THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS
A CENTURY OF CHALLENGES AND PROGRESS

Douglas R. Bacon, M.D., M.A.
Professor of Anesthesiology and History of Medicine
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota

Kathryn E. McGoldrick, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Anesthesiology
New York Medical College
Valhalla, New York

Mark J. Lema, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chair of Anesthesiology
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

Editors

Park Ridge, Illinois
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DEDICATION

To all members of the Long Island Society of Anesthetists, the New York Society of Anesthetists, the American Society of Anesthetists, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists who struggled and who continue to persevere in their quest to improve the "art and science" of anesthesiology we dedicate this book.
CONTRIBUTORS

Douglas R. Bacon, M.D., M.A.
Professor of Anesthesiology and History of Medicine
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota

George S. Bause, M.D., M.P.H.
Honorary Curator
Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology
Park Ridge, Illinois

Ines Berger, M.D.
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology
Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, Georgia

Selma Harrison Calmes, M.D.
Professor of Anesthesiology
U.C.L.A. School of Medicine
Oliveview–U.C.L.A. Medical Center
Sylmar, California

Timothy B. Curry, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota

James C. Erickson, III, M.D., M.Sc.
Professor of Anesthesiology, Emeritus
Northwestern University Medical School
Chicago, Illinois

Adolph H. Giesecke, M.D.
Emeritus Professor
Former Jenkins Professor and Chairman
Anesthesiology and Pain Management
University of Texas
Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

Alexander W. Gotta, M.D.
Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology,
Emeritus
University at Brooklyn, SUNY
Brooklyn Medical Center
Brooklyn, New York

Glenn W. Johnson
Executive Director, Emeritus
American Society of Anesthesiologists
Park Ridge, Illinois

Sandra L. Kopp, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota

Erwin Lear, M.D.
Professor of Anesthesiology, Emeritus
Albert Einstein College of Medicine
New York, New York

Mark J. Lema, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Anesthesiology
University at Buffalo, SUNY,
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Buffalo, New York

Peter L. McDermott, M.D., Ph.D.
Lecturer in History
California Lutheran University
Thousand Oaks, California

Kathryn E. McGoldrick, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Anesthesiology
New York Medical College
Valhalla, New York

J. Gordon Morrow, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia
CONTRIBUTORS

John B. Neeld, Jr., M.D.
Director of Anesthesiology
Northside Hospital Medical Center
Atlanta, Georgia

Babatunde Ogunnake, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Anesthesiology and Pain Management
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

Bradley E. Smith, M.D.
Professor of Anesthesiology, Emeritus
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Nashville, Tennessee

John E. Steinhaus, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, Emeritus
Department of Anesthesiology
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, Georgia

Charles C. Tandy, M.D.
Clinical Professor
Anesthesiology and Pain Management
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

Mark A. Warner, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Anesthesiology
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
Rochester, Minnesota
FOREWORD

History of the American Society of Anesthesiologists

A benchmark anniversary such as the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Centennial is an occasion to assess where we have been as individuals and as an organization. The editors of this book have compiled a series of articles to remind us that our profession and the ASA have not always been as we know them. It is only through the dedication and commitment of those who came before us that our specialty enjoys its current stature and respect. During the past century each succeeding generation has built on the achievements of its predecessors to such a remarkable extent that our practices bear little resemblance to those of a generation or two ago.

Today we routinely care for patients who in the past would have been considered unacceptable risks. We guide them safely and comfortably through surgery that would have been unimaginably complex to anesthesiology’s pioneers. I am confident that our current generation will continue to build on past achievements and that future anesthesiologists will regard prospective improvements in patient care with equal admiration.

On behalf of all ASA members it is my privilege to commend the editors and chapter authors for this excellent collection of articles that highlights the multiple areas in which the ASA and our profession have grown and changed.

Eugene P. Sinclair, M.D.
ASA President, 2004-2005
This book chronicles the history of the American Society of Anesthesiologists during the past century. Beginning as a small group interested in overcoming some of the challenges confronting the anesthesia community, the original nine members saw their society grow into a national organization that now boasts more than 40,000 members. Over the 100 years there were countless fascinating stories to be told, of triumphs and tragedies, of good ideas that were brought forth before their time, of conflict, strife, and eventual success. Through the years, however, the recurrent theme is the desire of the physicians of the Long Island Society of Anesthetists, the New York Society of Anesthetists, the American Society of Anesthetists, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists to advance the "art and science" of anesthesiology.

