

CLASS NOTES

Alumni: Update your classmates

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Class Notes, *Medicine at Michigan*, 301 E. Liberty St., Suite 400, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2251; frostm@umich.edu; or submit online at www.medicineatmichigan.org/classnotes.

1950s



Frederick M. Kapetansky (M.D. 1957) was presented with the 2005 Excellence in Teaching Award from the Department of Ophthalmology at Ohio State University. The award, presented last June, is based in part upon student evaluations and peer reviews. Kapetansky has been clinical professor in the department for 44 years. Though he resides in Columbus, Ohio, and has a son attending medical school at OSU, he would like his fellow U-M alumni to know he still says, "Go Blue!"

1970s



Walter C. Willett (M.D. 1970) has been selected to receive the 25th annual Bristol-Myers Squibb/Mead Johnson "Freedom to Discover" Award for Distinguished Achievement in Nutrition Research. Willett is chairman of the Department of Nutrition and

Fredrick John Stare Professor of Epidemiology and Nutrition at the Harvard School of Public Health, and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. He received the award in recognition of his development of large studies and methods to assess dietary intake in large populations. This work led to the discovery of significant relationships between nutrition and chronic diseases, including cancers, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. He resides in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Barbara J. Gruebel, M.D. (Fellowship 1979), was selected by the Consumer's Research Council of America as one of America's Top Physicians for 2004-05. After completing her American Lung Association Fellowship in Pulmonary Medicine at the U-M in 1979, she was recognized by the American College of Chest Physicians as one of



The Young Pulmonary Physicians of the Future. She served as a clinical associate professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center (1979-93) and as co-director of pulmonary services at Methodist Medical Center (1980-93), both in Dallas. Gruebel

has received the American Medal of Honor for Teaching Abroad (2001) and the International Peace Prize for Lecturing Abroad (2002). She has also lectured at the International Conference on Women's Health in Beijing, and has been recognized in *Who's Who in Medicine and Health Care* (1990-present), *International Who's Who of Women* (1992), and *Women's Inner Circle of Achievement* (1992). She now lectures in the Nacogdoches, Texas, area and supports the arts and performing arts, civic leadership, and community volunteer leadership (including programs for underserved populations and camps for chronically ill children). Gruebel may be reached at bjgruebel@cox.net.

1990s



Rajabrata Sarkar (M.D. 1990, Ph.D. 1995, Fellowship 1999) was named the 2005 Wylie Scholar in Academic Vascular Surgery by the Pacific Vascular Research Foundation, a San Francisco-based, non-profit organization that supports medical-scientific

research and public education about vascular dis-

ease. Sarkar is assistant professor of surgery at the University of California — San Francisco School of Medicine and staff surgeon at the UCSF Medical Center and the San Francisco VA Hospital. The award includes a \$150,000 grant for the continuation of Sarkar's independent scientific investigations focused on post-thrombotic syndrome and the role of key proteins in the healing of veins. Sarkar is married with two children and lives in Burlingame, California.



Hyung Tai Kim, M.D. (Residency 1995), in April was appointed vice president of research and development for Ascension Health, a Catholic non-profit health system based in St. Louis, Missouri, that serves 20 states and the District of Columbia. In this

role, Kim provides oversight and leadership to internal research resources, strategic partners, and external organizations. Previously, he served as vice president of clinical practice leadership at Thomson Medstat. Kim resides in Ann Arbor.

Lives Lived



James E. Lutz (M.D. 1960) of Redlands, California, died on January 8, 2005 at the age of 69. Lutz practiced internal medicine in the San Bernardino area for 40 years. During his career he served as president of the San Bernardino Foundation for Medical Care and of ➤

M Pulse

E-news to keep alumni informed

Go to the Alumni Directory at www.medicineatmichigan.org/alumni to add or update your e-mail address, or contact Chris Anne McCartney in the Office of Medical Development and Alumni Relations at chrisam@umich.edu or (734) 998-7584.

the San Bernardino Community Hospital medical staff, and served on the hospital's board of directors.

Rodney Pacifico (M.D. 1997) died on August 28 at his home in Ann Arbor after battling cancer. He was 33. Born in New York, New York, Pacifico graduated near the top of his class from Clarkstown North High School, where he was a star member of the track team and field squad. He then completed the seven-year Inteflex medical program at the U-M in 1997. While at the U-M, Pacifico met



Edda Toting, a nursing student, and they married in 1999. Pacifico completed his internal medicine residency in Wisconsin, and a gastroenterology fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. He then returned to Ann Arbor in 2003 to accept an attending position at University Hospital. In July of that year, Edda gave birth to their twin daughters, Alexa and Gabrielle.

