

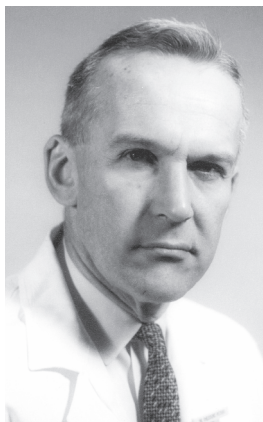


THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center
Cooperstown, New York

Summer 2020
Vol. XXIV No. 2

A Tribute to Theodore (Ted) Peters, Jr., Ph.D., (1922 – 2020) Bassett’s Selfless Biochemist Extraordinaire



Theodore (Ted) Peters, Jr., Ph.D.

Theodore (Ted) Peters, Jr., Ph.D., arrived in Cooperstown with his family in 1955, recruited to The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital from Harvard Medical School by research physician, Joe Ferrebee, M.D., his former Harvard colleague. As Peters recalled in an interview years later, “I wondered what kind of a wilderness this is we’re going to?”

Hired as research biochemist, Peters soon teamed up with associate pathologist Charles Ashley, M.D., to use the institution’s new electron microscope for enhancing his groundbreaking studies of the structure and function of serum

albumin, research which would lead to national and international acclaim. He also soon assumed directorship of Bassett’s clinical laboratories, and taught cohorts of Bassett physicians through the years the understanding and underpinning of biochemistry for the practice of medicine.

For more background, readers will recall Peters’ brief obituary in the Spring 2020 issue of *The Cupola*. Also see his obituary in *The Daily Star* edition of March 24, 2020, which showcases his multifaceted life and accomplishments in the community aside from Bassett. In addition, his research career was reviewed at length in 2002 by The American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC). Peters served a term as the Association’s president, and in 1991 he received the AACC “Award for Outstanding Contributions Through Service to the Profession of Clinical Chemistry.”

Soft spoken, cheerful, and always humble, Ted Peters “retired” in 1988 but did not leave his office as research emeritus until about 2010. He was incredibly helpful to thousands of individuals through his years of research, clinical and administrative roles at Bassett and in the wider Cooperstown community.

In a recent letter to John Davis, M.D., William (Buck) Greenough, M.D., research fellow assigned to Bassett by the U.S. Public Research Service (1959-61) and currently professor of Medicine at The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, put it this way: “In July of 1959, I arrived in Cooperstown with my wife, Jane and three young children. Ted Peters made time and met with me weekly to teach me the mysteries of protein chemistry... He was always available to me and helped enormously as I carried out experiments seeking a protein precursor in hemoglobin synthesis. I learned a great deal from him not only about proteins but also about how, when busy, to make time for young researchers, sharing both his technical knowledge, wisdom, and teaching skills to me. His example has guided me through my research and academic career, and I have tried to follow his example in all my interactions and efforts to guide and assist my students over the years since my Bassett fellowship.”

Greenough’s comments about Ted Peters have been echoed by untold numbers of Bassett colleagues, trainees, and friends throughout the years. Here are some of just a few of those accolades:

Emery Herman, Jr., M.D.: “I always would have to say that Ted Peters was a person to go to with medical problems, personal problems, tennis problems, whatever it was. He was just a gem of this place who I think people recognized quietly, but not with any fanfare, and that was just what he wanted. “

Peters to page 7

Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

By now we are all ready for 2020 to be over, but sadly there is no apparent end in sight for the COVID-19 pandemic. Here’s hoping all are coping with the restrictions and staying safe and well.

Please enjoy this issue of *The Cupola*. The team that puts these together is little short of amazing, with dedication and skill that really shows up in the final result.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Ted Peters. Many of you knew him, and I’m sure you’ll remember that he was a true gentleman, with respect for all others...not to mention his brilliant



Kenneth Wilkins, M.D., President, Board of Directors

mind! Elsewhere you can read about recent match results, as well as the continuing success of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School.

