Hilton Cardiff  
Cardiff, Wales, UK

- 16** Music and the Brain: A Symposium on the Brain, Music, Health and Society  
University Mozarteum, Austria

- 17-21** Ninth Annual Intensive Review of Cardiology

- 25-29** Pediatric Board Review

## September

- 3-4** Colorectal Cancer Summit

- 5-6** 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Collaborative Group of Americas on Inherited Colorectal Cancer

- 5-6** International Reproductive Medicine Symposium

- 10-12** Obesity Summit

- 11-12** 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Gastroenterology Update

- 25-27** Fibroid Summit 2008

- 26-28** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Endocrinology and Metabolism Board Review

- 26-27** Optimizing Function through Spasticity Management: Midwest Spasticity Conference 2008  
Bertram Inn & Conference Center  
Aurora, OH

## October

- 4-8** Nephrology Update

- 16-18** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Treatment of Heart Failure: Synchronizing Surgical & Medical Therapies for Better Outcomes

## November

- 15-19** Survey of Current Issues in Surgical Anesthesia  
Hilton Daytona Beach  
Oceanfront Resort  
Daytona Beach, FL

- 17-20** 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Course & 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Turnbull Symposium

## December

- 5** Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes: Optimizing Outcomes Worldwide Through Disease Understanding  
(*Satellite Program preceding the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual ASH Meeting*)  
Moscone Conference Center, San Francisco, CA

- 11-13** New Horizons in Cardiovascular Treatments  
Cleveland Clinic Outreaching China  
Shanghai International Convention Center  
Shanghai, China

## February 2009

- 4-7** Diastology & New Echo Technologies (Featuring: Contrast Echo Mini Symposium)  
Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

- 19-21** Focal Ablation World Summit

## March

- 5-7** Palliative Medicine 2009: the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium  
Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa, Fort Lauderdale, FL

## May

- 7-9** Biologic Therapies in Special Populations - Infections, Malignancies, Cardiovascular Disease, and Other Comorbidities

## June

- 3-5** Global Heart & Vascular Congress 2009  
Join us for this landmark educational event of renowned faculty and decision makers in the field of heart and vascular disease as they discuss the clinical innovations that are changing the treatment of cardiovascular disease.

For information on these events as well as an online CME, medical publications and how to register for free e-mail updates, please visit: [www.clevelandclinicmeded.com](http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com)



## Alumni Reunion and CME September 25-26, 2009

Cleveland, OH (NOTE CHANGE IN DATE)

- Commemorate the graduation of the inaugural five-year Class of 2009 from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University
- Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Alumni Library
- Welcome the 83rd annual class of graduating interns, residents, fellows and post-docs into our worldwide network of Cleveland Clinic trained physicians and scientists, now numbering more than 400 graduates per year with a total of more than 10,000 Clinic-trained physicians and scientists in every U.S. state and territory and 70 foreign countries.
- Tour the new state-of-the-art Heart & Vascular and Urological & Kidney institutes.

### ALUMNI EVENTS

#### August

**17** 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Welcome to Cleveland" GOODTIME Cruise Cleveland, OH

#### September

**21-24** American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery Chicago, IL

**21-25** American Society for Therapeutic Radiation & Oncology Boston, MA

#### October

**3-8** American College of Gastroenterology Orlando, FL

**11-14** American Academy of Pediatrics Boston, MA

**12-16** American College of Surgeons San Francisco, CA

**18-22** American Society of Anesthesiologists Orlando, FL

**25-28** Infectious Diseases Society of America Orlando, FL

**31-** The Liver Meeting  
**11/4** San Francisco, CA

**31-** American Society of  
**11/5** Plastic Surgeons  
Chicago, IL

#### November

**4-9** American Society of Nephrology Philadelphia, PA

**8-11** American Academy of Ophthalmology Atlanta, GA

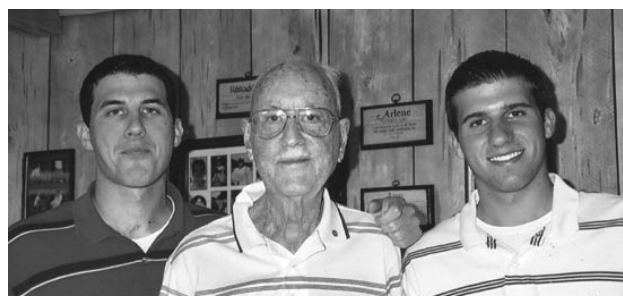
**13-15** North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition San Diego, CA

**30-** Radiological Society of  
**12/5** North America  
Chicago, IL

#### December

**5-9** American Epilepsy Society Seattle, WA

**6-9** American Society of Hematology San Francisco, CA



Robert Kiskaddon, MD, celebrates his 92nd birthday along with two of his grandsons, Keith Magness Kiskaddon, who just graduated Magna Cum Laude in pre-med, and Eric McKee Kiskaddon, who begins pre-medical education in September. They are the sons of Dr. Kiskaddon's son Bruce Kiskaddon, MD. The boys seek to follow in a long family tradition of being physicians.

### Dr. Kiskaddon (continued)

work, I had a lab in the Research Building where a fellow Cornell Med graduate (Dr. Page) gave me space for a special project - done in off hours," he says. "You will understand why there was no time for pictures."

He had attended medical school at Cornell, where he contracted tuberculosis. As a result, he was denied entry into the armed forces during World War II. "I tried to get in all four divisions of the military, and they all turned me down," he says.

He and his wife spent many years "scoping out retirement locations," he says, and today live in Punta Gorda, FL. They were drawn in part by the large beautiful harbor, which especially appealed to their love of sailing, an activity he reluctantly gave up after having a stroke. Now, he jokes, his main hobby is "trying to stay alive."

At 92, "waking up is a good day - if I'm breathing," he concludes with a laugh.

### Dr. Stallion (continued)

developing several community outreach projects. He also is a member of many major professional societies, including the National Medical Association, Society of Black Academic Surgeons, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the American College of Surgeons.

A native of St. Louis, Dr. Stallion is the proud father of daughter, Tara, and son, Robert.

*If you are interested in making a recruitment referral and/or learning more about physician opportunities within the Cleveland Clinic Health System, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs.*

# Contacts

| 60s |



Left to right, Philip Vlastaris, MD, Walter Lewin, son of Walter Lewin, MD, Mary Eitzen posthumously for Oliver Eitzen, MD, William Fayen, MD, David Schultz, MD, Joseph Lydon, MD and, seated, Bernard Ceraldi, MD.

Apologies to **Philip Vlastaris, MD** (IM'58, CD'60, RES'60, PV'64), left, who was "pushed" off the page in the last issue of *The Cleveland Clinic Alumni Connection*. Left to right next to Dr. Vlastaris, are Walter Lewin, son of Walter Lewin, MD, Mary Eitzen posthumously for Oliver Eitzen, MD, William Fayen, MD, David Schultz, MD, **Joseph Lydon, MD** (S'51, S'55, VS'64), and, seated, Bernard Ceraldi, MD. All were recipients of the fourth annual "Pillars of Medicine" in 2007, honoring retired physicians from Cleveland Clinic's western region hospitals, as previously reported.