Elsie Belle Nessia Panlilio (M.D. 1948) died in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 22 after a brief illness. She was 87. Originally from Valladolid, Occidental Negros, Philippines, Panlilio received her bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of the Philippines in 1938 before coming to the U-M, where she received a master's in 1943 prior to her medical studies. She then returned to the



Philippines and taught chemistry at her alma mater for seven years before settling permanently in the U.S. in 1955. After starting a family, she returned to her career in 1962 and completed her residency in pathology at Albany Medical Center in New York, then taught pathology there for more than 20 years, retiring in 1987 as professor emeritus. In 2004 she moved to Atlanta to be closer to one of her two daughters.

R. James Russell, M.D. (Residency 1967), of Atlanta, Georgia, died on August 17, 2004, at the age of 75.

Donald H. Ter Keurst (M.D. 1957), 72, of Rockford, Michigan, died on September 10, 2004, after a long illness. He was a graduate of Christian High School and Calvin College, as well as of the U-M Medical School. Ter Keurst served in the Army and was a pediatric physician in Grand Rapids and Grandville for many years.



John Morgan Thompson, M.D. (Residency 1956), of St. Petersburg, Florida, died on July 21. He was 81. Thompson received his master's degree from Tulane University in 1946, his M.D. from Johns Hopkins in 1948, and completed his neurological surgery residency at the U-M in 1955. Early in his career, he taught briefly at Johns Hopkins and at Michigan,

then returned to his native Florida where he practiced from 1956 until his retirement in 1991. From 1971-86, Thompson served as clinical associate professor of neurosurgery at the University of South Florida School of Medicine in Tampa, and as clinical professor there from 1986 until his death. He staffed the neurosurgical clinic and trained neurosurgical residents at Tampa General Hospital from 1993 to 2005, and was a member of the staffs of several other Florida hospitals during his career. He served in the Navy from 1943-46, and from 1950-52.



Billy J. Tucker (M.D. 1962) died on April 28 at Lake Taylor Transitional Care Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia, after a two-year illness. He was 73. Tucker attended Michigan State University as an undergraduate, and studied briefly at the Sorbonne in France during service in the Air Force. When he returned to the U.S., Tucker completed his medical degree at the U-M, married Cecelia Taliaferro, and moved to Virginia where he opened a private practice in family medicine. Tucker was involved in numerous civic and political activities, and was a member of the Norfolk Medical Society, the Old Dominion Medical Society, the National Medical Association and the Norfolk Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Donald F. Woomer (M.D. 1955) died on March 24 at the age of 75. Born in Detroit, Woomer graduated from Wayne State University in 1951, received his M.D. at the University of Michigan in 1955, and completed his internship at Harper Hospital (Detroit) in 1956. He was a flight surgeon in the Air Force in Frankfurt, Germany, from 1956-58, attaining the rank of captain. In 1961 he completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Saginaw General Hospital in Michigan, and then moved to Eugene, Oregon, where he founded Women's Medical Services, was an associate staff member at Sacred Heart Hospital, and served on the board of directors of Planned Parenthood. Woomer enjoyed fishing, symphony music, and wine.

Henry Naoki Yokoyama (M.D. 1955), 81, died on February 2, 2005. Born in Honolulu, Yokoyama was a Military Intelligence Service veteran and former editor of the *Hawaii Medical Journal*. [M](#)

Coming Back to Medicine at Michigan

REUNION 2005

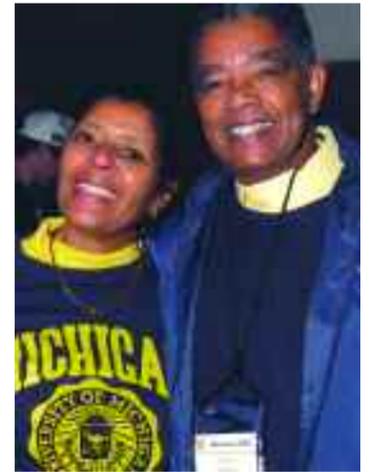
The University of Michigan Medical School held its annual reunion activities October 7-8 for graduating classes ending in "0" and "5," all those who earned their degrees prior to 1955, and all those who completed their residencies, fellowships or doctorates in any year.

Combining awards, class dinners and Michigan football on Saturday afternoon, the two-day program was packed with activities enjoyed by alumni and their families, despite Michigan's loss to Minnesota, 23-20. This year's reunion featured bus tours of new construction that is changing the face of the medical campus. The Biomedical Science Research Building (scheduled for opening in February 2006), Cardiovascular Center, Depression Center, and the sites for expansion of the Kellogg Eye Center and of a new C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospital were all part of the tour's itinerary.

