

1947

Shirley M. Ferguson-Rayport, of Perrysburg, OH, edited a new book, *Temporal Lobe Epilepsy and the Mind-Brain Relationship: A New Perspective*, which was listed in the Neuroscience Catalog 2006-07.

1953

Harold R. Torrance and his wife, Sally, of Orlando, FL. Picture taken in September 2007.

1956

Sheldon H. Barnes, of Melbourne, FL, and his wife, Lucille, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in November 2006. He and Lucille were tour hosts on the Norwegian Fiord Cruise for a Christian tour group. Dr. Barnes has been retired for 21 years.

1958

George Jacobs, of South Hackensack, NJ, stepped down from the chair position of the department of neurosurgery at the HUMC, New Jersey Medical School, on January 1, 2002, but has maintained a limited surgical practice. On January 1, 2008, he will stop doing operative surgery but continue teaching and consulting in complex spine cases. Among his publications are two novels, *A Simple Twist of Fate* and *Freedom Quest*. A third, *Conduct Unbecoming*, is in the final stages of editing. Since Rosanne has also retired from her provost position at City University of New York they are finally planning to travel around the world. They have nine grandchildren at this time.

1959

A. Bryon Collins is practicing full-time general surgery in Hornell, NY. He is chair of the Department of Surgery at St. James Mercy Hospital. Dr. Collins also runs a 1,600-acre beef cattle farm managed by his oldest son, Chip. His youngest son, Craig, just graduated from medical school and is a first-year general surgery resident at the University of Buffalo.

1960

Roger D. Moore, of Clinton, NY, is looking forward to the 50th Medical Alumni Reunion in 2010. He hopes the whole class can return for the weekend!

1963

Arlen K. Snyder retired from a busy orthopaedic surgery practice in Canandaigua, NY, on June 30, 2007. The practice was a group of five surgeons and five pals. Dr. Snyder is busy doing independent medical exams, and is amazed at the amount of fraud in the workplace.

1964

Edward Burak, of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, writes that his son, **Jarett S. Burak, MD '02** is board certified in radiology and will complete a fellowship in MSK radiology at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, NY, in June 2008.

Eugene D. George is enjoying retirement in Lake Anna, VA, focusing on kids, grandkids, jet skiing and boating.

Lawrence W. Myers, of Camarillo, CA, is retiring at the end of 2007 after spending the last 40 years at UCLA. Dr. Myers started as a neurology resident in 1967 and ended as an adjunct professor. He has had a great career and appreciates the start he received at Upstate Medical University.

1965

Paul J. Honig, of Mount Laurel, NJ, writes that he sees **Don Jeck '65** and his wife, Eleanor, once a year when he visits Scottsdale, AZ, for the winter. Dr. Honig likes the desert so much that he invested in a condo there. He also played golf with **Bob Sargent '65** when he visited his daughter in Denver, CO.

1967

Warren C. Gewant, of Montgomery, AL, retired in June 2007 from the practice of general and vascular surgery.

Jay Grossman writes, "Dear Class of '67, I am sorry that we could not attend the Reunion, but I am off to Argentina to give a couple of lectures at a pediatric allergy meeting. Eudice and I have been living in Tucson, AZ, for the last 15 years. We don't miss the Upstate weather, but wish that we could be there with you. I am still actively practicing allergy, and I am currently the president of the Arizona Allergy Society."

1979

Constance McGlashen is still living in New York City but has moved to Brooklyn. Due to severe arthritis she has been out on disability since early 2004.



Harold R. Torrance, MD '53, and his wife, Sally.



Sheldon H. Barnes, MD '56, of Melbourne, FL, and his wife, Lucille.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**Reunion Weekend 2008**

September 19 and 20
Classes ending in 3 and 8



Linda J. Powell, MD '89, and family.



Stephen Weinman, MD '89, of New Paltz, NY, with his wife and children.

SAVE THE DATE!

Career Advisory Network Dinners

Syracuse: January 7

Binghamton: January 8

Visit: http://www.upstate.edu/medalumni/alumni_resources/can.php for more details

1980

Stuart H. Forster and his wife, **Danielle Katz '97**, of Syracuse, NY, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Alexis, in January 2007.

Michael Privitera, of Cincinnati, OH, is professor and vice chair of neurology and director of the Cincinnati Epilepsy Center. He writes, "Have pity, both my sons are teenagers."

