Reports of the ALHHS Annual Meeting, April 9-10, 2008
Rochester, New York

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Called to order: April 9, 2008, 4:01 p.m., Hyatt Regency Hotel, Rochester, New York.

Present: Toby Appel (Member-at-Large), Judy Chelnick (Member-at-Large), Brooke Fox (Secretary/Treasurer), Patricia Gallagher (Invited Guest), Stephen Greenberg (Invited Guest), Christopher Hoolihan (Local Arrangements Chair), K. Garth Huston, Jr. (Member-at-Large), Russell Johnson (Web Site Committee), Jodi Koste (Acting Archivist), Eric Luft (Publications Committee), Christopher Lyons (Invited Guest), Lisa Mix (President-Elect), Stephen Novak (Program Committee), Arlene Shaner (Membership), Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (President).

Absent: Elaine Challacombe (Auditor), Kathy Donahue (Web Site Committee), Timothy Pennycuff (Member-at-Large).

Old Business

President’s Report: Micaela stated that a couple of committee tasks were neglected during her tenure, but will be attended to by the new president, Lisa Mix, with special attention paid to passing on the Procedure Manual. The new president has been kept up to speed with e-mails. Micaela said that other reports will cover other issues.

Treasurer’s Report: Brooke Fox reported that an account with the Bank of America was opened in May 2007. The total income for ALHHS from May 2007 up to March 31, 2008, was $37,408.77. Expenditures totaled $2273.64 for four issues of The Watermark ($2205.44), mailing supplies/postal fees ($36.20) and a bank fee ($32.00). The current amount in the checking account is $35,135.13. That figure includes $8,856.91 cash out of CD from US Bank. Brooke said that she would look into setting up a CD at the Bank of America and asked the Steering Committee how much money to use. Micaela said that ALHHS needed no more than $10,000.00 in our checking account. It was agreed that any funds over $10,000.00 would be put into a CD. The annual meeting brought in $4560.00 as of March 31; there should be a small profit after all the bills are paid. We received $2037.00 in membership dues for the period between May 2007 and March 31, 2008.

Auditor’s Report: Elaine reported that she found no omissions or areas of concern with the bank records. She noted that she did not have copies of invoices or checks deposited and reiterated her recommendation that these documents should be included for future audits.

Membership Report: Arlene reported that there are currently 129 members and 58 non-renewals. She said that some are longtime members who usually renew. Arlene will generate a list of lapsed renewals for the Secretary to send out renewal notices.

Publications Report: Eric is resigning his position pending the appointment of a new Editor. The Committee discussed the possibility of dividing the job into (1)
Editor and (2) Producer/Publisher. It recommended that the option of receiving *The Watermark* electronically be added to the renewal form.

Local Arrangements for 2008 Meeting: Christopher Hoolihan reported that everything was under control. The meeting room had been moved. Seventy-one guests registered for dinner at the Country Club of Rochester. The University of Rochester is paying for the buses to and from the Country Club of Rochester and the George Eastman House. Also, Chris was not able to speak directly to the Hyatt, which meant that some charges did not appear until it was too late to make changes in the registration fee.

Blue Book Report: Chris Lyons reported that the Blue Book was e-mailed to Steering Committee members prior to this meeting. Tim Pennycuff had suggested some changes. Contingency language needs to be added. Judy Chelnick will send some suggestions. The book is still in rough form. Micaela has rewritten a draft with bullets and contingencies; she will produce a second draft with checklists and a chronology of due dates.

Archives Report: Jodi Koste said that the archives have been transferred to Tompkins-McCaw Library from the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. A letter of release was signed. The collection totals 15.5 linear feet but some can be weeded. Jodi suggested that she spend a year weeding prior to transfer. There are extra sets of *The Watermark* which may be distributed to members. It was determined that *The Watermark* was indexed by Carol Clausen until the late 1990s. Eric offered to continue the index up through the most recent issues. Micaela asked Jodi to draft an RFP for processing the archives. Stephen Novak offered to help and members will be asked to participate in an *ad hoc* committee.

