



**Herbert M. Weinman, MD '65**, (center) with his daughter, Ginny Weinman Leitner, PA, and son, **Steve Weinman, MD '89**



Left to right: Drs. Anu Jayaraman, **Jay M. Ritt, MD '74**, Viraj Shroff-Mehta, and Leera M. Briceno recently opened South Shore Dermatology Physicians in Stoughton, MA, specializing in medical, surgical and cosmetic dermatology.

#### 1947

**Carlyle W. Schumacher**, of Basking Ridge, NJ, writes that he and Mrs. Schumacher gave up their home and are living in an assisted-living compound. The entire compound is 72 acres and they have a five-room apartment.

#### 1955

**Monroe Richman**, of Koloa, HI, just completed a trip to the Galapagos Islands with his son, daughter, and grandson. Dr. Richman visited there 25 years ago and he was glad to see they eliminated feral cats and goats.

#### 1958

**George S. Goldstein**, of White Plains, NY, is retired from pediatric practice (16 years) and the pharmaceutical industry (30 years), including the co-founding of a company now on the NYSE. Dr. Goldstein is doing voice-overs and occasional acting in New York. He is also volunteering locally. "A moving target is harder to hit," he writes.

**Howard L. Weinberger**, of Syracuse, NY, is looking forward to a great Reunion of the Class of 1958 this coming September!

#### 1959

**Carl E. Silver**, of Scottsdale, AZ, retired from active practice in 2005. Dr. Silver was formerly chief of head and neck surgery at Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, NY, and is currently professor emeritus of surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Since retirement, he has continued to publish papers on head and neck surgery and is co-editing his sixth book.

#### 1960

**Daniel L. Dombroski**, of Camillus, NY, is still a general surgeon in Syracuse. Dr. Dombroski has five children; one is a radiologist in Rochester, NY, and three are in medical business fields. He and his wife, Myra, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year. Dombroski writes, "Looking forward to our 50th Reunion in 2010!"

**Leonard Friedman**, of Middleton, MA, will be contacting his classmates for a 50th medical school anniversary article. A previous article suggested that an important lesson to future doctors was to be able to listen to patients as well as keep up with the literature. Dr. Friedman will be looking for other ideas over the phone pertaining to the future best practice of medicine based on the ideas of the members of the Class of 1960. Ideas can be submitted to Friedman119@gmail.com.

#### 1962

**Edward G. Mehrhof** is continuing to work as a child, adolescent, and adult psychiatrist in Cortland and Auburn, NY. In Cortland, two social workers, one psychologist (PhD) and Dr. Mehrhof share a suite and a friendship, and in Auburn, he works two 10-hour days. Mehrhof hopes by the time he turns 80 he can slow down and do more athletic things as he did in medical school. He sends best regards to all classmates.

#### 1965

**Herbert M. Weinman**, of Dallas, PA, and his son, **Steve Weinman, MD '89**, and his daughter, Ginny Weinman Leitner, PA, have opened an urgent care center in the town in which Herb practiced for 25 years. Check them out at [www.firstcaremedcenter.com](http://www.firstcaremedcenter.com).

#### 1966

**Lawrence Panitz**, of Yonkers, NY, would like to thank his classmates who made donations to the Upstate Medical Alumni in honor of his

late wife, Adrienne. Dr. Panitz writes, "We married at the end of my junior year, so many of the class of 1966 were our close friends."

#### 1967

**Warren C. Gewant**, of Montgomery, AL, has retired after 40 years of general and vascular surgery. Dr. Gewant and his wife, Toby, split their time between Alabama, North Carolina, and their grandchildren.

#### 1970

**Howard D. Wulfson** and Carol retired to Boca Raton, FL, on January 31, 2007. They are both very active and are trying to lower their golf handicaps; so far it has been fun. Dr. Wulfson got a Florida medical license in case he changes his mind.

#### 1972

**Harvey M. Cohen**, of Boca Raton, FL, announces the arrival of his first grandchild, Ezra Miles Cohen, born February 26, 2007.