Plans are in the works for a mostly virtual meeting of the Alumni Board this fall. We’ll keep you informed about the meeting and what’s going on at the hospital. It’s a different world. Please let us hear from you. We want to know what our alumni are doing and that you are all staying well. ■

Wash your hands, wear a mask, and keep your distance!

The Cupola is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett's Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center

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The Cupola is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, *The Cupola*, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Medical Center, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail cupola@bassett.org.

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Tommy Ibrahim, M.D., M.H.A., Named President of the Bassett Healthcare Network

Douglas Hastings, chairman of the Bassett Healthcare Network Board of Directors, announced that Tommy Ibrahim, M.D., M.H.A., has been appointed to be the next president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Bassett Healthcare Network. Ibrahim is expected to begin his tenure in this role in mid to late July.

Ibrahim has held leadership positions within the health care industry for the past 14 years, most recently serving as executive vice president and chief physician executive for Integris Health System, a "Top 25" health care system in the United States according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and the largest not-for-profit and state-owned health care system in Oklahoma.

"We are extremely pleased to announce the hiring of Dr. Ibrahim as the next president and CEO of Bassett Healthcare Network," said Hastings. "He brings to us the experience of being the top physician leader of a large, highly regarded health system, along with an innovative and forward-looking drive to embrace the future of health care and to advance Bassett's mission of improving the health of our patients and the well-being of our communities. I am optimistic about that future and look forward to working closely with Dr. Ibrahim to achieve it."

"I want to thank Jane Forbes Clark, chair of the Bassett Medical Center Board of Trustees, and the other members of the search committee for their hard work on this search," continued Hastings.

In his most recent role, held since 2017, Ibrahim was the executive leader of Integris Health System's physician and medical staff leaders. He served as the physician executive in charge of leading the strategic direction for clinical services throughout the 19-hospital health system of owned and joint-venture assets, including all clinical operations, the physician enterprise, and system integration objectives. This position included direct responsibility for system research, graduate medical education, and medical informatics.

Previously, Ibrahim served as chief physician officer and vice president of Medical Affairs at Mercy Health Network in Des Moines, Iowa from 2014-17, and as senior vice president and chief physician executive at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois from 2010-14.

Ibrahim received his Doctor of Medicine degree and his Bachelor of Medical Science degree in England and completed his Internal Medicine residency at Greater Baltimore Medical Center, an academic affiliate of Johns Hopkins, in Baltimore, Md. He holds a Master of Science

degree in Health Administration from Seton Hall University. He received a graduate certificate in Organizational Behavior and Executive Coaching from the University of Texas, Dallas, and was nominated to Modern Healthcare as one of the 50 Most Influential Clinical Leaders of 2019.

He is a practicing hospitalist and boarded in internal medicine and hospital medicine. Ibrahim is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, fellow in Hospital Medicine, and received the Certified Physician Executive accreditation from the American Association of Physician Leadership.

"I am humbled to become part of the Bassett family and to follow in the footsteps of the visionary leaders that have shaped the rich and historic legacy of this wonderful and leading health system," said Ibrahim.

"Grounded in innovation and the advancement of scientific research and evidence-based practice,

Bassett has repeatedly demonstrated what it means to be a national leader in health care, through generations of contributions and medical firsts and as the cornerstone of patient care in Central New York."

"It's truly an honor to be selected by this incredibly committed board of directors," continued Ibrahim. "I look forward to locking arms with all of our board members, leaders, physicians, clinicians, and all of our 5,000 caregivers across the network to build upon the successes of the past in creating a strong and prosperous future in which Bassett's mission, vision, and values resonate throughout the communities we are privileged to serve."

Ibrahim's accomplishments include improving rural health care at Mercy Health Network through the successful implementation of telehealth programs for rural Iowa network hospitals and improving access to residents in remote communities.