In conjunction with Reunion weekend, the Medical Center Alumni Society (MCAS) held its annual board meeting and elected three new board members: Steven E. Newman (M.D. 1970, Residency 1974, Fellowship 1976), from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; Lonnie Joe Jr. (M.D. 1978), from Farmington Hills, Michigan; and James C. Hayes (M.D. 1977), from Atlanta, Georgia. Past President V. Elayne Arterbery (M.D. 1988) welcomed James E. Wasco (M.D. 1966) as MCAS president for 2005-06, and Clifford L. Craig (M.D. 1969) was elected president for 2006-07. [M](#)



Mike Mickelson (M.D. 1980) and Linda Mickelson



Dolores Caffey-Fleming and Arthur Fleming (M.D. 1965)



Dean Lichter (center) with alumni and friends at the Reunion tailgate

New MCAS Board Members



Newman



Joe



Hayes



Wasco
(President 2005-06)



Craig
(President-elect)



Arterbery
(Past President)

[Visit www.medicineatmichigan.org/magazine](#) for more photos from Reunion.

‘Where the Future Is Happening’

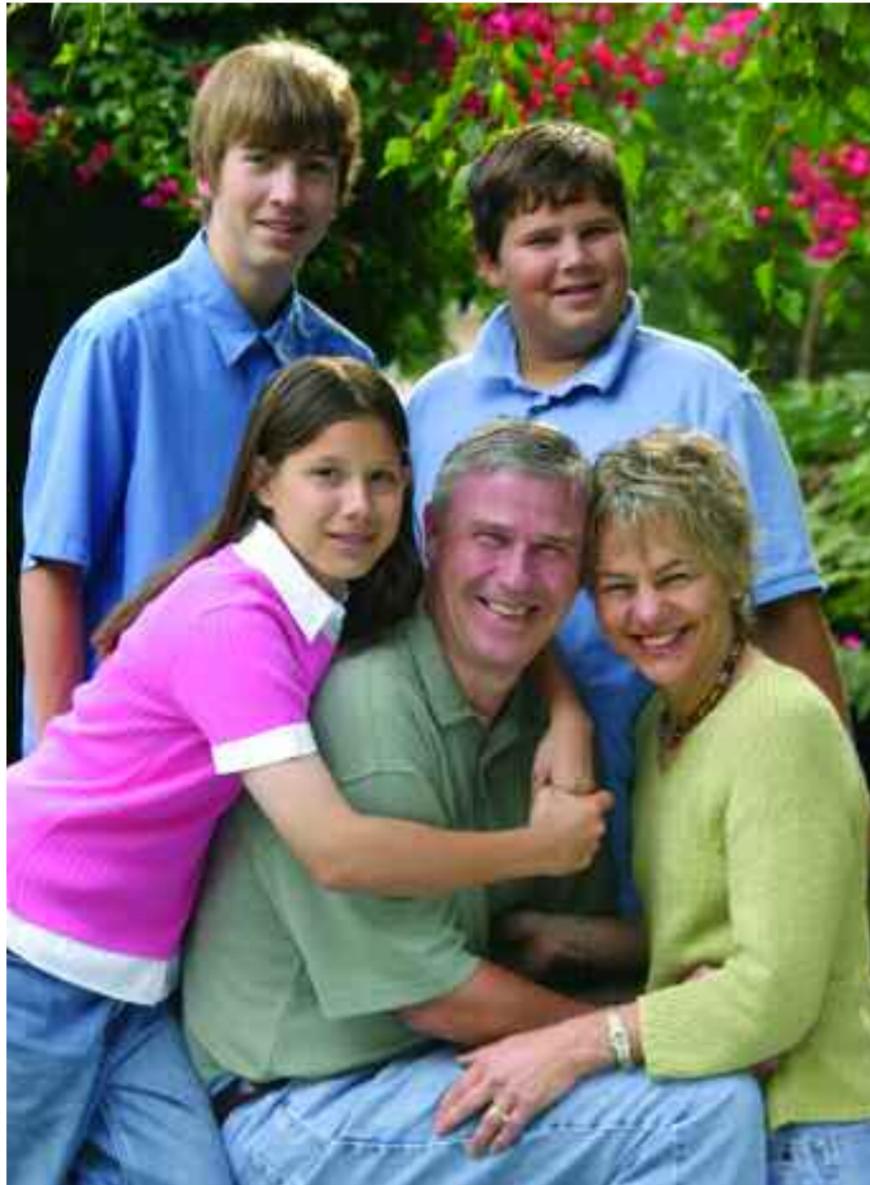
ALUMNA JAMIE BAKER KNAUSS PRACTICES PEDIATRICS IN CALIFORNIA — AND MAINTAINS HER MICHIGAN TIES

Caring for society’s youngest members has been a life mission for Jamie Baker Knauss (M.D. 1981), a pediatrician in private practice in Pasadena, California, for 20 years who, with her husband, Robert Knauss, has four children ages 11 to 22.

