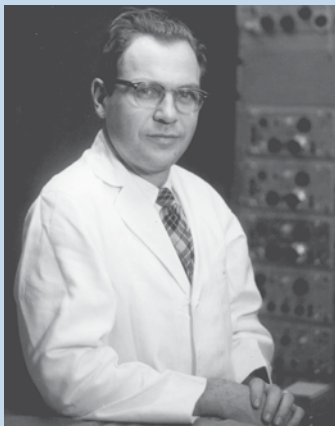




THE CUPOLA

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

Spring 2017
Vol. XXI No. 1



David Blumenstock, M.D., Remembered—With a New Twist

by John S. Davis, M.D.

Beth Blumenstock Manley sends an unusual postscript stemming from the groundbreaking lung transplantation research at Bassett by her father, David A. Blumenstock, M.D., (Bassett surgery resident 1953-58, attending surgeon 1960-63 and Surgeon-in-Chief, 1963-85).

David A. Blumenstock, M.D., 1965

From 1960-63, Blumenstock was in charge of surgical research on the team led by Physician-in-Chief, E. Donnall Thomas, M.D., working out a novel treatment for acute leukemia, involving whole body irradiation followed by bone marrow transplantation from a selected human donor. Blumenstock's role included managing a colony of genetically identical beagle littermates as a prerequisite for the related studies in humans. It was work for which Thomas received the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1990.

2016, at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dan has since done well, except that the very high costs for his life-long follow-up care are so far minimally covered by health insurance. He and Kris are working with the Children's Organ Transplant Association to raise funds by tax-deductible donations for transplant expenses.

So as they say, what goes around comes around...if rarely. ■

Before becoming Surgeon-in-Chief, Blumenstock also carried out foundational research on canine lung transplantation, setting the stage for successful lung transplantation in man. His work was documented in multiple medical journal articles, and in 1963 was featured in *Life* magazine.

Which takes us to the husband of Beth Manley's sister, Kristen Blumenstock Dube, who happens to be a small animal veterinarian. Recently, husband Dan Dube became afflicted with very rare "delayed-onset cystic fibrosis," requiring a double lung transplant, which was performed in October,

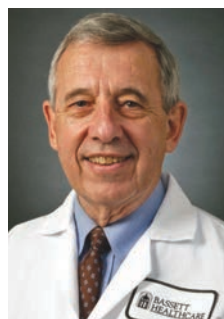
Message from the Editor of *The Cupola*

By Alan J. Kozak, M.D.

The lead article in this issue of *The Cupola* makes one pause to celebrate the significant role that past members of Bassett's staff have played in the history of not only bone marrow but also solid organ transplantation. The fact that physician David Blumenstock's son-in-law should prove beneficiary to some of his father-in-law's pioneering work in lung transplantation might have poetic merit.

One sees an example of translational medicine at its best, albeit spanning more than 50 years, starting with the early creative ideas of a team of some of Bassett's brilliant scientific minds, among whom David A. Blumenstock, M.D. was a member, gradually advancing to the laboratory, and finally presented to the patient as a gift in the form of replaced organs and extended life.

Such contributions and advancements in health care delivery have, of course, presented challenges. Improved and more



Alan J. Kozak, M.D.

successful systems of organ procurement loom large. Clearly, there remain many more candidates for solid organ transplantation than supplies are able to meet. The daunting costs, involving not only the technical but also the later medical aspects of care, also need very serious attention. Providing better access to the lifesaving benefits of transplantation and improving affordability remain challenges now facing those entering the medical field.

As I meet and interact with our Bassett resident staff and the Columbia-Bassett medical students, who are so much better educated in the realm of healthcare delivery systems and economics than those of my own generation, I harbor a hope, and perhaps, an expectation that some of their also brilliant minds will play an important role in providing solutions to the challenges that have become byproducts of past discoveries and contributions. ■

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.