Program Committee Report: Stephen Novak reported that everything had proceeded smoothly with the committee, made up of Toby Appel, Russell Johnson, Arlene Shaner, and himself. Seven proposals were received and six were accepted. Russell Johnson suggested that the 2009 program be called “Diving into Databases.”

Web Site Report: Russell Johnson reported that UCLA is changing its Web site configurations, which may change the look and feel of the ALHHS Web site. He asked people to suggest links for the “suggested links” page.

New Business

Local Arrangements 2009: Jim Edmonson has volunteered to serve as chair of the AAHM Local Arrangements Committee. Micaela will appoint the ALHHS LAC head.

Bylaws and Procedure Manual: Pat suggested that someone needs to be appointed (or have it within the scope of her/his duties), to oversee the maintenance of the Procedure Manual, as it will require regular alterations as procedures are modified or changed; and that this same person be responsible for the Bylaws. The Steering Committee discussed who would be responsible for overseeing updates. Pat suggested either the Immediate Past-President or creating a new position, known as the Parliamentarian. There was discussion that this was not necessary. Micaela will start a task force to decide what would be the best solution for maintenance of the two documents. Toby offered to lead a task force on dividing responsibilities of the Secretary and Treasurer. Micaela asked that we discuss this at the business meeting.

Reminder to appoint the Awards Committee: Lisa will appoint this committee.

Membership Database: There was discussion regarding new members and how to identify them. Stephen Novak recommended that a date field be added to the database that notes the date that each person joined.

Call for an Elections Committee. Lisa will appoint the Nominating Committee.

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Micaela gave her outgoing presidential remarks and thanked the committee for its help throughout her tenure. Lisa then gave her incoming presidential remarks.

Meeting adjourned: 6:05 p.m.

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**Financial Report, 2007-2008, for the ALHHS 2008 Annual Meeting**

Brooke Fox (Secretary/Treasurer)

Opening Bank of America balance as of 5/18/07 $5000.00

Final funds transferred from US Bank to Bank of America $16,774.86

Dues received May 2007 - March 31, 2008 $2037.00

Registration for 2008 Annual Meeting (meeting and dinner) $4560.00

*Watermark* advertising for 2007 and 2008 $180.00

Cash out of CD from US Bank $8856.91

**Total income as of March 31, 2008** $37,408.77

**Expenditures since May 2007**

*Watermark* publishing (4 issues) $2205.44

Mailing supplies/postal fees $36.20

Bank fee (check order) $32.00

**Total expenditures** $2273.64

Cash on hand ($37,408.77 minus $2273.64) $35,135.13

**Total assets as of April 1, 2008** $35,135.13

Outstanding costs (advertising income from 12 *Watermark* ads for 2007-2008) $2160.00

Imminent expenditures: Country Club of Rochester dinner (April 9, 2008), Hyatt Hotel catering-breakfast and lunch (April 10, 2008).
Publications Annual Report, 2007-2008

The situation with *The Watermark* is better now than it was at this time last year.

Since the last time we met (just eleven months ago), I have put out five 28-page issues of *The Watermark*, Spring 2007 through Spring 2008 (which arrived from the printer April 8). Even though all these issues except the last two were late, we are on schedule now.

The total cost for the first four of these five issues was **$2205.44**, i.e., an average of **$551.36** per issue, compared with an average of **$722.79** per issue in 2006-2007. This unrealistically low average per issue for 2007-2008 is due to savings on postage, to smaller press runs, and to not having to buy any new supplies. In 2008-2009, because of inflation projected for fuel, paper, and postage, our costs will rise.

For these four issues, the total costs for printing, supplies, and labor were **$1493.00**, i.e., an average of **$373.25** per issue.

The total costs for postage were **$712.44**, i.e., an average of **$178.11** per issue.

These averages per issue in 2006-2007 were **$414.19** for printing, supplies, and labor and **$308.60** for postage.

We saved some money on postage by twice mailing two issues of *The Watermark* in the same envelope. This was not intentional, and I realize that it is not the best way to get the news out, but circumstances being what they were, it seemed the best strategy at the time. For example, I was just about to go to press with the Fall 2007 issue when Micaela Sullivan Fowler asked me to put in some special material about the annual meeting. Because I had no more room in the Fall issue, I did the Winter 2007-2008 *tout suite* and mailed both issues together.

