

PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL - DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

1952

NEWS LETTER (and my Christmas Card to you)

A Very Happy New Year and Merry Christmas to all of you. Many thanks for the incredible number of over 80 cards from you, many with notes, and photos. They are most welcome.

The Department has been busy and comparatively stable in 1952. The case load is over 21,000 and no signs of decreasing. Verbal presentations were made and written papers appeared from the pen of department members. Our biggest loss was in having Tom McDermott leave our hallowed halls for the more hallowed ones of Georgetown University. It is their gain. The Armed Forces ghost looms behind several people, and did snare George Herbert. However, Hugh Crawford and Vance Lauderdale should be out soon. Another great big loss is in having Miss Penland retire on July 1st, with a triumphant finish at a big party on the hottest day of 1952. Thanks to so many of you who made it a great success. On the side, A.P.'s real light has come out from under the bushel basket, and though she disclaims such a title, she is a hot-shot investment councillor, just in case you need any help. Mrs. Kauderer has taken over her job enthusiastically, and has added a coffee bar to the anesthesia wing on 18. Mrs. Colett retired for obstetrical reasons and Mrs. Howard stepped into her place as if she had been there for years. Sally Folts heeded the call of Rochester, N. Y. and Anne Cucos is filling her shoes well. For you oldsters, Mrs. Schoen reappeared this month for her second offspring, another son. As for the research people, Bob Spier is conquering first year medical school after several months in Southern Europe. Hermine Milch and Ramesh Osa are taking his place, while Mariagnes patiently analyzes all sorts of things, whether it be canine, still warm babies, or other products of metabolism.

The research work continues unabated. Oh my, what those magic words "a study case" really means. Up before the birds, home in the dark, no food, miles of records to measure and statisticate etc. Measurements of respiratory flows and pressures have been added to the circulatory and metabolic studies of the past. Shih-Hsun and Jackie boy disappear for days at a time to work with Dr. Wang in Physiology ferretting our secrets of the autonomic nervous system. With Dick Day and Alice Goodfellow in Pediatrics, our struggles to make newborn babies breathe better are being aided by a couple of impulsufflators with which we are gathering interesting experiences. Mechanical respirations is being studied more, and some day the perfect method will be evolved. It isn't here yet.

Some other changes. The big wide world of anesthesia has several new additions, from our department. Jack Shami is working at Mt. Kisco Hospital, Dottie Ma at Bushwick Hospital in Brooklyn, Bernice Blackman is at the Methodist Hospital also in Brooklyn, Joan Baumgartner is with Vince Collins at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City. Bob Simner has started practice in Dallas, Texas, Otto Klunder has joined Metz's group in Denver, Veronica Bakamjian has returned to Beirut, Lebanon, Al Wollack works at the Hackensack

Hospital across the river, Mike Chirot is about to begin practice in Syracuse, N. Y., Hsi-Sheng Yue is with the New York Infirmary for Women and Children, Carlos Rivas is hard at work in Caracas, Stephanie Shick works at several hospitals in Rockland County, N. Y. Jo DeFrancesco is about to join Bob Smith's department in Boston for more training in Pediatric anesthesia, Eva Kavan returned from her internship in St. Louis and is working with Jean Henley and Al Safian at Delafield Hospital, and Tone Dahl Kvittingen is about to move to Trondheim where Johs has settled. Al Alfonso found it necessary to leave his residency early and return to Columbia, and Joe Kreiselman is basking in Florida sunshine and is trying to grow a new pair of lungs. It was wonderful to see Perfecta Lampira from the Phillipines during her recent visit, and it is most gratifying to read about the new Austrian Society and their first Congress in September. Ted Mayrhofer has been very active in both, and is one of the editors of the new journal Der Anaesthetist. And just ask Dottie Darling how she likes Europe!

This has been a stay-at-home year for me, except for Chicago, Winnipeg, Virginia Beach and Philadelphia Meetings, and fishing in Florida and on the St. Lawrence River. Our New York meeting was a huge success. Save June in N. Y. for the AMA meeting, and of course, December for the Postgraduate Assembly. Our second birthday party will be on February 21st as you already know. Come if you can. This date will probably be an annual one because of the most welcome holiday which follows.

New future anesthetist have arrived in the families of the following: Rivas, Jordan, Hall, Frumin, VanderWood, Carpenter, Wagar, Zung, Balmaseda, Blackman, Schoen, Colett, Lopez, Ciocatto and Hatchfield. Have undoubtedly missed some. Another Shami is expected momentarily. Glenn Potter has a new wife, and Rita Goldman a husband, so is Mrs. Jacobs at home. A new Harris is on the way, too.(its here, a boy)

There are several very interesting letters from which I wish we had room to quote, especially those from Crawford, Santos, Moonie, Verly, Crosier, (yes thank you Joan, I accept your invitation) Stenberg, George. Keep up your good work, all of you, whether or not you write me about it.

And a Very Happy New Year to you!

V.A.



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