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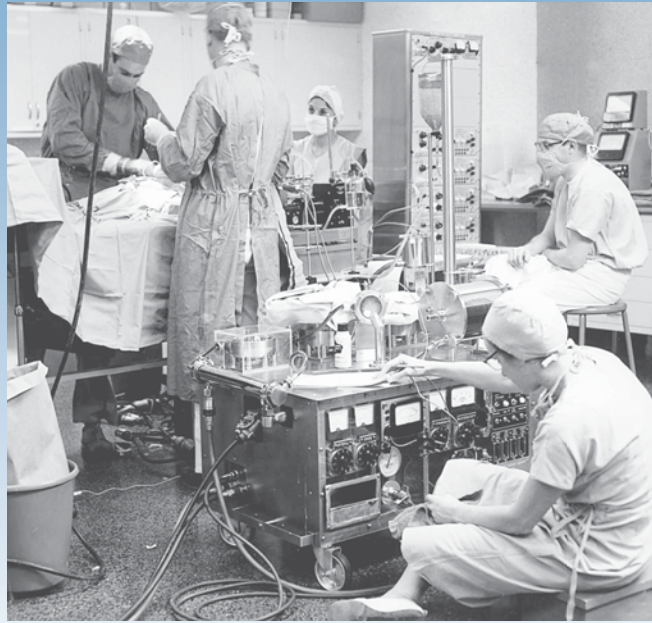
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The Cupola is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, *The Cupola*, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Medical Center, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail cupola@bassett.org.

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Editor

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BASSETT LOOKS BACK



Bassett's cardiopulmonary lab in the 1960s, with Dr. Blumenstock seated on the right.



David Blumenstock, M.D., with "Honest John," four years after whole body irradiation and lung transplantation

Bassett's School-Based Health Program Earns Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Community Health Award

Bassett's school-based health program has been granted a \$4,000 Community Health Award by Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. The award will fund the purchase of cleanable and single-use toys that form a crucial part of mental health therapy in school-based health.

Of the 33,522 visits that Bassett's school-based health program provided to enrolled children last year, 10,731 were part of the mental health program. Many of the more than 7,500 students who participate in Bassett's school-based health program annually experience mental health needs, and Bassett Healthcare Network provides services to these students through the school-based health centers located at their public schools.

Thirteen registered, licensed clinical social workers provide mental health care to enrolled students at Bassett's school-based health centers. These clinicians work in collaboration with the child psychiatrist at Bassett Medical Center to offer consultations, short-term and long-term counseling, behavioral therapy, treatment of anxiety and depression, and a variety of interventions to help students cope with emerging difficulties at home. ■

Fellowships Awarded to Bassett Residents

Four residents completing their internal medicine residency in June 2017 successfully matched into prestigious fellowships. They are:

Anawin Sanguaneko, M.D., Nephrology Fellowship, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Md.

Suthanya Sornprom, M.D., Infectious Disease Fellowship, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, N.H.

Natanong Thamcharoen, M.D., Nephrology Fellowship, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Mass.

Sikarin Upala, M.D., Endocrinology Fellowship at the University of Chicago in Chicago, Ill. ■



See our latest news and updates at Bassett Medical Alumni Association

Anush Patel, M.D., Chosen as Streck Fellow for 2017

Anush Patel, M.D., Bassett's chief of hematology and medical oncology, is the winner of this year's Streck Fellowship in Health Policy and Management. The fellowship was established in 2015 to honor former Bassett president and CEO, William F. Streck, M.D., and to enable Bassett managers and directors to pursue educational opportunities that enlarge their views on management and policy. Fellows travel to conferences and engage in projects that allow them to return to Bassett with insights and ideas that they share with colleagues and use to help shape network policy.

Patel has an interesting perspective on the local medical community and on the situation of health care in general. He returned to Cooperstown after being trained here. During his training he observed a culture of mutual respect among caregivers who listened to and acknowledged the worth of their colleagues and their patients; this was made possible by the continuity of



Dr. Anush Patel, chief of hematology and medical oncology at Bassett Medical Center

Fellowship, he wants to study ways to facilitate communication between administrators and clinicians in order to develop new, effective strategies for building trust and making people feel valued for the work they do. He wants to build a program that will lead to a healthy work environment and better patient care, two outcomes that are

care, the small size of the community, and the habit of helping each other that prevailed at the hospital.

Health care is under a great deal of pressure to change rapidly, Patel notes, and he is concerned that this culture is under threat.