I have, with the appearance of “A Few Words from the Editor” p. 24 in the Winter 2007-2008 *Watermark*, submitted a “soft resignation” as Editor. That is, I encourage the Steering Committee to find a successor ASAP, but I have not set a date to resign, and I will continue as Editor until a successor is found.

There is nothing new to report regarding the Directory. Brooke Fox and I will compile the 2008 Directory this summer. This year I have asked members of ALHHS to submit their own ideas for cover illustrations, instead of just choosing illustrations myself. This contest is described in the “Few Words” section of the Fall 2007 *Watermark*, p. 105.

I want to thank Steve Greenberg, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, Brooke Fox, and Arlene Shaner for all their help, work, and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric v.d. Luft, Ph.D., M.L.S.
Chair, Publications Committee, and Editor, *The Watermark*

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Program and Business Meeting Minutes

The annual ALHHS program took place on Thursday, April 10, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The annual business meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m., April 10, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Rochester by Micaela Sullivan-Fowler.

Old Business

Micaela presented the President’s Report and discussed the Steering Committee meeting.

Brooke Fox presented the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report as above in the Steering Committee minutes.
Arlene Shaner presented the Membership report as above in the Steering Committee minutes.

Eric Luft presented his report on *The Watermark*. He said it is back on schedule and financially fine. He reported that the 2008 membership directory will be assembled this summer with Brooke Fox’s assistance. He announced that he would be stepping down as Editor of *The Watermark*, though he will continue to serve until a new Editor is identified. The new Editor would be responsible for soliciting and editing content; Eric will continue to manage the production (printing, mailing, etc.) of *The Watermark*. Micaela encouraged all members to consider serving as Editor. Eric announced that extra copies of *The Watermark* are available.

Chris Hoolihan thanked Micaela, Pat Gallagher, and the Program Committee. The University of Rochester provided the shuttle buses. He received a round of applause and thanks from members.

Micaela reported on the Blue Book / Local Arrangements Committee Procedure Manual. She thanked Chris Lyons for drafting it. She and Chris are going to expand the narrative and will finalize a version in six weeks. The final copy will then be available on our Web site.

Jodi Koste reported on the transfer of the archives out of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia on March 19, 2008. Jodi picked the materials up, which are now stored at her institution. Jodi requested the creation of an *ad hoc* committee to create an RFP for finding the archives a new home. Steve Novak and Jodi will participate in the committee. Jodi asked for volunteers. Micaela noted that the RFP would ask for advice of records retention.

*The Watermark*: Creating an up-to-date index and inventory of *The Watermark* was discussed. It was proposed to either contact NLM about indexing the newsletter or ask for volunteers. Eric volunteered to do the index. Micaela mentioned making the newsletter available as a PDF on the Web site and asked Brooke to include a sentence on the renewal forms asking in which format members prefer to receive their copies. Brooke said she would add this.

Steve Novak gave a brief Program Committee report as above in the Steering Committee minutes. He thanked committee members Arlene, Toby, and Russell.

Russell Johnson gave a brief report on the Web site. He said he had updated links and reminded members that all forms are available online. He also mentioned that the Web site may change because UCLA is changing its software system. Kathy Donahue asked if we are going to add membership lists to the Web site. Micaela said we had not discussed this in the Steering Committee. Howard Rootenberg asked if advertisers could get links to their Web sites through the online edition of *The Watermark*. Russell said this could be done.

**New Business**

Local Arrangements for 2009: Micaela reported that she had asked someone to chair the committee and is waiting for a response.

Procedure Manual: Micaela reported on this and mentioned Pat Gallagher’s suggestion of appointing a Parliamentarian.

Secretary/Treasurer position: Micaela said that the Steering Committee had talked about creating an *ad hoc* committee to look at the Secretary/Treasurer position.
Steve Greenberg moved to set up an *ad hoc* committee to discuss establishing a Parliamentarian or separating the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Chris Lyons seconded it. Pat Gallagher discussed her suggestions for a Parliamentarian. Howard Rootenberg suggested that Micaela head a committee to review the Bylaws, etc. Steve amended his motion to follow Howard’s motion. Amended: Motion was then that a committee be set up and headed by Micaela to revisit and potentially revise the Procedure Manual and Bylaws and report back to members. Chris Lyons seconded it as amended. No one opposed the motion.