Ibrahim has held board positions with Autism Oklahoma, Health Alliance for the Uninsured, and The Iowa Medical Education Collaborative, where he served as board chair from 2014-17. Founder of the J. Christian Autism Foundation, he was a Medical Missionary for International Medical Relief in 2016 and was a GI research assistant for the National Institutes of Health in 2009.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Ibrahim, and his wife Marian, along with their two children, John-Christian (10) and Sophia Haven (5), are looking forward to returning East and excited to call Cooperstown home. When not working, they enjoy camping, hiking, biking, lake living, travel, and great food. ■



Tommy Ibrahim,
M.D., M.H.A.

Columbia-Bassett Program Marks 2020 Graduation

Despite the turmoil of the COVID-19 pandemic and the upheaval of May, the graduation ceremony for the 2020 class of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School was exceptional and unforgettable. In keeping with changes introduced due to the spread of the virus, this year's event was an online Zoom experience for the faculty, graduates, and their family members. Held on Sunday, May 3, 2020, participation was limited in numbers to help maintain a feeling of proximity and closeness regardless of the digital aspect of the event. According to Columbia-Bassett's Assistant Dean for Education and Course Director in Psychiatry, Megan M. Brennan, M.D., "There was a palpable feeling of joy and celebration and the Zoom gallery afforded the unique and impactful benefit of seeing all attendees up close despite the significant geographic disconnection between us. It was surprisingly wonderful and allowed us to honor our graduates and say goodbye."

This year's guest speaker was Kelli Harding, M.D., assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia Irving Medical Center. She is the author of the book, *The Rabbit Effect*, which explores the connections between health and wellness. Her groundbreaking research has been described as demonstrating "that love, friendship, community, life's purpose, and environment can have a greater impact on health than anything that happens in the doctor's office." According to

Henry F.C. Weil, M.D., senior associate dean for education, "her presentation was riveting, and her research findings reflect many of the values and humanistic patient care experience that characterize our unique medical education track in the Columbia-Bassett program."

Each year the graduating class recognizes one faculty member who most exemplifies the traits that students hope to embody in the future. These traits might include dedication to teaching, patient care, scholarship, and probity. The 2020 recipient of the Cupola Award to the Columbia-Bassett Teacher of the Year was Daryl Gildenblatt, M.D., attending physician in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

The program concluded with a beautiful, pre-recorded, musical performance of Simon & Garfunkel's "Homeward Bound" by two of the graduates, Rachel MacLean, M.D. and Benjamin Wagner, M.D. ■

Members of the 2020 graduation class are:

Leah Apple, M.D.
Ethan Ayers, M.D.
Emma Gerstenzang, M.D.
Christopher Jackson, M.D.
Kimberly Leon, M.D.
Rachel MacLean, M.D.

Alison McIlvride, M.D.
Stephen Sammons, M.D.
Mark Travor, M.D.
Benjamin Wagner, M.D.
Caitlin Yumori, M.D.

Bassett Physicians Join National Movement



On June 5, 2020 a group of Bassett physicians, practitioners and staff gathered on the patio to lend their moral support and solidarity with the movement #Whitecoatsforblacklives. Bassett Healthcare issued the following statement, "We are committed to fostering a respectful, compassionate, and inclusive environment of care. Recognizing and valuing our shared humanity in every patient, we reject bias, exclusion, and oppression in all forms. Now more than ever, it is important that we listen to the national conversations about race and equality and do our part to foster change." ■



THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming!

1960s

Emery Herman, Jr., M.D.



Emery Herman, Jr., M.D.

(Internal Medicine attending 1961-94) “My stroke, suffered December 26, has given me an exposure to aspects of

medical practice not known to me in earlier years. Five months later I am pleased to report progress in walking and balance as well as gratitude for the friendships that have sustained me.”

1980s

Jacqueline A. Bello, M.D.

(Flexible intern 1980-81) will serve as vice chair of American College of Radiology (ACR). She previously served as chair of the ACR Commission on Quality and Safety. She is director of neuroradiology at Montefiore Medical Center and professor of radiology and neurosurgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, NY.

