

# THE CUPOLA



The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center  
Bassett Healthcare Network, Cooperstown, New York

Spring 2013

## Looking Back, Looking Forward

### Family Reunion Slated for Columbus Day Weekend in Cooperstown

The Bassett Medical Alumni Association will mark the 25th anniversary of its inception with a family reunion in Cooperstown on October 11 and 12, 2013. The reunion theme, "Looking Back, Looking Forward," will offer participants a view into the history, the current status and the future of Bassett and its Medical Education programs. Presenters including Bassett alumni from across the U.S., current faculty, residents and medical students will offer insights, recollections, and analysis of the transitions in medical education and its future prospects at Bassett.

In addition, the weekend will offer alumni and their family members opportunities to connect with former classmates, friends and Bassett colleagues. Luncheon and dinner will be included in Saturday's schedule of events. Tours of Bassett facilities and other Cooperstown attractions will be available.

Douglas DeLong, M.D., executive

vice-president of the Alumni Association encourages present and past medical staff, faculty and alumni to participate in this special gathering. According to DeLong, "This will be a wonderful opportunity for those of us who have experienced Bassett's high-quality clinical training to pause and consider our good fortune; and a time to learn about the challenges facing medical education presently."

Furthermore, Dr. DeLong expresses the hope that, "alumni will join in idea-sharing about the future of medical education and explore how together we may ensure its continuance at Bassett."

If you wish to help with this event, please contact Dr. DeLong at [douglas.delong@bassett.org](mailto:douglas.delong@bassett.org)

A schedule of activities, speakers and program information will be sent later this year. See page 3 for more information about visiting Cooperstown. ■

### CEO of Billings Clinic To Deliver Keynote at Reunion

Nationally-recognized healthcare administrator and Bassett alum, who served his internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Bassett Healthcare from 1977-1979, will present the keynote at the 2013 Family Reunion in October. Nicholas Wolter, M.D., is CEO of the Billings Clinic, a fully-integrated health system in central Montana with a 240-physician multispecialty group practice, a 270 bed acute care hospital, multiple regional clinics, and a long-term care facility. Billings Clinic also manages seven critical access hospitals.



Nicholas Wolter, M.D., is CEO of the Billings Clinic

Dr. Wolter is widely known for his service on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) and his frequent public appearances sharing concerns and opinions on healthcare delivery and payment reform.

**CEO to page 7**

## Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

Although spring has only recently arrived, I would like to share my excitement about an event that is coming up this fall at Bassett. It is a Family Reunion celebrating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association. While our primary role is to support and advocate for excellence in medical education at Bassett, this group also fosters networking and camaraderie among alumni. And our upcoming gathering promises to advance those goals.

Several Board members have been hard at work planning a wonderful reunion over Columbus weekend for all Bassett alumni — including past and current interns, residents, students and faculty members. This event will be a great opportunity to become reacquainted with old friends and mentors; to connect with other Bassett alumni and to meet current residents, students and faculty.

Regardless of when you completed your training or



Merideth Davis, M.D.,  
President, Board of Directors,  
Bassett Medical Alumni  
Association

where you are now, this weekend provides an ideal excuse to contact friends and colleagues from your time at Bassett and arrange to meet here. Bring your family along and consider doing some of those activities you could not take time to enjoy while you were here in training such as kayaking on the lake or golfing 18 holes at the Leatherstocking course.

Details regarding specific events will be forthcoming but there will be several social and educational activities for alumni and their families. We hope that the reunion weekend also serves to provide a forum for alumni to consider, discuss and address the challenges and opportunities regarding medical education at Bassett. Please circle October 11 - 12 on your calendars and come to Cooperstown for a lovely fall weekend among friends to celebrate and support Bassett. ■

The *Cupola* is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

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The *Cupola* is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, *The Cupola*, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Healthcare Network, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail <cupola@bassett.org>.

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## Bassett Residents Present Prize-Winning Research.