**Keith Arnold, MD** (IM'67), of Lakeport, CA, took us up on our offer to send a complimentary copy of Cleveland Clinic's historical video "All for One." He wrote: "The video is excellent. Especially since I was there during the time of many of those shown and talked about—Mason Sones, Willem Kolff, Rene G. Favalaro (TS'62, TS'65), Ray W. Gifford, Jr., "Barney" George Crile, Jr. (S'37), etc. (1965-1967). Cleveland Clinic is totally unrecognizable to me now. I lived in an apartment in one of the parking lots which is now some building or other. I did though recognize, I think, the oldest building buried amongst all those beautiful new constructions. I have not been back for over 30 years but will plan to attend one of the medical meetings/reunions when one takes place. I remember and consider my years at Cleveland Clinic as some of the best training I ever had." Dr. Arnold, who will be 70 in September, is a retired internist living in Northern California. After he left Cleveland, he did a fellowship at Johns Hopkins

and, from there was drafted into the military. Interestingly, the Army trained him in tropical and infectious diseases and epidemiology before sending him to Vietnam in 1969. His career took direction from there as he became very interested in these diseases and returned to Vietnam to teach in the medical school there from 1971-1975. Since that time, his interest and research papers have mainly been on plague, typhoid fever and malaria during 25-plus years he spent working in the Far East. "All the countries of South East Asia, actually, including China & extending to Sri Lanka," he added.

*Editors Note: To obtain a copy of the DVD "All for One," contact the Alumni Relations Office.*

**Wilma F. Bergfeld, MD** (GL-1'65, D'68), Section Head of Clinical Research in Cleveland Clinic's Department of Dermatology and Dermopathology, recently received the Maria M. Duran award from the International Society of Dermatology. She was recognized for her contributions in dermatologic conditions affecting women and children.

**William T. Holland, Jr., MD** (OPH'65), of Scottsdale, AZ, made a lot of good friends at Cleveland Clinic, had a long career, raised four children and now enjoys six grandchildren and is CEO of his own music production company, aiding many young songwriters and singers in fulfilling their dreams. Dr. Holland majored in Theory and Composition at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania, where he earned his bachelor's degree in music in 1994. He then pursued post-graduate study in Theory and Composition at Arizona State University from 1994 to 1997. He is a member of ASCAP and the Arizona Songwriters Association and has written more than 300 songs, including three musicals. He is especially fond of writing melodies of the 1940-1950 genre. Involved in music his entire life, he has sung in many choral and barbershop groups, led and performed in musical theater and has many years of experience in church music production and choral accompaniment. He states that his wife, Happy, and his children have humored him in his love and pursuit of music, for which he is humbly grateful. *Editor's Note: The Alumni Relations Office is pleased to have a copy of a CD of his original songs and we invite alumni with musical and other artistic talents and interesting avocations to share your passions with us!*

**Robert S. Kunkel, Jr., MD** (GL-1'61, IM'64), of Cleveland Clinic's Center for Headache and Pain, has been selected as a 2008 inductee into the Hall

of Excellence of the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges. Dr. Kunkel served as President of the National Headache Foundation Board of Directors and President of the Ohio Headache Association until 2005.

| 70s |

**John A. Bergfeld, MD** (GL-1'65, S'67, ORS'70), of Cleveland Clinic's Orthopaedic Surgery Department, received the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio's John H. Budd, MD, Distinguished Membership Award for 2008 in recognition of his work in orthopaedic medicine and his dedication to the healthcare community. The award was presented at the AMCNO Annual Meeting in April.

**John D. Clough, MD** (GL-1'66, IM'67, IM'71), who had many leadership roles at Cleveland Clinic, including serving in Government Affairs, received the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio's Outstanding Service Award for his role in the AMCNO's legislative activities. The award was presented at the AMCNO Annual Meeting in April. He also was recently recognized by Cleveland Clinic's Volunteer Ambassador program for more than 570 hours of volunteer service as the founder of the Cleveland Clinic Concert Band. He plays the euphonium in the band and composed the "Library Sweet Library Suite" performed during the dedication of Cleveland Clinic's Alumni Library in 1999. His more than 37 years of service at Cleveland Clinic included a variety of leadership roles, including Chairman of Rheumatology, Editor of the *Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* and Medical Director for Alumni Relations. He received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1988. He and his alumnae wife, **Mary M. Lorentz Clough, MD** (GL-1'66, IM'67), a pediatrician, have three grown children and eight grandchildren.

**Belinda Yen-Lieberman, PhD** (RES'78). See Siriorn P. Watcharananan, MD, 00s, below.

**John J. Mizenko, DO** (GE'72), was one of four physicians recognized May 3, 2008, as a "Pillar of Medicine" by South Pointe Hospital, a Cleveland Clinic hospital. The award was established to honor retired physicians who have exhibited a lifetime of exemplary commitment to medicine, the hospital and the communities it serves. The doctors are recognized for their long history and dedication to the medical staff, significant impact on patients and the hospital and their leadership in mentoring

young physicians and professional colleagues. Dr. Mizenko joined South Pointe's medical staff in 1962 as a general practitioner, then returned in 1972 following a Gastroenterology Fellowship. He also had offices in Twinsburg and Streetsboro. He served in many leadership roles during his 45 years with the medical staff. Most notable was his development of the hospital's gastroenterology service and his work as a patient advocate, especially around end-of-life care. He was known as an introspective teacher. A fellow lecturer said Dr. Mizenko would be his "usual relevant and irreverent self, transfixing newbie residents and interns with stumping questions about the profound difference between being a doctor or physician." An avid and accomplished golfer, Dr. Mizenko is enjoying his retirement traveling with his wife, Joyce. He has been a resident of Aurora, OH, for 35 years. Born in New Jersey and reared in the Cleveland area, he attended John Carroll University and received his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency in internal medicine at South Pointe (then Brentwood). As the first osteopathic fellow in gastroenterology to be trained at Cleveland Clinic, he was praised by Dr. Charles Brown, the department head, as "far ahead of the other trainees; best of the entire group." Dr. Mizenko was a registered nurse prior to attending medical school.

