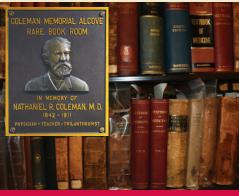
# House Call

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

## FROM THE MHC ARCHIVES:



With a donation of 538 volumes and cash from Sarah J. Coleman, the Nathaniel R. Coleman Library of Medical Literature fund was established in 1913 at Ohio State in her late husband's memory. This fund is used to purchase books in medicine.

#### 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 A. Wiener, MA, MLIS

When the Medical Heritage Center (MHC) opened twenty years ago on May 1, 1997, it established a home for health sciences history in central Ohio that did not exist but was sorely needed. Previously, historical materials were scattered among homes, basements, barns, and attics as well as throughout central Ohio businesses, historical and cultural institutions. The founding of the MHC meant that these materials now had a place to call home and could be researched, collected, and celebrated in one location.

Many worked to make this possible, including our first curator, Barbara Van Brimmer, and many regional physicians and organizations, such as the Columbus Medical Association Foundation (CMAF). Without their hard work, dedication, and vision, we would not have the thriving Center we have today that 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.



Barbara Van Brimmer in 1997.

1997 was an exceptional year. The Health Sciences Library (HSL) was nearing the end of the renovation of Prior Hall and the Columbus Medical Association (CMA) was celebrating their 100th anniversary. As part of this anniversary celebration, Van Brimmer, a librarian at the Health Sciences Library, was asked to serve on an historical committee of the CMA to help create a publication to document and celebrate their history. As the historical committee gathered and began their research, they realized just how difficult it was to research the health sciences history of our region because there was not an organization collecting exclusively in that subject area, as there were in other regions of the state. As the CMA historical committee began concluding their work on the publication, they began to dream of creating an historical institution that would collect the rich health sciences history of our region. Meanwhile, the Health Sciences Library was nearing the completion of their renovation but did not have programming intent or funding for the 5th floor of the building. Out of these complimentary needs, the MHC was formed.



The CMAF provided the seed money along with funding support from the OSU College of Medicine and the Library to make the MHC possible. 20 years later, I hope we are meeting and even exceeding the vision of these early advocates who envisioned a home for our health sciences history in central Ohio. To this day, the legacy of this "town and gown" partnership continues as members from the CMA, OSU, and the community at



Judith Wiener and Kristin Rodgers in 2017.

large gather on the MHC Advisory Committee to provide guidance and prepare and plan for tomorrow. One of our members, Dr. David Bahner, describes in this issue how the committee is actively working to capture our heritage legacy and am excited about our current collections, scholarship, programming, and reputation as well as the promise of our future. Throughout this anniversary year of May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018, we will be holding some exciting programming and sharing our plans to continue to grow and develop the

through oral history creation as one

example of this body's tireless work

to grow and develop the Center.

I am honored to be part of this

MHC for the future. We are excited to have your support along with us on this journey and hope to see you at the MHC during this exciting year ahead!

## **MHC Founding Advisory Committee Members**

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# The Legacy Subcommittee of the Medical Heritage Center By David P. Bahner MD, RDMS

The Medical Heritage Center (MHC) has been involved in preserving the health sciences history of central Ohio since 1997. In 2014, the Ohio State University Colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Optometry was celebrating their centennials after being founded in 1914. The Advisory Committee of the MHC decided to form a Centennial Subcommittee to highlight the efforts of the MHC for the centennial year. This committee coordinated various events and messaging including social media surrounding MHC activities during the 2014 centennial year.

As this subcommittee continued into 2015 and beyond, its title changed to the Legacy Subcommittee with a charge to help preserve the local history from the Ohio State health sciences community. The subcommittee has been charged with identifying local leaders who have the experience and knowledge about a facet of the health sciences community that the MHC could help promote. Coordinating with the Ohio State University Archives, the MHC Legacy Subcommittee has developed a process for conducting oral interviews with notable health sciences personnel. Building off the long tradition of Dr. George Paulson who has conducted many interviews over the last 20 years as well as the nursing oral history program led by the MHC Friends of Nursing History Committee, the Legacy Subcommittee is currently identifying and interviewing health care leaders to share their personal stories and the impact that Ohio State has had on them. Three recent interviews include those I conducted with Dr. Rund, Dr. Nelson, and Dr. Werman from the Department of Emergency Medicine.

by the University Archives. Dr. Howard Werman, the current director of Medflight was interviewed as he shared his 30 plus years at Ohio State and how medicine and specifically aeromedicine has changed during that time. The MHC is indebted to these three professors of Emergency Medicine for helping to share their experiences and insights into the establishment of emergency medicine in central Ohio. I want to thank Drs. Rund, Nelson, and Werman for sharing their experiences and stories and hope that this information can be useful to archivists, researchers, and the public as they inquire on the changing face of medicine.