Laptop for the Secretary/Treasurer: Steve Greenberg recommended that the society purchase a laptop for the Secretary/Treasurer to facilitate efficient membership database management. Kathy Donahue questioned this idea. Cynthia Kahn suggested going to an open platform on the Web. Mike Flannery liked the idea of getting a laptop. Steve Greenberg moved that ALHHS purchase a laptop for the Secretary/Treasurer to use for the membership database and for presenters to use at annual meetings. Four opposed the motion. It passed. Someone suggested that we should add buying a computer to the Procedure Manual.

Lisa Mix, as President, will appoint a Nominating Committee and an Awards Committee for 2009.

Micaela gave her official final remarks. Lisa Mix gave her opening remarks as President.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**Prescribing Faith**

Book Reviews


This is not what you would call a typical book on the history of medicine. The author, Dr. Claire Badaracco, a professor in the College of Communication at Marquette University, has written this book on how medicine and wellness was, and is, marketed and sold in America while looking at interaction between faith and medicine since the nineteenth century. She states in the introduction that to her the purpose of the book is to explore the historical roots of controversy of the role of faith in medicine and healing “particularly if prescribed as part of a therapeutic culture in which advertising disease thrives,” as well as to “...deconstruct the pseudoscience of disease awareness that creates a demand for anxiety as a product, one that requires the corollary production of faith-based products to alleviate fears of illness, aging, and death.”

Badaracco looks at the subject by exploring several different topics throughout American history. In Chapter 1, she looks at the relationship between women’s health and nineteenth-century medicine, especially the use of “heroic cures” that included prescribing arsenic and mercury to patients. To illustrate this she discusses in depth the relationship between Sophia Peabody, the wife of Nathaniel Hawthorne, and her physician, Walter Channing of Harvard Medical School, a founding editor of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. She also looks at the development of homeopathy and its interaction with the public and the medical community.

Mary Baker Eddy and the birth and growth of the Christian Science religion, which she founded, is profiled in Chapter 2. Badaracco sees both Eddy and Christian Science as a representative of a time in American religious culture when medicine and healing merged. The focus is on Eddy’s use of various media, in particular her book, *Science and Health with the Key to the Scriptures*, which she published and sold directly to the public using modern marketing techniques.

Badaracco leaps into the twentieth century and early twenty-first century in her last three chapters. Chapter 3 looks at the research into measuring the healing power of prayer in the clinical setting. Here she examines key studies that focus on prayer and heart patients, studies that she found through a representative survey available on the subject through the National Library of Medicine. The study of the effect of spirituality on wellness is fur-
In Chapter 4, Badaracco explores the work of researchers on stress-relaxation response and meditation. In Chapter 5, Badaracco takes on the pharmaceutical industry, which she calls “Big Pharma,” and in particular how it markets and sells drugs in the United States. She looks at the use of fear and “disease mongering” by drug companies to sell their products, especially the practice of direct-to-consumer advertisement. She also discusses the role of the media and others in supporting this multi-billion dollar industry, as well as those that oppose it.

Badaracco has done extensive research in both primary and secondary sources, which is well documented in the book. This research makes the text rich with detailed information, but it also causes the author some problems. She allows her in-depth research to sidetrack her at times on subjects that take the reader away from her primary arguments. An example of this is in Chapter 2 where she goes into detail about the relationship between Eddy and her adopted son Ebenezer Foster. While interesting, it does not add to the discussion of Eddy and her views of religion and health at the time.

Also, it seems that Badaracco was so overwhelmed by what she discovered in her research that she felt compelled to share all she could with the reader. Throughout the book she drops in facts and names of sources and authors with little or no context, forcing the reader to look at her notes to try and understand their purpose, again dimensioning rather than enhancing all her hard work and research.

In the introduction Badaracco states, “I have tried diligently to present these arguments in a balanced and judicious manner, without bias or preferential treatment for any one school of thought or religious outlook.” However, it does not take the reader long to discover that the author does have strong biases and that they are clearly stated throughout the book. From her strong dislike of the pharmaceutical industry to her equally strong support of alternative medicine, the text is clearly Badaracco’s point of view on the topics discussed rather than an unbiased study.