Bassett internal medicine residents put in quite a performance at the New York Chapter of the American College of Physician meeting in February—walking away with a first prize for research poster and third prize for clinical vignette poster presented. There were 250 poster submissions, only 70 were accepted and out of those 70, eight were from Bassett residents.

The research poster by Nischala Ammannagari, M.D., “Obesity Impairs the Efficacy of Colon Cancer Treatment,” took first prize, and Nitipong Permpalung, M.D., took third prize among clinical vignettes for a poster on “Blastomycosis in Central New York State: A New Endemic Area?” Other poster presenters included:

**Clinical vignette**

- Lymphomatoid granulomatosis: A rare malignancy masquerading as pneumonia by Dr. Nischala Ammannagari
- Gastric sarcoidosis: Rare cause of fever of unknown origin by Dr. Pongsathorn Kue-A-Pai



Award winners, Dr. Nischala Ammannagari and Dr. Nitipong Permpalung.

- A deadly swallow: rare manifestation of achalasia as upper airway obstruction by Dr. Napat Leeaphorn
  - A-a gradient and shunt fraction, a clue to an uncommon cause of dyspnea and idiosyncratic febrile neutropenia associated with quetiapine and levetiracetam by Dr. Supawat Ratanapo
  - Sotalol induced torsades de pointes: one dose is enough by Dr. Daych Chongnarungsin
- “The diseases present in

these clinical vignettes are rare, very difficult to diagnose and manage,” notes Chongnarungsin. “It clearly demonstrates the intelligence of our residents and attending physicians working in this state of the art medical center. The research by Ammannagari will add valuable information to the understanding of colon cancer treatment in patients with obesity and was also accepted for presentation at the American College of Physicians national meeting.” ■



A warm welcome is extended to Columbia-Bassett Class of 2015 who arrived on campus in January. Shown here starting at the bottom row left to right: Dr. Henry Weil, Dr. Walter Franck, Kathleen Breeding, Margaret Dowd, David Chapel, Seth Mathern, Billie Borden, Robert Brickley, Bryan Block, Alana Aylward, Annette Georgia and Adam Hsu.

# Cooperstown Beckons

## Enjoy this Perfect Destination for an Autumn Visit

Take a moment to remember the natural beauty, quaint community and friendly atmosphere of Cooperstown. Bring your spouse and children back for the Family Reunion on Columbus Day weekend 2013. Whether you completed your residency in 1977 or 2000, you will be impressed to find that the community retains its charm. And you will discover that Bassett is not the only institution that has undergone significant change over the past 25 years. Both the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum and Fenimore Art Museum have added extensive exhibition space. Touting that it provides each visitor with a glimpse of what makes baseball special to him or her, the Hall of Fame and Museum draws



At The Farmers' Museum, visitors discover how New Yorkers lived in the 1840s. Artisans demonstrate tradition crafts in original structures such as Bump Tavern shown here. Photo by Richard Walker.

upon its 38,000 artifacts to tell the story of America's pastime.

At Fenimore Art Museum, in addition to permanent exhibitions of American fine art and folk art, the museum also houses an extraordinary collection of American Indian art. In the fall, special exhibits will feature American Indian Robes and Regalia and landscapes by Cooperstown artist Susan Jones Kenyon.

The Farmers' Museum has enriched its visitor experience over the past two decades. On Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13, the museum will host a Tractor Fest featuring classic and modern tractors.

A more recent and very popular addition to the area is Brewery Ommegang

which specializes in the production of Belgian-style ales. Here visitors enjoy tours, tastings, beer sales and food at a farm-style brewery just four miles from the village. Perhaps you will want to make a tee-time at the Leatherstocking Golf Course which remains as spectacular as ever or enjoy a fine meal at The Otesaga Hotel which has undergone renovations and updates in the past decade.

