

House Call

A publication of the Medical Heritage Center at The Ohio State University

FROM THE MHC ARCHIVES:



Mercy Hospital, ca. 1930

THE MHC MISSION:

The Medical Heritage Center preserves, promotes, teaches and celebrates the health care legacy of central Ohio as the essential foundation from which the future of the health sciences is born.

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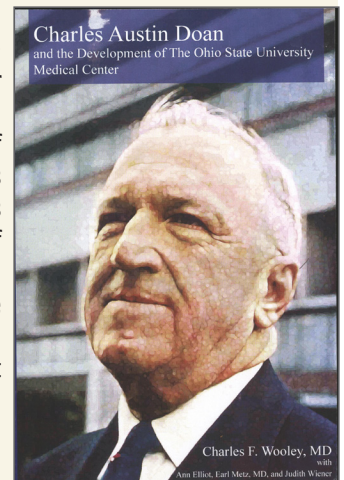
Note from the Curator

by Judith Wiener, MA, MLIS

Spring is in the air, as are many exciting projects and activities at the Medical Heritage Center!

We are proud to announce the publication of the book, *Charles Austin Doan and the Development of The Ohio State University Medical Center*.

This work was started by the late Charles F. Wooley, MD, during his time as a scholar-in-residence at the Medical Heritage Center. After his death, I, along with editor Anne Elliot and Earl Metz, MD, began the diligent work of putting together and completing Dr. Wooley's research and writings. We hope that readers enjoy this publication, which traces the life of an extraordinary dean who worked to build a remarkable medical center. To order the book for \$12 plus tax, call 292-9966 or email kristin.rodgers@osumc.edu. All proceeds benefit the work of the Medical Heritage Center.



The cover of *Charles Austin Doan and the Development of The Ohio State University Medical Center*.

Another exciting development is our spring lecture series. On April 25, 2013, we will be honoring our second class of local nursing legends. Pioneers in their field, 11 nurses were nominated by members of the central Ohio nursing community for making a significant contribution to the nursing profession and the healthcare of central Ohioans. The Medical Heritage Center Friends of Nursing History Steering Committee then approves the nominees. A reception will be held at 4:00pm and the program, honoring each legend, will start at 4:30pm at the MHC. This event is co-provided by the MHC Friends of Nursing History Steering Committee and the Ohio Nurses Foundation. 1.0 contact hour will be awarded to Nursing participants. The Ohio Nurses Association (OBN-001-91) is an accredited provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

This year's Warren lecture will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013 and will feature Jeffrey P. Baker, MD, PhD, Professor of Pediatrics, Director, History of Medicine Program, Trent Center for Bioethics, Humanities, and History of Medicine at the Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Baker's

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lecture will focus on the history of the vaccine-autism debate and his visit is being held in collaboration with the education department of Nationwide Children's Hospital. More information about this event will be sent soon and watch our website at go.osu.edu/mhc for more information about our lecture series and the many other exciting projects taking place at the MHC!

Richard Lewis Meiling (1908 - 1984)

By George Paulson, MD

I have a vivid memory of the happy occasion when the Medical Heritage Center was dedicated over 15 years ago in the Rhodes Hall Auditorium, now demolished to make way for progress. At that meeting I had the chance to review the three deans who were particularly instrumental in the growth and move toward excellence of The Ohio State University Medical Center (OSUMC) in the last 50 years of the 20th century: Dr. Charles Doan, Dr. Richard Meiling and Dr. Manuel Tzagournis.

Somehow with time we tend to forget, but the evidence of Dr. Meiling's contributions remain all around us. One of the most perceptive administrators OSUMC ever had as well as a surgical gynecologist with remarkably wide interests, for years we could credit Dean Meiling with much of the bricks and mortar of the medical campus. Indeed we still can, even if units such as Means Hall (named for Dean William Means), and Upham Hall (named for Dean John Upham) are now replaced with newer documentation of our progress. In fact it was Dean Meiling, reflecting his great interest in history, who insisted that such buildings should be named for faculty, with one building to honor each dean. Thus we have McCampbell Hall for Dean Eugene McCampbell, and the one that now bears Dr. Robert Atwell's name recognizes that Bob Atwell was acting dean. Furthermore Dr. Atwell was appointed by Dean Meiling as the founding director of the School of Allied Medical Professions, now located in Atwell Hall. Indeed that professional school was the first of its type in America.