Lawrence Barnowsky, M.D.

(Attending radiologist 1982-present) reports that he turned 70 in April and he’s still working full-time but will be going 60-percent in August. “After writing nine books on the art of magic, I decided to try something different. The result is my first novel, *Out of Place*

which is the story of a math savant who works as an analyst for the CIA.” It is available on Amazon.

Deborah Sentochnik, M.D.

(Internal Medicine resident 1983-86, Medicine attending 2000-present) writes, “Here’s my activity for the year: COVID-19 COVID-19 COVID-19 repeat.”



Tildabeth Doscher, M.D., with colleagues at Phoenix House

Tildabeth Doscher, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 1985-86) “I am currently in Buffalo, working as the Addiction Medicine fellowship director at UB. I also work as an assistant clinical professor in the Med School and work clinically in outpatient and inpatient facilities. Most significantly, I recently spent three weeks in N.Y.C. as a COVID-19 volunteer at a Substance Use Treatment Program (Phoenix House), stepping in for the medical director who died from the virus. Now I am continuing, long distance, to work with them as the medical director. I feel blessed to have found my way to work that I am so

passionate about...and I am grateful for Bassett as a step on my journey.”

1990s

Michael S. Stecker, M.D.

(Surgery resident 1992-94) assistant professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School and Director of Safety and Quality for the Division of Angiography and Interventional Radiology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, was (virtually) inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Radiology.

John Callahan, M.D.

(Medicine resident 1996-99) reports

that, working with a team from MIT, he created an “open-source” design for a novel pandemic ventilator. An article describing his device, called PREVAIL NY, has appeared in several publications. The device was submitted for “Emergency Use Authorization” to the FDA and he has fielded calls from physicians in Manitoba, New Zealand and Bangladesh

who are interested in replicating these plans. The miracle of its design is that it can be locally produced, is robust enough to reuse, and can safely ventilate a human for days or weeks at a time if the necessary additional medical support is there. He writes, “As I am a member of the West Point class of 1986, I credit my education with enabling me to succeed in getting this product fielded. I was told by many that it could not be done. Although not yet deployed, there is a degree of satisfaction seeing this develop from a concept to an actual working ventilator. I welcome questions from Bassett staff or alumni.”

2010s

Brian J. Miller, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.H.

(Transitional resident 2013 - 14) is joining the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine as an assistant professor of Medicine. He will practice hospital medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and continue his work in health policy. He was appointed as a member of the CMS Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee. ■

Residents Enjoy Time Off Too!



Three years of residency is not only for training and medical experience; it also gives birth to lifelong friendships. With these friends, some residents find themselves participating in activities never imagined, such as skydiving. Pictured (L-R): Harshith Thyagaturu, M.B., B.S.; Nadir Siddiqui, M.B., B.S.; Nancy Bethuel, M.D.; and Bishesh Shrestha, M.B., B.S. (all current Internal Medicine residents).



John Callahan, M.D. with PREVAIL NY device



See our latest news and updates at
Bassett Medical Alumni Association

Columbia Bassett Medical Students Take on COVID-19 Reporting

The spring of 2020 will be memorable for students of all ages and ilk. Whether a child of seven years old trying to navigate online classes for the first time or a college student sent home to complete the semester under the watchful eye of parents, the pandemic is making education pursuits particularly challenging.

For the ten students of the Columbia Bassett Medical School program in their major clinical year in Cooperstown, this spring's semester was certainly an unforgettable and remarkable learning experience.

At the onset of the pandemic, when Columbia University decided to relieve all students of direct clinical responsibilities, over 150 Columbia major clinical year students in New York City and ten in Cooperstown were permitted to return to their permanent homes.

After considering their options, the ten medical students in Cooperstown, decided to volunteer for the task of contacting and following up with patients who were screened and tested for the COVID-19 virus through the Bassett Healthcare Network. Little could they imagine what this experience would entail, how much learning it would provide, and how meaningful it would be.