If you are visiting from out of the area, it is a good idea to make your reservation now. Cooperstown offers a wide range of accommodations from luxurious to rustic. For more information about lodging, visit: [www.cooperstownchamber.org](http://www.cooperstownchamber.org)



The Otesaga Resort Hotel provides a spectacular view of Otsego Lake and the challenging Leatherstocking Golf Course.



Fenimore Art Museum offers a rich collection of American art in a beautiful setting. Photo by Todd Kenyon

## Wolter to Join Others to Discuss Healthcare Reform

After delivering the keynote, Dr. Wolter will participate in a panel discussion with Bassett alumni David Pratt, M.D. and Andrew Coates, M.D. who represent different experiences in the field.

Presently, Pratt is a consulting physician with Martin Blanck Associates in Alexandria, Va. Previously he served as Schenectady County Commissioner of Public Health and medical director for the Energy Group of the General Electric for 15 years.

Coates, a hospitalist with Hospital Medicine Physicians of

Samaritan and Medical Director of the Albany County Nursing Home, is president of Physicians for a National Healthcare Program (PNHP). Reunion chair Dr. DeLong expressed the hope that "these and other diverse perspectives will encourage lively discussions and stimulate creative ideas for the future."

Save the dates October 11 and 12, 2013 for this special weekend. A complete schedule of activities, presentations and additional information will be forthcoming.



### "Like" us on Facebook!

See our latest news and updates at [Bassett Medical Alumni Association](#)

# THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming! Editor

## 1960s

**Joel Bamford, M.D.** (*Medicine Resident 1966-68*) wrote to say, "Marilyn and I are on a break to see the Channel Islands. I've just finished a 'Cochrane' of two CAMs in eczema. Next, I am gathering a team to look at interventions for Pityriasis versicolor (formerly Tinea versicolor). The Cochrane Collaboration pursues goals which include transparent evaluation of the best research and present it to patients, practitioners and policy makers in an understandable form. It is a fun worldwide collaboration of 36,000 and you."

## 1970s

**Terry Clark, M.D.** (*Rotating Intern 1971-72*) writes, that after two years in the Public Health Service in Texas, he completed a diagnostic radiology residency at University of Virginia in 1977 and moved to South Carolina where he practiced in the Greenville area for 30 years before retiring in 2007. He adds, "Barb and I have two grown children. We reflect fondly and often upon our time in C'town. We travel and bicycle a bunch and I play tennis. The Cupola is a great way to keep in touch."

**Christopher (Kip) Doran, M.D.** (*Medicine Intern 1973-74*) and his wife Maureen recently returned from 27 months working with the Peace Corps in Botswana, Africa in the fight against HIV/AIDS. For this work and their service to their Alma Mater, Boston College, they jointly received the university's highest honor, the McKenney award in 2011. Now home in Denver, Colo., Kip has humorously chronicled their exploits in "Africa Lite? Boomers in Botswana." The latest of his four books, the second edition of the widely acclaimed "Prescribing Mental Health Medication: The Practitioner's Guide" has been published in London this year and is available for family physicians and trainees at all levels.

**Gary S. Hoffman M.D., M.S.**, (*Rheumatology attending 1974-84*) continues with patient care and research. He wrote to say, "I gave up my position of Chair of Rheumatic and Immunologic Diseases three years ago and have been working officially three days a week. That is, I am paid for three days and am allowed to work up to nine!" His research interests are still restricted to vasculitis, a focus that began 27 years ago at the National Institute of Health. (More specifically he is interested in determinants of disease patterns and organ targeting.) Gary adds, "Diane and I have more time for tennis, travel, photography and following numerous sports in Cleveland. My sons have fond memories of our years in Cooperstown. Matthew is now teaching at New York University and Timothy is an engineer in Gaithersburg, Md. We would love to see friends should they be passing by or wish to make a special trip just to relax and visit."



Patrick A. Dietz, M.D.