This book has many contributors, and reflects the voice not only of current scholarship in the field of the history of anesthesiology but also of the many members who lived through some of the events described within these pages. As editors, we are thankful for the diligence and dedication of all our authors, some of whom have labored over their manuscripts for the past three years. For several authors, this is their first foray into writing history; it is our hope that they will continue to pursue this new endeavor. Many voices help bring the past forward, blending their cadence to produce the intricate symphony that is anesthesia history. Without their efforts, this book would not have been possible.

We would also like to thank the tireless professionals at the Wood Library-Museum (WLM) of Anesthesiology. Mr. Patrick Sim, the head librarian, remains a constant source of inspiration, kindness, and knowledge. There is no task Patrick will not undertake, no fact that he cannot check, all done with amazing alacrity and good humor. Ms. Karen Bieterman, the assistant librarian, follows closely in Patrick's footsteps. Her attention to detail, expertise, and cheerful attitude have made the task easier for all of our authors. Ms. Judith Robins, the WLM collections supervisor, has helped resurrect and organize many of the papers referred to within these pages. She, too, possesses Patrick's "can do" attitude with an eagerness that makes working with her a rewarding experience. This book is all the richer for the various documents that provide first-hand knowledge of the events of our shared history.

Finally, we would like to thank the officers, Board of Directors, and House of Delegates of the American Society of Anesthesiologists for their support for this book. They have imposed no restrictions upon us, and have encouraged the publication of this book at every turn. To our families and co-workers, who have suffered through the birthing pains of this book, we express our gratitude. Without their love, support, and understanding completion of this volume would not have been possible.

It is our hope that you will enjoy reading this book as much as we have enjoyed creating it. Happy 100th Birthday to the American Society of Anesthesiologists! We sincerely hope another generation will consider our book a resource for beginning their celebration of the 200th anniversary of the ASA!

Douglas R. Bacon, M.D., M.A.
Kathryn E. McGoldrick, M.D.
Mark J. Lema, M.D., Ph.D.
Like a proverbial nine-lived cat, America’s national anesthesia collection has survived warehousing at nine different sites. Its founder, Paul Meyer Wood, M.D. (1894-1963) inherited his “collecting bug” from his Hoosier parents. A book decorator and future religious art professor, his mother shared with Paul her love of the printed page. At an early age, her junior librarian was lending card-indexed books to his friends. Learning chemistry’s magic from his father, the younger Wood euthanized insects with carbon tetrachloride for the family collection.

Paul Wood’s long hours in South Bend High School’s chemistry lab led to his 1913 year in Notre Dame’s “laboratory for explosive chemistry.” Wood experimented with ethylene—a future anesthetic—alongside Father Julius Nieuwland, Ph.D. Botany professor by day and avocational chemist by night, the Catholic priest instructed Episcopalian Wood in twin catechisms: the science of self-scheduling and the art of funding non-profit activities. (Years later, Wood would learn that Father Nieuwland kept his vow of poverty while helping Dupont synthesize neoprene. Dupont reciprocated by buying books for Notre Dame’s libraries).

Except during his World War I military service in the American ambulance corps at the Italian Front, Wood continued his packrat ways. He gathered collectibles both while earning his B.S. and M.D. degrees at Columbia University and afterwards, mostly in the Manhattan area. At 37 years of age, in 1931, Wood suffered a heart attack while hoarding books and anesthesia antiques at his home, on Riverside Drive. Convalescing as “permanent Librarian... of the New York Society of Anesthetists,” Wood donated his catalogued collection to the NYSA in 1933.

While recuperating from his cardiac event, Wood mourned the auction sale of the Robert Ferguson Estate, perhaps the New World’s largest privately amassed collection of med-
ical antiques. (Ferguson had rebuffed Wood’s previous efforts to acquire the fabulous collection).

On July 26, 1937, the collection soon known as the “Wood Library-Museum” (WLM) was moved nearer to Central Park, from Wood’s Manhattan apartment on Riverside Drive to the Squibb Building (from WLM’s “life” or Site #1 of 9 to Site #2). On July 26, 1937, the collection soon known as the “Wood Library-Museum” (WLM) was moved nearer to Central Park, from Wood’s Manhattan apartment on Riverside Drive to the Squibb Building (from WLM’s “life” or Site #1 of 9 to Site #2).11

In 1939, a visiting Examiner for the American Board of Anesthesiology, Sir Robert Macintosh, presented the WLM with a desk copy once belonging to the world’s first full-time anesthetist, John Snow: the 1847 classic On the Inhalation of the Vapour of Ether.12 This treasure thus escaped Nazi air raids that bombed the United Kingdom’s Charles King [Anaesthesia] Collection in 1940.13 Wood’s collection, in contrast, was exploding only in size. Year 1940’s bombshell donation: the original Cotton-Boothby Apparatus.14