The Legacy Subcommittee continues to compile its list of interviewees and interviewers to share their experiences and hope this effort preserves the oral histories of those leaders that have helped to shape our current health sciences environment. Akin to the efforts of the Smithsonian who helped to preserve the oral histories of those that served in WWII, the Legacy Subcommittee feels the same reverence toward our local health care heroes who helped to navigate and shape our current system.

The Legacy Subcommittee consists of Dr. David Bahner, Anthony Bowersock, Dr. Chris Ellison, Kevlin Haire, Dr. Robert Newcomb, Dr. George Paulson, Carol Robinson, R.N., Kristin Rodgers, Pat Schiwirian R.N., PhD, Dr. Linda Stone, Lauren Ulsh, and Judith Wiener.

For any questions, suggestions, or referrals to the Legacy Committee, please contact Kristin Rodgers at Kristin.Rodgers@ osumc.edu. To view the oral histories, please visit: http://kb.osu. edu/dspace/handle/1811/56913

Douglas A. Rund founded the Ohio State Department of

Emergency Medicine and during the last 40 years has seen it grow as medicine and Emergency Medicine continues to change. Dr. Rund recruited Dr. Rick Nelson as the first emergency medicine-trained resident and the program grew under Doug and Rick's leadership and guidance. As the Emergency Department evolved from an idea to a physical room(s) to an academic enterprise, challenges and successes came on a daily basis. As Rund and Nelson shared their personal journeys, their oral histories were captured on video tape and the audio recordings were processed



Carol Robinson conducting an oral history of Carol Prince.

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# **Collection Highlight: Samuel A. Corson, PhD Papers**

## By Kristin Rodgers, MLIS

Spanning 54 linear feet with a date range of 1925 to 1999, the Samuel A. Corson, PhD Papers is one of 165 collections that comprise the MHC archives. Corson's Papers primarily contain information related to his experiments on dogs.

Samuel A. Corson, PhD (December 31, 1909 – January 27, 1998) was known as the father of pet-assisted therapy. A native of Ukraine who came to Philadelphia as a teenager, Dr. Corson studied physiology at New York University and the University of Pennsylvania, and received a doctorate in biophysics at the University of Texas. He later held teaching posts at the University of Minnesota and elsewhere before becoming professor of psychiatry and biophysics at Ohio State in 1960 and establishing his research laboratory there with his second wife, Elizabeth O'Leary Corson, who had been his graduate assistant at Minnesota.

With Mrs. Corson as his lab manager, Dr. Corson immersed himself in research that included applying Pavlovian techniques

to study the effects of stress on dogs and gaining so much international recognition, especially in Eastern Europe, where such research was more prevalent than in the United States, that he was forever flying off to address international conferences or serving as host to visiting scientists from abroad.

Dr. Corson published many papers on pet-assisted therapy, including one based on a word-by-word analysis that found that patients spoke significantly more often and responded significantly more quickly to questions once dogs were introduced into therapy sessions.

Although Dr. Corson and his colleagues found that pets were used in psychotherapy as early as the 18th century and that at least one paper was written on the subject in the 1960's, his own research was credited with helping to stimulate a surging new interest in the field. As a result of his studies and a host of related research by others, dogs and other pets have become commonplace in nursing homes and other such settings.