Over the course of seven weeks, these young women and men reviewed the records of each of the patients who were tested, and they made phone calls to follow up with any who didn't have a Bassett practitioner. All ten stayed and worked in Cooperstown without getting credit from the university for their work or financial compensation for the hours accrued.

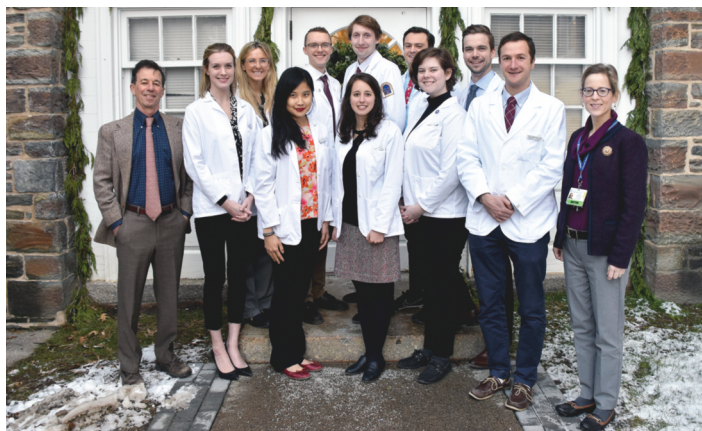
In the first four weeks, when test results took up to 14 days, they found it was necessary to reach out to patients who were anxious and frustrated. They discovered that patients looked forward to having someone to talk with and reassure them. Many patients requested follow-up calls until they felt better, even if their test was negative. In total, these individuals worked six days a week, spoke to over 1,000 patients and completed more than 2,000 phone calls during a seven-week period at the height of the pandemic in New York state. These services were provided free of charge to the community.

Henry F. C. Weil, M.D., senior associate dean for education for the Columbia Bassett Medical School program worked alongside the students and observed, "It was an amazing

experience. They exhibited remarkable spirit and learned a lot about taking patient histories, listening to patients, and helping patients in anxious situations. They demonstrated a deep commitment to the kind of mission-driven service that imbues Bassett and which we seek in applicants to the program."

As the number of positive cases diminished in central New York, the effort of phone triage and phone follow-up was ended. These students shifted to working with Bassett physician staff conducting video or telemedicine visits. Clinical rotations were resumed in June. Two papers have been produced as a result of the experience and as of this time, one has been accepted as a letter for publication in Academic Medicine.

Recognizing the extraordinary efforts of this dedicated group, Chief Clinical Officer, Steven J. Heneghan, M.D. stated. "Dr. Weil and the students stepped up during a time of extreme need and helped our community and our organization. Each one of them should be proud of their work as they took care of our neighbors and friends. I deeply appreciate their contributions." ■



Students from the Columbia-Bassett Medical School class of 2020 who participated in COVID-19 testing follow up: Front row (L-R): Henry F. C. Weil, M.D., Kerry Filtz, Kathleen Yu, Jamie Aron, J. Ryan Huff, Alexander Bulteel, Megan Brennan, M.D., Assistant Dean for Education. Back row (L-R): Kelsey Clayman, Kenneth Hubbell, Liam Heneghan, Adam Richter, Joseph Cornett

Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network

Thinking of a career move? Do you know another physician seeking a position in an award-winning network of six hospitals and 30 regional sites? Consider these openings in Central New York and Cooperstown.

Allergist/Immunologist
Anesthesiology (General and Cardiac)
Cardiology (General and Interventional)
Dentist (General and Endodontist)
Hematology Oncology
Otolaryngologist

Pediatrician
Physiatrist
Primary Care (Family Medicine and Internal Medicine)
Pulmonary/Critical Care
Rheumatologist
Urologist

For more information visit:
<https://www.bassett.org/careers/physicians-and-advanced-practice-clinicians>
or call Medical Staff Recruitment at 607-547-6982.