#### 1973

**David A. Clark**, of Delmar, NY, is currently in his tenth year as chairman of Pediatrics at Albany Medical Center. He had three grandchildren born in 2007; Sarah Pardo on January 17, 2007, from daughter Jenny of Independence, LA; Isabella Gambelanghe on November 30, 2007, from daughter Mindy of Albany, NY; and Joshua Ballock on December 17, 2007, from daughter Kim of Phoenix, AZ.

#### 1974

**J. Peter Gregoire**, of Romulus, NY, is semi-retired working part-time in corrections for New York state, a great retirement job. "Something to consider if you want to slow down," he writes.

**Jay M. Ritt** along with Dr. Anu Jayaraman, Dr. Viraj Shroff-Mehta and Leera M. Briceno, recently opened South Shore Dermatology Physicians in Stoughton, MA, specializing in medical, surgical, and cosmetic dermatology. Dr. Ritt has been in dermatology practice in Massachusetts since 1979.

#### 1975

**Gary C. Brown**, of Flourtown, PA, is chief attending surgeon, retina service, at Wills Eye Institute and works with his wife, Melissa Brown, MD, RN, MN, MBA, at the Center for Value-Based Medicine on pharmacoeconomics.

#### 1976

**Mark A. Schimelman**, of Clifton Park, NY, writes that all of his children are now working and living away so he is starting to think about retiring and new adventures. But first he is looking for someone to buy his practice, "not so easy in New York these days," he writes.

#### 1977

**Mark Zilkoski**, of Wolf Point, MT, was awarded the Family Physician of the Year Award for 2007. Dr. Zilkoski has nine children and 13 grandchildren.

#### 1978

**Ronald W. Pies**, of Lexington, MA, is the author of a new guide to living well, *Everything Has Two Handles* (University Press of America, April 2008).

#### 1980

**John F. Quinn**, an anesthesiologist in Columbia, SC, participated in his third overseas medical trip in 2007. Sponsored by Interplast, the two-week trip to Quang Ngai, Vietnam, provided cleft lip and palate surgery to 60 children. Dr. Quinn's wife, Susan, is an attorney active in the area of crime victim's rights.

#### 1982

**Thomas A. Bersani**, of Skaneateles, NY, was elected the 180th president of the Onondaga County Medical Society at its annual dinner meeting on October 23, 2007. In 2004, Dr. Bersani was the recipient of MSSNY's President's Citizenship Award. He was honored for seven medical missions to Honduras and West Africa.

**Joseph A. Smith**, of Hillsborough, NJ, writes that his daughter, Becky, 24, is dancing for her second year with the New Jersey Nets; daughter, Jenny, 22, graduated from the College of New Jersey; and son, Danny, 18, just started at Rutgers. Dr. Smith continues in private family practice and lectures around New Jersey on several mental health topics. His wife, Fern, continues as billing/insurance supervisor in their practice.

#### 1983

**Joan L. Thomas**, of Fairport, NY, was appointed chief of cardiology at Unity Health Systems in Rochester, NY, in December.

#### 1987

**Helen Burstin** is senior vice president at Performance Measures National Quality Forum in Washington, DC.

**Lewis Slawsky** is enjoying life in Knoxville, TN, with wife, Elaine, daughter, Renee, 17, and son, Erik, 13. Dr. Slawsky has a solo dermatology practice in Maryville, TN.

#### 1988

**Ellen Reich** practices allergy and clinical immunology in Southern California/Orange County. Dr. Reich and her husband, Alan, have three children.

#### 1990

**Kecia Gaither**, of Bronxville, NY, has been appointed director of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Long Island College Hospital of Brooklyn's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Gaither's primary interests include HIV and diabetes in pregnancy, pre-natal ultrasound diagnoses and perinatal outcomes in the urban environment.

#### 1991

**John C. Brancato**, of West Hartford, CT, writes that he and his partner, Tom Richardson, celebrated the arrival of their second daughter, Maddalenn, on June 14, 2007. Their daughter, Ellie, is four. Dr. Brancato is still practicing pediatric emergency medicine at Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford, CT.

**Naomi R. Rappaport**, of South Dartmouth, MA, has been settled in southeastern Massachusetts for the past 10 years. "Working in community health and sailing an old wooden boat around Buzzards Bay and Martha's Vineyard. What's not to like!" she writes.