# A Researcher Perspective: Samuel A. Corson, PhD Papers

Corson was an interesting and somewhat exceptional historical figure working in the tradition of Pavlov and uniquely situated at the intersection of American and soviet psychobiology. I was primarily interested in how Corson's unusual location within a psychiatric hospital led to his serendipitous diversion into 'pet facilitated therapy'. This relates to a wider team-based project supported by a Wellcome Trust (UK) Investigator Award titled *Managing Multispecies Medicine: Biotherapy and the Ecological Vision of Health and Wellbeing.* 

Collectively, we ask how might our perceptions of medicine, health and well-being change if they were thought of as more than human concerns? Whilst on first impression society may appear human, on closer examination it can be seen to consist of a multitude of species, human and nonhuman, sharing varied and complex relationships. Whether we think of the companion animals sharing our homes, the animals we farm, wildlife within urban and rural environments, or the microbes that inhabit our

By Dr. Robert G. W. Kirk



the MHC

bodies, everyday human life is permeated by more than human relationships. My research explores how medicine has formed various partnerships with nonhuman species to enhance health and well-being. I hope Corson's work will offer valuable insights which will help answer these questions.

I would be very interested in hearing from anybody who remembers Corson and his work at Ohio State.

## Dr. Robert G. W. Kirk

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# Recent Donations (October 1, 2016 – March 15, 2017)

The staff of the Medical Heritage Center would like to acknowledge and thank Drs. George and Ruth Paulson for their generous donation to provide long-term publication support for the House Call newsletter.

#### Material

Dr. Everett A. Bolz (in honor of Dr. Carl Asseff: books) • Dr. John and Mrs. Marjorie Burnham (books) • Dr. Charles A. Bush (books) • Dr. Sandy Cornett (journals) • Ms. Kathleen Day (foot powered dental drill) • Mrs. Debbie Freece (nursing shoes) • Dr. Wendy Greenhouse (portrait of SMC graduates) • Mrs. Jennifer Guy (journals) • Harding Heritage Foundation (brain microscope slides) • Mrs. Priscilla Kilman (in memory of Dr. James W. Kilman: artifacts and books) • Dr. Douglas M. Levin (intestinal biopsy capsule) • Life Connection of Ohio (kidney machine) • Dr. April Magnussen (books) • Mrs. Mary Beth Mathews (in memory of Grayce Sills, PhD, RN: album of OSU College of Nursing study tour to ICN/Israel in 1985) • Ms. Kay P. McAllister and Mr. Richard C. Patrick (in memory of Dorothy L. Barrett Oatts: archival material about Dr. Stanford B. Barrett) • Dr. Bruce Meyer (books) • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson (books) • Mrs. Kathy Peppe (additions to Grayce M. Sills, RN, PhD Papers) • Ms. Karole Swain (White Cross School of Nursing booklet and yearbooks) • Dr. Peter A. Volpe (in memory of Peter A. Volpe, Sr.: archival materials)

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Mrs. Pamela Bradigan • Ms. Karen Campbell (in honor of Dr. George Paulson) • Dr. Evan W. Dixon • Mrs. Kathi Faulstich (in honor of Drs. George and Ruth Paulson) • Mr. John Fosness • Dr. Louis J. R. Goorey • Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Carol Mount (in honor of Drs. George and Ruth Paulson) • Dr. Krzysztof Mrozek • Dr. John Olsen • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson • Mr. Jack W. Shaffer • Mr. Kevin and Mrs. Lucia Anne Spillers • Mr. Laurence and Dr. Linda Stone (in memory of Karen Hartker and Laurie O'Connor) • Dr. Barbara Sweney (in memory of Richard W. Zollinger, MD) • Dr. William Teague (in honor of Dr. George Paulson) • Mr. Rick Van Brimmer (in memory of Mrs. Barbara Van Brimmer) • Mrs. Mary Voss (in memory of William C. Voss) • Mr. Michael and Mrs. Judith Wiener • Dr. Steve Wilson • Mr. Chris Wooley (in memory of Dr. Charles Wooley) • Mrs. Mary Lucia Wooley

For information on how to make a material or financial donation to the MHC, please contact Judith Wiener at judith.wiener@osumc.edu or visit our website at go.osu.edu/mhc



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Bertha A. Bouroncle Pereny, MD (1919–2013) spent most of her life and career as a Professor of Medicine at The Ohio State University, where she identified a formerly fatal type of leukemia known as hairy cell, now mostly treatable thanks to her lifetime efforts. Her archival collection is one of 165 at the Medical Heritage Center.



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