

OCTOBER 2019

A Cardiothoracic Icon Crosses the Pond

Joseph S. Bassett, MD

1932-2019



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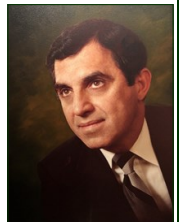
Larry Narkiewicz (WSU/GS 2004/09)

Bruce McIntosh (WSU/GS 1989/94)

Resident Member:

Anna M. Knight (WSUGS 2019)

Dr. Joseph S. Bassett (WSU/GS/TS 1961/66/58) was a lifelong Michigian. Following his elementary education, he attended Adrian College and the University of Michigan where he completed his premedical degrees and then entered the WSUSOM where he graduated in 1961. Following a one-year internship at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, he entered into the general surgical residency at WSU followed by the cardiovascular and thoracic surgery residency, which he finished in 1969.



Joseph Bassett
1932-2019

Dr. Bassett was always known for his gentlemanliness, hard work, patient concern, and collegiality. Quite simply, everybody liked Joe Bassett. Like all surgeons, Joe had a strong ego and was proud of his cognitive and technical skills. During one of the teaching conferences, when one of his colleagues was presenting the history of a patient who had a recurrent hernia, Joe opined that this was due to some type of technical error. When challenged about this statement, Joe made the mistake of saying that he had never had an indirect hernia come back. One of the more mature senior residents in the program, Dr. Bill Matthews, who was a Canadian Airforce Veteran, instituted a humorous plot. He instructed all of the residents in the program to give Joe a call between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning whenever they encountered a patient who had a recurrent hernia following a Bassini repair or an indirect defect. All the surgical residents enjoyed "the game," and this became the order of the day in order to identify some of Joe's patients with a recurrent hernia. The instructions were very clear: Call Dr. Bassett during sleep hours and ask him if he wanted to see this patient of his who had a recurrent hernia. After about a year, Joe stood up at the conference on Saturday morning (when residents still worked on Saturdays) and announced to everyone that he had a patient with a recurrent hernia and to not give him any more calls at 2 o'clock in the morning!



Joe & Anna Bassett

Dr. Bassett had a very distinctive stutter, which stayed with him all his life. He accepted this speech impediment and frequently made fun of it. He often related the story about a time during his residency when he was moonlighting at one of our nearby

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hospitals. Although everybody knew that it was illegal to moonlight, all of the faculty knew that all of the residents did it since the pay at that time for working almost 100 hours per week was about \$8,000/year. Joe was moonlighting one evening at a nearby hospital when he saw a patient in the emergency department who was under the care of Dr. Ernie Berkas, one of the giants of the WSU surgical program. After he related all of the details to Dr. Berkas, Ernie asked him, "Who is this I am talking to?" Knowing that everybody was aware of the order not to moonlight, Joe responded, "Dr. Gon-gon-zales." Whenever Joe would tell this story, everybody would laugh because you could recognize Joe's voice a block away. Of course, Ernie Berkas surely recognized Joe's voice and probably had a good, enjoyable time telling the story to his spouse. 🍂

Following the completion of his residency training, Joe became active in most of the hospitals within southeast Michigan and developed a referral pattern, which allowed him to take in more partners, so that he eventually was the founding member of a corporation that included at least 10 cardiovascular surgeons and became the largest corporation performing more cardiothoracic operations than any other group within the state of Michigan. He was highly respected by his colleagues, who often requested his help when there was an unusually difficult operation that had to be performed. His technical skills became legend.

Joe was also a tremendous supporter of all of the surgical associations within the state of Michigan and served in just about all of the different officer positions. He is survived by Anna, his wife of many years, and will be missed by his many friends and colleagues, especially from Michigan. The following includes samples of comments from his many friends and colleagues.

From Robert Holmes (WSUGS 1983) - I first met Dr. Bassett when I rotated on thoracic surgery at Harper University Hospital during my general surgery residency. Drs. Agustin Arbulu and Joseph Bassett were the senior and lead heart surgeons. They, along with Dr. Zwi Steiger, had a profound influence on me and I decided to pursue a thoracic residency at Yale. I returned to Detroit in 1986 and joined Drs. Arbulu and Ingida Asfaw, thus Joe was my competition. In spite of that, I always had the utmost of respect for him and recognized him as a leader. He was a tireless worker, a gentleman, and very humble. While at Wayne State, he was a great teacher of many fine thoracic surgeons who came out of that program. He build an incredible practice and held together a large group of around ten heart surgeons, which is no easy task. His patients held him in high esteem, some of whom came from the highest strata in Detroit. Quite simply, Dr. Bassett was a giant in his field in all of southeast Michigan (and probably beyond) at a time when cardiac surgery was blossoming and the heart surgeon reigned supreme. He was always very even-keeled and mild-mannered.



Dr. Robert Holmes

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A Cardiothoracic Icon Crosses the Pond, cont..

Joseph S. Bassett, MD

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From Saqib Chaudhry (WSUGS/TS 1978/80) - I was a cardiothoracic resident in 1978-1980 with Dr. Alexander Walt as chairman and Dr. Robert Wilson (WSUGS/TS 1963/65) as program director of thoracic surgery. However, I spent most of my operative time with Joe Bassett. I remember him fondly. He was a consummate, calm gentleman with a soft-spoken demeanor, a twinkle in his eyes, and a friendly smile. I enjoyed Bob Wilson's dynamic forceful academic lectures and rounds, but it was the operative experience that I had with Joe Bassett that made a lasting impression.