#### 1992

**Kathrin J. Berg**, of Geneva, NY, has two children, Alexandra Berg-Pappert, ten, and Natalie Berg-Pappert, six.

#### 1993

**William B. Lewis**, of Berkeley, CA, writes he has a beautiful 12-year-old daughter, Yashoda, who is a joy to behold. She loves acting and dancing and is an avid rock climber. Dr. Lewis is practicing otolaryngology and head and neck surgery in Oakland, CA, a very busy four-man group. He is very happy and trying his hand at practice management.

#### 1995

**Wailang Lau**, of Woodstock, CT, will be starting a fellowship in nephrology this summer after 10 years in primary care medicine. He is excited and ready for a change in his life.



**John F. Quinn, MD '80**, with a young patient in Vietnam



**Joan L. Thomas, MD '83**



Alexandra Berg-Pappert, ten, and Natalie Berg-Pappert, six, children of **Kathrin J. Berg, MD '92**



**Michele (Mercincavage) Bassler, MD '97** and **Melissa (Jeitler) Brown, MD '97**



**Kevyn To, MS III**

#### 1997

**Melissa (Jeitler) Brown**, of Jamesville, NY, was married on August 4, 2007. **Michele (Mercincavage) Bassler, MD '97**, was a bridesmaid.

#### 1998

**Timothy K. Atkinson** and his wife, Mary, welcomed their third child, Isaac, to their family on December 30, 2007. They are raising their son and two girls, Melanie, eight and Abigail, two, in Potsdam, NY, where Dr. Atkinson has a busy practice in family medicine.

**Matthew W. Doust**, of Scottsdale, AZ, and his wife, Season, announce the birth of their second son, Sage Kenneth Doust, born on February 18.

**Slade C. Moore** returned from his deployment to Fallujah Surgical in support of Iraqi Freedom in March 2007. Dr. Moore is currently living in Newton, MA, with **Charleen J. Morehouse-Moore, MD '98** and their two children, Madison, seven, and Rhenna, three, while he completes a total joint fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital.

#### 1999

**Mary E. Fowkes**, of New York, NY, received the 2007 Graduate of Distinction Award during the SUNY-ESF convocation in December. Dr. Fowkes has distinguished herself as a medical examiner for New York City and coordinates neuropathology training at the prestigious Mount Sinai Hospital, where she is a neuropathologist and a member of the faculty. She is a board-certified anatomic, forensic and neuropathologist.

#### 2001

**Suzanne Mesidor**, of Hudson, NY, has joined the medical staff at The Women's Health Center. Dr. Mesidor will provide all levels of obstetric and gynecological care at the hospital and is interested in caring for women of all ages. She has a special interest in gynecological laparoscopic surgery.

#### 2002

**William Cosman**, of Brockport, NY, joined Lake Plains Eye Center in Medina, NY. In October 2007, Dr. Cosman finished among the top eight percent in the country on the American Board of Ophthalmology certification exam.

#### 2006

**Shazia A. Beg**, of Syracuse, NY, is in her second year of residency and applying for a rheumatology fellowship.

#### 2009

**Kevyn To**, of Syracuse, NY, has been named a recipient of the American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation's 2008 Leadership Award. This award provides medical students, residents/fellows, early career physicians and established physicians from around the country with special training to develop their skills as future leaders in organized medicine and community affairs. Kevyn is a third-year medical student at Upstate Medical University and a member of the Diversity Task Force Council there. He is the founder of the SUNY Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally (LGBTQA) Co-Operative of Upstate/University Hospital, a campus wide organization dedicated to advancing the quality of LGBT patient care through education and physician sensitivity. In the past two years, he has played a pioneering role in the development, planning and introduction of the LGBT curriculum in the College of Medicine at SUNY Upstate.

#### **Ruchir Gupta, MD '05** and **Daniel R. Lefebvre, MD '05**

### Writing from Life

#### New Publications from Members of the Class of 2005

During the summer between graduating from SUNY Binghamton and beginning medical school at SUNY Upstate, Ruchir Gupta, MD '05, embarked on a unique writing project: translating the sacred Hindu text *The Ramayan* into English in the same poetic form it was written in ancient Sanskrit.