With his Streck

important to everyone who visits the hospital and everyone who works there.

The first step toward this goal is to attend a conference about clinicians working together with administrators. Patel will wait to attend the session until he can go with the new director of the cancer center. A search for a new director is now underway.

Once a new director is chosen, he will work with that person to create a model program that other health care departments can adopt and adapt to help them bridge the perceived gap between administrators and clinical staff. He hopes to create more transparent avenues of communication that will allow for adjustments in financial need, academic needs, and pursuit of personal goals. Ultimately, Patel wants to foster positive change that will acknowledge the hard work that caregivers are doing and help them to feel more valued. ■

Match Results for Columbia-Bassett Class of 2017

Please join us in congratulating the Columbia-Bassett Class of 2017 on their success in the Residency Match.

Nicholas Feinberg, Medicine, Preliminary Radiology, University of Chicago Medical Center

Daniel Hoesterey, Internal Medicine, UCLA Medical Center

Marcos Lopez, Plastic Surgery, University of North Carolina Hospitals

Kathryn Nagel, Medicine - Pediatrics, Yale-New Haven Hospital

Kirby Woodall (Pruis), OB/GYN, University Hospitals - Columbia (Mo.)

Henna Shaikh, Pediatrics, Yale-New Haven Hospital

Wilson Sui, Urology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Joanna Tu, Transitional Year, Bassett Medical Center; Dermatology, Stanford University Program

Peter Young, Internal Medicine, New York-Presbyterian Hospital/ Columbia University Medical Center

Jonah Zufacht, Neurology, Harvard/ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

The following have deferred their residencies for a year: **Rachel Criswell**, **Brandon Garcia**, and **Rachel Severin**. ■

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.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
Dermatology
Emergency Medicine
Family Medicine
Gastroenterology
Hospitalist
Internal Medicine—Division Chief
Neurologist
Neurosurgery
OB/GYN—Generalist
Ophthalmology
Optometry
Orthopedics—Hand and Pediatrics
Otolaryngology
Psychiatry—Adult Outpatient
Rheumatology
Urology

For more information visit:

<http://recruitment.bassett.org/physician-jobs/>
or call the Medical Staff Affairs office at 607-547-6982.

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming!

1960s

David Svahn, M.D.

(Rotating/Internal Medicine resident 1965-67 and Attending Physician 1972-2007) finds it hard to believe that it's been "17 years since I retired from full-time practice at Bassett, 15 years since we published *Let Me Listen to Your Heart*." These days, he sings in a choral society and choir, and is working on a few historical research projects, including a soon-to-be published study of W. W. Lord, a 19th-century Episcopal priest and poet who devoted much of life writing and preaching in the secessionist South. His wife Karin keeps up her expert craft work. Svahn reminds alumni that, "One must keep looking ahead but it is gratifying to see old friends, colleagues and students and relive experiences."

1980s

Cathy Sandstrom, M.D. and C. Scott Smith, M.D.

(Transitional Year Residents 1980-81) are planning an exciting 40th wedding anniversary present to themselves—a trip to Machu Picchu and the Peruvian Amazon in October 2017. Cathy retired from private practice pediatrics in May 2016. Scott is the national physician consultant for the VA Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education and will retire in June 2018. Their grown children are

now both in the Bay area. Scott reported that he and Cathy spent Christmas with them and enjoyed the hikes, the food, the ballet and getting away from a record snow year in Boise!

Kenneth Wilkins, Jr., M.D.

(Internal Medicine Resident 1980-84) reports that in June, he will be retiring from practice after 33 years. His plan for afterwards is not finalized, but will certainly involve his three grandchildren, Caroline (6), Maya (3), and Fitzpatrick (2).

Stephen Buie, M.D. (Internal Medicine Resident 1981-84) is the training director of a new psychiatry residency in Asheville, N.C., under the auspices of Mountain Area Health Education Center and affiliated with UNC School of Medicine. He reports, "The emphasis is on providing psychiatrists for rural, underserved areas and providing psychiatric consultation in a collaborative care model. We've started with a cohort of four residents and anxiously await the Match on March 17."