A native of Springfield, Ohio, Richard Meiling began his medical training at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, and in the mid-1930s he received his Doctorate of Medicine with honors from the University of Munich. In 1952, well after the war, he was made an honorary member of the medical faculty of the University of Munich, the first foreign medical graduate awarded that honor in the University's 400-year history. His research in Germany had been in the potential value of the somewhat recently synthesized vitamin C in therapy of pneumonia and to lesser degree in the usefulness of rose hips as a source of vitamin C. His later research, along with Dr. Elizabeth Rupert and

others, was in prevention of maternal mortality. He actively participated in research programs in nutrition, infant mortality, and in innovative efforts to help those who suffered with cancer.

He continued to see patients throughout his entire career, and felt such experience was a necessary component of the skills any dean could bring to medical education. But it was as a far seeing administrator and innovator that Meiling is best remembered. He established programs to train nurse anesthetists, physical therapists and those in other closely allied fields. He established the first, and at the time the only, program to teach "air and space medicine," and that interest led him to encourage the first hospital-based helicopter rescue service in America. Meiling also supported the development of the Heartmobile, which in turn led to intensive care units for the first time in central Ohio.



Richard Lewis Meiling, MD

Perhaps his most significant accomplishment, one not trumpeted loudly, was to be instrumental in getting the OSU College of Medicine taken off probation after the 16 long years from 1936-1952. That success was not due to his vaunted skills in national political organizations, rather it reflected the sustained enhancement of all of the academic programs of the College. Thanks to Dean Meiling's numerous colleagues in Washington, however, the College also had a chance to fulfill the building needs that had piled up during wartime.

The ties of Dean Meiling to Washington reflected his exceptional military career and service during and immediately after WWII. Among other contributions, his earlier contacts and language skills were an asset

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to the military, and he is credited with developing the use of designated airplanes to evacuate wounded servicemen. The use of helicopters for evacuation was an advance of a later time, during the war in Vietnam. Meiling had been aware of the need for rapid evacuation of the wounded, since while still in Munich he witnessed the arrival of injured Germans who had been fighting on behalf of General Franco in Spain. After World War II, Dr. Meiling was retained by the United States General Staff and was a key advisor for General Hap Arnold of the U.S. Air Force.

Identified as a leader by the many groups he served, Dean Meiling was chosen to lead the Ohio Medical Association. He was the first medical reserve officer ever promoted to Major General in the Air Force. In the early 1950s he was the Assistant Secretary of Defense and Director of U.S. Medical Services. His national devotion and service prompted Secretary of War George C. Marshall to award Dr. Meiling the Certificate of Merit, the nation's highest civilian award at that time.

Dr. Meiling's commitment to history and tradition

prompted him to obtain glass art panels for the School, a grand mosaic for the Prior Health Sciences Library, and develop the official seal of the OSU College of Medicine. That concrete evidence of his creativity prompted other units on the campus to develop similar seals for their respective colleges. His interest in the humanities and his leadership skills led him to become president of several groups related to the arts in medicine. Due to his breadth of interest in education, he developed OMEN, the Ohio Medical Education Network. Perhaps surprising to the handful of persons who saw the Dean primarily as a military officer who was extremely able to express forceful opinions in order to build the medical complex, it was Meiling who established the first campus-wide multi-disciplinary course in professional ethics.

Decisive, organized, careful in administrator selection and clear in his personal conservatism, many on campus noted his absolute insistence on building a superb medical school. And he succeeded. Much of both the spirit and the physical substance of OSUMC still reflects the impact of Dr. Richard L. Meiling before, during, and after his time as dean from 1961-1970.