**Patrick A. Dietz, M.D.**, an attending vascular surgeon at Bassett Medical Center recently returned from a two-week rotation at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC), located near Kaiserslautern, Germany. While there, he helped care for U.S. military members who needed urgent care after being critically injured in Afghanistan. "This is my second tour at LRMC, working as a volunteer from the Society of Vascular Surgery. As expected, when you volunteer you receive more than you give. I learned a

great deal during Intensive Care Unit rounds, and was impressed by the quality of care provided and expertise of the military physicians. I also brought back some knowledge that would add to my practice as well."

**Carol Beechy, M.D.** (*Medicine Resident 1977-82; attending 1985-present*) reports that she will be retiring from primary care at the end of June, but she will continue to lead the Pain and Palliative care consultation service. She became board certified in Palliative Medicine in the fall of 2012. She adds "Katie Boardman and I got legally married, 30 years after our backyard ceremony."

## 1980s

**Maria Trenga, M.D.** (*Transitional Year Resident 1985-86*) wanted to recommend a book to Bassett community, "The Clarks of Cooperstown: Their Singer Sewing Machine Fortune, Their Great and Influential Art Collections, Their Forty-Year Feud" by Nicholas Fox Weber, which includes many items of historical interest about the village and Edward Clark's role in founding the hospital.



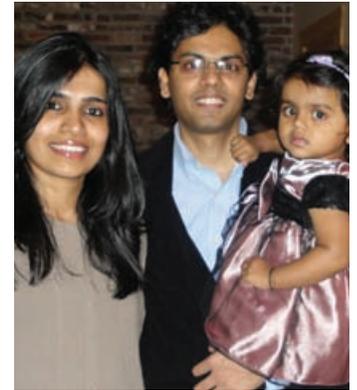
Merle Myerson, M.D., Ed.D.

**Merle Myerson, M.D., Ed.D.** (*Assistant Physician in Research 1988-2001, Attending Physician 2001-2003*) is founder and director of the Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention at St. Luke's and

Roosevelt Hospitals in New York City. She was pleased to share the news that she was named a "Luminary of Heart," by the American Heart Association for the 10th Anniversary of the "Go Red for Women" in recognition of her contribution to the prevention of cardiovascular disease.

## 2000s

### Narasimha Swamy Golloi



Narasimha Swamy Golloi Raju, M.D.

**Raju, M.D.** (*Internal Medicine 2005-08, Chief Resident 2008-09*) was pleased to share this photo of himself and his wife Sriraksha with their daughter Irah. He is presently a hospitalist at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, Maine.



Ken Lin Tai, M.D.

**Ken Lin Tai, M.D., M.P.H.** (*Transitional Year Resident 2008-09*) completed a Preventive Medicine residency at Johns Hopkins

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## Match Results Announced

Bassett recently announced the following postgraduate appointments for the 2013-2014 academic year:

### General Surgery

David A. Fredenberg, M.D., University of Washington School of Medicine;  
Christopher C. Johnson, M.D., University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health;  
Keonna D. Johnson, M.D., University of Illinois College of Medicine;  
Brian E. Walkowski, M.D., St. George's University

### Internal Medicine

Mudassar Ahmad, M.B.,B.S., King Edward Medical College, Pakistan;  
Oneeb Ahmad, M.B.,B.S., Allama Iqbal Medical College, Pakistan;  
Kevin M. Berry, M.D., Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine;  
Sowmya Chidurala, M.B.,B.S., SVS Medical College, India;  
Chetan Dodhia, M.D., St. George's University;  
Kulothungan Gunasekaran, M.B.,B.S., Stanley Medical College, India;  
Minji Kim, M.D., Yeungnam University, Korea;  
Shashank Kotakonda, M.B.,B.S., Andhra Medical College, India;  
Anthony Portanova, M.D., University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry;  
Harish Pulluru, M.B.,B.S., Andhra Medical College, India;  
Ibrahim Sayyid, M.B.,B.S., Allama Iqbal Medical College, Pakistan;  
Abdullah Shahid, M.B.,B.S., King Edward Medical College, Pakistan;  
Dinesh C. Voruganti, M.B.,B.S., Osmania Medical College, India