Dr. Saqib Chaudhry

I can never forget an incident in the operating room that I still relate to the current surgical residents and students. I started a case for Joe the first thing in the morning, as it was customary for him to relax and sit in the doctor's lounge and have a cup of coffee while we, the residents and thoracic PAs, would prep and start the case. This was an elderly female patient, and I opened the chest uneventfully and started to cannulate her for bypass. As I placed the IVC cannula, I noticed a gush of blood in the pericardium. So we called Dr. Bassett to come into the operating room. He came immediately, stood at the head of the table by anesthesia and calmly said, "What is the matter?" I relayed to him the scenario, and his response was cool, calm, and collected! "Okay, so go ahead and put a stitch and fix it." I politely requested for him to scrub and help me. He said, "Sure" and scrubbed and took care of it without a fuss. To me, it was quite traumatic; for him it was another routine day.



One day, after doing a late tough case, he asked me to join him for dinner at his favorite Greektown Middle Eastern restaurant. I was thrilled to spend quality social time with him and break bread.

May he rest in peace. He will forever live in my heart as one of my exceptional mentors.

From S. Amjad Hussain (WSUGS/TS 1970/72) - Joe Bassett was a few years ahead of me in cardiothoracic training at Wayne State. When I was in my second year, Joe was a junior attending. A few traits stand out. He was one of the most generous attendings I have ever had. It was not unusual for him to see us in the cafeteria line and make sure he paid for our lunch or supper.



Dr. Amjad Hussain

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A Cardiothoracic Icon Crosses the Pond, cont..

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He was also generous with his time. One could engage him anytime and anywhere and, unlike some of the attendings, he made sure the residents working with him got to do the cases. In this regards, he was more like Bob Wilson (WSUGS/TS 1963/65), Gus Arbulu (WSUGS/TS 1961/65), and the late Zwi Steiger. Joe was more like a slightly older brother to us than an attending. He was down-to-earth, easy to talk to, and he was quite knowledgeable. His demeanor inside and outside the operating rooms was the same.

After finishing my training in 1970, I was going back to Pakistan to enter the field of cardiothoracic surgery at my alma mater, the University of Peshawar. At my request, he would have his office mail surgical journals to me in Pakistan. This continued for many years.

William Wordsworth wrote the following lines near the Tintern Abbey. They ring very true of the Joe Bassett I knew: *The best portions of a good man's life—His little nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.*

From Anna M. Ledgerwood (WSUGS 1972) - In May of 1968, I was approached by Dr. Joe Bassett who was completing his residency in cardiothoracic surgery. He inquired as to whether I would like to do an elective on cardiothoracic surgery in the month of June. I was sympathetic towards him because I didn't think it was right for someone of his tenure to have to be drawing blood on his patients. Furthermore, he told me that I could do all of the cases on the cardiothoracic service except the heart cases. I found it to be a great elective, and he was a superb teacher. We had a patient with an upper GI series that showed a filling defect in the middle of the esophagus. We scheduled this patient and did a left thoracotomy and identified this mass, which was easily enucleated and turned out to be a leiomyoma of the esophagus. As we were finishing closure of the thoracotomy, I was feeling quite proud of myself. I asked Dr. Bassett "Why does it take you seven years to learn how to do this?" He responded, "Ju-Ju-Judgment."



Dr. Anna
Ledgerwood

I was interested in learning to do bronchoscopy, which was done with a rigid scope. This required you to anesthetize the patient orally with cocaine. I kept having difficulty being able to pass the scope without the patient coughing and with the patient cooperating.



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A Cardiothoracic Icon Crosses the Pond, cont..

Joseph S. Bassett, MD

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He kept trying to tell me that I needed more sedation. One of the last patients I did was so sedate that he had to be held up by the circulating nurse while I did the local cocaine anesthesia. Once we laid the patient back, I easily passed the scope right through the cords, at which time Dr. Bassett said, "See, see-what did I tell you?" Unfortunately, once we removed the scope, we had to intubate the patient and put the patient on a ventilator in the recovery room as he was not breathing. I did learn there was a happy medium. Dr. Bassett was a superb teacher and a loyal supporter. He always took his interns to dinner at the end of the rotation.



Dr. Harold Gallick (WSU/GS/TS 1982/87/89) - Dr. Bassett was a mentor to countless residents who trained under him at Harper Hospital. He was always a gentleman and never uttered a cross word to anyone, even in the midst of a challenging case or if a postop patient took a turn for the worse. What I learned the most from him was preoperative planning. He knew the literature, understood the needs of each patient, studied their cath films, and tailored the operation accordingly. His cases always went smoothly. If I strayed off course, for example, maybe I started to dissect out a borderline target artery, he would gently say, "Leave that alone. You will only get yourself and the patient in trouble." He was truly a wise and dedicated surgeon who will be missed but never forgotten.