David M. O'Brien, M.D., M.P.H. (Transitional Year Resident 1987-88) retired from active duty with the U.S. Air Force after 28 years of service. He has accepted a position with the Federal Aviation Administration at the Civil Aerospace Medicine Institute in Oklahoma City

where he oversees airman medical certification in the United States. His wife Lisa and family are excited that he is home much more often.

Lawrence Gaul, M.D.

(Internal Medicine resident 1987-90) After 24 years he left his practice in Vail, Colo., and joined the Indian Health Service. He is now doing general internal medicine and informally cardiology at the Chinle, Ariz., Health Care Facility. He writes, "Here I have found a group of physicians and other staff dedicated to improving the care of a population severely disadvantaged here in the United States." He also teaches and conducts research in stress management with the U.S. Navy and for Rocky Vista University Medical School military students at their yearly Surgical Skills week at Strategic Operations in San Diego. He continues to volunteer for the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Assn. in many roles and anticipates attending the next winter Olympic Games in South Korea for his fifth Olympics.

Thomas Pearson, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D. (Director, Bassett Research Institute 1988-97) sends greetings from the University of Florida where he has been the Executive Vice President for Research and Education as well as Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine since 2013, overseeing the research and education programs for the six colleges which make up the Health Science Center, seven research institutes, and campuses in Gainesville, Jacksonville, Orlando, and Alachua, Fla. He and his wife Joyce enjoy Gainesville life immensely as not only a University town, but also an arts, sports and nature center.



Merle Myerson, M.D., Ed.D.

(Assistant Physician in Research 1988-2001, Attending Physician 2001-2003, Attending Cardiology 2016-present) returned to Bassett in June, 2016 and has been working in the Preventive Cardiology Program and Lipid Clinic, as well as the Pre-Exercise Heart Screening Program. She is also the Medical Director of the Clinical Research Division at the Research Institute. Myerson states, "It has been wonderful to be welcomed back 'home' by many former colleagues and dear friends (who are like family) here." And she thanks, "**Drs. Patrick McNulty, Anne Gadomski, and Steve Heneghan** for first putting the idea in my head to come back, and then making it happen!"

1990s

Manuel J. Chaknis, M.D.

(Transitional Year Resident 1992-93) recently marked two related milestones: 20 years performing LASIK surgery (over 30,000 to date) and being one of the first ophthalmologists in the country to have LASIK himself 20 years ago. He writes from Georgia that he is looking forward to reading Dr. John Davis' upcoming book on Bassett Hospital and he hopes all Bassett residents from 1992-93 are doing well. Moreover, he "would enjoy returning to Bassett on ophthalmology faculty but swore off winter for this century!"

SAVE THE DATE

Join in celebrating the
30th Anniversary of the Bassett Medical
Alumni Association

October 5 - 8, 2018
Cooperstown, NY

Family to page 5

Family from page 4 2000s



Brian White, D.O.
(Transitional Year Resident 2004-05, Attending Psychiatrist 2009-present) directed a session at the Annual Assembly of American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in October, 2016 New Orleans on Obstacles and Opportunities

in Growing Your Outpatient Musculoskeletal and Spine Practice in the Current Health Care Environment which was presented along with professional colleagues Jonathan S. Kirschner, M.D. and Casey J. O'Donnell, D.O.

2010s

Kevin Berry, M.D. (Internal Medicine resident 2013-14) is currently in a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency at Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School/Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. He will graduate in June 2017 and accepted a position of Assistant Professor of Clinical Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at

The School of Medicine at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

Congratulations Kevin!

Caitlyn Foote, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 2013-14) writes that she is currently finishing up her Dermatology Residency at the University of Kansas and

will be done in June. From there she and her family will be moving to Champaign, Ill. where Caitlyn will join Christie Clinic Department of Dermatology. In other exciting news, her family welcomed another baby girl, Taylyn, March 13th. Azalea is thrilled to be a big sister! ■



Gala Supports John May Farm Safety Fund

More than 400 guests joined the Friends of Bassett Healthcare Network at the first Valentine's Soiree raising nearly \$150,000 in support of the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) John May Farm Safety Fund.

A live auction and raffles contributed nearly \$27,000 of the total proceeds. The Otesaga Hotel hosted the event which included entertainment throughout the night, and product tastings of local beer, wine and spirit vendors expertly paired with the Otesaga's desserts.

