

W E L C O M E



James M. Dougherty, MD, FACEP

Welcome to the summer 2007 edition of *Alumni On Call*. This is an exciting time of year because of the recent NRMP match, as well as all of the upcoming events associated with resident graduation. In addition, this is a special year as the Calhoun Research Lab

celebrates its 20th anniversary, and Akron General celebrates the 50th anniversary of sponsoring resident "Fun Day," in which the medical staff hosts residents for a day of fun activities at a local country club.

Just as medicine is evolving rapidly, so is the medical education environment at Akron General and throughout Northeast Ohio. We continue to offer excellent rotations for many medical students who come to us through our affiliation as a major teaching hospital with NEOUCOM and also for other regional and national medical students. We are most pleased to announce three successful accreditation visits in which our General Surgery, OB/Gyn, and our NEOUCOM-sponsored residency program in Psychiatry all received full re-accreditation status. In addition, Akron General also received a full five-year accreditation designation as a sponsoring institution for these residency programs.

Seven graduating residents from last year's class have chosen to stay and practice within the Akron General Health System, representing almost twenty percent of the graduating class. Their decision to stay and practice in our health system will enhance the health and lives of our patients and community and serves as testimony that the "Akron General family" really does exist.

Please enjoy this issue of *Alumni On Call*. We hope that it will spark your interest in reconnecting with Akron General. As always, feel free to contact us with suggestions, stories or just to let us know how you are and what you are doing.

Sincerely,
James M. Dougherty, MD, FACEP
Chairman, Medical Education and Research
EM Class of 1979

CRAFT Training Program Enhances Medical Education

The Clinical Rotations and Future Training (CRAFT) program at Akron General allows medical students early exposure to Akron General and its academic programs. Students spend eight weeks during the summer between their first and second year of medical school rotating through various clinical departments. It is an excellent opportunity for medical students to experience the outstanding medical education that occurs at Akron General. The third CRAFT program will occur Summer 2007. Read on for feedback from past CRAFT participants:

"My first impression of those who worked there was of Energizer bunnies. It seemed that these doctors would get there and then run non-stop until it was time to go home. It was amazing to me how they could have 10, 12 or more patients at a time and still remember who was who. Furthermore, they were able to remember to see everyone."

– Jill Alexander, NEOUCOM

"My experience in family medicine was a very positive one. My previous experiences shadowing in family medicine did not come close to showing me what family medicine was all about. After this week I could really see how family medicine would be a very rewarding practice to pursue."

– Christopher Fridrich, NEOUCOM

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SPOTLIGHT ON Orthopaedic Program Director



Mark C. Leeson, MD, FACS, (Orthopaedics Class of 1983) has only spent one year away from Akron General in 29 years. During that year, from 1983-1984, Dr. Leeson was completing an orthopaedic oncology fellowship at Case Western. Upon receiving this specialized training, he returned to Akron General as the Education and Research Director (1984-1993) and has been the Orthopaedics Residency Program Director and Chairman

of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery since 1993. He is also Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Chairman of Orthopaedics at NEOUCOM.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Kevin Derus, MD

If you've met him, you'll remember. If you haven't, you'll want to meet Kevin Derus, MD (EM Class of 1985).

By the time Dr. Derus began his Emergency Medicine residency at Akron General, he had been the lead singer and front man for Axle Grease, a Madison, Wisconsin-based band, for nearly ten years. So when he met Scott McDonough and Mark Krueger, both second-year EM residents, the formation of rock band Ectopic Rhythms was inevitable. With the addition of two more residents, the band was complete. Ectopic Rhythms became an instant success and established a large fan base in the Akron area, with performances on the rooftop of local restaurant Tangier and other local venues.



