

matters

Volume 2, Number 4

December 2006

Then and Now: Alumnus Visits New Residence Hall, Reminisces



Peggy and David Bevans enjoy the 1963 holidays in their dorm apartment.

David Bevans, M.D. '66, and his wife, Peggy, settled into their 10th floor apartment in the UAMS dormitory on Christmas Eve, 1962, just three days after they were married.

Forty years later, they toured the newly opened Residence Hall and the dorm apartment of Will Atchley, a freshman from Little Rock. The Bevanses shared snapshots of their first apartment and reminisced.

“Our rent was about \$90, including utilities, and the convenience of being on campus was wonderful,” says Dr. Bevans, the Caduceus Club president, who was a freshman when he moved into the dorm. “We made a lot of good friends there.”

Atchley pays \$675 a month. Unlike 40 years ago, his paid utilities include basic cable and Internet access. Although inflation accounts for much of the difference, \$90 sounds good. “I could definitely handle that,” he chuckles.



Peggy Bevans snapped this photo of her husband (seated at middle on sofa) and friends during a 1963 holiday gathering.

The old dormitory, which opened in 1959, was imploded last February to make way for the new Residence Hall. The new Residence Hall is actually three buildings. The 145-unit south building features duplexes (two dorm rooms that share a bathroom) and studio apartments. The north building has 32 one-bedroom apartments. Offices, a mailroom and a housekeeping area fill another small building.

The one-bedroom apartments have a dishwasher, refrigerator, range, microwave oven, and washer and dryer. The living room features a small sofa, chair and desk. There is a small table in the adjoining kitchen area.

Feeling nostalgic? Alumni are welcome to tour the Residence Hall. Call Cheri Goforth, director of student activities and housing, at (501) 686-5850 to schedule a visit.



Peggy and David Bevans with their tour guide, Student Activities and Housing Director Cheri Goforth (center), outside the north building of the Residence Hall.



Freshman Will Atchley (center) shows the Bevanses the living room of his dorm apartment.

A Note from the Dean, Debra Fiser, M.D.

I love this time of year. The sounds, the sights and the smells all signal a very special season. We often call this the “season of giving,” but I think it’s just as importantly a time for joining in, for participating with others.

As Dean and as a fellow alumna, I invite you to participate in the vision of the College of Medicine. We have established a new annual giving organization called the Dean’s Society. Members’ contributions will provide flexible funding for where they are needed most in the college. Last year, your unrestricted contributions provided two full-tuition scholarships for extraordinary students, including Ioana Peret, whom you’ll read about in Judith McClain’s column. Unrestricted funds sponsored Freshman Family Weekend, Senior Week, alumni reunions and area alumni receptions, along with many other services for students and alumni. In the future, we plan to use some unrestricted contributions to buy equipment for the planned Clinical



Simulation Center and to support other projects that benefit students.

Dues are \$1,000 annually for individuals or \$1,500 for alumni couples. There is a reduced rate of \$500 for recent graduates (1996-2006) or \$750 for couples who graduated from UAMS in the past 10 years. Of course contributions at any level are much appreciated and will always be put to good use.

Yes, this is an appeal to give. But, like the season upon us, the Dean’s Society is an opportunity to participate actively. Benefits of membership include information and updates from me, recognition in publications and invitations to special events. But I think the greatest benefit is the satisfaction that comes from participating in something important.

Enjoy the holidays!

Debra Fiser, M.D.

A Note from the Director, Judith McClain

We know you enjoy meeting the students who’ll be our future alumni. Let me introduce you to Ioana Peret, whose life-lessons at the age of 22 are truly extraordinary.

I met Ioana at the Scholarship Banquet (see article on the next page), where she was one of two freshmen receiving full-tuition scholarships from the Caduceus Club. Ioana’s father, Radu, and mother, Maria, also were at our table. It became clear that the kindness of others has left an indelible mark on Ioana.



She was born in Communist Romania, where conditions were so bad in 1984 that Radu decided to escape in search of a better life for his family. He knew that international regulations would allow the family to reunite in America. As Radu and a companion made their way across the Danube River, a compassionate shipmaster dimmed the lights of his passing boat so border guards wouldn’t spot the men in the water. “My family and I have been

blessed by the kindness of others many times over,” Ioana notes.

Two years later, the family reunited in Detroit, where Ioana remembers going to the free health clinic. “The doctors were extremely friendly and interested in our lives,” she says.

The family moved to Hot Springs 14 years ago. Ioana graduated second in her high school class and summa cum laude from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, where she majored in

biochemistry and Spanish and minored in Latin American studies. She has won many scholarships and awards.

