ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

The End of the Road for “Huron Road”

In 1935 Dr. Rolland Whitacre (1950 American Society of Anesthesiologists [ASA] President) laid the foundation for his historic anesthesiology residency program at Cleveland’s Huron Road Hospital (HRH). Training then teaching at HRH from 1933–1947, Dr. Brant Burdell “B. B.” Sankey followed Whitacre as both an ASA president (1955) and an International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) Trustee. A future cardiac anesthesia pioneer and ASA vice-president, Dr. Kenneth Keown interned at HRH before training in anesthesiology at Philadelphia’s Hahennann Hospital, the homeopathic “mother ship” for HRH. Except for his wartime service, Dr. Nicholas DePiero (1967 ASA President) trained and taught at HRH from 1942–1950. Renamed first “Meridia Huron” then “Huron” Hospital, the former HRH would not survive declining patient admissions or the costly aging of its physical plant (center). On August 22, 2011, inpatient services ceased at HRH, the hospital that furnished the IARS with several trustees, the ASA with three presidents and one vice-president, and the world with the Whitacre pencil-point spinal needle.

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George S. Bause, M.D., M.P.H., Honorary Curator, ASA’s Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology, Park Ridge, Illinois, and Clinical Associate Professor, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. UJYC@aol.com.