Awards Announced

The 2020 Golden awards were announced at the year-end celebrations of the Departments of Medicine and Surgery.

As this year's recipients of the Golden Apples, the Internal Medicine residents selected Kai Mebust, M.D., physician-in-chief/hospitalist. Surgical residents chose Raul Monzon, M.D., colorectal surgeon, and Marissa Famularo, D.O., vascular surgeon.

Golden Stethoscope awards, given by medical students and residents to a senior resident for excellence in teaching, were presented to Kanjit Leungsuwan, M.D., Internal Medicine, and Suzanne Evans, M.D., Surgery.

Columbia-Bassett Students Present Awards to Residents of the Year

Students of the Columbia-Bassett (C-B) Medical School presented the Cupola Award for the C-B Resident of the Year in recognition of the residents who best exemplify dedication to teaching mentorship and patient care. Selected by the Class of 2020, the residents recognized are Karl Damroth, M.D., Surgery resident, and Kristin Hoover, M.D., Internal Medicine resident. ■

Residents Announce Future Plans

Members of the house staff have completed their training at Bassett and moved on to new endeavors. Departing residents, their programs at Bassett, and their plans:

Haisam Abid, M.B., B.S.

(Internal Medicine), Hospitalist, Froedtert Hospital, Milwaukee, Wis.

Mahyar Afrooz, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Hospitalist, Kaiser-Permanente Medical Center, Fresno, Calif.

Marc S. Chaise, M.D.

(Transitional Year), Radiology residency, Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson, New Brunswick, N.J.

Asadulla Chaudhary, M.D.

(General Surgery), Minimally Invasive Surgery fellowship, Cleveland Clinic Florida, Weston, Fla.

Patricia X. Escaler, M.D. (Internal Medicine), Infectious Disease fellowship, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y.

Connor C. Gemmel, M.D.

(Transitional Year), Radiology residency, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Kristin E. Hoover, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Nephrology/Critical Care fellowship, University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, Ky.

Maryam Khavandi, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Hospitalist in Northern Virginia

Amrat Kumar, M.B., B.S.

(Internal Medicine), Hospitalist, Bassett Medical Center, Cooperstown, N.Y.

Ploypin Lertjitbanjong, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Pulmonary/Critical Care fellowship, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tenn.

Kanjit Leungsuwan, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Hospitalist, Albert B. Chandler Hospital, Lexington, Ky.

Kevin P. Lui, M.D. (Transitional Year),

Radiation Oncology residency, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio

Taylor Martin, D.O. (Transitional Year), Preventive Medicine residency, Johns Hopkins/Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Md.

Tara P. Mojtahed, M.D.

(General Surgery), Anesthesia residency, Rush University, Chicago, Ill.

Andrew J. Powers, M.D. (General

Surgery), General Surgery practice, F.F. Thompson Hospital, Canandaigua, N.Y.

Michael Rodman, M.D. (Transitional Year), Radiology residency, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

David Shieh, M.D. (Transitional Year), Ophthalmology residency, Case Western University Hospitals, Cleveland, Ohio

Asis Shrestha, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine), Hospitalist, Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, N.Y.

Jingshuo "Derek" Sun, M.D.

(Transitional Year), Radiology residency, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass.

Scott YH Tseng, M.D.

(Transitional Year), Radiology residency, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Mass.

Kent D. Upham, M.D.

(Transitional Year), Radiology residency, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, N.Y.

Kanramon Watthanasuntorn, M.D.

(Internal Medicine), Internal Medicine practice, ACCESS Booker Family Health Center, Chicago, Ill.

Patrick Willauer, M.D.

(General Surgery), General Surgery practice, The Everett Clinic, Everett, Wash.