In addition to rocking during residency, Dr. Derus met Akron General nurse and future wife Vicki. Following residency, the two married and returned to Wisconsin. "It was definitely a challenge leaving the familiarity of Akron General and the comfort of always having an attending with you," says Dr. Derus. "I started a contract with two other physicians, and the three of us literally worked or were on call 24 hours a day – and we were the attendings!" Dr. Derus continued with this for six years, and is now part of an emergency medicine group serving Aurora Health Care, the largest private employer in Wisconsin with one hospital and five urgent care facilities.

As for his music? Axle Grease is still going strong, and Ectopic Rhythms even gathered for a reunion in Akron several years ago. Dr. Derus shares, "One of the highlights of our reunion in Akron was not only getting to see the area again and catch up with faculty, but to really rekindle the strong personal relationships we had formed – and spend time with physicians out of the medical setting. Quite possibly my fondest memory is when Dan Schelble got on stage – wig, eyelashes, earrings and all – and sang 'Johnny Be Good.' I couldn't ask for better mentors or memories from my time in Akron."

Dr. Derus and Vicki live in Hartland, WI, with their two sons, Nate, 14, and Nick, 12. Dr. Derus can be reached at kevin.derus@aurora.org.



George Litman, MD

In 2006, Akron General opened the doors of its \$16.4-million, 60,000-square-foot Heart & Vascular Center – a proud moment not only for the organization and community, but especially for George Litman, MD, medical director of the facility at its opening.

Dr. Litman began focusing solely on the development of the Heart & Vascular Center in 2002, at which time he discontinued his practice. "It was my passion and my goal to help create a center with the best mix of medical and technical expertise for treating cardiac and vascular disease," shares Dr. Litman. "Circulatory, nervous and vascular system diseases are much more related than previously thought – and Akron General acknowledged that all these medical specialties needed combined into one center. What we now have is the area's finest center for heart and blood vessel disease."



Dr. Litman isn't stopping there. Early this year, Dr. Litman stepped down as medical director of the Heart & Vascular Center and continues as Chief of Cardiology at Akron General. He was most recently appointed chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM), with which he has been affiliated since 1975. As chair, Dr. Litman will oversee the education, research and service priorities of the department, serve as a liaison between NEOUCOM's internal medicine faculty across all clinical campuses and play a key role in the leadership of the institution.

**Wondering whatever happened
to one of your
admired faculty members?**

Drop an email to asouth@agmc.org and we'll try to find out for you! Who knows, we may even feature them in *Alumni On Call*.

WHY I CAME BACK . . .

Richard Salvino, MD

He may be a life-long resident of Canton, Ohio, but being close to home is not the only reason Richard Salvino, MD, (IM Class of 2001) returned to Akron General after over five years. "Having spent my residency years at Akron General, then experiencing other facilities, I knew what was out there and what I wanted to come back to," shares Dr. Salvino. "To come back – that was a no-brainer."

Following residency at Akron General, Dr. Salvino completed fellowships in Clinical Nutrition and Gastroenterology at MetroHealth in Cleveland, and then moved on to a practice in Canton. He maintained relationships from his residency, including staying in touch with Akron General Gastroenterologist Martin Shill, MD. So when presented with the opportunity to join Dr. Shill and The Gastroenterology Group, Inc., Dr. Salvino welcomed the chance to rejoin the Akron General team.



"It's not just the familiarity of the facility and employees – it's the quality of the physicians and the teaching staff, as well as the chance to now be part of that staff," explains Dr. Salvino. "In addition, Akron General has some of the most physician-friendly amenities and support services. I couldn't be happier to be back."

Dr. Salvino is now part of the internal medicine teaching faculty and The Gastroenterology Group, Inc., which includes Dr. Shill, Scott Fulton, MD, and Reynaldo Gacad, MD.

Graduation Ceremony & Dinner

Over 200 people attended the 2007 Senior Resident Graduation Ceremony & Dinner on June 9 at the Radisson City Center. Eight "Golden Apple/Teacher of the Year" awards were presented, and Allister Stone, DO, received the honor of "Betty Dalton Resident of the Year." Paul Lecat, MD, chief of staff, served as Master of Ceremony.