**Andrew C. Novick, MD (U'77)**, Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute, received the Ramon Guiteras Award, the American Urological Association's highest honor, May 21 at the American Urology Association's Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. Dr. Novick is known worldwide for his contributions to the field of urology, and receipt of the Ramon Guiteras Award, combined with the many other career-achievement awards he has received, makes him the most honored practicing urologist today. Dr. Novick also has received an Honorary Fellowship from the Canadian Urological Association (1997); the Sean O'Sullivan Canadian Research Award (2000); an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland (2003); the St. Paul's Medal from the British Association of Urological Surgeons (2004); the Russell Scott Jr. Award from the American Urological Association (2004); the Barringer Medal from the American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons (2007); the SIU-Astellas Award from the Societe Internationale D'Urologie (2007); and the Ferdinand C. Valentine Medal from the New York Section of the American Urological Association

for significantly advancing the science and art of urology (2008). Dr. Novick has made numerous pioneering contributions to urology and is recognized around the world for his expertise in renal reconstructive surgery, including kidney-sparing surgery, transplantation and revascularization. He has edited or co-edited 14 urologic textbooks including Campbell-Walsh Urology, which is the major reference text in urology, and he has authored 591 original scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and 104 book chapters. He has served as a Visiting Professor at 136 academic medical centers throughout the world. Dr. Novick is the only individual in the field of urology to have held the three leadership positions of president of the American Board of Urology, chairman of the National Urology Residency Review Committee and chairman of the American Board of Urology/American Urological Association Examination Committee. He serves as Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

**Herbert (Herb) J. Rogove, DO, FCCM, FACP (GL-1'74, IM'76)**, wrote to inform us of his new address, providing an opportunity to "catch up" with his career. He has started and directed three critical care medicine programs over the past 30 years. He is president & CEO of a consulting business he recently started, C30 Medical Group, Inc., that also includes providing remote critical care coverage utilizing robotics, which he is convinced is the wave of the future. Previous positions include director of Critical Care at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach, CA, Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, PA, and at Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus. He adds, "I still feel my training at the Clinic were the best three years in medicine, even to this day!" Dr. Rogove resides in Newport Beach, CA, and has two grown children, Jordan, an architect in New York City, and Gregory, a drummer for the Devendra Banhart band at the vanguard of the new folk music movement.



**Raymond J. Scheetz, Jr., MD**

**Raymond J. Scheetz, Jr., MD (IM'71, RH'73)**, a member of Cleveland Clinic's Department of Rheumatic and Immunologic Disease, was installed as President of the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and

## Contacts (continued)

Northern Ohio for a one-year term during the AMCNO's Annual Meeting Dinner and Awards Presentation on April 25, 2008. He is past president of the Cleveland Society of Rheumatology.

### | 80s |

**David A. Bitonte, DO, MBA, MPH (PM'87)**, was appointed in April by Ohio Governor Ted Strickland to the Ohio Department of Health's Public Health Council. The appointment lasts through June 2012. Dr. Bitonte lives in Louisville, OH, and is medical examiner for PortaMedic and Exam One, headquartered in Akron. He has three children, Elizabeth, David and Caroline.



James M. Church

**James M. Church, BSc, MBChB, MMedSc, FRACS, FACS, FAGG, FASCRS, FRCE(Glas) (CRS'84)**, was honored with a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Auckland in New

Zealand in March. Internationally regarded as an outstanding colorectal surgeon and surgical researcher, he was in the first graduating class at that university's School of Medicine. He was the only physician of eight honorees. All were acknowledged for outstanding contributions to their professions, their communities and the nation at a gala dinner for 600 people, with New Zealand's Prime Minister, Helen Clark, opening the formal part of the evening with a short address. Dr. Church was additionally cited for his enormous contributions to the field of colorectal surgery as a practicing surgeon and researcher with more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, two books and many chapters, and for significant improvements in the care of patients with inflammatory bowel disease and more recent focus on the care and management of patients and their families suffering from inherited colorectal cancer. He has contributed to the science as well as the practical application of new techniques to improve patient outcomes. Named one of the "Top Doctors in America" for six consecutive years, he founded the Collaborative Group of Americans for Inherited Colorectal Cancer and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the American Society of Colorectal Surgeons and the American College

of Gastroenterology. In 2006, he was elected to fellowship in the American Surgical Association.

**Probal K. Ghosh, MD MCh, FRCS, FETCS, FACC, FAMS (TS'81)**, former chairman of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery at Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Medical Science in Lucknow, India, (1989-1999) is now with the Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer, Israel. Among other things, he was awarded Honorary National Professorship and A.K. BASU Memorial Visiting Professorship from IACTS (Indian Association of Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgeons) and Uma Rani Banerjee Memorial Oration from CSI (Cardiological Society of India) and conferred Fellowship of the Indian National Academy of Medical Sciences.

**Bruce D. Long, MD (IM'81, RH'86)**, joined the staff of the Rheumatology and Immunology Department at Cleveland Clinic in April.

**George P. Parras, MD (S'86)**. See Dilara Seyidova Khoshknabi, MD, 90s, below

**David M. Paushter, MD, FACR (DR'84 and former staff, 1985-1993)**, was recently inducted as a fellow into the American College of Radiology. The induction took place in a formal convocation ceremony during the organization's 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Chapter leadership Conference in Washington, DC. Dr. Paushter is vice chair of radiology for the University of Chicago Medical Center. He is the chair of the Clinical Standards Committee and serves on the Collaborative Committee for the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine and is that group's representative for the Radiological Society of North America Structured Reporting Initiative. He earned his medical degree at Case Western Reserve University in 1980.

**Susan J. Rehm, MD (IM'81, ID'83)**. See Hanan H. Balkhy, MD, 90s, below.

**Holly L. Thacker, MD (IM'89)**, Director of the Cleveland Clinic's Women's Health Center, was the guest editor for *The Cleveland Clinic Journal of Medicine* May 2008 supplement, "Midlife Menopause Management: Assessing Risks and Benefits, Individualizing Strategies." For a copy of the CME-certified supplement, visit [www.ccfm.org/default.asp](http://www.ccfm.org/default.asp). To request a print copy, email [dunaskk@ccf.org](mailto:dunaskk@ccf.org).

### | 90s |

**Ayman S. Alkhadra, MD (CARD/E'98)**. See Hanan H. Balkhy, MD, below.

**Michael E. Anderson, MD (GYN/PS'90)**, has been named Medical Director for Cleveland Clinic's Independence Family Health Center. A graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Dr. Anderson joined Cleveland Clinic's staff in January 1997 in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

**Hanan H. Balkhy, MD, FAAP (PD/ID'98)**, is in her final year of a master's program in medical education, in addition to her clinical and administrative work as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Head of the Research Promotion and Education Section of the King Abdullah International Research Center at King Saud Bin-Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She has submitted a grant to look into MDR gram negatives and is working on initiating a faculty development program for the hospital focusing on the promotion of research. Her husband, alumnus **Ayman S. Alkhadra, MD (CARD/E'98)**, is head of the Electrophysiology Section at Prince Sultan Cardiac Center in Riyadh. The couple has two sons, Mohammad, 13, and Omar, 7, who are playing piano and learning French and English. Dr. Balkhy sent her regards to her teachers and mentors, especially Drs. Johanna Goldfarb and **Susan J. Rehm (IM'81, ID'83)**, saying she is inspired by their continuing good work.

**Leo Anthony Gutierrez Celi, MD (IM'94)**, formerly an Intensivist and Infectious Disease Specialist at the University of Otago/Dunedin Hospital in Dunedin, New Zealand, is pursuing a master's degree in biomedical informatics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's degree in public health at Harvard. His projects include the use of artificial intelligence to facilitate real-time dynamic personalized medicine in the ICU and mobile devices in virtual medical visits in resource-poor settings. Check out one of his projects at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=RmqSnYyiA4E>. An avid runner and boxer, he intends to go back to academic medicine and practice in the ICU after he obtains his degrees.