As Joshua Truman, executive director, Friends of Bassett Healthcare Network, observed, "The proceeds of this year's event will have a profound impact on the safety of our local farmers." Gala chair Julie Sorensen, Ph.D., NYCAMH director, credited the efforts of members of the soiree committee and auction committee, volunteers who worked tirelessly with the Friends' fund development staff throughout the year.



Amanda (left) and John May, M.D. (center) event honorees, welcome guests to the 2017 Valentine's Soiree along with Vance Brown, M.D. (right), president and CEO of Bassett Healthcare Network.

John May, M.D., started NYCAMH in the early 1980s along with his Bassett colleague, David Pratt, M.D. to address the dangers faced by farmers. They developed a farm safety program that incorporated education, immunizations, and safety programs for small and medium-sized farms. May's work is nationally recognized, receiving such distinctions as the *Journal of Agromedicine*

"Leader in the Field" award, the N.Y.S. Agricultural Society "Farm Safety Award" and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health "Partnering Award for Worker Health and Safety." The John May Farm Safety Fund honors his profound dedication to the agricultural community by providing financial assistance to make necessary safety improvements on small and medium-sized farms. For more information visit: www.nycamh.org/programs/john-may-farm-safety-fund/ ■

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.

Alumnus Appointed to New Position at Bassett



Henry Kurban, M.D.,
M.B.A., M.P.H.

Henry Kurban, M.D. has been appointed the Associate Chief Medical Information Officer and Medical Director of Performance Improvement at the Bassett Healthcare Network.

In this position, Kurban will work with institutional stakeholders to provide leadership in the creation of Bassett's performance measurement initiatives that align with emerging national and state requirements. In addition, he will provide clinical leadership for population health programs within the scope of medical management areas, e.g., risk stratification of specific populations, population/panel management, care management, and reporting capabilities.

He will also serve as an Attending Physician in Preventive Medicine working to promote healthy behaviors as foundational to medical care and disease prevention in individual and/or group encounters. In this practice, he will employ nationally recognized practice guidelines (specifically the United Preventive Services Task Force Recommendations) to develop clinical preventive medicine protocols that address

lifestyle-related health status including their assessment and management. He currently is delivering some of the CMS preventive services initially focusing on the Annual Wellness Visits. Kurban will eventually have an active role in workplace health promotion, overseeing a comprehensive cadre of workplace health promotion services to potential employers that may include assessment, planning/management, implementation and evaluation of workplace health promotion interventions.

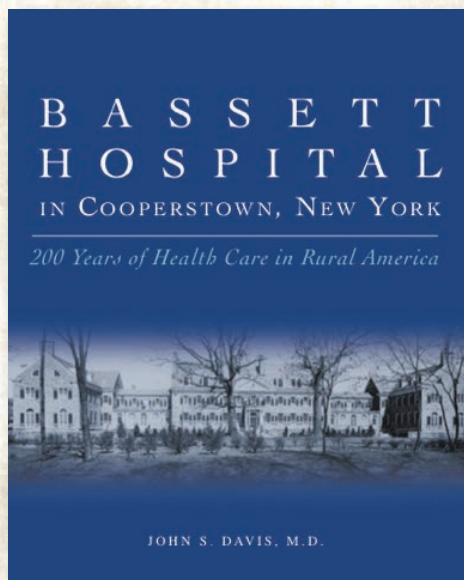
He completed his medical degree from The University of Western Ontario, London, Canada and a Masters of Business Administration from McGill University. After a year as a Transitional Year resident at The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Kurban completed a residency in General Preventive Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, where he received his Master's in Public Health. He is board-certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

Previously, he served in various public health leadership capacities in diverse jurisdictions including Commissioner of the Dutchess County (N.Y.) Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County and Medical Officer of Health for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit in Ontario, Canada. ■

COMING SOON!

Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, New York: 200 Years of Health Care in Rural America

by John S. Davis, M.D.



For the first time, a complete history of Bassett Hospital is available through the Friends of Bassett. Written by John S. Davis, M.D., former Bassett resident and physician, this insider's look at The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital chronicles Bassett's early days as a recovery hospital for "nerve shocked" World War I aviators and follows its transformation into a lauded rural health-care network.