### Transitional Year

Sharath Bhagavatula, M.D., New York University School of Medicine;  
Kathleen Coggeshall, M.D., University of California-San Francisco, School of Medicine;  
Colin M. Ellis, M.D., Albany Medical College;  
Dan C. Filitis, M.D., Boston University School of Medicine;  
Caitlyn A. Foote, M.D., SUNY-Upstate Medical University;  
S. Amal Hussain, M.D., Weill Cornell Medical College;  
Elaine McElhinny, M.D., SUNY-Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine;  
Brian J. Miller, M.D., Northwestern University The Feinberg School of Medicine;  
Catherine J. Wei, M.D., Ph.D., Boston University School of Medicine

### ALBUM from page 4

University in 2011. She wrote, "I have been back home in Malaysia since then. I now teach public health and community medicine as a faculty member of a local medical school. I am also happy to announce that my fiancé, Christopher and I are planning on getting married later this year. I'd like to share a picture of the two of us during a recent trip to the lovely Singapore Botanic Gardens." ■

David Chapel, a second-year medical student in the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program, is conducting a study to examine potential difficulties in implementing disease prevention guidelines in primary care settings. The study, which is being funded by the Swedish Council for Working Life & Social Research, is being conducted in partnership with a medical university in Umea, Sweden.

Chapel will be gathering survey data from

all primary care providers throughout Bassett Healthcare Network. The survey, which was sent mid-April, should take less than five minutes to complete.

Once survey responses have been gathered, study researchers hope to compare responses from physicians and others in both Umea and Cooperstown to understand how attitudes and the health care environment might facilitate or hinder disease prevention efforts. ■

# reconnect

The Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital presents:

## Reunion Weekend

### October 11 & 12, 2013



Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Medical Alumni Association and spend a glorious weekend in Cooperstown. You'll reconnect with old friends and meet many of our current faculty and residents.

A complete schedule with registration information will be available soon.

**We look forward to seeing you in October.**



Bassett Healthcare Network  
Bassett Medical Center

**To volunteer or ask questions, please contact:**  
Mary Wiswell  
Office of Medical Education  
Ph: 607-547-3764 • email: mary.wiswell@bassett.org

## Columbia-Bassett Student Involved in International Study

# IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

*Alumni: Please send copies of obituaries of former Bassett trainees, faculty or other members of the "Bassett Family" to [cupola@bassett.org](mailto:cupola@bassett.org)*

## **Yong-Min Chi, M.D.**

Dr. Yong-Min Chi, a native South Korean who served alongside American soldiers during the Korean War and who started his medical practice in Cooperstown and Delhi, passed away December 8, 2012 in his Cummaquid, Mass. home. He was 82.

Dr. Chi was born in Korea in 1930 to Chang-Il Chi and Bong-Yi Choi. He grew up during World War II, when Japan occupied Korea. As a boy, he was forced to help build airfields for the Japanese and to speak in Japanese rather than Korean.

Dr. Chi became a captain in the South Korean army and was a top student at the prestigious Seoul National University. He used his excellent English as a translator and liaison between South Korean and American military officers. He first came to the United States as part of his military service, with stops at Fort Sill in Oklahoma and Fort Bliss in Texas.

Dr. Chi moved to the United States in 1954 with the determination to become a physician. He attended Bradley University in Peoria, Ill., and graduated from Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. He was admitted to Columbia University's medical residency program. In 1963, he was assigned to the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown.

While at Bassett Hospital, Dr. Chi met his wife, a nurse Mary Elizabeth Clark. The couple married in 1967. They started his medical practice and their family in Delhi, and then lived briefly in Picayune, Miss. while Dr. Chi taught medicine at Louisiana State and Tulane universities. In 1976, they moved to Athol, Mass., where they raised five children.