1981

Stephen A. Spaulding of Horseheads, NY, says it was great to see his classmates at their 25th Reunion. Dr. Spaulding was fortunate to attend graduation in May at Upstate on his 25th anniversary of reciting the Hippocratic Oath and was honored to attend and participate in the graduation ceremony of one of his RMed students. He completed hiking the "Great Range" in the Adirondacks with his oldest daughter in August; she is a pre-med student at Catholic University in D.C.

1982

Joseph A. Smith, of Hillsborough, NJ, recently published a two-part article on treating depression in primary care for the New Jersey Academy of Family Physicians.

1983

Jeffrey B. Freedman, of New York, NY, is president elect of the New York County District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association.

1984

Bruce V. Foerster, his wife Maureen, and their three children—Jacob, 12, Delaney, 10, and Allison, 3—are relocating to San Diego, CA, for some sun and surf. Dr. Foerster will be practicing with friends from his training at Grossmont Orthopedics. His subspecialty is in hand/wrist surgery. He says his kids are having a rough transition because now they have to cheer for the Padres and the Chargers.

1985

Debra Clark, of Keeseville, NY, finally switched from renter to owner last December 2006 when her new office building was completed and she moved in. "Hurrah!"

1987

Keith C. Kocis is living in Chapel Hill, NC, with his two children, Kyra, 9, and Connor, 7. Dr. Kocis is a professor of pediatrics at the University of North Carolina, where he is a pediatric cardiac intensivist. Along with clinical duties, he has been researching advanced ICU monitoring technology resulting in a new medical device, patent, and start-up company called REAL TROMINS (Real Time Risk of Mortality and Instability). Finally, he headed a medical mission to Kampala Uganda in October to perform open heart surgery on children at Makerere University.

1988

Beth Burghardt, of Liverpool, NY, and her husband, Fred, are charter members of the Master's Touch Chorale, which has sung at the White House and performs several concerts yearly.

1989

Linda J. Powell just completed her 15th year as medical director and solo-physician at OMHC in Odessa, WA. Dr. Powell does all aspects of family medicine except for obstetrics. She also stays busy with the activities of her three children, Zack, 15, Kira, 13, and Griffy, 11, and with the community, which is only 1,000 people.

Stephen Weinman, of New Paltz, NY, is opening First Care Medical Center and Essence Medispa, an urgent care and cosmetic dermatology practice in Highland, NY. Dr. Weinman is married with two children, Kyle, 3, and Lucas, 1.

1991

David Kalman is a gastroenterologist in Springfield, MA. While on a northern California summer trip, Dr. Kalman caught up with

Hayley Altman-Gans '91 and her family. He also saw long-time friend and former housemate **Michael Gould '87**.

1993

Daniel Alley, of Sheridan, WY, served in Iraq with the Wyoming National Guard from May 2007 through November 2007.

1996

Timothy J.D. Gregory, of Harker Heights, TX, and his wife, Karin, have two girls, Claire, 2, and Abby, 1.

1997

William H. Gans, of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, and his wife, Debby, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Carly, on August 26, 2007. Carly joins her older brother, Benjamin who is 3.

Christopher Tidd, of London, Ontario, completed his general psychiatry residency at the University of Rochester Medical Center in 2001. Then from 2001 to 2006 he was a clinician at Rochester Psychiatric Center and on the University of Rochester teaching faculty. Currently Dr. Tidd is the co-postgraduate education director of the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He is married with three children.

1998

Stratton G. Danes, of Cooperstown, NY, has joined Bassett Healthcare's Division of Vascular Surgery and will provide clinical surgical care to patients in Cooperstown and at Little Falls Hospital. Previously, Dr. Danes practiced at Borgess Medical Center and Bronson Medical Center, in Kalamazoo, MI.

Sherri Putterman and **Drew Caplin**, of Manhasset, NY, welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Naomi, in May 2007. First daughter, Kayla, is a very proud big sister. Dr. Caplin is an interventional radiologist at North Shore University Hospital.

1999

David J. Patalino, of Skaneateles, NY, has joined Slocum-Dickinson's Orthopaedic Department in the subspecialty of hand and elbow surgery.

2000

Jayne Healey, of Liverpool, NY, was named consulting pathologist at Laboratory Alliance of Central New York.

2001

Christopher Wasyliv finished his one-year fellowship in MSK radiology at Yale University and has accepted a position with Florida Radiology Associates in Orlando, FL, where he currently resides with his wife, Jane.

2003

Nathaniel Gould, of New Hartford, NY, has joined Slocum-Dickinson. Dr. Gould specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Andrew Gurman, MD '80

Mr. Speaker

When Andrew Gurman, MD '80, was recruited to practice hand surgery in Altoona, Pennsylvania, his senior partner also recruited him to participate in county and state medical societies, where he was active.