Dr. Harold Gallick

Dr. Bruce Washington (WSU/GS/TS 1982/84): I've known Dr. Bassett for 40 years. I rotated with him during general surgery and then again during cardiothoracic surgery. Dr. Clancy and I were the first junior partners hired. Dr. Clancy died about 4 years ago; he was 6 months ahead of me. Dr. Bassett was born to Flora and Samuel in Blissfield, Michigan, on February 25, 1932. He was a poor farm boy who developed a work ethic that many can only hope for. He had a photographic memory, which helped him achieve great grades in spite of his daily work hours on the farm. He married the love of his life, Ann, on April 5, 1971. She was equally well educated and someone who understood him and who was always there for him. Even after 36- and 48-hour work days, she would be waiting to feed, comfort, and listen to his stories. After general surgery, he trained in the new WSU cardiothoracic residency



Dr. Bruce Washington



A Cardiothoracic Icon Crosses the Pond, cont...

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program. Upon finishing, he accepted privileges at nearly every Detroit metropolitan hospital. He did every aspect of cardiothoracic surgery, including all vascular cases, all cardiac cases, all pulmonary thoracic cases, and even trauma. He eventually settled in to the position he held for 25 years, Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Beaumont Hospital. But even then, he would go to other hospitals when they needed a helping hand. He took care of all patients, indigent and wealthy and even a few Canadians. He treated them all with dignity and respect and gave them the best care possible without consideration of remuneration. Being in private practice, he occasionally received no reimbursement whatsoever. He never received any salary, not even from Beaumont, where he was the Chief for 25 years. During his career, he helped train more than 20 of the WSU cardiothoracic residents at Harper Hospital. He had more than 100 general surgery residents rotate on his service. He put together a group of 13 heart surgeons, many whom he had helped train. He helped position his partners to become chiefs of nearly every major hospital in Metro Detroit. For a while, "Southeast Michigan Cardiothoracic Surgeons" was the largest private group of cardiothoracic surgeons in the U.S. Dr. Bassett had such an easy-going personality that even the stress of 40 years of surgery did not seem to age him. At the age of 84, he could occasionally be found in the OR at Oakwood Hospital, now Beaumont Dearborn, assisting Dr. Washington or Dr. Liakonis in their most complicated cases. Dr. Bassett operated on more than 10,000 patients. Quite frequently someone would stop him at a store, a restaurant, or even a baseball game to thank him for those extra years of life they felt his surgical expertise had given them. At the funeral home, several patients offered condolences, even Mrs. Ilitch and her daughter Lisa came to offer condolences and tell Ann Bassett how grateful Mr. Ilitch had been for the surgery and care Dr. Bassett had given him.

Laurence A. LaGattuta (WSUGS 1967) - Joe Bassett, destined to become a thoracic surgeon. He will be remembered for working in the ER with a rib spreader in his hip pocket.



Dr. Larry
LaGattuta





Alfonso Chiscano, MD—Another Giant Crosses the Pond 1938-2019

Dr. Alfonso Chiscano greeted the world when he was born in 1938 in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain. His early training included the Jesuit School of Madrid and the National Institute of Santa Cruz de Tenerife prior to matriculating at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Barcelona, where he graduated in 1962. Following his graduation, he came to Detroit, where he did his internship and surgical training at WSU. He completed his general surgery training in 1969 when he entered into the WSU cardiothoracic surgery residency program, which he finished in 1971. During his residency, Dr. Chiscano was a workaholic, and when he rotated on the service where the Editor was a senior resident, he would always have the work done before the Editor arrived at the hospital. This stimulated the Editor to come earlier each day, which resulted in him showing up even earlier than usual. When asked why he keeps coming a little bit earlier every day, he responded that it was his responsibility to have all of the “scutwork” done before the chief arrived. After a good laugh, things were worked out so that each had a more logical and pleasant workweek. 🍁



Dr. Alfonso Chiscano
1938-2019

Dr. Chiscano then did a Cardiovascular Fellowship with Dr. Denton Cooley in Houston, Texas. Following this fellowship, he began private practice as a cardiac surgeon in San Antonio, Texas, until his retirement in 2007. Al and his partners have performed over 6000 cardiac operations during his long professional career.

Dr. Chiscano was a tremendous supporter of our department. When the American College of Surgeons Annual Meeting was in San Antonio, he rented a restaurant/bar in order to personally host the WSU surgeons to a wonderful evening of celebration of our common training. As was typical of Al, our chairman, Dr. Walt, was not allowed to pay one penny. This type of generosity was part of his upbringing.

Al had extended his outreach program in the area of medicine and, more particularly, cardiac surgery. He organized the first cardiac surgery unit in the Canary Islands at the University Hospital of Tenerife. He was also an organizer of the “500” years of medicine at the Latin American Medical Congress held in 1992 at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He served to support a painting exhibition sponsored by the Generalitat of Catalonia at the San Antonio Museum of Art; this exhibit covered patients from “Gaudi to Dali.”



Alfonso Chiscano, MD—Another Giant Crosses the Pond 1938-2019

After retirement, Al led the Alfonso Chiscano Professorship Chair for Cardiovascular Research at the University of Texas Science Center in San Antonio. He stayed on the courtesy staff at Santa Rosa Hospital, Methodist Hospital, Baptist Hospital, and Nix Hospital in the San Antonio area. He had been involved as a leader in all of the regional associations in southern Texas. Previously, he was awarded the Civil Merit Medal, the Medal of the Order of Isabella the Catholic, and has also been awarded the Gold Medal from the American Heart Association. Al had also received the Gold Medal of the Government of the Canary Islands.

Dr. Chiscano leaves his best friend and loving wife of 51 years, Mary-Alice; his daughters, Kristie and Carina; his sons, Steve and Todd; and eight grandchildren: Niko, Caz, Lauren, Oliver, Kayla, Christian, Alexandra (Birdie), and Lindsey. He will be missed by all.