Dr. Chi practiced family medicine and general surgery at Athol Memorial Hospital for 25 years, known in town as a highly competent and compassionate caregiver.

Dr. Chi is survived by his wife Mary; daughters, Christine Yong-Hwa Chi, Jennifer Yong-Hee Chi (husband Jason Clinton Glenn); sons, Christopher Yong-Min Chi (wife Vicki Lynn Chi); Jonathan Yong-Hwan Chi (wife Lisa Fisher Chi); Michael Yong-Ahn Chi (wife Margaret Hess Chi); and

many grandchildren. He is also survived by his eight siblings and Elizabeth Chi of Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr. Chi's family requested that donations in his memory be made to Friends of Bassett Healthcare Network and many generous contributions have been sent to honor him.

## **Frederick Allen Hensley, Jr., MD**

Dr. Frederick (Rick) Allen Hensley, Jr., 59, former Anesthesiologist-in-Chief at Bassett Healthcare, passed away on January 14, 2013 in Birmingham, Ala.

Rick Hensley was born on June 26, 1953, in Scranton, Pa., to Frederick and Jeannette Hensley of Peckville, Pa. He was a proud graduate of the University of Scranton and Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine. He completed his residency and fellowship training in anesthesiology at Penn State.

He served as Anesthesiologist-in-Chief at Bassett from 2001 to 2009. In 2010, he was honored by the University of Scranton when he was selected to receive the Frank J. O'Hara Alumni Award for Excellence in Medicine. During his long and distinguished career in clinical, administrative and academic medicine, Dr. Hensley held academic appointments at The University of Alabama, as well as at Columbia, Johns Hopkins, and Penn State Universities. At the time of his death, he was The Benjamin Monroe Carraway Professor and Vice Chair and Division Director of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine.

He held numerous editorial positions and served on boards related to his specialty. He was an elected member of the Association of University Anesthesiologists. Dr. Hensley was a Senior Oral Board Examiner for the American Board of Anesthesiology. He authored and coauthored many publications and was the senior editor for the textbook "A Practical Approach to Cardiac Anesthesia".

Dr. Hensley will be remembered as a gifted and dedicated physician who enriched the lives of everyone who knew him. He had a limitless capacity for friend-



*Frederick Allen Hensley, Jr., M.D.*

ship, a wonderful sense of humor and a dedication to his family and friends which knew no bounds.

He is survived by his wife, Theresa, his daughters, Theresa Jeannette and Jennifer Elizabeth, several nieces and their children. He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Frederick Allen Hensley III.

## **Bruce R. MacDonald, M.D.**

Dr. Bruce Raymond MacDonald, a former attending physician at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, died February 19, 2013, in Schenectady, following a valiant battle with cancer. He was 70.

Born Aug. 12, 1942 in Salem, Mass., Bruce was the son of Raymond and Barbara (Tumulty) MacDonald.

A graduate of Washington and Lee University, he later graduated from the Medical College of Virginia. He served his country for two years in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War and was Chief Medical Officer for Operation Deep Freeze in the Antarctic.

Upon moving to Cooperstown, Dr. MacDonald served as a urologist at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital until retiring in 1994.

He is survived by his daughter, Alexis Upton MacDonald, who is a medical student at St. George's University on the Island of Grenada in the Caribbean. He also leaves behind his companion, Leanne Sweet of Schenectady as well as many good friends and colleagues.

**IN MEMORIAM to page 7**

## IN MEMORIAM from page 6

### Margaret C. Peters

Margaret Campbell Peters, 88, passed away at her home in Cooperstown on March 3, 2013, after a long battle with lung disease. She was wife of Dr. Theodore Peters Jr.