The burgeoning WLM was managed by Paul Wood imitating the vocation/avocation split-day routine of his Notre Dame mentor, Father Nieuwland. Indeed, from 1940-44 Wood’s afternoons were filled by his simultaneous avocational duties as WLM Librarian-Curator, Anesthesiology Business Manager, and as Secretary of both the ASA and the American Board of Anesthesiology.4

Following his heart attack, Wood had largely restricted his anesthetic practice to working mornings with one popular surgeon, Robert Bickley, his Avertin co-investigator.15 Anesthesiologist Wood and Surgeon Bickley would race through 14 surgeries before 11am on a typical weekday.16,17 Then, to complement Wood’s medical antiquing, Bickley would scavenge the antiques world for fine art.18 Theirs was a collectors’ camaraderie.

BETCHER’S SERIAL EVICTIONS: FROM SKYSCRAPER, BROWNSTONE & BOATHOUSE (1949-63)

A tall medical director for E.R. Squibb and Sons, Inc., Lewis Wright had joined Wood by 1934 to form the “Mutt and Jeff” of medical antiquing (Fig. 1). After nine years on the ASA Library-Museum Committee, Wright realized the pressing need in 1949 for a savvy politician. Considering himself a “thinker,” Wright praised “doers” like Albert Betcher.19,20 (The latter would reciprocate by hailing Wright’s role in popularizing curare).21 A product of Army hierarchy and Moses Krakow’s political wisdom, Betcher would soon negotiate the WLM past evictions from a skyscraper, a brownstone, and a boathouse.20 (Fig. 2).

Along with other medical specialties, the ASA’s Business Office had moved to Chicago in 1947 in order to be closer to the American Medical Association.22 So, the

Figure 1. President Emeritus Wright (left) and Librarian-Curator Wood prepare to move apparatus from New York to Illinois. Just five months before his namesake WLM’s 1963 opening, Wood died planning his fourth visit to Park Ridge.
Library-Museum was left behind in Manhattan. The parting committed the ASA to fund an annual stipend for, but also to demand incorporation in New York by, the Library-Museum. Consequently, ASA Directors resolved in 1949 that a nonprofit “Paul M. Wood Memorial Library and Museum” be incorporated to receive the ASA’s collection. Meanwhile, the Library-Museum’s unpaid corporate landlord from 1935-49, Squibb, needed office space. ASA’s shift to Chicago freed Squibb to defenestrate the WLM from the skyscraper.

Luckily, WLM Secretary Vincent Collins held a safety net. Just 16 years earlier, his St. Vincent’s Hospital predecessor, Paluel Flagg, had found a brownstone for their Catholic Medical Mission Board. In similar fashion, Collins located a brownstone across the street from St. Vincent’s, at 137 W. 11th Street, (Site #3) to share with the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists. (A true WLM friend, Collins saw the formation of three successive donor groups titled “Friends of the Wood Library-Museum.” Doris Cope runs today’s “Friends”).

Like Collins, Wood gloried in the 1950 provisional and 1952 absolute educational charters granted to the WLM by the New York Board of Regents. However, in December of 1952, New York City building inspectors cited the WLM for overloading the brownstone’s floors with the collective weight of WLM literature and apparatus. A disgruntled Wood carted heavier items to storage and even 50 miles north to his garage in Highland Falls, New York.

The timing tortured Wood. His wealthy surgical colleague, Bickley, had progressively abandoned the tony lifestyle of uptown Manhattan for the sporting one of upstate Thousand Islands. This forced Wood to “semi-retire” with wife Harriet to her hometown of Highland Falls, near West Point. From there Wood commuted 11 miles to practice anesthesia part-time at Peekskill Hospital. Now, because of the WLM’s failed building inspection, Wood was forced to drive 100-mile roundtrips, trucking his prized collection from Manhattan back to his upstate garage. The stress was certainly heartbreaking and likely heart-damaging to Wood.

Another stress, a fundraising failure, may have convinced Wright to cede his WLM presidency to Betcher in 1955. By the following May, St. Vincent’s Hospital expanded, forcing the WLM to shift from 137 to 131 W. 11th St. (Site #4) The new site was even tighter on space. Fortunately, Richard von Foregger, Sr., made his Roslyn, Long Island boathouse (Site #5) available for
storage. Having manufactured anesthesia machines and Wood’s Avertin Kit, Foregger underwrote many of Wood’s efforts.29 Both men lost mutual friends when six famous anesthesiologists died in 1956. In memory of the fallen, the Anesthesia Memorial Foundation was incorporated; the WLM was designated as the repository for ASA’s archives.