The Chiscano Family
2009



WSU Alumnus Dr. Duane Sands Leads Bahamas Health Efforts in Aftermath of Hurricane Dorian

A Wayne State University School of Medicine residency and fellowship alumnus is on the front lines of the devastation left in the wake of Hurricane Dorian on the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

As Minister of Health for the island nation, Dr. Duane Sands (WSUGS/TS 1991/94) is serving as the spokesman for the Bahamas' rescue efforts. Dorian, a Category 5 storm, made multiple landfalls September 1, stalling over the islands for nearly two days and hitting the Grand Bahama and Abaco Islands in particular.



Dr. Duane Sands

Dr. Sands completed his general surgery residency with Wayne State University in 1991 and his Thoracic Surgery Fellowship at WSU and the Detroit Medical Center in 1994. He moved back to the Bahamas soon after, where he started the first successful heart surgery program. He was named Minister of Health in 2016.

Dr. Donald Weaver (WSUGS 1979), the Chair of the Michael and Marian Ilitch Department of Surgery at WSU, called Dr. Sands a close friend and active department alumnus.

“Dr. Sands has always had a passion for helping people. He returned to his country after training to establish a world-class chest surgery center in the Bahamas. Having been successful in that, he naturally turned to politics to influence healthcare policy,” Dr. Weaver said. “I’m so proud of one of our past trainees, to see him step forward to lead in this difficult time for his nation, but I’m not surprised. He has been preparing his entire career for this, and our department is honored to have been an essential part of his training.”

In addition to interviews with national and Bahamian media, Dr. Sands is using his public Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/duanelands/>, to provide health-related updates on the rescue efforts and medical care services.

A preliminary report referenced in a September 12 article by the Associated Press estimates Dorian caused a total of \$7 billion in damage when it hit. The official death toll of 50 is expected to increase. To donate to relief efforts, visit <https://www.redcross.org/donate/hurricane-dorian-donations.html/>.





The American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) and the Clinical Congress of Acute Care Surgery had their 78th annual meeting at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel in Dallas, Texas, on September 18-21, 2019. Over the years, the WSU surgical specialists have played an important part in this very important annual meeting. This year again was no exception.

Dr. Larry Diebel (WSU/GS 1980/86) presented a podium paper, “Obesity and Impaired Vascular Barrier Function After Shock: A Biometric In-Vitro Model Using Microfluidics.” Using human umbilical cord endothelial cell monolayers established in microfluidic devices exposed to hypoxia and epinephrine perfusion followed by the addition of 5% plasma from obese or non-obese patients, the authors demonstrated that there was no effect from plasma of obese versus non-obese patients on the glycocalyx or endothelium under controlled conditions. However, plasma from obese patients failed to protect the glycocalyx and endothelial vascular barrier from injury after exposure to conditions of trauma and hemorrhagic shock. These findings were related to significant differences in adiponectin and leptin concentrations and may be a potential target for therapeutic intervention. His co-author was Mr. David Liberati.



Dr. Larry Diebel

Dr. David Spain (WSUSOM 1986) assumed the office of the Presidency at the AAST at the annual business meeting, and he will preside over the 2020 Annual Meeting of the AAST, which will take place in Hawaii. Dr. Spain has served as a member of many different committees of the AAST and was the senior author of two scientific posters presented at the meeting. One was a multi-institutional study entitled, “Mapping the Increasing Interest in Acute Care Surgery—Who, Why, and Which Fellowship?” which was presented by Dr. Benjamin Gayed from the Spectrum Health Medical Group. The other poster was from his own institution, Stanford University, entitled “National Readmission Patterns for Traumatic Rib Fractures Among Elderly Patients,” presented by Dr. Joshua Jaramillo. Dr. Spain was also a co-author on two forum podium papers. One was titled “Out-of-Pocket Spending by Trauma Patients Following Implementation of the Affordable Care Act,” presented by Dr. Charles Liu from Dr. Spain’s department. This study demonstrated that there was a tremendous reduction in out-of-pocket expenses from injured patients since the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The other podium paper presented by Dr. Spain’s group was presented by Dr. Lisa Knowlton and was entitled “The Impact of Medicaid Expansion on Trauma-Related Emergency Department Utilization: A National Evaluation of Policy Implications.” This study demonstrated that the Medicaid expansion related to the Affordable Care Act was associated with a significant increase in insurance coverage for trauma patients and a



Dr. David Spain



decrease in injury-related ED visits, which probably resulted from increased access to outpatient services. Dr. Spain was also the invited discussant of a paper presented by Dr. Marta McCrum entitled “Readmission After Non-Operative Trauma: Increased Mortality and Costs with Delayed Intervention.”

Dr. Chris Dente (WSUGS 2002) serves as a member of the Acute Care Surgery Committee of the AAST. Dr. Dente was the prime co-author of a paper entitled “Random Forest Model Predicts Acute Kidney Injury After Trauma Laparotomy,” presented by Dr. Rondi Gelbard. This paper highlighted the problems associated with acute kidney injury in seriously injured patients. They developed a predictive model for identifying the risks of this insult, including the development of a High Sequential Organ Failure Assessment score, Serum Monocyte, Chemoattractant Protein-1, and serum Vascular endothelial growth factor. They propose that further refinement and validation of this model could help with earlier clinical decisions in order to guide resuscitation and prevent the development of acute kidney injury. Dr. Dente was also the prime co-author of a paper presented by Dr. Matthew Bradley entitled “Prediction of Venous Thromboembolism Using Clinical and Serum Biomarker Data from Trauma Patients.”