She was born on June 17, 1924, in Chambersburg, Pa. and was raised in Butler, Pa. where she attended high school and was active in music. She graduated from Wilson College in 1945 and was married shortly after. She and Dr. Peters shared a marriage that lasted over 67 years ending only with her death.

They moved to Cooperstown in 1955, where Dr. Peters held the position of Research Biochemist for 33 years and then Research Scientist emeritus at Bassett Hospital until the present.

She loved to travel. They were fortunate enough to visit all 50 of the U.S. states, and 23 countries and lived in Denmark and Western Australia on sabbaticals.

She is survived by her husband; her four children Theodore, James (wife Robin), Melissa (husband Tom Barry) and William (wife Trina); seven grandchildren and five step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and cousins.

### James "Jimmy" Watts

James Watts, a first-year student in the Columbia-Bassett program class of 2016, died March 1, 2013, in an accident while mountain climbing in New Hampshire during spring break.

Lisa Mellman, M.D., senior associate dean for student affairs, and Ron Drusin, M.D., vice dean for education, informed P&S students and faculty of Mr. Watts' death. "With the death of James, known as Jimmy by friends on campus, we grieve the loss of a valued member of our community. Jimmy was a talented student, committed to the care of patients in medically underserved areas. He and his wife shared a love of the outdoors and were active members of their church community."

Survivors include his wife, Cassidy, his parents, James and Rosana Watts of Boise, Idaho, and a sister, Xochitl Watts. ■

## CEO from page 1

Reunion Chair Dr. DeLong encourages alumni to take advantage of this opportunity to meet and hear Dr. Wolter. He adds, "We are so pleased that Nick could join us in Cooperstown for this event. At this critical junction in healthcare we will hear from a major thought-leader in the field who manages one of the nation's model institutions. His perspectives are sure to enlighten and enliven."

Dr. Wolter was recognized by *Modern Healthcare* as one of the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare in 2010 and 2011, and by *Modern Physicians* as one of the 50 Most Influential Physicians in Healthcare in 2011. ■

## Bassett Looks Back and Ahead to October



As we look forward to the Bassett Family Reunion this October, celebrating the 25th anniversary of founding the Bassett Medical Alumni Association, this photo taken on the lawn behind the Otesaga Hotel at the October 1990 meeting of its Board of Directors clearly connotes the enthusiasm for the Association! We trust that all of you will be back for true reunion!

Front row, l to r: Douglas De Long, M.D. Medicine Resident 1979-83, Attending Physician 2000-present; John Davis, M.D. Medical Resident 1956-58; Attending Physician 1964-95, Jacqueline Bello, M.D., Flexible Intern 1980-81; John Chamberlain, M.D. Rotating Intern 1957-58; Back row: Donald Henderson, M.D. Medical Intern 1954-55, Research Fellow 1958-59; Theodore Ruckert, M.D., Rotating Intern 1971-72; Stephen Hannan, M.D., Medicine Resident 1982-85; Thomas Farrell, M.D., Attending Ophthalmologist 1970-82; Philip Dzwonczyk, M.D. Medicine Resident 1979-82, Psychiatry Resident 1982-83.

## Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network

Thinking of a career move? Do you know another physician seeking a position in an award-winning network of six hospitals and 28 regional sites? Consider these openings in Central New York and Cooperstown.

For more information visit:

<http://recruitment.bassett.org/physician-jobs/>

Or call the Medical Staff Affairs office at 607-547-6982

Dermatologist	Internal Medicine (Oneonta, NY)
Emergency Medicine	Internal Medicine - Prime Care
Family Medicine (Delhi, NY)	Medical Director (Herkimer, NY)
Family Medicine (Little Falls, NY)	Neurosurgeon
Family Medicine (Norwich, NY)	Neurosurgery (Division Head)
Family Medicine (Richfield Springs and West Winfield)	OB-GYN
Family Medicine (Sherburne, NY)	Orthopedic Surgeon (Joint)
Family Medicine (Sidney, NY)	Orthopedic Surgeon (Trauma)
Gastroenterologist	Otolaryngology
General Surgery	Physiatry - Intra-Operative Monitoring
Hospitalist	Psychiatrist - Adult (Inpatient)
Internal Medicine or Family Medicine (Cobleskill, NY)	Pulmonologist
Internal Medicine or Family Medicine (Herkimer, NY)	Radiologist
	Urologist