Eric Jenison, MD, with graduates Meghan Foote, DO, and Angela Rouse-Scharschmidt, MD.



IM Teacher of the Year/Golden Apple award winner Tim Murray, MD, with Chief Resident Jonathan Castro, MD.

JUNE 2007

Fun Day/Post Grad Day

Post-graduation Fun Day 2007 was held June 11 at Fairlawn Country Club. Residents and spouses participated in golf, golf clinics, swimming, tennis and spa services. Pictured are Katy Boyle, DO (PGY2), Jill Zink, MD (PGY1), and Joan Dolinak, MD (PGY5), in general surgery.



2007 Graduating Residents

Congratulations to the following 2007 award winners and graduates, and best wishes on their future careers.

Golden Apple/ Teacher of the Year

Gregory Danesis, MD (Urology)
Elliot Davidson, MD (FM)
Todd Ivan, MD (Psychiatry)
Robert Marley, MD (GS)
Mary Jo McMullen, MD (EM)
Tim Murray, MD (IM)
Maura K. O'Shea, MD (OB/GYN)
Gregory Vrabec, MD
(Orthopaedics)

Resident Research Awards

BEST PAPER

1st Place –
Andrew Schoenfeld, MD
2nd Place –
Vivek Sahai, MD
3rd Place –
Shane Hopkins, MD

BEST ORAL PRESENTATION

Andrew Schoenfeld, MD

RESEARCH POSTERS

1st Place –
Alison Rozansky, MD
2nd Place –
Angela Rouse Scharschmidt, MD
3rd Place –
Edward Prodanovic, MD

CASE REPORT POSTERS

1st Place –
Eric Gamboa, MD
2nd Place –
Aadesh Sachdeva, MD
2nd Place –
Michael Forney, MD
3rd Place –
Jake Heiney, MD

BREAST FELLOW

**Ravi Jonnalagadda
Kumar, MD**

Breast & Urologic Oncology
Barberton Citizens Hospital
Barberton, OH

EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Shannon Baker, DO

Emergency Medicine
Physicians, Barberton Citizens
Hospital, Barberton, OH

Mark Harris, MD

Team Health Midwest
Southwest General Hospital
Middleburg Heights, OH

Erin Simon, DO

General Emergency Medicine
Specialists, Inc., Akron General
Medical Center, Akron, OH

Allister Stone, DO

Private group practice
Washington State

Karl Wodrich, DO

Private group practice
Aultman Hospital, Canton, OH

Erick Zoumberakis, MD

General Emergency Medicine
Specialists, Inc., Akron General
Medical Center, Akron, OH

FAMILY MEDICINE

Lena Bhargava, MD

Group practice, Heritage Health
Alliance, Cincinnati, OH

Jaspreet Chahal, MD

Group practice
Malton Medical Center
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Imran Nasir, MD

Highlands Family Practice
Louisville, KY

Ruwan Perera, MD

Group practice
Malton Medical Center
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

GENERAL SURGERY/ PLASTICS/PRELIM

Amy Jarvis, MD

2007-08 Locum Tenens,
2008-10 Critical Care Fellowship,
Master's in Public Health

Charudutt Paranjape, MD

2007-08 Surgical Critical Care
Fellowship, Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center, Harvard
Medical School, Boston, MA