While *Prescribing Faith: Medicine, Media, and Religion in American Culture* is not an unbiased study, nor opens any new doors in the study of the history of medicine, it does have some very interesting and thought-provoking points of view. For those who have an interest in the role of faith and advertising in American medicine this book may be worth your while.

Scott Grimwood
Corporate Manager of Archives
SSM Health Care Corporate Archives
St. Louis, Missouri

Nina L. Etkin.
*Edible Medicines: An Ethnopharmacology of Food.*

In *Edible Medicines*, anthropologist Nina Etkin reviews how cultures worldwide use food to protect and enhance health. She sets the stage with an introduction to the major allelochemicals which plants use to protect themselves, and which generally are the plant elements with human health ramifications. She then discusses the various means of human subsistence, from hunting and gathering through modern-day agribusiness, and how people throughout history have identified plants with medicinal qualities. Throughout the book, she draws examples from many cultures, especially from the Hausa people of Nigeria, whom she has studied extensively.

The second chapter outlines food’s role in Western medical history. Diet played a prominent role in the Hippocratic corpus, with one text, *Peri trophe*, devoted to nutrition. Dioscorides’s *De materia medica* covered over 4700 medicinal uses of 1000 natural products, making it the most comprehensive guide of its time and influential for centuries to come. Galen focused on the use of foods and botanical medicines to balance the humors, and he extensively cataloged the functions of foods of his era. (These writings are available in English in Mark Grant’s recent *Galen on Food and Diet*).
Medieval physicians al-Rhazi, Ibn Sina and Maimonides all stressed the importance of diet. In the eighteenth century, “solidar” physicians such as Hoffmann, Boerhaave, and von Haller put foods in categories, including alkaline, acid, aqueous, and salty. Foods could be harmful or beneficial for certain illnesses depending on their category. Culpeper and Gerard’s herbals and Wesley’s Primitive Physick brought knowledge of botanical medicines to a wider audience. The germ theory and increasing pharmacological sophistication precipitated a move away from foods as medicines. Food elements such as vitamins were of greater interest than whole foods during the early and mid-twentieth century, but now a more holistic approach centered on “functional foods” and “nutraceuticals” is on the rise.

The remaining chapters of the book discuss major medicinal food categories: spices, fermented foods, social plants, animal foods, and supplements and health foods. Spices are especially rich in allelochemicals. Their strong scents and flavors signal that they have more medicinal potential than other foods. Etkin presents a case study of chile as an example of the globalization of spices. Columbus brought chile back from the New World, and it quickly spread to India, China, and Africa. In these places it is now considered a native plant, integral to the diet and valued as medicine. Etkin also discusses yaji, a multipurpose composite spice used in northern Nigeria.

Fermented foods are found in nearly all cultures. In addition to making foods safer to eat, fermentation usually increases the concentration of a food’s nutrients and allelochemicals. Yogurt, soy sauce, and alcoholic beverages are notable fermented foods. Four fermented foods used by the Hausa people for health purposes are discussed — gari (a cassava product), koko (a grain-based gruel), nono (fermented milk) and daddawa (a soup base made from dried locust bean tree seeds).

Social plants are those which are shared, often with rituals for consumption. Etkin examines chocolate’s journey from the New World to Europe; tea’s historical usage in China and Britain; betel’s spread through India, China, Southeast Asia and the South Pacific; and the kola nut’s usage in West Africa. Other social plants include alcoholic beverages, coffee, several kinds of gum, kava, and khat — all of which have both positive and negative impacts on health.

While most medicinal foods are plants, many animal products are included in pharmacopeias of the world. Etkin begins this chapter with a fascinating section on “zoopharmocognosy”: how animals use plants to heal themselves, through deliberate consumption or rubbing the plants on their fur. Animal products used as medicine include fish, leeches, and a myriad of insects, including maggots, honeybees, and insects that are eaten.