Javeria Zaidi, M.B., B.S. (Internal Medicine), Hospice and Palliative Medicine fellowship, NYU-Winthrop Hospital, Mineola, N.Y. ■



Graduating medical residents: Front row (L-R): Javeria Zaidi, M.B., B.S.; Maryam Khavandi, M.D.; Kristin Hoover, M.D.; Kanramon Watthanasuntorn, M.D.; Ploypin Lertjitbanjong, M.D. Back row (L-R): Kanjit Leungsuwan, M.D.; Mahyar Afrooz, M.D.; Amrat Kumar, M.D.; Asis Shrestha, M.B., B.S.; Haisam Abid, M.B., B.S.



Graduating surgery residents: Asadulla Chaudhary, M.D.; Patrick Willauer, M.D.; Andrew Powers, M.D.



A reminder: Who are the members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association?

You are past and current interns, residents and fellows. You are former and current members of the senior doctoral staff. And you are students of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program or students who spent your final two years of medical school at Bassett.

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

Joseph F. Stocks, M.D. (1929-2019)



Joseph F. Stocks,
M.D.

In 1960, after completing his residency in medicine at the

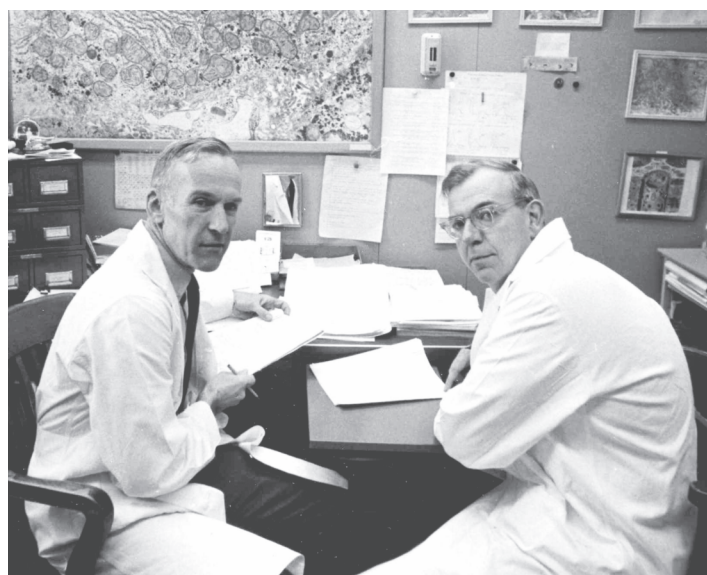
Joseph F. Stocks, M.D., of Scarborough, Maine, died at age 90 in the Maine Veterans Home on November 6, 2019.

Stocks graduated from Tufts University and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Two days after graduation he married Betty L. Little of Portland, Maine and their wonderful marriage lasted 64 years until his death.

Following their wedding Stocks completed a rotating internship at Bassett Hospital. He then served two years as captain in the U.S. Air Force at Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, Mass.

Maine Medical Center (MMC) in Portland and a pediatric residency at Massachusetts General Hospital, he and his wife moved to Waterville, Maine, where he opened a pediatric practice. In 1966, he began a pathology residency at MMC. He was later hired as a staff pathologist and then became chief of the Department of Pathology from 1973 to 1977, medical director of the School of Medical Technology - MMC from 1975 to 1985, medical director of Northeast Regional Red Cross Blood Program, Portland 1974 to 1991.

A dedicated teacher, he was a clinical associate of pathology at both University of Vermont College of Medicine and Tufts University School of Medicine. He played piano, enjoyed travel and outdoor recreation including sailing, camping, canoeing and skiing. Upon retirement in 1995, he and his wife moved to Punta Gorda, Fla. He is survived by his wife Betty L. Stocks, four grown children, their spouses, and grandchildren. ■



Peters is shown here with colleague Charles Ashley, M.D., with whom he worked closely on groundbreaking studies of the structure and function of serum albumin.

Peters from page 1

Nancy Merrell, M.D.: "Ted was the epitome of the definition of a gentleman and scholar. A renaissance man who brought scientific insight to the clinical arena. He was a regular attendee at our then weekly G.I. Journal Club meeting on the fifth floor, a delight to see in the halls, on his bicycle and playing in the community band."

