Lecture
The 2000 James V. Warren Medical Humanities Lecture featuring John B. West, M.D., Ph.D., is scheduled for February 24, 2000 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Medical Heritage Center. Dr. West will be presenting “The Physiological Challenge of Climbing Mt. Everest.” There will also be a book signing for High Life by Dr. West. For more information, please contact Barbara Van Brimmer, 614-292-4891.

Meeting
The Ohio Academy of Medical History annual meeting will be on Saturday, April 15, 2000 in Cincinnati, hosted by the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center. Details and registration information will be available in late February. For more information, contact: Patsy Gerstner, Dittrick Medical History Center, Cleveland Medical Library Assoc./Cleveland Health Sciences Library, 11000 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Oh 44106-1714 Phone: (216) 368-6390 Fax: (216) 368-0165 Email: pag4@po.cwru.edu

Conference
From the American Association for the History of Medicine Newsletter “Bodies of Literature/Histories of the Body” an interdisciplinary conference focusing on different interpretive strategies for studying the reproductive body in early modern culture, is being held April 21-22, 2000. Featured speakers will include David Cressy, Frances Dolan, John King and Linda Pollock. For more information contact: Caroline Bicks, Department of English, 421 Denney Hall, 164 W. 17th Ave, Columbus, OH 43210 (bicks.1@osu.edu) or David Cressy, Department of History, (cressy.3@osu.edu). Details are also available on the web at http://www.osu.edu/conferences/blhb/index.html

A CENTURY OF SANITARY FAIRS AND HEALTH EXPOSITIONS IN OHIO (1864-1964)

This article has been excerpted from the original paper presented in its entirety by Bruno Gebhard, M.D., Director, Cleveland Health Museum at the 1964 Annual Meeting of the Ohio Academy of Medical History in Granville, Ohio.

Ohio, like Virginia, proudly and rightly calls itself the Mother of Presidents, but in the field of national or international expositions she has been a stepmother. Neither a World’s Fair nor a National Exposition took place in Ohio, but fame came to its major cities, Cincinnati and Cleveland, during Civil War days with its Sanitary Fairs in 1863-64. Sanitary Fairs were the money-raising ventures of local branches of the United States Sanitary Commission. “They raised not less than 25 millions in money, goods and personal help, much of it coming from poor farmers, mechanics and clerks who could give but a dollar apiece.”

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Dr. Gebhard was a distinguished leader in the development of health museums in Germany in the pre-Nazi era. He came to the United States to escape from Nazi Germany and settled in Cleveland where he founded the Cleveland Health Museum and was its director for many, many years. For more information about the Ohio Academy of Medical History see our ANNOUNCEMENTS section (p.1).
Recent Donations
The Medical Heritage Center thanks those listed for their recent support. If you are interested in making a donation to the Center, please contact Barbara Van Brimmer, 614.292.4891.


Monetary Donations: Donald F. Bowers, D.D.S. • Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Medaris Hardacre • Paul S. Metzger, M.D. • Alfred Stockum, M.D.

A Special Thank You
From the Columbus Medical Association Foundation Community Checkup, Vol. 2, Winter 2000

Dr. and Mrs. Paul S. Metzger have established a Charitable Remainder Trust that will leave its assets to the Columbus Medical Association Foundation to help ensure that the Medical Heritage Center will have funds to expand its archives and benefit the community.

The Metzgers, who make contributions to numerous charities, have included this gift planning vehicle in their estate plans to perpetuate their charitable giving after they are gone. The Charitable Remainder Trust they created will pay them an annual income for the remainder of their lives. After their death, the assets in the trust will be used in perpetuity by the CMA Foundation to support the efforts and activities of the Medical Heritage Center.

Dr. Metzger practiced internal medicine with the Central Ohio Medical Group and was with Nationwide Insurance Companies where he retired as Vice President and Chief Medical Director after a 34-year career. Dr. Metzger, a former Senior Franklin County Delegate to the Ohio State Medical Association, also served as President of the Academy of Medicine of Columbus and Franklin County (now the Columbus Medical Association) from 1979-1980. He and his wife Lee currently reside in Dublin, Ohio.

For more information regarding charitable planning opportunities through the Columbus Medical Association Foundation, please contact CMA Foundation Director of Development Weldon Milbourne at (614) 240-7420 or via e-mail at wmilbour@cmaf-ohio.org.

IN MEMORIAM
Dr. Richard Zollinger passed away on September 13, 1999. He had been in to visit the Medical Heritage Center only days before and shared his memoirs with us.

We are pleased to present this excerpt from his experiences as an intern.

‘… All ambulance calls were an adventure in human relations. I recall an ambulance visit to the home of a lonely widower, the father of a large family of sons and daughters. It was during Christmas and he was intensely unhappy and depressed, because of a lack of attention from his relatives. A call to a daughter, informing her that he had lost his sight, caused a crowd to gather at the family home. We were quickly informed of the problem and were dispatched to the site. A thorough history and physical proved without a doubt that this was a case of hysteria. My driver quietly prepared a gauze saturated with ammonia which was suddenly placed under the nose of the sightless patient with the suggestion that usually one deep breath was adequate to restore sight in this condition and if necessary we would try a second inhalation. One breath was enough. He suddenly jumped from his chair and asked someone to take him to the window and to open the curtains. Dramatically and with gestures he loudly exclaimed, “I can see.” We were proud of ourselves as we created a jubilant scene and were the recipients of thanks and praise from the pleased children. It was a good visit and we were hardly noticed as we returned to the ambulance for the trip home.’

From A Surgeon’s Journal by Richard W. Zollinger, M.D.
Displays

We are pleased to recognize the Central Ohio Pediatric Society in the historical display gallery in the main hall of the Medical Heritage Center. A special “History of Columbus Children’s Hospital” is located in three display cases on the south end of the floor. Photographs and artifacts such as rare infant feeders demonstrate medical care for children in Columbus from 1893 to the present.

At the north end of the hall is a revised display of early Columbus hospitals. This is arranged in chronological order beginning with the Poor House (1831) to Lincoln Memorial (1958).

If you have photographs of early Columbus hospitals that you would like to donate to our collection, please contact Barbara Van Brimmer, Curator.

The displays may be viewed Monday-Friday from 1-5 p.m. through April.

What’s the value?

Many people who have medical artifacts and books ask about the value of their items. While the Medical Heritage Center staff are unable to appraise items, it is possible for individuals to find prices for comparable items.

For books, check out book dealers’ prices. The Center keeps old catalogs from dealers and there are numerous web sites for used and out of print books, such as http://www.abebooks.com

For medical artifacts and instruments, auction sites often have an extensive selection listed for sale. One of the more popular sites is http://www.ebay.com

A tax planner or accountant may best be able to advise on the appraisal process if you are planning to donate items for a charitable tax deduction.