**Daniel B. Clark, DO** (PM'95), joined Cleveland Clinic's Regional Anesthesiology staff in March.



**Robert J. Dimeff, MD**

**Robert J. Dimeff, MD** (PC/SM'90), a member of the Orthopaedic Surgery Department at Cleveland Clinic, became President of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine (AMSSM) at

the organization's annual meeting in March. The AMSSM has more than 1,300 members and is the largest organization of Primary Care Sports Medicine physicians in the world.

**Sophia J. Fountis, DO** (IM/PD'90), of Scottsdale, AZ, was selected via a peer-review survey of 5,000 Phoenix Valley physicians for *Phoenix Magazine's* Top Docs in 2008 in the field of Adult and Pediatric Bariatrics. Her listing appears in the Top Doctors 2008 issue of *Phoenix Magazine* (Vol. 43, No. 5).



**Michael M. Fountis, DC, Sophia Fountis, DO, and daughter, Mary, 14 years old** this July.

**Neil H. Hyman, MD** (CRS'90), Professor of Surgery; Chief, Division of General Surgery and Director, Vermont Colorectal Cancer Project, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, along with former Colon and Rectal Surgery fellows **Walter E. Longo, MD, MBA, FACS, FASCR** (CRS'91), Professor and Vice-Chairman; Chief, Section of Gastrointestinal Surgery; Director of Colon and Rectal Surgery and Program Director in Surgery, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, and **Scott A. Strong, MD** (CRS'92), Chief of Staff, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE; Program Director, Cleveland Clinic Colorectal Surgery, and Staff, Department of Pathobiology, Lerner Research

Institute, spoke at the 31st Annual Association of VA Surgeons Annual Symposia on "Minimizing Risk in Colon and Rectal Surgery" in Little Rock, AK, in May.

**Anil K. Jain, MD** (IM'98), an internist and the Managing Director of eResearch, eCleveland Clinic, has been appointed to serve on the State of Ohio Health Information Partnership Advisory Board. A member of Cleveland Clinic's medical staff since 1999, Dr. Jain has implemented technology strategies to leverage the electronic medical record in facilitating research at Cleveland Clinic. As a member of the board established by Gov. Ted Strickland last fall, Dr. Jain will help identify ways to improve the flow of information between patients and healthcare providers. As a group, the Health Information Partnership Advisory Board will work to develop a business plan and strategy for the adoption of health information technology. This plan will serve as a guide for legislative and regulatory activity, increasing federal funding and addressing privacy and security issues. The board includes two members each from the Ohio House and Senate, and Gov. Strickland will appoint additional panel members from the Ohio Health Information Security and Privacy Collaboration Steering Committee, in addition to other public and private sector representatives.

**Toni L. Johnson, MD** (P'95), was awarded the American Psychiatric Association Jeanne Spurlock, MD Minority Fellowship Achievement Award at the Annual Meeting of the APA in Washington, DC, in May 2008. Dr. Johnson was an APA Fellow during her residency at Cleveland Clinic. The award honors an alumnus of the program for outstanding contributions to psychiatry and the fellowship program. Dr. Johnson is director of Psychiatric Emergency Services at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland and an instructor at Case Western Reserve University.

**Walter E. Longo, MD** (CRS'91). See Neil H. Hyman, MD, above.

**Richard A. Prayson, MD** (ACLPTH'93), staff member in the Department of Anatomic Pathology at Cleveland Clinic, has been awarded the 2008 Arthur Purdy Stout Annual Prize, which recognizes a surgical pathologist under the age of 45 for career achievements and innovation in research.

**Anil K. Ram, MD** (S'87, IM'90), is in private practice with Gastroenterology Associates in Crystal

River, FL. He spent the summer of 2007 in a medical mission in San Jose, Costa Rica, with his wife, Veena, and daughters, Lakshmi and Aarthi. He writes, "We went via the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) to a pediatric clinic in Alajuela. It was an eventful experience in the greenest country that we have ever seen." Staying with a local family gave them a true flavor of a Central American country. "We hope to continue doing this in the future," he adds. For more information on FIMRC, visit [www.firmc.org](http://www.firmc.org).



**Family of Anil Ram, MD**

**Ali A. Rizvi, MD** (IM'93), is Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Columbia, SC. He also holds the A. T. Chalk Endowed Chair and Professorship in Diabetes Care and Research, awarded in 2007. He writes, "We have established a Diabetes Unit and are active in the teaching of students, residents and endocrine fellows." He adds, "The excellent training at Cleveland Clinic prepared me well for a career in academic medicine."

**Ralph M. Rosato, MD** (PL/RS'92), has been appointed to The Florida State University College of Medicine as a Clinical Assistant Professor. He will be teaching third and fourth year medical students at The Rosato Plastic Surgery Center in Vero Beach, FL, where he is medical director.

**Joseph (Joe) F. Sabik, III, MD** (TS'96), is credited with helping the American Association of Thoracic Surgery develop online learning material about off-pump cardiac surgeries. He started performing the procedure, which allows the patient's heart to continue to beat while surgeons work on it, 10 years ago, when it was new in the United States. Dr. Sabik estimates that half of the bypass surgeries he does today are off-pump, which offers several advantages to using a heart-lung

## Contacts (continued)

machine that circulates the patient's blood through a machine before returning it to the body. These advantages include decreased recovery time and negative impact on the patient, including infection risk, mini-strokes due to loose plaque, decreased kidney or lung function and "pump-head," a mental fogginess that can last for days, weeks or even months. Dr. Sabik says that for some younger patients who do not have other diseases, on-pump surgery can offer the greatest benefits, but for older patients who may also have lung or kidney problems, off-pump surgery may be better. The procedure is considered less invasive and with an increasingly aging and active population, a viable alternative for patients with access to facilities that offer a full range of patient-appropriate options. See also the announcement of his new Cleveland Clinic appointment, page 7.

**Scott A. Strong, MD** (CRS'92), See Neil H. Hyman, MD, above.

**R. Matthew Walsh, MD** (S'91), Cleveland Clinic general surgeon, along with Alan Lichtin, MD, Hematologic Oncology and Blood Disorders, received the Kaiser-Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award, presented by Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Students vote on award nominees for the Outstanding Basic Sciences and Clinical Educators of the Year awards.

*Our apologies to:*

**Joseph D. Varley, MD** (P'91), who was incorrectly listed with the first name of "John" in the Fall 2007 issue of *Alumni Connection*. Dr. Varley, a psychiatrist at Summa Health System, Akron, was reported at that time as having been named as the first holder of the *Jim and Vanita Oelschlager Endowed Chair in Psychiatry and Behavioral Health*, made possible by a \$1.5 million gift by Mr. and Mrs. Oelschlager. Dr. Varley is involved in a national Mind Brain Consortium, a research program to incorporate neuroscience into clinical practice. Under that consortium, he is conducting clinical trials to determine if there is a drug that can treat multiple sclerosis. Mr. Oelschlager, who is founder and CEO of investment firm Oak Associates, and his wife also support the Oak Clinic for Multiple Sclerosis Treatment in Green, OH, which is where they met Dr. Varley. Mr. Oelschlager has multiple sclerosis.

## | OOs |

**Maher A. Abbas, MD, FACS, FASCRS** (FCRS'03), was appointed chair of the Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery at Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles. Previously he was Chair of Education. A 1994 graduate of Stanford Medical School, he completed his Colorectal Surgery Fellowship at Cleveland Clinic Florida. He and his wife, Randa, have two children, Celina and Karim.