The last chapter of the book, “Health in the Marketplace,” expands on the growing use of foods in complementary and alternative medicines. Products for dealing with celiac disease and lactose intolerance are discussed. Etkin feels that both conditions are “unnecessarily medicalized,” especially lactose intolerance. While about 75% of the world’s population is lactose intolerant, the dairy industry speaks of the condition as though it were a deficiency rather than a normal state. Etkin also presents a case study of the dietary supplement noni, which she has done research on in Honolulu. Noni has been used medicinally for centuries in Hawaii, but only in the 1990s did it become a globally known nutritional supplement. Like many supplements, noni has morphed from a natural medicinal food valued by a specific culture to a globally available, highly processed product which is often treated as a panacea.

The appendix lists thirty-three common spices along with their family, geographic origin, allelochemical constituents, and medicinal uses. There are several other useful tables in the book and a number of black-and-white photos.

Edible Medicines belongs in libraries serving students, faculty, and scholars in nutrition, food science, ethno-botany, medicine, nursing, public health, and anthropology. General readers who are interested in the history of foods as medicine and how different cultures regard foods will also enjoy this book.

Ursula Ellis
Medical Library Manager
Deaconess Hospital, Oklahoma City

Collections, Exhibits, and Access

Nineteenth-Century Photos Rescued

“Rediscovering the Class of 1885,” a new exhibit at SUNY Upstate Medical University’s Health Sciences
Library, celebrates the recent discovery of twenty-five nineteenth-century portrait photographs. The exhibit, which opened April 25, 2008, was featured as part of the First Annual Carol M. Baldwin Cultural Crawl from April 25 to 26. The Crawl is a joint venture of several educational, cultural, and civic institutions in Syracuse, and all proceeds from it support the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund of Central New York. (Carol is the mother of actors Alec, Daniel, Stephen, and William.)

The exhibit, full of history and mystery, offers glimpses of the lives of medical students in Syracuse in the late nineteenth century through photographs, medical instruments, student notebooks, exams, and other original documents. “These recently found photographs are now the earliest original class pictures in the Library’s Historical Collections,” said Elise Calvi, Curator of Historical Collections in the Health Sciences Library. “By telling the story of how these photographs were ‘lost’ for sixty years and then found, the exhibit also draws attention to the underlying question of how the historical record may be preserved — or lost — for future generations, and how our interpretation of the past may be incomplete, or faulty, if the picture itself is incomplete,” said Calvi.

According to Calvi, the photographs and their story were discovered in stages: “Don Jaeger of the Pathology Department was working in a storage room in the basement of Weiskotten Hall, where thousands upon thousands of microscope slides are stored, and found the 1885 photos and others on top of ten-foot tall cabinets,” said Calvi. “They were all individual portraits, but had thumbtack holes in all four corners, so I knew they must have been on display somewhere. But where and how?”

Calvi’s answer came months later, when, going through some of the uncataloged negatives in the Medical Photography archive, she found a negative showing how the photographs were originally displayed. “But along with the answer to the mystery came a new intrigue, which, surprisingly, turned out to be quite relevant to the purpose of the Cultural Crawl,” she said. “Visitors to the exhibit will find out the answer to the intrigue, and see how the experiences of nineteenth-century medical students are relevant today.”

The items on exhibit are all drawn from the Library’s Historical Collections, which includes several thousand books and journals published from the sixteenth through the twenty-first centuries; manuscripts, photographs, printed and audio-visual materials, and artifacts documenting the history of SUNY Upstate and its predecessor schools; medical instruments; papers of distinguished faculty; and other materials pertinent to the history of the health professions in Central New York. Visit Historical Collections on the second floor of the Library or at <www.upstate.edu/library/history/>. For more information please e-mail <calvie@upstate.edu> or call 315-464-4585.

Bathtubs and Great-Grand-Dads at NLM

The History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine is excited to announce two new Web sites, one for the Bathtub Collection, the other for genealogical resources.

The Bathtub Collection consists of fragments found in old and rare bindings from NLM’s rare book collection when items were rebound and conserved in the 1940s and 1950s. It is called the “Bathtub Collection” because then-curator Dorothy M. Schullian took the leftovers of conservation work home and soaked them in her bathtub to retrieve the often interesting bits and pieces of medieval manuscripts and early printed ephemera that she found. Please visit the site at <www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/bathtub/>.