Dr. Chris Dente



Dr. Peter Hammer

Dr. Peter Hammer (WSU/GS 2001/06) was the invited discussant of a paper entitled “The ‘Death Diamond’ - A Black Hole for Resuscitation,” presented by Dr. Michael Farrell from the Christianacare Health Services.

Dr. Anna Ledgerwood (WSUGS 1972) and **Dr. Charlie Lucas (WSU/GS 1962/67)** were discussants of a number of papers at this annual meeting.



Dr. Anna Ledgerwood



Dr. Charles Lucas



Dr. Jeff Nichols (WSUGS 1995), a busy acute care surgeon and general surgeon in the greater Atlanta area discussed many interesting cases with Dr. Anna Ledgerwood



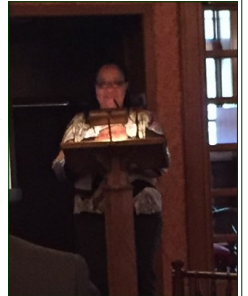


THE DETROIT SURGICAL ASSOCIATION



Dr. Solhee Lee

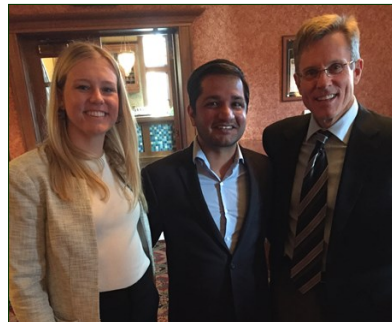
The Detroit Surgical Association (DSA) held its dinner meeting on Monday, September 23, 2019. The DSA was created in September 1947 by WSU Chairman Dr. Charlie Johnston in order to provide a public forum for residents and young faculty to present their ongoing research materials. Dr. Kellie McFarlin (WSU/GS 2003/08), now at the Henry Ford Hospital, serves as the President-Elect of the DSA. She introduced Dr. Solhee Lee (WSUGS 2021) who presented a paper on “Nonoperative Management (NOM) of Most Liver Injuries Impairs the Master of Intraoperative Hemostasis.” Dr. Lee’s sponsor for this paper is Dr. Charles Lucas (WSU/GS 1962/67).



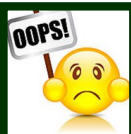
Dr. Kellie McFarlin, President-Elect of the DSA, introduces Dr. Solhee Lee



(Left to Right) Dr. Samantha Tarras (WSUGS 2011), Secretary of the DSA, Dr. David Edelman (WSU/GS 2002/09), Residency Coordinator, and Dr. Heather Dolman (WSU/GS 2000/06), Senior Councilor of the DSA



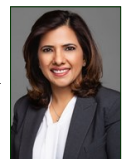
Dr. Bill Oppat (far right) attended the DSA with his daughter, Kailey Oppat (WSUSOM 2020/GS 2025), and Dr. Rishi Megha, the Chief Resident at Ascension Providence Hospital



AUGUST REPORT OMISSION

In the August 2019 issues of the Monthly Email Report, we welcomed the new 2019-2020 PGY-1 residents in the Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University Program in Surgery who joined us in July. We neglected to include the following new resident. The Editor will do better next time.

Dr. Fauzia Arain is a PGY1 General Surgery Preliminary resident. She comes to us from Allama Iqbal Medical College in Lahore, Pakistan. Welcome Dr. Arain!



Dr. Fauzia Arain





CLINICAL CONGRESS 2019
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School of Medicine

The Michael and Marian Ilitch
 Department of Surgery
 cordially invite you and a guest to our annual

Alumni Reception
Tuesday, October 29, 2019
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Fairmont Hotel, Atop Nob Hill
950 Mason Street,
San Francisco, California
Crown Room

Hosted by Donald W. Weaver, M.D.
 Penberthy Professor and Chairman
 Department of Surgery

RSVP by October 11, 2019 to jdamm@med.wayne.edu or
 Call Janet Damm at 313-745-8778





GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Hales Wills, MD

Dr. Hale Wills (WSU/GS 2004/10) updates the extended family on what's been going on in his practice with the following note:

Since my last message, I have started doing locum tenens work. It is strange to be a "visiting surgeon" as I have always loved the follow-up and ongoing care with pediatric surgical conditions.



Dr. Hale Wills

In October, I will be traveling to Kenya to serve at Tenwek Hospital. While there, I will be working with a pediatric surgeon who is there full time. My wife, Lora, and kids are all coming along. This is something that would not have been possible if it weren't for the career disruption of my planned move to St. Louis falling through. I will send pictures and update you on our experiences when I return.

*Regards,
Hale*



Peter Baute, MD

Dr Peter Baute (WSUGS 1969) had a very busy practice in the northeast. He sends some words of wisdom to our residents:

Fifty years. So much has happened in all our lives. I have just a few non-technical thoughts to share.



Dr. Peter Baute

Occasionally, that very challenging, unusual patient will present needing a procedure, with which you have little experience. Be humble. Think about alternatives and what is best for the patient. Do not hesitate to send that person to someone more experienced. Another concern is the case where the indications for surgery are borderline. I remember a senior surgeon telling me that, more and more, he looked for reasons NOT to operate.