“Becoming a doctor is the best way for me to have an impact on the underprivileged,” Ioana says. She originally envisioned attending medical school in a larger city with a more substantial Latino or other minority population. Then came her full-tuition scholarship offer. “This scholarship was an answer to my prayers, kind of a sign that this is where I should be,” Ioana explains.

“Many people have invested in me, and I feel a great responsibility to give back.”

I know you are proud to support students like Ioana Peret – and all of our fine students. We are certainly proud to have her.

We wish you and your family the very best during this holiday season.

Judith



Ioana Peret with her parents, Maria and Radu, on the day they were reunited in Detroit



Freshmen Brad Hogate and Ioana Peret, both from Hot Springs, were awarded full-tuition scholarships from the Arkansas Caduceus Club. Joining them are Judith McClain, executive director, Alumni Affairs (left); and David Bevans, M.D. '66, Caduceus Club president (right).

Scholarship Banquet 2006

About 625 people attended the 19th Annual Scholarship Banquet on Sept. 9 as 239 College of Medicine students received \$1.1 million in scholarships.

The awards were made possible through the generosity of 28 alumni classes and many individuals and organizations, including the Arkansas Caduceus Club, which grants two annual full-tuition scholarships. The Arkansas Student Loan Authority and more than two dozen commercial sponsors contributed to the success of the banquet, which was held at the Peabody Hotel, and to the 33rd annual Freshman Family Day activities the same day.

New scholarships awarded:

- Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care Healthcare Quality Class of 1971
- Mary Lee and Ralph Evers (Union County Community Foundation)
- Dr. W. Robert Orr
- Drs. Alex and Ann Maners Pappas
- Paul and Dorothy Reese Pelko
- Dr. Phillip Leon Rayford

Students Tee Up for Good Cause

About 70 physicians, medical students and business leaders turned out for the Pediatric Interest Group's first-ever Safe from the Start Golf Tournament on Sept. 15. The event, co-sponsored by Alltel, raised more than \$10,000 for the UAMS Safe from the Start program, which offers child passenger safety education to parents giving birth at UAMS, including how to select and properly install child safety seats.

More than 200 College of Medicine students are members of the Pediatric Interest Group, which is active in various charitable and educational programs and offers a mentoring program between physicians and students.



College of Medicine seniors Christy Bartlett (left) and Sarah Weston co-coordinated the tournament at Little Rock's Rebsamen Golf Course.

CADUCEUS CLUB

Note from Judith McClain, executive director, Alumni Affairs: The purpose of the resolution in the notice below is to create a much larger, broader-reaching organization called the College of Medicine Alumni Association, which will better serve you, our alumni.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS CADUCEUS CLUB – MEDICAL ALUMNI OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

A special meeting of the membership of the Arkansas Caduceus Club – Medical Alumni of the University of Arkansas will be held at 4 p.m. January 29, 2007, in the Chancellor's Conference Room (M1/131) at UAMS. The purpose of the meeting is to consider a resolution approving the dissolution of the corporation, ratifying the transfer of assets of the corporation to the UAMS Foundation Fund of The University of Arkansas Foundation, Inc., and/or the College of Medicine, authorizing the Executive Director and officers of the corporation to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to effectuate the dissolution of the corporation effective January 31, 2007, and to conduct such other business as may come before the meeting.

Class Notes

Tom Bruce, M.D.: Unexpected Turn Launches Career as Leader

When **Tom Bruce, M.D. '55**, graduated from the College of Medicine, an academic career was far from his mind. "My goal was simply to become a good small-town doctor," the Mountain Home native recalls.

He never dreamed he would return to the College of Medicine to serve as dean from 1974 to 1985, or that he later would help establish the UAMS College of Public Health and serve as its inaugural dean. And he couldn't have fathomed playing a key role in opening the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, where he also was the inaugural dean and now serves as associate dean.

Dr. Bruce's plans changed when he contracted pulmonary tuberculosis, probably while participating in an autopsy as a senior. Advised to pursue a "less strenuous" career than that of a family doctor, he trained in internal medicine and cardiology at prestigious universities including Duke and Cornell. He joined the faculty and became an assistant dean at Wayne State University, where he found working with students, residents and fellows to be "rewarding and a lot of fun." He was head of cardiology at the University of Oklahoma before being recruited to UAMS.

"I felt a strong homing instinct," Dr. Bruce says. "That first move back to Arkansas was scary, since it is said that 'you can't come home again.' But I found it to be a wonderful experience in that I was able to capitalize on local contacts and rediscover the instinctive rhythms of how the state works and thinks."