One of the fallen six and the editor of the journal Anesthesiology, Henry Ruth, M.D., F.I.C.S., bequeathed anesthesia antiques to the WLM.30 These were displayed from 1957-97 at the International College of Surgeons’ museum.31 Apparatus at this exhibit paralleled some of the WLM’s earlier loaned pieces to the Museum of Science and Industry’s “Conquest of Pain” (which was exhibited 1954-1991 and refurbished by Illinois anesthesiologists in 1987).32 With but a fraction of the WLM’s inventory, these were Chicago’s first long-term, large-scale anesthesia displays. When Kenneth McCarthy inspected the rest of the WLM apparatus—all wedged into Manhattan offices and Foregger’s boathouse—he observed, “If this material is worth collecting it is worthwhile preserving in an orderly and available manner.” McCarthy was “shocked by the dirt, disorder, and confusion.”33 Further shock awaited the WLM as Foregger’s health declined.34 In May of 1960, Mrs. Lily Foregger asked Wood to remove the Gill Curare Collection from Foregger’s office and to “take steps to vacate” the boathouse.26,35 Pleading not to “bury the Library-Museum in suburbia,” California’s William Neff dreamed of a WLM in a coastal city - in either New York City or San Francisco (as the latter had been recently vacated by Stanford University).36 After citing the economy and access of a Chicago suburb named Park Ridge (15 minutes by car from O’Hare Airport; 25 minutes by train from Chicago’s Loop), Daniel Moore wisely purchased a long suburban lot there.26,37 (Moore anticipated somehow not only the building of a 1963 two-story annex but, also, of an entirely new 1992 “backyard” building).

By 1960 ASA President Leo Hand had offered the one-story ASA building in Park Ridge for storing a “WLM collection annex” in basement air-conditioning.38 Denied space by three teaching hospitals, Wood endured having parts of the WLM collection—pieces not garaged upstate on his property—bounced around Manhattan from 145 E. 49th Street to 30 E. 42nd Street39,40 (Sites #6 and #7). Wood visited Park Ridge briefly at three six-month intervals during the planning and construction of the two-story WLM annex, an annex that Betcher called “Dan Moore’s monument.” A physical as well as intellectual giant, Paul Wood changed into his customarily huge surgical scrub suit for the dusty work of organizing the Library-Museum in the ASA’s basement.17 Anticipating his fourth New York-to-Illinois visit to his namesake collection, Wood suffered a massive heart attack at home in May of 1963.4 Unfortunately, Dr. Paul Wood died just months before the grand opening of his Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology.

3 . . . 2 . . . 1-STORIED BUILDING:
A LIBRARY EXPLODES;
A MUSEUM IMPLODES (1963-1985)

ASA Executive Director “Jack” Andes’ frugality had funded the ASA’s Park Ridge buildings, yet unexpected costs downsized the planned three-storied WLM Annex to two stories.41,42 Wood’s death narrowed the librarian search into one for a part-time librarian-curator.40 By September of 1963, a herpetologist and bibliophile, predoctoral Fulbright Scholar Walter Necker, B.S. was
By November, the President of the American Medical Association and ASA officers flanked Betcher in opening the WLM in ASA’s two-story annex.42 (Site #8)

Full-time by March of 1965, Necker professionally organized the Library-Museum for three years.44 Wood’s apparatus mentor, Elmer McKesson, was memorialized by the WLM’s formal gallery opening in 1965.45,46 Citing incomplete documentation of objects, Necker butted heads with WLM officers over filling exhibit cases. The accomplished librarian and curator just could “not suffer fools gladly”43 (Fig. 3). In January of 1967, Necker resigned, facing allegations of inflating travel expenses.47

Inaugurated later that year, the WLM’s annual historical lectures were posthumously named after President Emeritus Lewis Wright in 1975.48,49 (Susan Vassallo chairs today’s Wright Memorial Lecture Committee).25 The WLM’s outreach actually began in Necker’s wake, courtesy of a WLM trustee who was linked to the National Library of Medicine, Seymour Alpert.50 The Anesthesiology Bibliography commenced in 1968; the Self-Evaluation Program, in 1969 (sponsored by the American College of Anesthesiologists).51