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GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Peter Baute, MD, cont...

When you next come to the OR to start a procedure, take a few minutes to think about the people who worked to make it happen. It takes a team; you are part of it, just one part.

Get to know and respect your teammates; it works both ways. And, as you finish the operation, be sure to say "thank you" to your team.

I want to just say a few words about your patient, our patient, young, old, rich, or poor. Look him/her in the eye; and it is okay to hold his/her hand. Empathy is good, condescension is not.

For me, to be part of our profession for so many years has been a privilege and the five years at WSU and Detroit Receiving are some of the best.

Sincerely,

Pete



Added Notes on Dr. Claude (Benney) Benavides (1932-2019)

Dr. Sandra Sessions Engwall (WSUGS 1983) shares some additional notes and thoughts by those who loved and worked with Dr. Claude Benavides.

As an added note to the previous announcement of Dr. Ben's recent death, no one can fully describe the impact this surgeon had on the thousands of individuals that he performed surgery on and the equally many he touched in his professional and personal life. A man of principle and yet also great compassion and kindness, he was a leader from the very beginning. He thoroughly enjoyed his profession, accepted challenges with grace, and willingly shared his expertise with anyone. He was sought out by many in his career. While in the Twin Cities, the University of Minnesota and Hennepin County (a Level I trauma teaching hospital) tried to recruit him; when in Seattle, Virginia Mason tried to recruit him. He was greatly respected. He also was awarded many recognitions for both service and teaching, among them, Group Health's most prestigious award, the



(Left to right) Dr. Sandy (Sessions) Engwall, Dr. Dace Trent, and Dr. Claude Benavides

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GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Added Notes on Dr. Claude (Benney) Benavides, cont.. (1932-2019)

Visscher Award; Hennepin County's Surgical Teaching Award, the Claude Hitchcock Surgical Society Award; and the one that touched his heart the most, the award from his own surgical team, the Claude Benavides Award, named in his honor.

I (Dr. Trencce) was incredibly fortunate to share his life and his journey these past decades. We met over a discussion about the treatment of Cushing's Disease after failed neurosurgical approach. He was insightful, incredibly astute, and the kindest of men. When my professional career turned to the Pacific Northwest, he unhesitatingly gave up his career to encourage and support me, his wife. He enthusiastically celebrated my recent induction as a Master in the College of Endocrinology.

Ben's physical being may no longer be with us, but his spirit and memory and great advice and humor will be with each of us to the end of our own days. He lives on in each of our souls and thoughts.

His wife, Dace Trencce, MD, MACE

I am saddened by the news of Ben's passing. I was just thinking about him the other day, wondering how he was doing. He always seemed so very strong and energetic that I thought he would live forever. He was a great leader and colleague and friend who was always ready to help. I will forever be indebted to him for his help and advice during my early years as a surgeon.

Tham Suwan, General Surgeon

This is sad news. Dr. Benavides was a joy to work with, such a gentleman and ran a department that was always accommodating to us in "administration".

Debbie Bladine, Group Health/HealthPartners Physicians Services

Ben was a wonderful man and a gifted surgeon who made great contributions to our organization and to our patients. This is sad and represents the passing of an era.

Brian Rank, Executive medical Director for HealthPartners

Continue page 16



GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Added Notes on Dr. Claude (Benney) Benavides, cont.. (1932-2019)

Ben was a tremendous inspiration to us all. His work ethic was without compare. It is, as you say, the end of an era.

Jim Smith, Assistant Medical Director, HealthPartners

Thank you so much for sending this and for your eloquent tribute to all that Ben meant to us. I am quite shaken by the news. Ben has always seemed so indestructible and always a presence in our lives, even after he "retired." He meant so much to me as a mentor and a friend.

In his memory, Peter Kernahan, MD, PhD, Program in the History of Medicine, University of Minnesota

Minnesota Co-Worker Tributes to Ben:

Ben was a class act. I have so many good memories of Ben. We first met when he interviewed me to join Group Health as a surgeon in the 1980s. We met on the surgical floor at St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul, MN. After an introduction, we just started to round. I had a stethoscope and listened with him to lungs, hearts, abdomens, and we discussed the cases. (It was a different time in terms of access to patient information.) I loved that we just jumped into the work! Ben led by example. He modeled integrity, hard work, and a sense of justice and fairness. Ben was committed to the welfare of his patients. I remember him liking to round on the weekends because he had time to sit and chat with patients rather than run to clinic or the OR. Ben was always available to help out when things were difficult. You could always count on him to "have your back".

Steve Mestitz, General Surgeon

In 1986, Ben hired me to join his group of general surgeons in Minneapolis. I was fresh out of residency, age 31. I did not realize how much of an age discrepancy there was between us, 23 years, until writing this piece. With age comes experience, knowledge, and judgement. Ben was always willing to share all of these things with his surgical partners, no matter the age discrepancy. He treated us as equals and led by example. He truly loved

Continue page 17



GREETINGS FROM THE OUTFIELD

Added Notes on Dr. Claude (Benney) Benavides, cont.. (1932-2019)

being a surgeon. He would often say that "surgery is my hobby." After about 10 years with Ben as my colleague, he moved to Washington State. Looking back, Ben was a huge positive influence for me. To this day, I still find myself saying things that Ben would say in the OR. "Do the right operation the first time. Do the hard part first to make the easy part look easy. If you never operate, you'll never have a complication."