Recent Donations (August 6, 2012 – February 1, 2013)

Material: Ms. Carolyn Beck: given in memory of Franciscan Sisters of the Poor - St. Francis Hospital (nursing books and brochures) • Dr. J. Richard Briggs (artifact) • Dr. John Burnham (books and journals) • Mrs. Margaret Burns (books) • Ms. Shelby Conrad: given in honor of Wallace Conrad (artifacts) • Mrs. Julie Conry (nursing books and journals) • Dr. Garth Essig: in honor of John Robert Essig, MD (books and journals) • Estate of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton (books, journals, archives and artifacts) • Dr. James and Mrs. Merry Hamilton (artifacts) • Ms. Carolyn Kemery (journal) • Dr. Joaquin and Mrs. Ellen Lim (visual field instrument) • Dr. Paul and Mrs. Lee Metzger (books) • Ms. Dorothy Oechsler (4 invalid feeders) • OSUWMC Service Board (additions to their collection) • Our Optimal Health (archival records) • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson (books, journals, and slides) • Mrs. Kathy Peppe (books and nursing caps) • Riverside Methodist Hospital: in honor of Dr. David Robie (3 books) • Mrs. Reba Schanz: given in memory of Frank W. Snell (nursing books and artifacts) • Dr. Louis Schmidt, II (books and journals) • Mrs. Janice Stang (additions to the Warren Collection) • Dr. Robert Stevenson: given in memory of Dr. C. Gorndon Monteith from Mr. Robert and Mrs. Anne Zeigler (additions to the Carl O. Boucher Collection) • Mrs. Elizabeth Sturges (artifacts) • Ms. Janice A. Wilson: given in memory of St. Francis St. Anthony School of Nursing (nursing books and artifacts)

Monetary: Dr. Marling Abel (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Dr. Donald and Mrs. Teresa Bowers • Dr. John and Mrs. Marjorie Burnham • Dr. Carl Coleman (in memory of Judith L. Coleman) • Mr. Don E. Cook (in honor of Drs. George and Ruth Paulson) • Mr. Evan Dixon • Mr. Jack and Mrs. Kathi Faulstich • Drs. Louis and Nancy Goorey • Dr. Arnold and Mrs. Marilyn Johnson (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Mr. Bob and Mrs. Jane Lucas (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Dr. Paul and Mrs. Lee Metzger • Dr. Bruce Meyer • Ms. Sally Morgan • Dr. Krzysztof Mrozek • Dr. Thomas Papadimos and Mrs. Areti Tsavoussis (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson (in memory of Mr. Bryan Barnes, Dr. John P. Goff, Dr. Charles H. Hamilton, Dr. Leopold Liss, and Dr. Fred B. Thomas) • Dr. Jack Postle (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Mrs. Margaret Postle (in memory of Dr. Charles H. Hamilton) • Dr. John and Mrs. Carol Robinson • Dr. John Sauer • Mr. Robert Seal • Dr. and Mrs. Frank Stroebel • Mrs. Judith Wiener • Mrs. Lucia Wooley

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Starling-Loving Hospital Staff, 1947-48

Starling-Loving Hall Gargoyles

By Kristin Rodgers, MLIS

In Volume 1, Issue 2 of *House Call* an article entitled "Starling-Loving: Watching Over Us?" discussed the Starling-Loving Hall gargoyles. In that article there was a debate over why and how the gargoyles came to be, but unfortunately no one knew for sure. A *Lantern* article from April 28, 1926 was uncovered that explains the gargoyles' origins. In the article Dr. Paul H. Charlton, professor and surgeon at OSU (1914-1938) explained:

"When the original plans for the Hospital were made, Dr. Edwin A. Hamilton planned that statues of men of world fame as doctors, or for research, should decorate the ledge. But that project was found to be so expensive as to be prohibitive, as hand-carved figures would be necessary.

In their place animals which have been of great value in the study of medicine, either for their use in experiments or because they are sources of serums, have been substituted.

Horses, cows, penguins, monkeys, and rabbits are among the animals which have made important enough contributions to warrant representation there."

The origin of the gargoyles has been solved!



The horse gargoyle on the ledge of Starling-Loving Hall.



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