By March of 1969, the WLM was facing the resignation of the WLM’s “acting librarian” secretary and a nationwide shortage of librarians.52,53 So in September the WLM hired as Curator a predoctoral anatomy-illustrator, Martin Levine, M.S.54 If Necker had been 90% of what the WLM needed, Levine was but the complementary 10%: an audiovisual educator. Consequently, in recasting the WLM as a “Teaching Resources Center,” WLM President James Eckenhoff did not place the Curator on Eugene Conner’s Library or Louis Orkin’s Museum Committee.55 Rather, the one-year president added Levine to the Audio-Visual Committee.56,57 That committee prospered under Chair John Leahy’s technical wizardry and John William Pender’s interviewing skill.58,59 (Begun by Leahy in 1965 and endowed posthumously by Pender, [who had been trained in oral history by Seegal] their “Men of Anesthesia” recordings expanded as the “Living History Collection” under Elliott Miller.60,61 More recently, Alan Sessler and Mary Ellen Warner have coordinated interviews of living legends of anesthesiology.25)

After organizing the WLM’s three-month American College of Surgeon’s exhibit, Dallas bibliophile and year 1970’s incoming WLM president, Charles Tandy, had already begun book conservation efforts at the WLM.62,63 Delighted by Levine’s
February 1971 find of Patrick Sim, M.L.S., Dr. Tandy reveled in the young librarian’s reference skills and work ethic.\(^{47}\) A product of Hong Kong’s parochial schools and Dewey’s first decimalized library system stateside, Sim was highly professional and service-oriented.\(^{64}\) (See Fig. 4). Sim’s rookie year initiated two long-running WLM series: the *Residents Reading List* and the *History of Anesthesiology* reprints.

August of 1971 saw disputes over the Curator’s personnel management and personal timekeeping, so Tandy invited him to “consider relocating in a position which would allow freer rein to [Levine’s] . . . obvious creative talents.”\(^{65}\) Within two months the ASA Directors accepted the WLM Trustees’ request to dissolve the New York charter and transfer WLM assets and liabilities to the ASA.\(^{66}\) Surrounded by perceptions of previous curatorial misconduct, the new ASA section tacitly bowed to future ASA control of WLM staff.

Sim’s pride in his Chinese heritage and the public’s clamor for all things acupuncture led to acquisitions in Asian medicine. These would include a reprinted 14th C. Chinese and two 18th C. Japanese classics. The WLM even acquired England’s first “acu.text:” J.M. Churchill’s 1821 *Treatise on Acupuncture*.\(^{67}\)

Holdings grew on the ether controversy and other anesthesia-linked topics. Tandy contacted legions of antiquarian bookdealers. Robert Boyle’s 17th C. *Sceptical Chymist* and the Nitrous Oxide Archive of Davy’s colleague, William Clayfield, soon graced the shelves.\(^{68}\) Reflecting its founder’s family interest in hypnotism, the WLM acquired works on mesmerism, including both Mesmer’s treatise on animal magnetism and his contract with Rousseau.\(^{69,70}\) Most mesmerizing: 275 letters handwritten by French magnetists in the WLM’s Chapelain-Deleuze Archives.

Resuscitation highlighted 1975. First, the March of Dimes donated Virginia Apgar’s resuscitation library.\(^{71}\) Then Tandy shuttled back from the WLM with physician-printer K. Garth Huston, Sr., to the Chicago ASA Annual Meeting.\(^{72}\) These two bibliophiles co-produced the 1976 “Bicentennial” exhibit and *Resuscitation Catalogue*.\(^{73}\) As Tandy’s successor, WLM President Huston communicated less well with ASA officers than with bookdealers and printers. After internationalizing the WLM’s list of antiquarian booksellers, Huston coordinated publication statewide of the 3rd volume of S.W. Syke’s *Essays...*and abroad of both W.D.A. Smith’s
Under the Influence . . . and Robinson’s 1847 Treatise on Ether. After acquiring Liston’s 1846 letter to Boott (about England’s first etherization for major surgery), Huston encouraged Sim to annotate a rare book catalog for the WLM.64,74 Huston consulted the UK’s Bernard Middleton for bookbinding and Illinois’ Russell Maylone and William Minter for, respectively, special collections and de-acidification.75

Linking the WLM in 1984 to the American Association for the History of Medicine, Huston co-presented papers with Anesthesia History Association (AHA) founders (and incoming WLM Trustees) Selma Calmes and Roderick Calverley.76 Huston also supported C. Ronald Stephen’s editing of the Classical Files of the late WLM Secretary, David Little. (Editors Stephen and Doris Cope would link the WLM to the AHA with the Bulletin of Anesthesia History. Other AHA members would provide WLM liaisons, like William Hammonds with Georgia’s Crawford W. Long Museum and California’s Calmes with both the Guedel Anesthesia Center and Liebeskind Pain Archive).77,78 AHA historians clamored around the WLM-sponsored exhibit “Pain and Its Relief” which began an 8-year stint at the Smithsonian.79