"Ancient Hindu literature was written in poetic form because the stories were orally passed down," says Dr. Gupta.

Earlier English translations of *The Ramayan* had ended up in prose form because they were verbatim translations. Gupta took a new approach, retelling the story in English using the same poetic scheme as the original: quatrains in which the second and fourth lines rhyme. "While it's not a verbatim translation, English-speaking people can have the same experience reading this book that the ancient Hindus got reading the original," says Gupta, whose book was published during his second year at the College of Medicine.

That publishing experience led to his most recent project: the *Anesthesia Pocket Card Set*.

As a third-year anesthesiology resident at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City, Gupta has to memorize a lot of material. "By virtue of the kind of work we do, we need to know various drug dosages and algorithms.

But even the best of clinicians can be faced with a unique patient popula-

tion or disease process that requires reference. Though many reference guides exist, Gupta says they are so large that if you put one in your scrub pants pocket, "it literally pulls your scrub pants down."

That problem is compounded by a nationwide trend against bringing bags or backpacks into the operating room because of potential disruption to the sterile field. "Someone might bring a bag with a reference text, but forget there's a candy bar in there too," says Gupta.

Gupta thought it would be convenient to have an anesthesiology equivalent to the Maxwell Guide carried by interns. He had already started assembling some of the most commonly used information on index cards for his own use and realized he could create what he was looking for himself. He found an interested publisher in Borm Bruckmeier, a German company that produces a line of ultra-compact pocket reference guides.

Gupta produced his manuscript with the full endorsement of his department, which he says was "incredibly supportive," and the finished product was released in May.

"This project combined my interest in writing and publishing with my interest in medicine," says Gupta. "It's been a personal accomplishment to bring these skills together."

Gupta is not the only member of the Class of 2005 to create a publication out of his own need. Classmate Daniel R. Lefebvre, MD '05, is the author of the recently published *Personal Finance for the New Physician: Money Management for Residency and Beyond*.

"If you don't get your finances in order during residency, you basically lose out on time, which is the most important thing to preserve in terms of finances," says Dr. Lefebvre, who followed an unlikely path to authorship.

During his surgery internship at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Lefebvre decided he'd rather specialize in ophthalmology. He entered the ophthalmology match at the end of that year and earned a spot at Nassau University Medical Center and SUNY Stony Brook, but because of the timing of the two specialties, found himself with a gap year.

With time to do more non-medical reading, as well as to reflect on the state of his own finances, Lefebvre decided he didn't know too much about personal finance. "Most of the books I was reading were really dense and verbose," he says. "Most medical students and residents don't have time to read a 500-page book. I thought it would be a good idea to cull the key information down into a concise guide geared especially for medical students and residents."

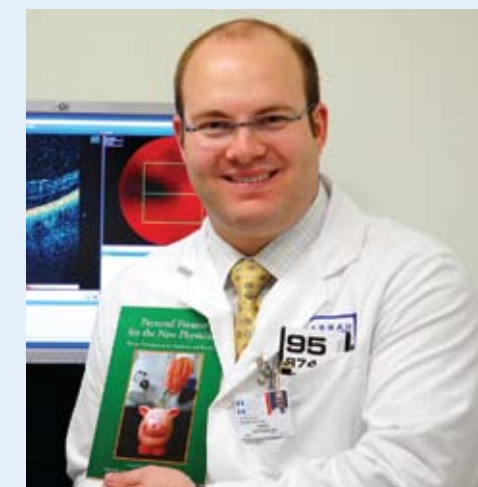
Lefebvre developed an outline and began research for the book, which covers topics ranging from saving and investing to purchasing a car, home, and insurance. When he had a completed manuscript, he shared it with his college roommate, a financial planner, who edited it.

Released this winter, Lefebvre's book is available at bookstores nationwide and through [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and [bn.com](http://bn.com). To help market the book, Lefebvre made postcards of the cover and sent them to the financial aid and academic affairs offices at every medical school in the country.

"It's such a niche, I figured once the word got out, it would market itself," he says. It has, ranking as high as number seven among financial aid books on Amazon.com.



**Ruchir Gupta, MD '05**



**Daniel R. Lefebvre, MD '05**