Joseph Palumbo, DO

Pursuing career, Erie, PA

Derek Cody, MD

Plastic Surgery Residency, Summa
Health System, Akron, OH

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Jonathan Castro, MD

Chief Resident, Akron General
Medical Center, Akron, OH

Anurag Duggal, MD

Infectious Disease Fellowship,
Cleveland Clinic Foundation,
Cleveland, OH

Idalina Garcia-Javier, MD

Private practice, Cumberland, MD

Dubert Guerrero, MD

Infectious Disease Fellowship,
University Hospitals of
Cleveland, OH

Reynerio Lanoy, MD

Private practice, Skowhegan, ME

Aadesh Sachdeva, MD

Private practice, Akron, OH

Jie Zang, MD

Hospitalist, Parma, OH

INTERNAL MEDICINE/PEDS

Won Kim, MD

Private practice
Orange County, CA

Edward Prodanovic, MD

Dermatology Fellowship
St. Louis University, MO

OB/GYN

Meghan Foote, DO

Medina OB/GYN Associates, Inc.
Medina, OH

Angela Rouse-

Scharschmidt, MD

Women's Health Group, Inc.
Akron, OH

ORTHOPAEDICS

Jake Heiney, MD

San Diego Orthopaedic Trauma
Fellowship, CA

Richard Meredick, MD

Sports Medicine Fellowship,
Taos, NM

Vincent Wake, MD

Spine Surgery Fellowship,
Denver, CO

PRELIMINARY

Michael Forney, MD

Radiology, Cleveland Clinic
Foundation, Cleveland, OH

Richard Hoyt, MD

United States Air Force
Scott Air Force Base, IL

Dedri Ivory, MD

Internal Medicine
Residency Program, Akron General
Medical Center, Akron, OH

Nasir Siddiqui, MD

Radiology, University of
Pittsburgh Medical Center, PA

PSYCHIATRY

Jeffrey Alexander, MD

Portage Path Behavioral Health
Akron, OH

Gina Glenn, MD

Summa Psychiatry Associates,
St. Thomas Hospital, Akron, OH

Todd Wilke, MD

Community Support Services,
Akron, OH

TRANSITIONAL YEAR

Shane Hopkins, MD

Radiation Oncology,
University of Buffalo, NY

Allison Robinette, MD

Radiology Residency, Phoenix, AZ

Eric Schmidlin, MD

Radiology, University of South
Florida, Tampa, FL

Michael Stevenson, MD

United States Air Force
Las Vegas, NV

UROLOGY

Mark Memo, DO

Private practice, NEO Urology
Youngstown, OH

Basir Tareen, MD

Urologic Oncology Fellowship
New York University, NY

CRAFT Training Program Enhances Medical Education continued from page 1

"I began my rotation in OB/GYN with mixed feelings. While I was excited to learn about a unique specialty, I assumed that I would be missing out on the excitement of surgery. However, within the first few minutes in Labor and Delivery, I saw firsthand how greatly surgery and obstetrics are intertwined. A resident talked me through an impressive twin cesarean section. The removal of a piece of cancer-ridden colon or inflamed gallbladder shares little in common with the delicate extrication of a slippery flailing child from its mother's uterus."

– James Cireddu, University of Toledo

SPOTLIGHT ON **Orthopaedic Program Director** continued from page 1

For Dr. Leeson, accepting the position of overseeing the Orthopaedic Residency Program hardly required a second thought. "The residency program at Akron General is absolutely one of the top programs in the country, and as program director I not only get to be part of the intense medical training of 15 orthopaedic residents each year – I get to help them adjust to very long weeks and outside influences and help them balance their lives," explains Dr. Leeson. "To watch these students come in as interns and leave as surgeons is unbelievably rewarding." And these

graduates are not only surgeons; they are some of the best in the country. For the past 15 years, the orthopaedic program graduates have consistently scored in the top 10% in the country on their national orthopaedic in-training examination.

Dr. Leeson balances his life by spending time with his wife of 31 years, Pam, and their two grown children. They enjoy traveling, hiking in Italy, working out, reading, golf and ballroom dance.