The Smithsonian success highlighted the WLM’s failure to maintain a major gallery on-site. The failure became glaring, particularly after $75,000 was donated for WLM gallery displays by the widow of Wood’s apparatus mentor, Elmer McKesson.80 Ironically, the Widow McKesson also was funding ASA’s medical student preceptorships, one of several educational programs whose office space would begin displacing McKesson Memorial exhibits by 1970.81

The 1977 plans to demolish the WLM’s ground-floor gallery to make way for more ASA “educational” offices.82

The WLM was effectively reduced to a one-story library. By 1983 faithful Vincent Collins was asked to triage WLM apparatus for potential display, dispersal, or disposal.83 Pressures mounted with the arrival of new ASA affiliates: the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation in 1984, the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia in 1985, and the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research in 1986. As ASA personnel and anesthesia antiques competed for limited space, some of the apparatus began disappearing. Repeatedly risking his future employment, Librarian Sim began retrieving (from the ASA dumpster) “mysteriously” discarded museum apparatus.84


A Harvard anesthesiologist and accomplished educator, Elliott Miller transformed the WLM in a dozen years. As architect of the modern Library-Museum, President Miller blended Midwestern candor with Ivy League finesse.85 Expecting cordial diversity from WLM Trustees, he sailed his motley crew through daunting meeting agendas. Influential guests and fatigued Trustees then mingled at WLM dinners. Miller observed that “breaking bread together” gave rise to common purpose.86

Having tapped M.T. “Pepper” Jenkins to re-establish the post of WLM Vice-President, Miller consulted “outsiders” like apparatus curators George Bause (U.S.) and David Wilkinson (U.K.).87,88 Founder of anesthesia museums at Johns Hopkins and Yale, Bause was soon named WLM’s Medical and then Honorary Curator.89 He inventoried a crush
of large anesthesia machines in the “dungeon” beneath the WLM’s lone surviving display cabinet. Next, seven new cabinets were designed and filled as curatorial demonstrations. The “demos” convinced the ASA to include a professional gallery in its planned three-story building. The architect’s wide-open gallery layout was redrafted by the Curator to feature 50 modular platforms and display cabinets.

After naming the Rare Book Room after the late Honorary Librarian Garth Huston, Miller consulted two professional librarians, Alabama’s A.J. Wright and Illinois’ Karen Ambrose. The two helped design a new building whose top floor would house the climate-controlled Huston Rare Book Room; the WLM Fellows’ Beecher Reading Room; the Dripps Audiovisual Room; and reinforced flooring for library stacks and the Rovenstine Reading Area. Staff offices would include the Librarian’s Adriani, Asst. Librarian’s Vandam-Covino, and Collection Supervisor’s Waters Rooms. Past ASA President Harry Bird and staffer Glenn Johnson shepherded the project along.

To reach ASA members, Miller hired a professional to design the WLM’s “Blood Transfusion” exhibit for the 1987 ASA Annual Meeting. In German, French, and English, rare books explored blood transfusion and shock. After 1988 the Curator coordinated the WLM’s international and annual ASA exhibits, often collaborating with Leslie Rendell-Baker. By 1991 three ASA foundations had combined annual exhibits, anticipating today’s Anesthesia Resource Center.

Before incorporating the WLM in Illinois, Miller expanded internal committee structure. He also studied Edward Ernst’s 1988 Long-Range Planning Report, a precedent for similar reports from future WLM presidents. As Ernst had recommended, an Assistant Librarian, Sally Graham, M.L.S., was hired in 1988. (She would later index the 1982-95 AHA Newsletters for Editors Doris Cope, Selma Calmes, and Ronald Stephen). An Anesthesia History Association cofounder and Army Reservist, Roderick Calverley had linked the WLM to scores of anesthesia departments, societies, libraries, and museums worldwide. An uncanny observer, Calverley even rediscovered the WLM’s long-lost John Snow Apparatus at another Chicago museum. As Graham ushered the WLM into the information age, “WorldWide Rod” graciously yielded to the WorldWideWeb. He founded the Paul M. Wood Fellowship program in anesthesia history in 1988. (After Rod’s untimely death in 1995, a Calverley Fellow was named as one of four annual history research fellowships).
Next, the WLM received Samuel Tirer’s donated paper on France’s Charrière Ether Inhalers and acquired Alexander Richardson’s 1849 oil of James Robinson, England’s first dental etherizer.\textsuperscript{100,101} The Curator was prompted by Miller to phone-bid on an 1819 Laennec stethoscope and, by Calverley, to visit Vancouver Island for the Webb Chloroform Collection.\textsuperscript{84,102} Lawrence’s oil portrait of nitrous pioneer Sir Humphry Davy was donated to the WLM by Davy-Richards descendant Bause.\textsuperscript{103}