Maher Abbas, MD family

**Anwar Ahmed, MD** (N/MD'01), formerly Associate Professor of Neurology at the Barrow Neurologic Institute and the Muhammad Ali Parkinson's Disease Foundation, Phoenix, re-joined Cleveland Clinic's staff in the Center for Neurological Restoration in March. He previously served as a Clinical Associate after training through Dec. 31, 2004.

**Deepak L. Bhatt, MD** (CARD'99, CARDIN'01), has been appointed Chief of Cardiology in the VA Boston Healthcare System and Director of the Integrated Cardiovascular Intervention Program at Brigham and Women's Hospital and the VA system, effective July 1, 2008. Dr. Bhatt also joins the faculty of medicine in the Harvard Medical School and the TIMI group as a senior investigator. Dr. Bhatt previously was Associate Director of the Cardiovascular Coordinating Center at Cleveland Clinic. He hopes to step up research collaboration between Cleveland Clinic and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Bhatt, who received his medical degree from Cornell University in New York, got his bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is completing a master's degree in public health at Harvard. "It seemed like a terrific opportunity for me, both on a professional level and on a personal level. Both my wife and I have family in the Boston area," Dr. Bhatt says. He also considers it "an incredible honor" to have been re-

cruited to work with Drs. Eugene Brauwald, Joseph Loscalzo and Peter Libby. "I have had a wonderful time at Cleveland Clinic. It is a fantastic place, and I would have been happy to retire there," he adds.

**J. David Burkhardt, MD, FACC** (CARD/E'04), was announced as Chief Medical Officer of Stereotaxis, Inc., a company specializing in robotic navigation for various electrophysiology and interventional procedures in January. Board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Medicine and Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology, he received his bachelor's and medical degrees from the University of Louisville. After graduation, he received special training in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Medicine and spent two years in specialized Cardiac Electrophysiology training at Cleveland Clinic under Andrea Natale, MD. After completing his training, he accepted a staff position at Cleveland Clinic in Cardiovascular Medicine as an Electrophysiologist and, in 2005, was appointed Associate Program Director for the Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology Fellowship program at Cleveland Clinic through 2007. His specialties include remote navigation, new technology assessment and optimization of cardiac resynchronization therapy. He has authored or co-authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications, 10 book chapters and 100 abstracts, and has presented at numerous national and international professional meetings.

**Bipan Chand, MD** (SP'97, S'02, S/FE'03), of Cleveland Clinic's Bariatric and Metabolic Institute, brought 20 students from North Allegheny (PA) High School's Gifted Program into his operating room through a live, two-way interactive video conference in February. Dr. Chand, who performed a laparoscopic gastric bypass procedure, explained what he and his team were doing and welcomed questions. Following the procedure, the students, all of whom have an interest in healthcare professions, learned about various careers. Cleveland Clinic's Anuradha Dayal, MD, Robert Gray, ATC, Maureen Palmer, RN, BSN, CRRN, MBA, Cari Cristiani, PharmD, RPh, and Scott Marlow, RRT, discussed how they chose their careers, their educational paths, what they love about their jobs and their daily responsibilities. The students' response? "Awesome!" Distance learning activities and the accompanying classroom curriculums are one of many programs created by the Office of Civic Education Initiatives. For more information, visit [www.clevelandclinic.org/CivicEducation](http://www.clevelandclinic.org/CivicEducation).

**Michael B. Cossoy, MD, FRCP(C)** (RES/N'06), is assistant professor in the Section of Neurology at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada. Previously he was in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**Jennifer Margarita Cuellar Rodriguez, MD** (ID'08). See **Siriorn Paritpokee Watcharananan, MD**, 00s, below.



**Dr. Cuellar, right, with Robin Avery, MD, Infectious Disease Department Section Head for Transplant Infectious Disease**

**Thomas J. Dresing, MD** (CARD'00, CARD/E'02), has been appointed Medical Director of Cleveland Clinic's new Central Monitoring Unit (CMU), which is possibly the nation's largest remote monitoring unit. Opened in September 2007, it has been likened to "air traffic control" for the hospital. The CMU has a capacity to monitor more than 1,000 patients' heart rates and rhythms as well as other vital signs from a remote location. The Central Monitoring Unit is located on Cleveland Clinic's Administrative Campus in Beachwood. Dr. Dresing believes it will benefit both patients and nurses alike, noting, "The size of our hospital, our patient volume and case complexity requires that we continue to evaluate how we can effectively improve patient safety and outcomes, while providing our nurses with the support they need to deliver optimal care." Kelly Hancock, RN, MSN, Director of Heart Center, Division of Nursing, agrees adding, "The CMU will give our nurses a second set of eyes, which is important given the pace and demand of caring for these patients." The inpatient nursing staff will continue to have primary responsibility for patient monitoring; this is designed to be a back-up. Monitoring of surgical, medical and cardiology patients located on the main campus will be done by trained Monitor Technicians at the remote location. Initial monitoring will include regular nursing floors only, with the addition of specialty care areas in the future. Molly Loy, RN, MSN, Nurse Manager of the CMU, notes, "The Central Monitoring Unit is another example of

Cleveland Clinic utilizing technology in an innovative way to improve patient safety."

**Pedro F. Escobar, MD** (GYN/ON'03, S/BD'04, GYN/ON'06), joined Cleveland Clinic's staff in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology on July 1, 2008.



**Dr. Pedro and Wanda Escoba**

**Jeff M. Hsing, MD** (IM'06), completed his cardiology fellowship at Stanford University and is doing an electrophysiology fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston.

**Dilara Seyidova Khoshknabi, MD** (RESHOPM'07), who came from her homeland of Azerbaijan, in western Asia, eight years ago for a Cleveland Clinic medical research fellowship, was proud to be in attendance to witness a Cleveland ethnic tradition — the dedication of a cultural garden of Rockefeller Park in University Circle in May. When the white canvas fell away, a giant stainless-steel bowl shimmered on the wet green grass. She and her husband, Mohammad, now call Cleveland home. "I feel like it's a piece of my land here in Cleveland," she says. The 8-ton, mirror-like bowl is meant to evoke several facets of Azerbaijan culture, including the flames that famously flare from the nation's natural gas deposits and the welcoming nature of a people at the crossroads of Europe and Asia. According to Plain Dealer reporter Robert L. Smith, "The Cleveland Cultural Gardens have bestowed that gift of belonging upon generations of immigrants, often people from small, emerging nations who badly want the world to know who they are. The moments of recognition do not come as often anymore. But Monday's ceremony proved that the 92-year-old garden chain still stirs emotion and pride." Nearly 100 people attended the dedication of the Azerbaijan Cultural Garden, including Azerbaijan's ambassador to America and its deputy foreign minister. "We're pretty new, only 16 years old, and we would like the world to know us," Ambassador Yashar Aliyev says.