Research Lab Celebrates 20 Years

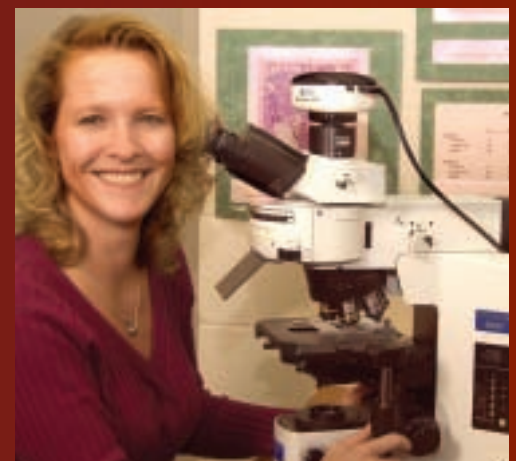
The Akron General Calhoun Research Lab has served as a platform for basic and clinical research for the last 20 years. The endowment for the facility came from Kenneth Calhoun, a truck tire salesman at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. His initial gift to Akron General established the Kenneth Calhoun Research Laboratory in 1987. Today, residents and staff have access to this 10,000-square-foot facility for gaining advanced experience with basic science research to supplement

their understanding of the real life problems that physicians encounter in practicing medicine. The Calhoun Trust continues to support research activities at Akron General by funding projects and purchasing equipment.

Current research activities include:

- Investigating Therapies for the Treatment of Ovarian and Breast Cancer
- Evaluating Circulating Endothelial Stem Cells Among Women
- Experimental Conversion of In Situ to Invasive Cancer
- Testing orthopaedic surgical techniques & implant devices
- Wound healing

For more information about the Kenneth Calhoun Research Laboratory, call 330-344-6947, or visit www.akrongeneral.org under Medical Education & Research.



Akron General Residents Win Competition

The first annual Doctor's Dilemma Medical Jeopardy resident and medical student quiz competition was held recently at Akron General. The Akron General resident team beat the statewide competition to earn the right to represent Ohio in the national competition in April at the American College of Physicians (ACP) annual meeting in San Diego. The Akron General resident team members were Tarek Gharibeh, MD, Reynerio Lanoy, MD, Jie Zang, MD, and Anil Chunduri, MD (alternate). In the medical student portion, NEOUCOM held off Case Western Reserve to take top honors.

Titus Sheers, MD, program director for Internal Medicine, and James Dougherty, MD, chairman of Medical Education & Research, welcomed the event that was held under the auspices of the American College of Physicians and co-sponsored by the Akron General Departments of Medicine, Medical Education and Development Foundation.



Congratulations

Douglas A. Regula, MD, will be inducted into Society of Distinguished Physicians as the 49th Fellow on September 7, 2007. The Society, established in 1979, recognizes members of Akron General's Medical Staff for their outstanding service to Akron General and the community. Honorees are selected by their peers for exemplary patient care, research, medical education and/or community activities. If you would like to attend, or would like to make a gift in honor of Dr. Regula, please call 330-344-6888.

How did we do?

What's new with you?

We'd like to hear from you. Please let us know what you thought of this issue of Alumni On Call. We'd also like to hear about what you're up to! You can email us at asouth@agmc.org or call 1-800-732-2852. Or, if you prefer, you can send a note to: Director, GME Administration, Akron General Medical Center, 400 Wabash Ave., Akron, OH 44307.

Comments: _____

Your name: _____

Specialty & Graduation Year: _____

Contact # or email: _____

Akron General is proud of its commitment to graduate medical education and the residency programs it supports. Over the years alumni have achieved success in private practice, furthering medical research and attained leadership roles in medicine, due in large part to the training received at the "General." We are pleased that Akron General Development Foundation has agreed to once again fund this newsletter to our graduates. We hope you find this format interesting and worthwhile. We hope you will remember Akron General among the charitable organizations you support each year. For information on how you can help continue Akron General's legacy of medical education, call the Foundation at 330-344-6888, or send an email to lblankenSHIP@agmc.org.

ALUMNI SUPPORT

400 Wabash Avenue
Akron, OH 44307-2433