NLM is also home to numerous genealogical resources for those seeking information about ancestors with medical or health-related training. Among these is the AMA Deceased Physicians Card File, a collection of nearly 400,000 index cards created by the AMA between about 1901 and 1969 focusing on everyone in the U.S. who received a medical degree. — (See Thomas H. Shawker’s article in The Watermark, 28, 4 (Fall 2005): 65-66.) — The cards were updated throughout the physician’s career with information about degrees obtained, licensing, addresses and finally cause of death and sometimes obituary citations and even portraits. Please visit the site at <www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/genealogy/>.

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Good Listening

Third Annual Philadelphia Conference on the History of Women’s Health

The Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, hosted its Third Annual History of Women’s Health Conference on Wednesday, April 23, 2008. The conference focused on women’s health issues from the late eighteenth century to the present. It encouraged interdisciplinary work. Topics of interest included, but were not limited to, obstetric and gynecologic issues (fertility, infertility, birth control methods, menopause), adolescence (health, cultural influences, body image), mental health topics, geriatric concerns, overall women’s health, access to health care, minority health, and more.

This year’s topic was “Women’s Influence in Healthcare: Women as Medical Agents and Medical Advocates for Themselves, Their Families, and Society.” The program began with welcoming remarks by Dr. Jack Ludmir, Chair, Ob/Gyn Department, Pennsylvania Hospital, and Dr. Deborah Driscoll, Chair, Ob/Gyn Department, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Afaf I. Meleis gave the keynote presentation. She is the Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Professor of Nursing and Sociology, and Director of the School’s WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing and Midwifery Leadership. Her talk was “Global Women at Risk: A Historical Perspective.”

The first session, moderated by Susan E. Klepp, Professor of History, Temple University, included:

Rodney Mader, Associate Professor of English, West Chester University, “The Medical Knowledge of Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson.”

Martha Yoder, Lecturer, Commonwealth Honors College, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, “Women Health Caregivers and Political Activism in the American Revolution.”

Megan Privett, Program Coordinator, Alliance for Historic Hillsborough, “Mother Nature’s Medicine: Herbs Used in Childbirth in Early America.”

Susan Hanket Brandt, R.N., F.N.P.; Ph.D. student, Department of History, Temple University, “‘Finer Feelings’: Race, Sensibility, and Nursing in the 1793 Philadelphia Yellow Fever Epidemic.”

Dr. Wanda Ronner of the Pennsylvania Hospital Ob/Gyn Department moderated the second session, which included:

Ann Mari May, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economics and Women’s Studies Affiliate, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, “Sex, Biology, and Higher Education in 19th Century America.”

Laura M. Calkins, Ph.D., Director, Women’s Studies Program, Texas Tech University, “Women’s Medical Education during the Early Coeducational Era: Disjoined and Gendered Spaces in the University of Michigan’s Medical Department, 1870-1879.”

Session Three, moderated by Dr. Peter Gearhart of the Pennsylvania Hospital Ob/Gyn Department, included:


Lee H. Igel, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Continuing and Professional Studies, New York University, “Women and ‘The Physician Condition’: Old Assumptions, New Realities, and Future Needs.”

Barbra Mann Wall, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, As-
associate Director, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, “Clash and Compromise: Advocacy for Women’s Reproductive Services in a Catholic and Public Hospital Partnership.”


The luncheon speaker was Heather Prescott, Ph.D., Professor of History, Central Connecticut State University, on “The Contraceptive Revolution on Campus in the 1960s and 1970s.”

Pennsylvania Hospital <pennhealth.com/pahosp/>, the nation’s first hospital, is a 515-bed acute care facility that provides a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic medical services and functions as a major teaching and clinical research institution.

The Archives of Pennsylvania Hospital have been gathered for 257 years, an almost unbroken series since 1751. The Archives consists of administration and financial records, patient files, photographs and other visual materials, personal papers of hospital practitioners, and artifacts, as well as the records of the Institute of Pennsylvania Hospital and affiliates absorbed by Pennsylvania Hospital such as the Philadelphia Dispensary, the Preston Retreat, the Southern Dispensary, the Philadelphia Lying-In Charity, the Maternity Hospital, the Nurse Charity, and the Humane Society. It is a unique resource for scholars interested in the history of hospital development, mental health care, medicine, architecture, and genealogy. For more on our collections or the history of Pennsylvania Hospital, please visit <www.uphs.upenn.edu/paharc/>.