"Two Azerbaijan television news crews — one based in Toronto and the other from Washington, DC — covered the scene for viewers back in Azerbaijan, an oil-rich nation of 8 million people on the Caspian Sea," writes Smith. Fellow alumnus, **George P. Parras, MD** (S'86), former president of the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation, welcomed the Azerbaijanis to Cleveland's ethnic mosaic and to a garden chain designed to promote peace and tolerance. It was on a snowy day in 2004 that Sculptor Khanlar Gasimov walked for hours through Rockefeller Park to finally choose a particular triangular patch of grass for the creation he calls "Hearth."



**David Lardizabal, MD, receives an award for his dedication to telehealth from John Heard, PhD, and Celia Hagan.**

**David Veloso Lardizabal, MD** (EEG'01, IMP'02, N'05), of Kirksville, MO, has been using telemedicine to provide neurological consultation for community hospitals within northeast Missouri. "I think this is a good tool to provide specialist care in the rural hospitals," he says. He is an assistant professor of Neurobehavioral Science at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and a board-certified neurologist from the Northeast Regional Specialty Groups' Neurological Center of Northeast Missouri in Kirksville. He recently received the Telehealth Network Provider of the Year 2008 award for Northeast Missouri. The award was presented during a conference at A.T. Still University (ATSU). He was acknowledged for his continued dedication in using telehealth as a delivery system for his services and for various types of educational programs. He also was commended for his willingness to engage in telehealth equipment trials and his ongoing enthusiasm for the multiple benefits of telehealth.

**Michael P. Macken, MD** (N'98, NPHY'00), has been appointed Assistant Professor of Neurology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago. Previously, he was Assistant Professor of Neurology at Loyola University Medical Center.

## Contacts (continued)

**Dewey Y. McWhirter, III, MD** (SLPM'07), is practicing with Sleep Associates of East Tennessee/Baptist Sleep Center, Knoxville, TN.

**Joshua S. Miller, DO** (IM'00), was named Medical Director of Cleveland Clinic's Strongsville Family Health and Surgery Center, effective March 1. A graduate of the Ohio College of Osteopathic Medicine, he joined Cleveland Clinic as an Internist in July 2000.

**Marco Roffi, MD** (CARDIN'01), is Director of Interventional Cardiology at University Hospital in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Robert A. Schweikert, MD** (CARD'98, CARD/E'00), left his post at Cleveland Clinic to take over as leader of Akron General Medical Center's heart program on March 10. An Akron native, he succeeds George Litman, MD, who stepped down after 35 years as Akron General's Chief of Cardiology and will continue to serve as Chief Emeritus for Cardiology and Director of Cardiology Education, as well as Chairman of Internal Medicine and Professor of Medicine at the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy.



**Amol Soin, MD**

**Amol Soin, MD** (PM'07), opened two pain management clinics in Dayton in February. He expects to open a third Ohio Pain Center in north Dayton next year and has expectations of expanding into

Columbus and Cincinnati within five to 10 years. Besides completing advanced medical training, he is completing a master's of business administration degree through the University of Tennessee. Dr. Soin relishes integrating a clinical focus with business approaches and intends to borrow freely from manufacturing and global business in developing his enterprise. "The business of medicine is unlike anything else we do," he remarks.

**Siriorn Paritpokee Watcharananan, MD** (ID'04, MB'05), of Bangkok, Thailand, along with Cleveland Clinic staff **Belinda Yen-Lieberman, PhD** (RES'78), Clinical Pathology and Immunology, and

Robin Avery, MD, are continuing to write up some projects begun during Dr. Paritpokee's fellowships. Later in 2008, Dr. Paritpokee will host fellow alumnae, **Jennifer Cuellar, MD** (ID'08), when she visits Thailand to spend time in the Department of Tropical Medicine at Mahidol University with Dr. Watcharananan.



**Dr. Watcharananan and husband, Ittirat, with sons, Arthur, age 3, and Andrew, age 4 months.**

**Susan E. Williams, MD, MS, RD, CNSP, CCD** (NT/S'07), received the "Young Investigator Award" from The International Society for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD) for her abstract titled *Severe Metabolic Bone Disease in a 76-year-old Woman Thirty-Three Years after Bariatric Surgery*. The award, which includes a \$1,000 cash award supported by Merck and a certificate, was presented at the ISCD's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon on March 14 in San Francisco.



**Dr. Williams and her award-winning abstract**

**J. Michael de Ungria, MD** (AN'00), was named the 2008 recipient of the Giorgio G. Zanettin Colleague of the Year Award during the Cleveland Clinic Department of General Anesthesiology's annual retreat. Staff member D. John Doyle, MD, was runner-up. Staff were asked to describe colleagues and why they thought they should win the award. Dr. de Ungria was described as compassion-

ate, approachable, innovative and hard working. This award honors those from the Department of General Anesthesiology who serve as role models for compassionate care, show collegiality and have a career commitment to Cleveland Clinic. It is a memorial to the late **Giorgio G. Zanettin, MD** (AN'73), former Section Head, Urologic Anesthesia, at Cleveland Clinic.

### | Retired & Former Staff |

**Salvatore J. Esposito, DDS**, recently received the Andrew Ackerman Award from the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics for his contributions to the field. Dr. Esposito, whose career includes practicing prosthodontics, implant and maxillofacial prosthetics, is past Chairman of the Department of Dentistry at Cleveland Clinic, where he served from July 1982 until his retirement on Dec. 31, 2005.

**Michael A. Levine, MD, FAAP, FACP**, former Chairman and staff member of Pediatrics at Cleveland Clinic (2003 to 2008), is now director of the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He holds the Lester Baker Chair and has an academic appointment as professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He is organizing a multi-disciplinary Center for Metabolic Bone Diseases and has begun to establish collaborative relationships with members of the scientific and research communities at CHOP and Penn. He wrote, "I enjoyed my five years in Cleveland, and now have moved on to re-focus my academic interests. It is a sweet irony to return now to Philadelphia, where I began my medical career as a young medical student over 30 years ago!"

**Andrea Natale, MD**, an internationally known expert in abnormal heart rhythms and a former Cleveland Clinic staff physician (July 1999 to September 2007) has been named Executive Medical Director of the Heart Arrhythmia Program at St. David's HealthCare, a large health system in Austin, TX. Recruited by Texas Cardiac Arrhythmia, affiliated with St. David's, he will collaborate with Stanford University and Sutter Pacific Heart Centers in California and also will see Northeast Ohio patients who cannot travel, at Akron General and MetroHealth medical centers.



## Lerner Students Receive Awards/Scholarships

Seven students from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University received year-long research project awards from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute-National Institutes of Health (HHMI-NIH) Research Scholars Program award, known as the “Cloisters” – only 42 of which were given this year:

**Kevin Blaine** (Class of 2010)

**Patrick Blake** (Class of 2010)

**Ayush Batra** (Class of 2011)

**Caitlin Hicks** (Class of 2011)

**Dean Wang** (Class of 2011)

**David Ly** (Class of 2010), who received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Research Training Program. His research project and principal investigator will be determined.

**Priya Malik** (Class of 2011), who was awarded a Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Research Training Fellowship. She will spend her year working with Jonathan Smith, PhD, at Lerner Research Institute.

Three students from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University received Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship awards:

**Lyndsey Benson** (Class of 2010) will be working at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy with Phil Darney, MD, and Jody Steinauer, MD, MAS, and the rest of the OBGYN/family planning team.