Born the oldest of four in Enid, Oklahoma, Knauss spent most of her childhood first in Ada, Michigan, then Ann Arbor. It was a close family, Knauss says. “My mother poured a lot of intelligence and care into raising us, and my father encouraged us to pursue careers that would challenge us and let us provide for ourselves financially.” He also encouraged his daughters to consider careers beyond those traditionally considered suitable for women, she says.

Knauss met her future husband when both attended Ann Arbor’s Pioneer High School. They parted ways for college, but reunited at the U-M, where Robert was attending law school. The two married in Jamie’s third year of medical school, then after graduation lived in Washington, D.C., for a year, where Robert clerked for the late Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist — along with current Chief Justice John G. Roberts. The two former clerks have remained friends over the years, and the Knausses attended Judge Roberts’ swearing-in ceremony as Chief Justice in September.

After their stint in the nation’s capital, Jamie matched at UCLA, and Robert found work at the law firm Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP in Los Angeles, where he is now a corporate partner. Knauss completed her residency at UCLA in 1984, and was an adjunct professor there for two more years before joining her practice. California has been good to the Knauss family, and Jamie says she has enjoyed serving a diverse community: She calls the state “a place where the future is happening.”



The Knauss Family (clockwise from bottom right): Jamie, Robert, Kate, Kyle and Matt. (Not pictured: John, who is attending Hamilton College in Clinton, New York.)

Photo: Kelsey Edwards

Knauss received a bachelor’s in English at Vanderbilt University before earning her master’s in English at Michigan. “English and medicine were the two careers I was interested in. Luckily, Michigan was looking for people with broad interests,” she says. “My class was very broad and diverse.” She points out that the U-M continues to fill its medical school with students who have more than just great MCATs and grades: depth of personality and character is also an important qualification.

It was the pediatricians Knauss met at the U-M C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital who inspired her to pursue her specialty, she says. “They were positive, encouraging and very involved with their patients, and I felt very comfortable with them,” she says. “Robert Kelch was chairman of pediatrics at the time, and he was very approachable and ready to help with practical suggestions of career choices. He was especially supportive of women.”

Since the U-M’s Galens Medical Society is dedicated to improving the welfare of kids in Washtenaw County, Knauss was a natural to be involved in it. This impulse toward service continues today. One of the numerous hospital and community boards on which Knauss serves is that of an innovative organization called Young and Healthy, which brings together volunteer health providers to serve uninsured Pasadena school children. Knauss has been a volunteer physician there for 10 years. One of its founders is her fellow U-M alumna Shelby Dietrich Rector (M.D. 1949, Residencies 1950 and 1951).

At Michigan, Knauss forged close bonds with many of her classmates. She and her medical school friends traveled together, and she recalls learning how to camp in sub-zero-degree weather from her “Upper Peninsula friends.” And she was voted the class speaker for commencement. “That opportunity to high-

“The education Michigan provided was comprehensive and confidence-giving and when I started my residency, I realized how well prepared I was.”

light our years together as students and anticipate our future as physicians was a huge privilege,” Knauss says.

The Rose Bowl has been a fairly regular supplement to the other means by which she keeps in touch with fellow alumni. “Michigan has been out to Pasadena many times in the 20 years we’ve lived here,” she points out.

Knauss also maintains ties to her Michigan past through the Medical Center Alumni Society (MCAS), which she has served as president, working to strengthen regional ties among medical alumni and emphasizing the opportunity alumni have to give to scholarship support. She says, “The real motivation is that, through all the levels of my education, it’s medical school that I feel most grateful for — that opportunity to study for four years in the company of distinctive students and professors. The education Michigan provided was comprehensive and confidence-giving, and when I started my residency, I realized how well prepared I was. U-M medical students say the same thing now. I think that motivates a lot of the alumni who are involved with MCAS.”

When she was in high school, her friend and church group advisor, David G. Dickinson (M.D.

1945, Residency 1950), talked with Knauss about pursuing pediatrics. “He had run the polio unit at Michigan in the ‘50s, and practiced primary care pediatrics for many years there,” she says. When Knauss joined the MCAS board over six years ago, she experienced a wonderful illustration of the lifelong allegiance Michigan alumni feel to their community: “Dr. Dickinson was there to welcome me, still supporting Michigan even after his retirement.”

In her two-decade career so far, Jamie Baker Knauss reports that she has most enjoyed and is most thankful for “the many long-term relationships with families, being there for the long haul with them through the ups and the downs: first-child anxiety ... minor illnesses ... significant chronic illness ... graduations ... going off to college, choosing a career — truly birth-to-death issues.”

Asked what makes her proudest, she hesitates, then says, “I guess I do take extra delight in a number of my patients, most of them women, who have investigated or chosen pediatrics as a profession.”

—SS