This is a limited first edition in full color with more than 300 pages and hundreds of photographs, many never before published. It will be available in June for \$39.95, plus shipping and handling. Watch your mailbox for information on how to reserve your copy or go online now: donate.bassett.org/2017_bassett_history_book

The publication of *Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, New York: 200 Years of Health Care in Rural America* was underwritten by generous donations to Friends of Bassett Healthcare Network. All proceeds from the sale benefit Bassett Healthcare Network.

Residency 2017 Match Results Announced

All of Bassett's residency programs had successful results in the NRMP Residency Match. The following is the roster of the first postgraduate year residents for the 2017-18 academic year who will join Bassett in June.

Graduate Medical Education

Postgraduate Appointment 2017 - 2018 Academic Year

General Surgery

Karl A. Damroth, M.D.,
Michigan State University
College of Human
Medicine-Marquette

Anfin Erickson, M.D.,
Oregon Health & Sciences
University School of
Medicine

Steven A. Hawkins, M.D.,
University of Louisville
School of Medicine

Colin R. Kennedy, M.D.,
University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine and
Public Health

Anne N. Young, M.D.,
University of Kansas School
of Medicine

Internal Medicine

Haisam Abid, M.B., B.S.,
King Edward Medical
University (Pakistan)

Mahyar Afrooz, M.D., St.
George's University School
of Medicine (Grenada)

Kristin E. Baker, M.D., St.
George's University School
of Medicine (Grenada)

Maryam Khavandi, M.D.,
Shahid Beheshti University
of Medical Sciences (Iran)

Amrat Kumar, M.B., B.S.,
Jinnah Sindh Medical
University (Pakistan)

Stephen J. Kwak, M.D.,
University of Rochester
School of Medicine and
Dentistry

**Ploypin Lertjitbanjong,
M.D.**, Mahidol University,
Ramathibodi Hospital
Faculty of Medicine
(Thailand)

Kanjit Leungsuwan, M.D.,
Mahidol University, Faculty
of Medicine Vajira Hospital
(Thailand)

**Keerthana D. Mugundu,
M.B., B.S.**, Rajah Muthiah
Medical College (India)

Asis Shrestha, M.B., B.S.,
College of Medical
Sciences, Bharatpur (Nepal)

**Kanramon
Watthanasuntorn, M.D.**,
Prince of Songkla
University Faculty of
Medicine (Thailand)

Javeria A. Zaidi, M.B., B.S.,
Dow Medical College
(Pakistan)

Transitional Year

Emily G. Lefkowitz, M.D.,
Boston University School of
Medicine

Zachary Mendelson, M.D.,
Rutgers New Jersey
Medical School

Cyril M. Rosenfeld, M.D.,
New York Medical College

Tina V. Sankhla, M.D., The
Warren Alpert Medical
School of Brown University

**Zachary T. Skabelund,
M.D.**, University of
Rochester School of
Medicine and Dentistry

**Samuel H. Tesfalidet,
M.D.**, University of
Colorado School of
Medicine

Joanna Tu, M.D., Columbia
University College of
Physicians and Surgeons

Sina Vahedi, M.D., Sidney
Kimmel Medical College at
Thomas Jefferson
University

Benjamin D. Wilson, M.D.,
University of Miami Leonard
M. Miller School of Medicine

Bassett Medical Center Verified as a Level II Trauma Center

Bassett Medical Center has been verified as a Level II trauma center by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), making it the only Level II trauma center in the eight-county region served by Bassett Healthcare Network and one of only a handful of trauma centers in central New York. This achievement recognizes the trauma center's dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients, from the prehospital phase through the rehabilitation process.

The trauma team at Bassett Medical Center is comprised of physicians and other professionals in the specialties of emergency medicine, general surgery, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, anesthesiology and radiology who are specially trained and equipped to rapidly handle critically injured patients.

Shelby Cooper, M.D., medical director of the Trauma Program, notes, "The care provided at a trauma center compared with standard emergency departments has shown up to a 25 percent decrease in mortality for critically injured patients. The verification of our trauma program by ACS is important because it assures the public of our commitment to optimal care and continual performance improvement in order to assure the highest level of readiness for the severely injured patients who need our help and expertise."