"As I got more involved and saw how doctors came together to try and solve the mutual problems they faced, I got increasingly interested," says Dr. Gurman, who before long discovered he "really liked the ebb and flow of debate in a deliberative assembly."

Gurman sought out training as a parliamentarian and was elected vice speaker and then speaker of the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Last June, he was elected vice speaker of the American Medical Association.

A member of the AMA Board of Trustees, Gurman will co-preside with the speaker over the two annual meetings of the AMA House of Delegates and represent the AMA at various medical and governmental meetings. He will serve for four years before being eligible to run for speaker.

At any point in time, the AMA is actively engaged in advocacy in matters of public health and the practice of medicine.

Currently, the organization has taken a stand in support of reauthorization of CHIP—the Children's Health Insurance Program, vetoed by President Bush but soon to be reconsidered by the House and Senate.

The group is at work on the update—and eventually, hopefully, a permanent fix—on the sustainable growth rate, the formula by which Medicare reimbursement is calculated. "It is a fairly complex formula that everyone in Congress admits is flawed because it's tied to gross national



product," Gurman explains. "Every year we have to go back to Congress to get a temporary fix because if we don't, over the next nine years, physician reimbursement will go down 40 percent while our practice costs escalate. There is an unsustainable pattern that is a priority to be fixed."

Another strategic goal is universal health coverage. "That's critically important because studies clearly show that people who are uninsured live sicker and die younger," he says. "It's a matter of public health."

Gurman loves the intellectual challenge of being part of public policy in action.

"The breadth and depth of issues that you have to learn and think about is very different from my day-to-day hand surgery practice," he says. "I still find hand surgery to be challenging and rewarding, both intellectually and technically. But this is a whole new set of problems and challenges to think about, learn about, and try to solve."

The skills involved with his job as vice speaker also tap a different skill set. "Presiding over a deliberative assembly is one of the engrossing things I do outside sitting at an operating table," says Gurman, who is senior partner of Blair Orthopedics in Altoona, an eight-physician group. "Like surgery, you have to be incredibly focused. I find it very invigorating."

—Renée Gearhart Levy

Steven Blatt, MD '83**Child Advocate**

Every year, approximately 25,000 children visit University Hospital's Pediatric and Adolescent Center (UPAC). Many are low-income, including a large refugee population, children in the foster-care system, and victims of child abuse.

According to Steven Blatt, MD '83, division director for general pediatrics, it's not uncommon for his patients to have legal issues that impact their well being, issues such as access to social security and health insurance benefits, landlord-tenant disputes, immigration, and handicap access.

Two years ago, Dr. Blatt helped found the Family Advocacy Program, a partnership between UPAC and the SU College of Law that brings faculty and student lawyers on site at UPAC to provide advocacy to low-income children and their families as a means to improve their overall health.

"We typically have a law professor and law student on site to give us advice, answer patient's questions, and if necessary, take cases," he says.

The program was modeled after a program at Boston Medical Center, and since its inception, has responded to more than 70 requests for legal services, typically at the referral of a UPAC health practitioner.

For example: A family moved from Syracuse into the mother's parents' home in a nearby suburb. When the mother tried to enroll her children in the local school system she was told she wasn't a resident of the district. "They wanted her to take the kids back to the old district,



Pediatrician **Steven Blatt, MD '83**, is medical director of the Family Advocacy Program at University Hospital's Pediatric and Adolescent Center.

but she didn't live there anymore," says Blatt, who serves as medical director of the program. "We hooked her up with lawyers and they got her kids into school."

Another case. A child with special needs got into a fight at school and was going to be suspended. "We put his family in touch with lawyers because we felt it was illegal. This was a special education student who needed remediation, not punishment," says Blatt.

Last March, the Family Advocacy Program was honored with the Syracuse University Chancellor's Award for Public Engagement and Scholarship. Its directors are looking to possibly expand the types of cases handled by tapping the services of community providers.

"Some children and their families have to navigate so many obstacles to get their

basic needs met that families and doctors need help," Blatt says.

He'll now be advocating through a new platform. In June, Blatt was named to Governor Spitzer's Children's Cabinet Advisory Board, a group formed to provide input on a variety of children's issues to state agencies that constitute the Children's Cabinet. The Advisory Board's first priorities are universal health coverage and implementation of universal pre-Kindergarten programs for children in New York State.

Although it's very early in the process, Blatt is hopeful that the group can make an impact. "In today's world, to ensure that children get what they need to grow up healthy, they need more than just what a doctor can offer," he says.

—Renée Gearhart Levy