After installing four “scholarly” exhibits in the gallery of ASA’s new Northwest Highway building, the Curator faced one ASA staffer who noted that previous curators had been fired for not filling all display areas.\textsuperscript{102,104} Lacking full documentation on apparatus but also lacking Necker’s spine, Bause buckled. Because the air conditioning failed, floor temperatures on that July weekend approached 85°F. So, over 48 hours, a lone curator sweated through the empty gallery installing 50 exhibits in rapidfire succession.\textsuperscript{84} On August 15, 1992, the new three-story ASA Building formally opened at 520 N. Northwest Highway. (Site #9) The WLM Library occupied two-thirds of the top floor and the Museum, one-third of the ground floor.

The WLM team of Sim and Bause would soon forsake summer’s heat for winter’s chill. First, though, the WLM acquired Joseph Clover’s diaries and Lister’s letter on chloroform to Lawrie.\textsuperscript{105,106} Then, on short notice, “a full day, and well into the night” was spent dismantling 37 years’ worth of WLM displays at the Museum of Science and Industry.\textsuperscript{106,107} As Sim navigated, Bause edged an apparatus-filled moving van through a Chicago blizzard up I-94 to Park Ridge.\textsuperscript{84}

In 1997 there was much less excitement involved in dismantling another long-term WLM exhibit: a 40-year-old one at the International College of Surgeons. After Assistant Librarian Graham resigned, two WLM staffers were hired. Brilliant at reference, Assistant Librarian Karen Bieterman, M.L.I.S., became an ASA favorite.\textsuperscript{108} Then, Library Assistant Carole Siragusa graced the WLM. A quick study, Siragusa mastered digital imaging along with diverse clerical activities.

Except for Raymond Fink, all Publications Committee Chairs (Nicholas Greene, Kathryn McGoldrick, and Donald Caton) tapped by Harvard’s Miller had been Yale professors or fellows. Pairs of books by John Snow and by Thomas Keys were reprinted. Next, the WLM published English translations of Overton by Lipnick and of Bernard and Pirogoff by Fink.\textsuperscript{109} The WLM even published proceedings of the Third International Symposium on the History of Anesthesia.\textsuperscript{110} After transforming the WLM into a scholarly press, Nicholas Greene inaugurated a Nobel-Prize-like quadrennial award: the WLM Laureate in the History of Anesthesia.\textsuperscript{111} Not surprisingly, certain Laureates, like Gwen Wilson and Norman Bergman, had seen earlier books of theirs sponsored by the WLM.\textsuperscript{112,113}


Golden they were, but most of the Miller years were heavily funded by the ASA. Miller handed the torch in 1997 to a brilliant historian of general and obstetric anesthesia. President Donald Caton faced an ASA demanding a financially “self-sufficient” WLM by Year 2000. Caton’s long-range plan had been to increase income by improving visibility. Led by Frank McKechnie, Cope,
Caton himself, and then Jonathan Berman, the WLM Marketing Committee soon fielded a speaker’s bureau, pamphlets, and *Anesthesiology* advertisements.114 With Fink and McGoldrick, Caton edited *Careers in Anesthesiology*. Encouraging museum contacts with the U.K., Australia, and Germany, the editing trio hailed Eddie Bowie’s donation of apparatus in cross-section.115

Organizing became Priority One. Bringing the library online, Bieterman captured titles with cataloguing software. WLM Trustee George Sheplock reached out digitally with the WLM Virtual Tour both on CD-ROM and online.116,117 After consulting Patsy Gerstner of the Dittrick Medical History Center, her fellow Clevelander, Bause, prescribed mobile carriage shelving to relieve basement clutter (and postpone off-site storage for 6 years).118 Moreover, a superb Collections Supervisor, Judith Robins, M.A., was hired. Rescuing the WLM from its physician-curator, Robins’ industry transformed the jumbled dungeon of archives and apparatus into useful collections. Along with Archives Committee Chair Douglas Bacon, Robins encouraged donation of valuable personal and organizational archives.

