**Pediatricians-to-Be Picnic**
On Saturday, September 10th, some of the residents (led by Katie Fry and Jaclyn Sisskind) took it upon themselves to invite all of the MS-IV’s who are planning on going into Pediatrics to a picnic at Onondaga Lake Park. Over 10 students showed up, another 10+ residents, and an undetermined number of kids and dogs. Everyone had a wonderful time and it was a great kick-off to the upcoming interview season. We’ll be seeing them all again in a few weeks a little better dressed and without any dogs.

** Docs-for-Tots  
Dawn Lammert  
Editor’s Note: Docs-for-Tots had their first meeting of the academic year on September 8th. Co-President, Dawn Lammert, submitted the following report:  

Docs for Tots, the Upstate student pediatric interest group, had their first general interest meeting this past Thursday with a record turnout of over 100 students. Dr. Welch gave an excellent intro about pediatrics, after which students were able to ask questions and learn more from him and Drs. Meguid and Botash. We are excited to also announce that Dr. Botash will be our club advisor this year. Our main club project is Peds Relief. Members take turns volunteering Mondays and Wednesdays in the Children’s hospital playing with kids. Past club events have included additional lunch lectures, a 4th year match panel, and a dinner with pediatricians. We are looking to expand our community outreach this year, and welcome any suggestions.

Docs-for-Tots Officers from left to right: Tara (VP of Peds Relief), Lis Losito (Communications Rep), Dawn Lammert (Co-Pres), Mallory Lostumbo (Treasurer), Esti Engelman (Secretary), and Andrea Buenrostro (Co-Pres, Peds Relief). Missing from picture – Lauren Jarchin (VP).

**Congratuations, Alicia**  
No, this is not a birth announcement. That will be next month. In the mean time, congratulations to Alicia Pekarsky for being elected as a full member of the Helfter Society ([www.helfersociety.org](http://www.helfersociety.org)). The Ray Helfer Society, founded in 1999 and incorporated in 2001, is an honorary society of physicians seeking to provide leadership to enhance the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Our own Ann Botash is a current member and former president of the Helfer Society. In response to Alicia’s election Dr. Botash comments, ”Alicia has worked hard for this honor and we are lucky to have her expertise in the CNY area”. Congratulations, Alicia!

**GCH "Peds to Parents Blog"  
Amanda Griffin  
Editor’s Note: Amanda Griffin in our GCH Family Resource Center has been working with Steve Blatt and EdCom to produce a blog for parents. You’ll see in her report below that they are open to topic suggestions for future blogs:**

In August, we launched a new pediatric health blog, Peds To Parents, which can be accessed on the home page of the GCH website: [http://upstate.edu/blogs/pedstoparents/](http://upstate.edu/blogs/pedstoparents/). This blog shares information related to pediatric health care, safety and wellness for parents and caregivers. Dr. Blatt is the author of the blog and his first post...
concentrated on the school physical exam; explaining why kids need an exam before heading back to school. Future topics will include the flu vaccine and proper nutrition. If you have questions or topic suggestions that would be a potential fit for this blog, please contact me at griffina@upstate.edu

WHO Knew?
One of our interns let us know of an exciting publishing success he recently had with his research and writing on Vitamin A. Congratulations to Aamer Imdad for not only having the article published in the BMJ and the Cochrane Library, but also to being used as a guideline by the World Health Organization. Aamer was first author on the Cochrane Review (sponsored by the WHO) entitled, “Vitamin A supplementation for preventing morbidity and mortality in children from 6 months to 5 years of age”

Aamer wrote, “Below are the links for the paper and some of the coverage it got in international press. The paper has also been adopted by WHO that has published its guidelines based on its findings.”


http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/micronutrients/guidelines/vnas_6to59_months/en/index.html

http://www.bmj.com/content/343/bmj.d5094

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-14666287

Photo Caption Contest Winner
Last month the Crier had another photo caption contest. Thank you to all of you who submitted entries. As usual, it was difficult to pick one winner but after much deliberation, the prize goes to Patrice Palmieri from the Dept of Medicine. She showed an insider’s understanding of the picture with her caption: "The Medicine Chief Resident takes his hand-washing very seriously". Congratulations, Patrice. You can come and pick up your prize from the Pediatric offices (Rm 5400). It was also the least we could do after all the laughs we got at the IM chief residents’ expense. Maybe Patrice will share the prize.

There was one other entry worth giving honorable mention to that was submitted anonymously.

Thanks again to all who played!

In the Upstate News
In case you missed it, our own Steve Blatt was featured in the September Upstate Online for the legal advocacy he has been promoting for the patients at UPAC.

Pediatric Star-of-the-Month
By Lisa Blystone
This month's Pediatric All-Star is Astha Khanna, for being quick and willing to take an extra call in the PICU over the weekend. Astha agreed on short notice, and it really helped out a fellow resident. Astha, you are a true star! Please contact Lisa Blystone or Patty Mondore to pick out your Star prize.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS
10/1 Jenny Lin
10/9 Marium Gill
10/11 Katharine Chang, Sue Sheffield
10/15 Alicia Pekarsky
10/16 Vicki Keeler
10/22 Howard Weinberger
10/23 Frank Smith
10/27 Chris Malabanan