## Scholarships Fuel Medical School Program Success

How do you make it possible for young physicians to choose a career in primary care in a rural area—the need is great, but the financial return makes the commitment difficult, especially for students whose medical-school debt load averages more than \$100,000?

At the Columbia-Bassett Medical School Program, the solution was to take a bottom-line approach: grant students generous scholarships, freeing them to follow what might be a less lucrative career path but one that could have a significant personal payback and have a huge impact on a rural community.

Right now, Bassett Medical Center underwrites the cost of education for all students it accepts into the program, providing \$30,000 in scholarships per year per student. With four classes of ten students each, this support requires an annual outlay of \$1.2 million from the hospital's operational budget.

Over the past year, the Key Bank Foundation and the Hearst Foundation each have awarded the Friends of Bassett generous grants to support scholarships for students enrolled in the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program. But these grants cover only a portion of the costs, and more support is needed.

The Friends of Bassett and the hospital are seeking new ways and donors to fund grants of \$120,000 over four years as individual scholarships.

Michael Stein, Executive Director of the Friends of Bassett, expressed the hope that “these initial grants will give momentum to Bassett’s broader effort to secure support for educational scholarships from other foundations and especially individuals.”

According to Doug DeLong, M.D. and executive vice-president of the Alumni Association, in the coming months, Bassett’s Medical Alumni Association will launch a campaign targeted to fund scholarships for the Columbia-Bassett program. “Those of us who completed our medical studies in decades past had a very different experience than students entering the ranks now,” said Dr. DeLong. “We have a responsibility to look for ways to ensure high-quality well-trained students continue to populate the profession for the future. We can make a significant impact by supporting the Columbia-Bassett program.”

### Bequests and Legacy Gifts Offer Ease and Lasting Impact

In addition to direct contributions, another way that alumni may support student scholarships is through legacy giving such as bequests and deferred gifts. Establishing a legacy gift can be simple and flexible. It can be as easy as naming the Friends of Bassett or the Columbia-Bassett Medical School Program in a will. Other strategies offer advantageous tax benefits and lifetime income today, while creating a contribution for the future. The staff at the Friends of Bassett and their planned giving advisor can help identify giving options that best suit an individual’s needs and aspirations.

One of the easiest methods of making a legacy gift is through the inclusion of a charitable bequest to the Friends of Bassett in a will. Most of us take time to review and update our wills periodically. The next time you change or revise your will in consultation with your attorney you can make a provision donating a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your

estate to Columbia-Bassett Medical School scholarships.

The following language is offered as examples of wording for a bequest in a will.

**For a specific amount:** I give and bequeath to the Friends of Bassett, Cooperstown, New York, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_ dollars to support the Columbia-Bassett Medical School scholarships.

**For a legacy that is a percentage of your estate:** I give and bequeath the sum of \_\_\_\_ percent of my probate estate after the payment of all debts, administrative expenses, funeral expenses, to the Friends of Bassett, Cooperstown, New York, to support the Columbia-Bassett Medical School scholarships.

The staff at the Friends of Bassett can provide suggested language for other types of bequests.

Alumni who wish to support student scholarships either directly or through a legacy gift; or those with ties to foundations supportive of educational programs are encouraged to contact Joshua Truman, ([joshua.truman@bassett.org](mailto:joshua.truman@bassett.org)) Director of Development or Michael Stein, ([michael.stein@bassett.org](mailto:michael.stein@bassett.org)) Vice President of Development and Executive Director at the Friends of Bassett at 607-547-3928. ■

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