**Jessica Knight-Perry** (Class of 2011) will be working with Joshua Field, MD, at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

**Michael Liu** (Class of 2011) will be working with Thalachallour Mohanakumar, PhD, at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

Six Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University students received 2008 Academy of Medicine Education Foundation scholarships: **Amir Durrani**, **Jason Robertson** and **Aaron Viny** (class of 2009); **Craig Jarrett** (class of 2010); and **Rachel Roth** (class of 2011).

### | Future Alumni |

**William “Bill” H. Montgomery, MD**, a Spine Surgery Clinical Fellow in Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Spine Health who is serving a tour of duty in Iraq, emailed his colleagues back home early in April with a simple request: “Who can I contact to see if Cleveland Clinic would be willing to donate one or two wheelchairs?” He went on to explain that he had treated two patients – a 17-year-old with severe leg injuries and a 15-year-old girl shot

by insurgents who stormed her home, killed her father and brother, and wounded her mother – and both needed wheelchairs. Montgomery’s request moved quickly up the ladder and landed with Paul Miklovich, Clinical Engineer in Operations. Within 24 hours, Dr. Montgomery received news that three wheelchairs were on their way to Iraq, a shipment coordinated by Lori Sampsel, Patient Transportation. In Montgomery’s excited reply email, he said a new patient had arrived that day with severe leg injuries and would need the third wheelchair.

This act of generosity, says Center for Spine Health Administrator Kathy Huffman, has spurred ongoing efforts to bring wheelchairs to those in need.

### | In Memoriam |

*Man can find meaning in life only through devoting himself to society.*

~ Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

**Edwin R. Fisher, MD** (LMED’51), 84, of Shadyside, PA, formerly of Squirrel Hill, PA, died March 13, 2008, in Florida. A pathologist, Dr. Fisher’s contributions influenced the treatment of thousands of patients with breast cancer in the United States and abroad. He served on the board of eight medical and pathologic journals. He received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1948 and, as an accomplished baseball player, passed on a contract to play for the Cincinnati Reds, feeling that a career in baseball was limited compared to a career as a doctor with a lifetime commitment of service to others. During his long career, he served the National Institutes of Health and its Cancer Center in Bethesda, MD, the University of Pittsburgh Medical School, the Oakland VA Hospital, Shadyside Hospital and Allegheny General Hospital. He married Carole Levy prior to joining the staff of Cleveland Clinic in 1953. His 23 years of service to Shadyside Hospital were honored with the naming of the Edwin R. Fisher Institute of Pathology in 1993. He still maintained an office at Allegheny General Hospital, reading slides. He is survived by his wife, Carole, two daughters, Marjorie (Alan) Baum and Abbe (Michael) Anolik, brother, Dr. Bernard (Shirley) Fisher, and three grandchildren. Services were held March 16, 2008, at Ralph Schugar Chapel in Shadyside with entombment in Beth Shalom Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice.

**Hilda C. Marks**, 64, cherished wife and best friend of Kenneth E. Marks, MD (GL-1’71, ORS’75), Cleveland Clinic Department of Orthopaedic Surgery’s retired Chairman and consultant staff, died April 4, 2008, just nine days shy of her 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. Born April 13, 1943, in Cleveland to Dr. Peter and Irene Knusli, she also leaves two daughters, Caroline and Kristin Marks; sister, Louisa (Gregory) Rutman; and niece, Pearl Heckman. She devoted herself to her family, her dogs and her Chautauqua (NY). Memorial services were held April 11, 2008, at the Federated Church, 76 Bell St., Chagrin Falls, OH.

## Contacts (continued)

**Richard N. Matzen, MD**, 79, retired founding chairman of the Department of Preventative Medicine (Oct. 1, 1982, to Oct. 31, 1992), died Feb. 24, 2008, at the Hospice of the Western Reserve in Cleveland. He was born July 30, 1928, in Plainfield, NJ, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Matzen also chaired Cleveland Clinic's Executive Health Program and helped to advance the area of Preventive Medicine at Cleveland Clinic, according to **Richard S. Lang, MD, MPH** (GL-1'80, IM'82), Chair of Preventive Medicine and Vice Chairman of the Wellness Institute. Drs. Lang and Matzen served together as co-editors of a major textbook in preventive medicine, "Clinical Preventive Medicine," published in 1993. The book, which serves as a guideline in preventive medicine for all clinicians and includes how doctors can help patients maintain health and prevent disease, is in its third edition.

Dr. Matzen wrote scores of articles for journals on preventive, pulmonary and aviation medicines. He examined airline pilots as part of the Executive Health Program and researched and wrote articles geared toward the health of pilots, and the health aspects of passengers who may have had a fear of flying because of a history of heart problems or strokes. He also wrote in-depth articles about medical patients developing blood clots when they fly and sit for a long time. Dr. Matzen joined the Caylor-Nickel Clinic Hospital in Bluffton, IN, in 1960, serving as chairman of the department of pulmonary medicine and then as section chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine, 1977 to 1982, when he joined Cleveland Clinic. He was the recipient of the American Lung Association of Indiana's Outstanding Achievement in Promoting Lung Health award. Dr. Matzen is survived by his wife of 23 years, E. Patricia (nee O'Toole) and four daughters and one son, Prudence M. Rembado (Jorge), Cincinnati, OH; Annie A. King (Brad), Cincinnati, OH; Richard N. Matzen, Jr., Santa Clarita, CA; Patricia A. Domenico, Denver, CO; and Katherine D. Doherty; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Contributions suggested to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119. Private services were held with interment at All Souls Cemetery.

**Efrain Montesinos, MD** (TS'74), 70, of Key Biscayne, FL, and formerly of South Toledo and Maumee, OH, a retired cardiovascular surgeon who led humanitarian medical missions to his native Peru, died Dec. 28, 2007, at his home,

having been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in March. A graduate of the San Fernando School of Medicine in Lima, Peru, he completed his Thoracic and Cardiovascular surgical training at Cleveland Clinic and practiced for 20 years in Toledo, OH, at both Toledo Hospital and the Medical College of Ohio. He retired from active practice in 1996 and was named as a Professor of Surgery Emeritus at the Medical College of Ohio. His retirement was focused on providing medical care to the underserved in Peru.

Born in Apurimac, Peru, a sparsely populated Andean area, he was an active member of the Peruvian American Medical Society (PAMS) and was instrumental in organizing the PAMS medical mission program. With his wife, Maria, as co-director, the first medical mission was undertaken in Arequipa, Peru, in 1995. Since then, PAMS has sponsored more than 75 missions to many underserved areas in Peru. In 1999, Dr. and Mrs. Montesinos started a Cardiothoracic Surgery program at Dos de Mayo Hospital in Lima, a 132-year-old hospital for the poorest of the poor. Nearly 70 percent of the 28,000,000 Peruvians do not have health insurance. The Montesinos' cardiothoracic program was the first of its kind for this Peruvian population. In the eight years of the program, 2,439 surgeries were performed. The husband-wife team was very effective in acquiring necessary equipment for the program, with Maria coordinating the supplies and medications needed for each case, working with patients, families and the hospital to ensure things went smoothly.