He has long been known for his commitment to improving access to health care in rural Arkansas. While dean of Medicine, he organized bus tours for students and their spouses. "We visited small towns that needed doctors and had the students act as advisors to the communities on how to recruit physicians," he recalls.

Dr. Bruce left UAMS in 1985 to work for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek, Mich., where he directed health, leadership and rural development projects. He



Tom Bruce, M.D. '55, hugs Jeannette Shorey, M.D., associate dean for continuing medical education and faculty affairs, after delivering the keynote speech at the College of Medicine's Professional Development Day. Dr. Shorey, whose father also was a dean, has known Dr. Bruce since she was a child.

returned to Arkansas in 1995 to retire and care for his parents. "I didn't succeed very well at retirement," he jokes.

Just as life plans change, change is inevitable – and necessary – in medicine, says Dr. Bruce, who also is a professor of health policy and management in the UAMS College of Public Health and an emeritus professor of medicine. As keynote speaker for the College of Medicine's Professional Development Day in November, he implored faculty to work to improve access to health care and reduce disparities. He noted that the U.S. lags in many health indicators and acknowledged that solutions aren't simple.

"My plea to you is to not accept that the dilemmas of the American health care system are locked into place forever," he said. "You can do something about it."

Class Notes is for news about you. If you have information to share with fellow alumni, please e-mail it to riceginny@uams.edu, or mail it to:

*Alumni Affairs
4301 W. Markham St., #642
Little Rock, AR 72205*

Please include your name, address, e-mail, phone number and class year.

Larry Lawson, M.D. '62, has been named medical director of the Arkansas Medical Foundation. Created by the Arkansas Medical Society in 1996, the foundation provides for identification and treatment of health care professionals who suffer from impairment. Dr. Lawson, a past president of the AMS, has practiced medicine for 37 years. He also has served as governor of the Arkansas Chapter of the American College of Surgeons.

The Family Practice

A career in medicine is often more than a personal passion – it's a reflection of a commitment to healing and service that is passed down through the generations.



Jim Pappas, M.D. '56, and his son, John Pappas, M.D. '81

The Pappas family

Four brothers from Greece settled in Hot Springs in the early 20th century. None had even a high school education, but they taught their children the value of hard work, discipline and higher education.

“Three of us graduated from UAMS,” says **Jim Pappas, M.D. '56**, who practiced otolaryngology in Little Rock for 38 years. His cousin **Deno Pappas, M.D. '59**, was an obstetrician and gynecologist in Hot Springs until his death in 2004. **Socrates Pappas, M.D. '60**, practiced psychiatry in San Diego.

2006 isn't just the Golden Anniversary of Dr. Jim Pappas' graduation from the College of Medicine. It's also the Silver Anniversary for his son, **John Pappas, M.D. '81**.

“My class had only 62 members, but 14 of my classmates have children who are doctors,” notes Dr. Jim Pappas. “I think the children of physicians observe the love that their parent has for his or her work.”

Dr. John Pappas, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Rogers, echoes his father's assessment. “My father and uncles were certainly influential,” he says. “I saw that they looked forward to going to work, they worked hard and they got a lot of gratification from it.”

Wiggins/Meredith family

As a young girl, Lindsay Wiggins was fascinated by the medical supplies in her father's office in their Pascagoula, Miss., home. “I'd come downstairs and proudly display how I had wrapped my cats, as well as myself, in Ace bandages and medical tape from head to toe,” the College of Medicine sophomore recalls.



William Meredith Sr., M.D. '47

But it was seeing compassionate care in action that led her down the same path as her father, grandfather and two uncles. Once while working in her father's orthopaedic clinic, a severely disfigured young man was wheeled in late one day. The staff had stayed after hours so the patient wouldn't have to endure being ogled. “I remember thinking that this is what it means to take care of a patient: body and soul.”

UAMS was a natural choice for Lindsay. Her father, **Chris Wiggins, M.D. '71**, trained under Carl Nelson, M.D. Her maternal grandfather, **William Meredith Sr., M.D. '47**, practiced in Pine Bluff for many years. Her uncle, **William Meredith Jr., M.D. '74**, now practices in Joplin, Mo. Another uncle, Robert Gaston, M.D., completed a residency at UAMS.



Sophomore Lindsay Wiggins with her father, Chris Wiggins, M.D. '71

To share your multi-generational medical family story, please e-mail riceginny@uams.edu, or mail it to: Alumni Affairs, 4301 W. Markham St., #642, Little Rock, AR 72205.

Founder's Society

Members of the Founder's Society have pledged or given at least \$10,000 to various College of Medicine endowments.