Jim Schlaefer, General Surgeon

I, too, benefitted from knowing and learning from Ben. He was one of the finest gentleman that I've had the privilege to know and learn from. Thank you for sharing this sad news.

Eric Rosendahl, Surgical Assistant

Wonderful memories of Dr. Benevides dating back to my first year of residency (1962). Gentle and patient; characteristics not often associated with surgeons.

Larry LaGattuta (WSUGS 1967)



Dr. Dace Trent and Dr. Claude Benavides



Dr. Claude Benavides with his staff



**WSU MONTLY CONFERENCES
2019**

Death & Complications Conference
Every Wednesday from 7-8



Didactic Lectures — 8 am
Kresge Auditorium

Wednesday, October 2

Death & Complications Conference

SCORE

Gamal Mostafa, MD

Chief, Department of Surgery, VA Medical Center

Wednesday, October 9

Death & Complications Conference

SCORE

Gamal Mostafa, MD

Chief, Department of Surgery, VA Medical Center

Wednesday, October 16

Death & Complications Conference

9th Annual Scott Woods Lecture

Education, Patient Care and Wellness

Parth Amin, MD

Western Michigan University, Homer Stryker School of Medicine

Wednesday, October 23

Death & Complications Conference

Gun Violence: A Public Heath Issue

Stephanie Bonne, MD, FACS

New Jersey Medical School, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey



**Wayne State Surgical Society
2019 Dues Notice**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Service Description	Amount
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2019 Dues Payment _____	\$200	_____
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My contribution for "An Operation A Year for WSU" _____		_____
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*Charter Life Member _____	\$1000	_____
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Include your credit card information below and mail it or fax it to 313-993-7729.

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Billing address of card (if different from above):

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

*I want to commit to becoming a charter life member with payment of \$1000 per year for the next ten (10) years.

Send check made payable to **Wayne State Surgical Society** to:

Charles Lucas, MD
Department of Surgery
Detroit Receiving Hospital, Room 2V
4201 St. Antoine Street
Detroit, Michigan 48201

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

*American College of Surgeons
Clinical Congress
October 27-31, 2019
Moscone Convention Center
San Francisco, California*

*67th Annual Detroit Trauma
Symposium
November 7-8, 2019
MGM Grand Detroit
Detroit, Michigan*



*Please Update Your
Information*

The WSUSOM Department of Surgery wants to stay in touch. Please email Charles Lucas at clucas@med.wayne.edu to update your contact information.



Missing Emails

Over the years the WSU Department of Surgery has lost touch with many of its alumni. If you know the email, address, or phone number of the following WSU Department of Surgery Residency Program graduates please email us at clucas@med.wayne.edu with their information so that we can get them on the distribution list for the WSU Department of Surgery Alumni Monthly Email Report.

Mohammad Ali (1973)

David B. Allen (1992)

Tayful R. Ayalp (1979)

Juan C. Calzetta (1982)

Kuan-Cheng Chen (1976)

Elizabeth Colaiuta (2001)

Fernando I. Colon (1991)

David Davis (1984)

Teoman Demir (1996)

Judy A. Emanuele (1997)

Lawrence J. Goldstein (1993)

David M. Gordon (1993)

Raghuram Gorti (2002)

Karin Haji (1973)

Morteza Hariri (1970)

Harrison, Vincent L. (2009)

Abdul A. Hassan (1971)

Rose L. Jumah (2006)

R. Kambhampati (2003)

Aftab Khan (1973)

Samuel D. Lyons (1988)

Dean R. Marson (1997)

Syed A. Mehmood (2007)

Toby Meltzer (1987)

Roberto Mendez (1997)

Mark D. Morasch (1998)

Daniel J. Olson (1993)

David Packer (1998)

Y. Park (1972)

Bhavik G. Patel (2004)

Ami Raafat (1998)

Kevin Radecki (2001)

Sudarshan R. Reddy (1984)

Renato G. Ruggiero (1994)

Parvid Sadjadi (1971)

Samson P. Samuel (1996)

Knavery D. Scaff (2003)

Steven C. Schueller (1974)

Anand G. Shah (2005)

Anil Shetty (2008)

Chanderdeep Singh (2002)

D. Sukumaran (1972)

David G. Tse (1997)

Christopher N. Vashi (2007)

Larry A. Wolk (1984)

Peter Y. Wong (2002)

Shane Yamane (2005)

Chungie Yang (2005)

Hossein A. Yazdy (1970)

Lawrence S. Zachary (1985)



October 16th

Wayne State Surgical Society

The Wayne State Surgical Society (WSSS) was established during the tenure of Dr. Alexander Walt as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery. WSSS was designed to create closer contact between the current faculty and residents with the former resident members in order to create a living family of all of the WSU Department of Surgery. The WSSS also supports department activities. Charter/Life Membership in the WSSS is attained by a donation of \$1,000 per year for ten years or \$10,000 prior to ten years. Annual membership is attained by a donation of \$200 per year. WSSS supports a visiting lecturer each fall and co-sponsors the annual reception of the department at the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Brian Shapiro (WSU/GS 1988/93) passed the baton of presidency to Dr. Jeffrey Johnson (WSUGS 1984) at the WSSS Gathering during the American College of Surgeons meeting in October 2018. Members of the WSSS are listed on the next page. Dr. Johnson continues in the hope that all former residents will become lifetime members of the WSSS and participate in the annual sponsored lectureship and the annual reunion at the American College of Surgeons meeting.