In addition to performing many life-saving surgeries, Dr. Montesinos also started a residency program that will ensure his work will continue. Thomas W. Gallagher, MD, FACEP, wrote that Dr. Montesinos recruited many people for his medical missions. He and his wife are now veterans of a combined 50-plus missions. Several Toledoans have participated as well as doctors, nurses, pharmacists, biomedical techs and students of various medical fields.

The Discovery Channel interviewed Dr. Montesinos in June 2006 about "Programa de Cirugia de Torax y Cardiovascular" (PCTCV), an assistance program for indigent patients that has its origins in the medical mission work of the Montesinoses, under the umbrella of PAMS. Programa de Cirugia de Torax y Cardiovascular, translates: "Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Program," was founded Nov.

30, 1998, and performed its first operation on Feb. 11, 1999. Learn more about it at [www.pctcv.com](http://www.pctcv.com). Dr. Montesinos loved to exercise and play soccer, run and ride his bicycle throughout his life, and played in a men's soccer league with other South American physicians while he lived in Toledo. He helped to found the Maumee Youth Soccer League while he lived in the Toledo area, and coached his son's youth soccer team. In Florida, even while he was undergoing treatment for cancer, he would regularly attend his grandson's soccer games and "assist" the coaches on the sidelines, his daughter, Maria Richter, says. In addition to his wife, Maria Cristina Montesinos, Dr. Montesinos is survived by his four children, Efrain (Efi), Maria Cecelia (Donald) Richter, Maria Claudia and Susana Maria; and two grandchildren. A Memorial Mass was held April 26, 2008, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Toledo.

The family seeks support from any individuals or educational institutions interested in continuing the goal of improving the quality of Peruvian medical students' education and knowledge of advanced techniques through cross-national collaboration and training. For additional information, contact Maria Montesinos at [maria@aresco.com](mailto:maria@aresco.com).

**John L. "Jack" Porter, MD** (DR'60), 77, passed away on Dec. 11, 2006. Born Jan. 21, 1929, he received his medical degree in Chicago in 1954. Retired from Central Radiology consultants in Chagrin Falls, OH, he lived in Fort Myers Beach, FL. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Loretta (nee Baker) and seven of his eight children, Mary Porter; Jack E. (Lisa), Farmington Hills, MI; Catherine Porter (Paul Wack), Chicago; Michael (Colleen Jones), Columbus, OH; Anne Porter-Quinn (James), Alsit, IL; Christopher (Rosalyn), Alexandria, VA; Leonie Braun (Donald) and John Gragnani, Oakland, CA, husband of daughter Elizabeth Porter (deceased); 13 grandchildren; and four brothers, Dr. Thomas Porter, the Hon. James Porter, Robert Porter, MD, and Gerald Porter, JD. Contributions to the Jennings Center for Older Adults, 10204 Granger Road, Garfield Heights, OH, 44125; Womankind, 5400 Transportation Blvd., Garfield Heights, OH 44125, or a charity of choice are appreciated. A Funeral Mass was held Dec. 16, 2007, at St. Paschal Baylon Church, followed by interment at Lake View Cemetery.

**Harry F. Singleton, MD** (IM'52), 86, of Oklahoma City, OK, died peacefully on Dec. 30, 2007, with

his family at his side, following a brief illness. He was born Nov. 28, 1921, and received his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine in 1946. Upon completion of an externship at Research Hospital, Kansas City, KS, he had a residency at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City followed by training at Cleveland Clinic. He loved the practice of medicine and looked forward to his daily office and hospital rounds, considering his patients to be his closest friends and more like an extended family. He was honored on Dec. 13, 2007, by St. Anthony Hospital for his 55 years of service. He was board-certified in Internal Medicine and a member of The Doctor's Dinner Club, The Academy of Medicine and the Men's Dinner Club, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, where he served as an Elder, Deacon and Trustee. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Dorothy, and son, Harry Jr., and two granddaughters. His son wrote, "Dad spoke fondly of his time at Cleveland Clinic and considered the fellowship vital in his successful career. Dad practiced until five weeks before his passing and had over 450 patients." It was Dr.

Singleton's wish that any contributions be sent to the Presbyterian Urban Mission, 3737 N. Portland Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73112, an organization that provides food and clothing for the needy and after-school tutoring programs for children, or to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4400 N. Shartel Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73118. A celebration of his life, and his incredible kindness and caring as a true servant of mankind, was held Jan. 4, 2008, at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Stanford D. Splitter, MD (IM'50)**, 88, of Oakland, CA, passed away on Oct. 20, 2007. Born Jan. 19, 1919, in Ellsworth County, KS, he married Janet Stoltenberg on Dec. 11, 1943. He received his medical degree from the University of Kansas Medical School in 1944 and interned at the University of Kansas Hospital. After a residency at the University of Chicago Hospital, he spent two years in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He was a resident in pathology at the Washington University Hospital in St. Louis, MO. After his two years at Cleveland Clinic, he started a medical practice

in Berkeley, CA, in 1950. He was certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Splitter also was a research fellow at the Metabolic Institute in Oakland, CA, until 1968. He served as president of the Alameda County Heart Association for one year. He retired from practice in 1991. He is survived by his wife, Janet Splitter, who wrote that "Stan greatly valued his two years as a fellow at Cleveland Clinic." Memorials may be made to the City Commons Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704, or to the American Heart Association, 526 17<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94612.

**Correction with apologies** to the Family of C. Charles Welch, MD, and in appreciation to Jennifer M. McBride, PhD, Director of Histology and Assistant Professor of Surgery, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, for pointing out that former staff member Dr. Welch graduated from high school in Brookings in South Dakota, not North Dakota, as printed in the last issue of *Alumni Connection*.

## Please Keep in Contact

Cleveland Clinic Alumni Relations wants to stay on top of significant changes in your life. Have you moved? Taken on a teaching position? Received an academic promotion or professional recognition of some sort? Decided to retire? Have an interesting hobby or avocation you'd like to

share? Your former Cleveland Clinic colleagues really want to know what you are up to. Please take a few moments to complete this coupon so that we can keep them informed via "Contacts" (page 18 of this issue).

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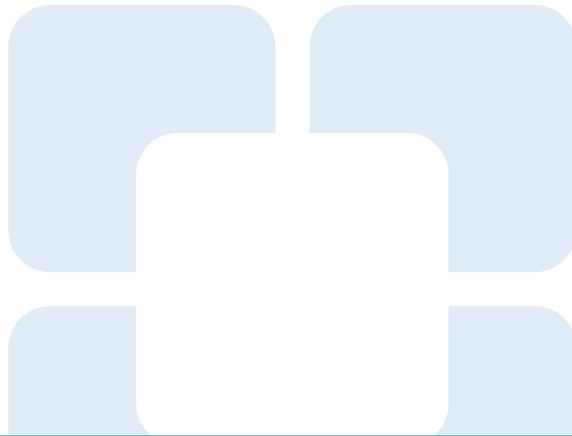
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Watch your mail and future issues of Cleveland Clinic *Alumni Connection* for details.

### Cleveland Clinic Alumni Connection

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