Joking about his Scottish-American frugality, the WLM’s Donald Caton slashed budgets and encouraged less expensive annual exhibits. Thus, a budget-beleaguered Curator bargained for A.M. Long’s 1884 “Improved Anaesthetic Apparatus” before flying to Montpelier, France.119 There, after inspecting the spoils of internet auction, Bause hand-carried Charrière’s 1847 Ether Inhaler back to the WLM. Although “positively apoplectic at the thought of excessive spending,” Caton relaxed after the inhaler was funded privately.84,115

In 2001 WLM President Kathryn McGoldrick succeeded Caton. A prolific author and editor, she learned that the ASA was reconsidering total termination of its WLM stipend. Just as Caton’s Trustees had assisted Boston’s Rafael Ortega with 2000’s *Evolution of the Anesthesia Machine* CD-ROM, now McGoldrick helped Ortega with 2004’s Vandam memorial DVD.120,121 (WLM’s long-term workhorse, Leroy Vandam labored on many WLM projects, including the Smithsonian exhibit, the *Historical Reprints* series, the *Yankee Dodge* videotape, and historic watercolors).

The Mayo Clinic Curator’s Room, and the “George and Ramona Bause Gallery” of the WLM, were named, respectively, in 2001 and 2002.122,123 While Mayo donors rearranged his office, the Curator collected c.1821 needles of premiere English acupuncturist J.M. Churchill.124 In 2003 McGoldrick authorized two curatorial efforts: an exhibit at the nation’s capital (at “ASA Washington”) and the recording of the WLM Gallery Audiotour.67,125,126

Publicity Committee Chair Lydia Conlay repeated A.H. “Buddy” Giesecke’s highlighting of the WLM in each September’s ASA *Newsletter*. The publicity worked. Maurice Albin donated his seminal neurosciences collection; the Tandys generously contributed their unique Robert Macintosh Archive.127 Two acquisitions actually generated publicity. The first, Nobelist Linus Pauling’s 1975 holograph, whispered from the “Huston Room” that general anesthesia resulted from “the formation of hydrate microcrystals in the brain . . . .”128 For the next major acquisition, a nervous curator flew to Edinburgh for James Robinson’s third prototype, the 1846 Hooper Ether Inhaler.129

Throughout the years, the WLM successfully avoided touching its endowment for expensive acquisitions or programs. This is all the more impressive when one considers...
the mixed success of past WLM fundraisers. Fortunately, fund managers and then Dr. Stephen Slogoff septupled the endowment from 1985-2004. So, after introducing Caton as the incoming WLM Laureate, a delighted McGoldrick handed the helm to President William Hammonds and Vice-President Lydia Conlay. Meanwhile, editorializing “from the crow’s nest” of the ASA Newsletter, WLM Secretary-Treasurer Douglas Bacon trained a spyglass on 2005 for his ASA Centennial Committee.

Today, two stalwart bookends, Dr. Charles Tandy and Librarian Patrick Sim, are nearing 70 years of combined WLM service. They brace a library of scores of Trustees and thousands of ASA members, all sharing Paul Wood’s vision of a national repository and educational resource—the ASA’s Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology.

Acknowledgments

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References

1. Spielman FJ. Our society’s seal: its history and significance. ASA Newsletter 2000; 64(9): 8-10.


9. “...One can go back to the late 1920s, when the Dupont Corporation was first getting involved in polymer research and the contract was with a professor of chemistry at Notre Dame University, Dr. Nieuwland, to conduct this research. Dr. Nieuwland was a Holy Cross father who had taken a vow of poverty, so the company was in a quandary to want to have the appropriate compensation mechanism to implement should the opportunity arise to commercialize the research findings. So it was agreed with Dr. Nieuwland and the university that the company would fund the library acquisitions for him at Notre Dame.” Remarks by Alan Goldhammer of Biotechnology Industry Organization on “Industry and University Relations”, March 29, 1999 [lecture transcription]. Cambridge (MA), Massachusetts Institute of Technology.


64. Interview of Patrick Sim, M.L.S. by Charles C. Tandy, M.D., March 5, 2004 [videocassette]. John W. Pender Living History Collection. The Wood Library-Museum Collection, Park Ridge, IL.


69. “John Hodge, our president has written Mr. Wood and asked him to come and give us a lecture on hypnotism.” Diary of Edith Blanche McCaughey, entry for September 15, 1897. Clinton County Historical Society, Frankfort, Indiana.


89. Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Wood Library-Museum, March 5-6, 1998. The Wood Library-Museum Collection, Park Ridge, IL.


George S. Bause, M.D., M.P.H.