*Members of the Wayne State Surgical Society
Charter Life Members*

Ahn, Dean	Cirocco, William C.	Gayer, Christopher P.	Lange, William (Deceased)	Perrone, Erin	Sugawa, Choichi
Albaran, Renato G	Clink, Douglas	Gerrick Stanley	Lau, David	Ramnauth, Subhash	vonBerg, Vollrad J. (Deceased)
Allaben, Robert D. (Deceased)	Colon, Fernando I.	Grifka Thomas J. (Deceased)	Ledgerwood, Anna M.	Rector, Frederick	Washington, Bruce C.
Ames, Elliot L.	Conway, W. Charles	Gutowski, Tomasz D.	Lim, John J.	Rose, Alexander	Walt, Alexander (Deceased)
Amirikia, Kathryn C.	Davidson, Scott B.	Herman, Mark A.	Lucas, Charles E.	Rosenberg, Jerry C.	Weaver, Donald
Auer, George	Dujon, Jay	Hinshaw, Keith A.	Malian, Michael S.	Sarin, Susan	Whittle, Thomas J.
Babel, James B.	Edelman, David A.	Holmes, Robert J.	McIntosh, Bruce	Shapiro, Brian	Williams, Mallory
Bassett, Joseph	Francis, Wesley	Huebel, Herbert C.	Missavage, Anne	Silbergleit, Allen	Wilson, Robert F.
Baylor, Alfred	Flynn, Lisa M.	Johnson, Jeffrey R.	Montenegro, Carlos E.	Smith, Daniel	Wood, Michael H.
Bouwman, David	Fromm, Stefan H.	Johnson, Pamela D.	Narkiewicz, Lawrence	Smith, Randall W.	Zahriya, Karim
Bradley, Jennifer	Fromm, David G	Kovalik, Simon G.	Nicholas, Jeffrey M.	Stassinopoulos, Jerry	
	Galpin, Peter A.		Novakovic, Rachel L.	Sullivan, Daniel M.	

Members of the Wayne State Surgical Society—2019 Dues

Alpendre, Cristiano	Dawood, Moiz	Joseph, Anthony	Marquette, Lauren	Siegel, Thomas S.	Zahriya, Osama
Asfaw, Ingida	Dawson, Konrad L.	Kaderabek, Douglas J.	Marquez, Jofrances	Spotts-Resto, Josette	Ziegler, Daniel W.
Bailey, Colin E.	Dente, Christopher J.	Klein, Michael D.	Mayuiers, Matthew	Sundaresan, Naresh	
Bambach, Gregory A.	Dolman, Heather	Knight, Anna	McAlpin, Glenn M.	Taylor, Michael G.	
Baute, Peter B.	Field, Erin	Kosir, Mary A.	Noorily, Michael J.	Tennenberg, Steven	
Bucci, Lorenzo A.	Golden, Roy	Larson, Sarah	Novakovic, Rachel L.	Thomas, Gregory A.	
Busuito, Michael J.	Goltz, Christopher J.	Liebold, Walter C.	Prendergast, Michael	Thoms, Norman W.	
Carlin, Arthur M.	Herman, Mark A.	Lopez, Peter	Reilly, Lindsay	Truong, William	
Cirocco, William C.	Horness, Mark D.	Mansour, Roozbeh	Resto, Andy	Vaszuez, Julio	



*Operation-A-Year
January 1—December 31, 2019*



The WSU department of Surgery has instituted a new group of alumni who are remembering their training by donating the proceeds of one operation a year to the department. Those who join this new effort will be recognized herein as annual contributors. We hope that all of you will remember the department by donating one operation, regardless of difficulty or reimbursement, to the department to help train your replacements. Please send you donation to the Wayne State Surgical Society in care of Dr. Charles E. Lucas at Detroit Receiving Hospital, 4201 St. Antoine Street (Room 2V), Detroit, MI, 48201.

Albaran, Renato G.	Davidson, Scott	Gallick, Harold	Hinshaw, Keith A.	Lim, John J.	Siegel, Thomas S.	Whittle, Thomas J.
Bambach, Gregory A.	Dujon, Jay	Gayer, Christopher P.	Huebel, Hubert C.	Lopez, Peter	Silbergleit, Allen	Wood, Michael H.
Bradley, Jennifer	Edelman, David A.	Gutowski, Tomasz D.	Johnson, Jeffrey R.	McIntosh, Bruce	Sugawa, Choichi	
Conway, W. Charles	Francis, Wesley	Herman, Mark A.	Johnson, Pamela D.	Perrone, Erin	Sullivan, Daniel M.	

WSU SOM ENDOWMENT

The Wayne State University School of Medicine provides an opportunity for alumni to create endowments in support of their institution and also support the WSSS. For example, if Dr. John Smith wished to create the “Dr. John Smith Endowment Fund”, he could donate \$25,000 to the WSU SOM and those funds would be left untouched but, by their present, help with attracting other donations. The interest at the rate of 4% per year (\$1000) could be directed to the WSSS on an annual basis to help the WSSS continue its commitment to improving the education of surgical residents. Anyone who desires to have this type of named endowment established with the interest of that endowment supporting the WSSS should contact Ms. Lori Robitaille at the WSU SOM> She can be reached by email at lrobitai@med.wayne.edu.