Verified trauma centers meet criteria that ensure trauma care capability and performance, as outlined by the ACS for the specific level of verification, and have had an on-site review conducted by a team of reviewers experienced in the field of trauma.

Bassett Medical Center has been a New York State designated trauma center since 1987. New York is enhancing the care for the injured by transitioning to the national ACS verification process as a part of the trauma center designation in the state. The new process provides new tiers to trauma centers that clarify amount and type of resources available to treat the injured patient. ■

Alumni from page 8

country. But his son decided to stay and finish his studies there. At the end of the term, Dr. Panter flew to Syria to join him.

Panter and his son are Jewish. When he flew into Syria, his plane was met by his son and two of his friends, who are Muslim. The friends gave Dr. Panter an honorary Muslim name, as they had given his son an honorary Muslim name. For two weeks, these two friends acted as hosts, accompanying Panter and his son as they toured Damascus and Aleppo. They visited museums, historic sites, and many beautiful places which they photographed. Panter said that their hosts took them into their homes and gave them a very moving and special welcome. Now, he says, looking at each of the photographs of those important sites in Syria—they are all gone. Every one of them is flattened.

What do these memories mean for Dr. Panter now, years later? In his view, we should be kind to each other. We should try to understand and live together. We should support each other and care for each other.

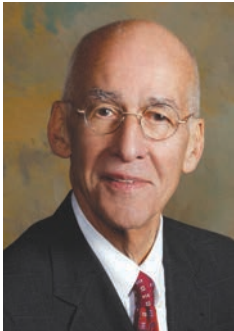
Panter says that he is grateful because he learned so much and had such wonderful experiences in Cooperstown. Please join him in offering support for medical education. A gift envelope is included with this issue. You can also make a donation online, at www.friendsofbassett.org. Thank you. ■

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Alumni Donor Profile: Gideon Panter, M.D.

By Jill Maney



Gideon Panter, M.D.

A former Bassett intern and dedicated obstetrician and gynecologist, Gideon Panter, M.D., has been both saving lives and helping to bring people into life for more than four decades. This spring, he celebrates his retirement. He has taught other medical students, giving them knowledge and insight. He has brought many infants into the world, and he has developed and nurtured many long-term relationships with patients, having delivered their babies, then their babies' babies, and in some cases, even those children's babies.

He has also given his dollars to support medical education and medical care at Bassett. All of this makes Panter a philanthropist. It's just part of what makes him an inspiration. Gideon Panter's route to medical practice was somewhat circuitous. He began by studying math and physics at Cornell University. After obtaining his undergraduate degree, he continued on to medical school there, then joined the faculty, where he ran a laboratory as a researcher, drawing on his math and physics background. Although the work was interesting, after a few years he found he missed contact with patients; he missed the human interaction; so he decided that he should get some more specific clinical training.

Strangely enough, the work that he had been doing in the lab on frog lymph hearts led him to his specialty, as the closest

equivalent in humans to frog lymph hearts is a uterus! Panter chose Cooperstown for his internship (1961-62) because by that time, he was married and had a young child, and he wanted to come to a place that would be good for his child. Also, Bassett offered a rotating internship, and that appealed to him, because he felt he needed exposure to as many parts of the clinical world as possible.

He has many memories from his early days at Bassett. He recalls that all interns and residents were given free memberships at the Cooperstown Country Club in those days. He is grateful for that, not only because it gave his young family a wonderful place to spend their summers, but also because it introduced him to many families who spent time in Cooperstown. When, with trepidation, he opened his own office in New York City, those families looked him up and helped him build it into what would eventually become a thriving private practice on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan.

Today, after delivering generations of children and raising children of his own, Panter remains a happy man. He has seen suffering, but his reaction is to reach out. His son Jonathan is now serving in the U.S. Navy. A few years ago, while Jonathan was studying Arabic at Cornell University, he decided to spend a term abroad in Aleppo, Syria. This was just before the "Arab Spring." Cornell became increasingly nervous about its students as conditions in the area grew tense, eventually shutting down its program and pulling its students out of the

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