New 2006-McCracken Family Foundation, John D. McCracken, M.D., \$20,000 scholarship endowment

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College of Medicine students visit with Dean **Debra Fiser, M.D.** '77, at the annual Founder's Society dinner Oct. 27. Pictured from left are: junior Britton Bennett, Dr. Fiser, sophomore Meg West and sophomore Brita Sward.

Dean's Society

Members of the newly established Dean's Society have pledged to make annual unrestricted gifts to the College of Medicine. Minimum annual contributions are \$1,000 for individuals, \$1,500 for alumni couples, \$500 for recent graduates (1996-2006) or \$750 for couples who graduated from UAMS in the past 10 years.

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 Perry Rothrock, M.D.
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 Peter Max Zimmerman
 McLyle & Joan Zumwalt



“I am very pleased to have this opportunity to support my alma mater, the UAMS College of Medicine, to become better acquainted with the dean and to have more opportunities to reconnect with classmates and other alumni.”

First Dean's Society member Devinder Bhatia, M.D. '91, with his family. Dr. Bhatia is a cardiovascular surgeon in Houston, Texas.

In Memoriam

Jarrell H. Teague, M.D. '69, of Lake Oswego, Ore., died Sept. 4, 2006. He was 65. Dr. Teague practiced radiology in Portland, Ore., for 20 years and earlier at the University of California Davis in Sacramento.

James D. Mashburn, M.D. '47, a lifelong Fayetteville resident, died Sept. 14, 2006. He was 80. Affectionately known as "Doc," Dr. Mashburn delivered more than 10,000 babies during 38 years in practice. As the assistant adjutant general for Arkansas, he was the first Army medical officer to hold that position in the U.S.

Max Baldrige, M.D. '38, of Heber Springs, died Sept. 14, 2006. He was 92. Dr. Baldrige practiced for more than 50 years, initially as a general practitioner in Texas and later as an ophthalmologist in Texarkana and Heber Springs.

Gilbert Orville Dean Sr., M.D. '35, of Little Rock, died Sept. 18, 2006. He was 96. Dr. Dean was professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery at UAMS from 1947 to 1951, and then became a clinical professor of surgery.

Jacob Thomas Cross, M.D. '62, of Colorado Springs, Colo., died Sept. 17, 2006. He was 72. A Cabot native, Dr. Cross practiced psychiatry in Baton Rouge, La., for more than 25 years.

John Doyle Wise, M.D. '54, of Little Rock, died Sept. 26, 2006. He was 77. Dr. Wise worked for the Veterans Administration for 30 years as head of the Alcohol Detox Department at Fort Roots. He was in private practice for two years in Booneville and 20 years in Malvern.

Charles Stanley Applegate Jr., M.D. '45, of Springdale, died Oct. 3, 2006. He was 86. A family practice physician in Springdale for more than 50 years, Dr. Applegate helped establish what is now known as Northwest Medical Center.

Robert Eugene Jones, M.D. '51, of Benton, died Oct. 19, 2006. He was 80. Dr. Jones practiced family medicine in Marshall, Texas, and then in Benton with his father and brother. He has served as medical director with the Arkansas Department of Correction and also has worked at the Human Development Center at Conway.

Christopher J. Winters, M.D. '85, died Nov. 11, 2006. He was 51. Dr. Winters was an assistant professor of medicine at UAMS. Board certified in nephrology, he was internationally known for research into cystic fibrosis and the function of the chloride channel in the kidney.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2007 Alumni & Friends Receptions:

Jonesboro

(all UAMS colleges) – Jan. 11

Fort Smith

(all UAMS colleges) – Feb. 15

Pine Bluff

(with local AHEC) – March 21

Dallas (all UAMS colleges) – April 24

El Dorado (with local AHEC) – May 9

American College of Surgeons, New Orleans – Oct. 7-11

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Phonathon in February

(Your chance to talk to a student!)

Alumni Weekend Oct. 27. It's your year if you graduated in '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92 or '97.

Pack Your Bags:

Visit uams.edu/com/alumni for information about the European travel program we're launching in fall 2007. We're planning two tours: the French Alps/Italian Lakes, and Rome/Florence.



RECENT EVENTS

Tulsa Alumni Reception: We sincerely appreciate the wonderful hospitality of our hosts for the Sept. 27 alumni reception in Tulsa: Sheri and **Bo Farmer, M.D. '71**, along with Jane and **John Phillips, M.D. '67**. Alumni and guests reminisced and received an update on the College of Medicine from Dean Debra Fiser, M.D.

American College of Surgeons Conference: Alumni Affairs Executive Director Judith McClain met with several UAMS attendees at the annual October conference in Chicago and discussed the possibility of holding a reception co-hosted by the Department of Surgery every year.

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