Welcoming New Faculty or… Finding Nimeh!

We warmly welcome (back) Dr. Joe Nimeh who introduces himself to us:

Well, Nemo has apparently been found...again. As many of you know, I am an upstate native, growing up in Geneva and spending time since then in Rochester, Philadelphia, and 10 recent years here in Syracuse where I did my medical school and residency training. After my chief resident year, it was time to spread the new wings and fly a bit. So my new wife, Amy, and I, after being married for only two months, made a move to Tampa, Florida where I did a fellowship in General Academic Pediatrics and Hospitalist Medicine and she continued her career in elementary education. Tampa has become one of our favorite cities, and we enjoyed our time there immensely. When not working, we beached, spent time with friends, fished (well...I fished...Amy usually just got bored watching me fish), boated, went to Rays games (where, often, you would hear me scream for the Rays while Amy cheered on her Yankees), and enjoyed the winters in short sleeved shirts. In the end, though, Upstate NY is home for us, and we are thrilled to be back in Syracuse and starting a new beginning.

When we left, we were plus 2. Cat - Whitney - the original. Loveable, but definitely temperamental; Dog - Marley - 100 pounds of gentle giant...as in Labrador-gone-horse. We are now plus 3. Cat - Miles - Orphan on the steps of our condo complex in Florida, very cool, and now a transplant to NY. We are hoping his fur is genetically more NY than FL for his sake. I have been asked many many times if we are going to be "plus 4" any time soon....NOT YET! For now, we are enjoying settling into our first new home, visiting with old friends and family, spending far too much time (and money) in Home Depot, and remembering why it so nice to live in this nook of the world. Its great to be back!

Dr Fuller Retires (again – well not completely, we hope!)

By Howard Weinberger

Paul Fuller announced recently that he would step down from his full time position in the department this month after 17 years on the faculty. He has committed to return in the fall as a voluntary preceptor in our outpatient department at UPAC, where he served as Medical Director and director of the Division of General Pediatrics.

Paul is a native Central New Yorker, born in Rome, NY. He graduated from Niagara University in 1962 and Upstate Medical Center (now University) in 1973. A little known fact was a stint in the Department of Biochemistry here at Upstate where he earned a Masters degree before starting Med school.

He was a resident and chief resident in our department from 1973 – 1976 and, following a year in a multispecialty group practice in Exeter, NH, he opened his own Pediatric practice in his home town of Rome. There, he built an outstanding group practice which served the community and was a training site for our senior residents who wanted to experience a model practice of primary care. Paul and his partners rotated on a weekly basis, as preceptors in our outpatient department during that period as well.

Paul was a model Pediatrician serving in many different capacities in addition to his private practice (e.g. school physician and consulting pediatrician to the Rome School for the Deaf). He also became interested in the field of substance abuse. He was the Medical Director of the Community Recovery Center at the Rome Memorial Hospital, and at the national level he served on the AAP Committee on Substance Abuse.

After 17 years in practice, Paul decided to try the life of an academic pediatrician, and in 1993 he joined the department as Associate Professor and Director of the Division of General Pediatrics.

Interestingly, the year he joined our department as a full time faculty member, he was recognized with the President’s Award for Voluntary Faculty Service.

Since joining the faculty, he oversaw the move of our General Division from the Pediatric Clinic on the 4th floor of UH to the University Pediatric and Adolescent Ctr (UPAC) at UHCC. As Dr Welch wrote in his Dept Newsletter, Paul brought his managerial and administrative skills to the division that has an outstanding staff of professionals working to provide patient care to almost 25,000 patient visits per year.

We are very glad that Paul and his wife Marlana will have time to spend with their family -especially their grandchildren-and time to travel. We wish them continued stamina and good health and look forward to Paul’s continuation to serve as a role model for students, residents and faculty in his new voluntary role.

Young Meets Old

On July 12th several antique cars (and their drivers) paid a visit to the GCCH on the way to the Nationals. They spent a few hours parked in front of the hospital to let the kids come out to see the cars. Drivers included Michelle Laure and her 64 Corvette, Ellie and Bill Dillabough in their 59 Chevy Corvette Biscayne, Dave Miller with his 47 Chevy Pickup, and Mike Mastracco and his 68 Triumph. We want to thank them all for thinking of the children at GCH.
An email to our former residents (back to 1995) inviting them to view it. Since then, several of them have dropped us notes to say hi and let us know what they have been up to. If you are one of them, we’d love to hear from you, too. You just might end up in print like….

…Nancy Chauvin (2004)
It is so nice to hear from you and about the wonderful things happening in Syracuse. I get updates from Jen Mackey every now and then. I miss everyone there…I am still in Philadelphia. I came to do a pediatric radiology fellowship after completing my residency at Wake Forest. Last year, I accepted a position on staff at CHOP. Every day is a challenge. My focus is musculoskeletal radiology and public health studies. I am getting my MPH at night at UPENN. …and for the big news…I’m a mommy! Michael John Osifat, Jr. is 11 weeks old and so much fun! I am attaching a photo. He was born 4/27/2010 at 7 pounds 11 ounces. He’s such a happy baby! I am going to miss him so much when I go back to work. : ) Say hi to everyone…the baby is just waking up! Pass on my email in case anyone wants to drop me a line!

…Neda Shariff (2005)
The hospital looks great. Congrats to everyone there for their hard work and determination to get it done. I hope Ata, the kids and I will be able to make a stop in Syracuse in the next year or two. Would love to see the hospital up close. We have been busy. I have three boys now, Arya (4), Afsheen (3) and Shaheen is 9 months. I have been home with them mainly but do some locum work several days a month. Gives me more time with the boys.

…Colitis" and "Alpha 1-Antitrypsin deficiency in a child with Tyrosinemia Type" were both accepted as a Clinical Vignette poster presentation at the NASPGHAN Annual Meeting, October 21-24 in New Orleans.

Rites of Passage
Meanwhile, our new OPD faculty member, Beth Nelsen, was warmly welcomed on her first day of work by an elaborately decorated new office. No one has claimed responsibility.

Dr. Sarah
The new pediatrician in Fulton, NY was recently featured in the Oswego County Weeklies: Phoenix Register, June 25, 2010. (link).

Baby Cavallerano
Congratulations to Michelle Cavallerano, from Peds Hem/Onc on the birth of baby boy, Sawyer Quin at 6lbs 12oz on 6/30.

Dueling Grandmothers
It was a race to the finish, but congratulations to both Grandma Mandy Trudell on the birth of Elizabeth Rose (7/22), and Grandma Debby Carlson on the birth of Cooper James (7/23). Note that both babies weighed in at 7 lbs 11 oz.

Pediatric Star-of-the-Month
By Lisa Blystone
The Pediatric All-Star for this month is Bill Hannan who received an anonymous praise card for his 40-hour workday in the PICU followed by a great resident conference the same week. It was noted that “He sets a great example as a physician, teacher, and role model.” Congratulations, Dr. Hannan. Please contact Lisa Blystone or Patty Mondore to pick out your Stars prize.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS
8/2 Jennifer Mackey
8/3 Astha Khanna
8/5 Ahmad El Samra
8/9 Ann Sveen, Saadiya Khan
8/10 Mark Claus, Jody Sima
8/17 Craig Byrum
8/22 Beth Nelsen
8/25 Bob Cavanaugh