Carol Beechy, M.D.: "With all his accomplishments, he was such a kind and gentle man."

Bruce Kramer, M.D.: "Riding his bike from his home to Bassett, dressed in a tie and jacket. He was a true gentleman and a scholar who served his country in war, his community in peace, and all who he saw with a smile."

Kai Mebust, M.D.: "Dr. Peters was hero of mine. He always had a bright smile, greeted me warmly, and took time to make specific inquiries after my family. I'll always remember the day when *The Freeman's Journal* had a front page article about Ted receiving a lifetime achievement award from his professional

society in San Francisco, included his report for the village Sewer Committee, and published a playful correction to the editor in his capacity as unofficial historian of the Cooperstown Community Band. He was a remarkable man who served his country, community, and profession in so many valuable and meaningful ways.

Anush Patel, M.D.: "Words fall short to describe Dr. Peters achievements, camaraderie, and kindness. He was a giant personality with so much to share."

Ronette Wiley, chief operating officer: "When I first started here many years ago, I didn't know a soul. Dr. Peters invited me to sit at a table in the cafeteria with him on one of my first days. We became occasional lunch mates and once he was no longer here at lunchtime, I missed him. What a remarkable man and the best ambassador we could ever have."

Charles Hyman, M.D.: "He also played a mean trumpet!"

Douglas DeLong, M.D.: "And provided the village with fresh water for decades."

And there is so much more! See *Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, New York, 200 Years of Healthcare in Rural America* by John S. Davis, M.D. for multiple comments about, and photos of, Peters. And of course, the specifics of his Bassett career are detailed in the institution's Annual Reports from 1955-1988, as well as by his curriculum vitae updated in 2006, on file at Bassett Medical Center. ■

Reagan Rejoins Bassett Staff



Brian F. Reagan,
M.D.

Brian F. Reagan, M.D., returned to Bassett Medical Center as an attending physician in Internal Medicine/Primary Care.

He earned his undergraduate degree from St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y. and his medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C. Reagan completed an internship and residency (1987-1990) in Internal Medicine at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. ■

THE CUPOLA
Bassett Medical Center
Office of Medical Education
One Atwell Road
Cooperstown, NY 13326

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

You Are Making the Difference for Many



Caring. Compassion. Responsibility.

These are among the defining hallmarks of Bassett Medical Center's alumni and current medical staff when it comes to supporting our community. This was evidenced in the alumni's quick recognition of the financial challenges confronting many of Bassett's non-clinical employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our colleagues at the registration desk, in transport, food service, information technology, environmental services and facilities were among Bassett Healthcare Network employees whose financial security and livelihoods were hard hit by the unprecedented demands of coronavirus in our region.

Financial donations in response to the appeal letter by Medical Alumni Association Executive Director Anush Patel, M.D., conveyed the gravity of the situation. The announcement by Caridad Fuertes, M.D., of a generous matching grant from the newly founded Community Foundation of Otsego County to Bassett Medical Center practitioners also inspired many to

send donations to employee assistance funds directed to Bassett or to other hospitals in the network.

The Fieldstone Assistance Fund, the Fox Family Fund, and other employee assistance vehicles across the network exist to support staff in need of financial help when faced with a crisis or an emergency, as exemplified by the impact of the pandemic. Alumni and staff donations during these past several months facilitated the purchase of gift cards for groceries and gas from local businesses and were made available to employees through a simple application form. To date more than 1,160 debit cards have been distributed, with more available.

As the "new normal" establishes itself at Bassett Medical Center and in your own hospitals and clinics, it is heartwarming to know that our alumni and medical staff appreciate and support our essential frontline colleagues. This is what community is all about.

To make a donation to one of the employee assistance funds or to support the continuation of excellence at Bassett contact the Friends office at 607-547-3928, or make a gift online at www.friends-ofbassett.org. ■



Staff applauding recovering patient