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History of Medicine Seminars at NLM

On April 16, 2008, Guenter B. Risse, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of the History of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, spoke on “Bridging The East-West Divide: Genesis of a Chinese Hospital in San Francisco.” Faced with waves of new and recently arrived immigrants, many religious, ethnic, and national communities in the latter part of the nineteenth century sought to provide welcome settings to protect the cultural identities of newcomers through the establishment of churches, schools, mutual aid societies, service clubs, and hospitals. Based on Western and Chinese sources, this paper reconstructed the genesis of the Tung Wah or Oriental Dispensary that opened its doors in February 1900, a few weeks before the appearance of plague in Chinatown; identified its Caucasian and Chinese sponsors; and described the unique voluntary Chinese and Western medical staff, patient management, finances, and entanglement with local, state and federal public health politics.

On April 23, 2008, Christine Ruggere of the Johns Hopkins University gave a History of Medicine Division seminar on “‘Doctors’ Ladies’, or: Another Look at Chinese Diagnostic Manikins.” Chinese anatomical diagnostic manikins are among the many interesting artifacts found in medical history collections. Ivory female figurines were used by Chinese doctors during house calls. The Chinese custom decreed that a woman must not be physically examined by a male physician. The female patient marked the area of pain or discomfort on the doll and passed it through a curtain without actually being seen by the doctor.

Kutcher on Saenger at UCLA

On April 29, 2008, as part of the twenty-fifth year of UCLA Programs in Medical Classics, Gerald Kutcher, Ph.D., Dean’s Professor of History of Medicine at the State University of New York at Binghamton, spoke on “The Notorious Saenger Case: What Does It tell Us about Post-World War II Medical Research Practices
and Clinical Practice?” Kutcher was introduced by Stewart A. Laidlaw, Ph.D., Director, Office of Compliance and Regulatory Affairs, Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute (i.e., “LA-BioMed,” formerly the Harbor-UCLA Research and Education Research Institute). This event was co-sponsored by the UCLA Healthcare Ethics Center <www.uclahealth.org/ethics/>.

During the 1960s, the physician Eugene Saenger treated patients with advanced cancers while he also used them as proxy soldiers for military research. For some critics, the Saenger case is paradigmatic of unethical research. Yet, the case has remained controversial and without closure for almost forty years. Kutcher argued that the Saenger case has survived so long in part because his research shared so much with “normal” post-war investigations and therefore that the case can be used as a lens to reveal the research practices and clinical conduct of that period.

UCLA Programs in Medical Classics is a series of free presentations designed to enhance an appreciation of the links among famous medical writings, clinical practice, basic research, and humanistic scholarship. Several times a year these meetings bring together a convivial group of individuals of scholarly tastes — both from the community and from UCLA faculty, students, and staff — for a lecture and an opportunity to discuss and examine texts and topics that embody the history of advances in medicine, as well as the relations of medicine to broader cultural settings. See <www.library.ucla.edu/biomed/his/medicalclassics.html>.

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Society for the History of Navy Medicine Papers Available Online

Those of you who lingered in Rochester after attending the ALHHS meeting may have wandered down the hall of the Hyatt Regency on Thursday evening, April 10, to find the second annual meeting of the Society for the History of Navy Medicine. For those of you who missed these five fine papers, here is some good news:

All the PowerPoint shows and text files for this session are now posted on the Society’s Web site <www.history-navy-med.org>, Aficionados of this aspect of medical history will enjoy them all. Click on “Society News,” then on the word “here.”

About 25 members and non-members attended. As one Society member there said, “When people coming in were looking for extra chairs, I knew this session was going to be a success!” Congratulations to the presenters, Drs. Berman, Telford, Rushton, Mandel and Langley, for their excellent work. Bravo Zulu!

The 2009 AAHM meeting is scheduled for April 23-26 in Cleveland, Ohio. The Society’s third annual meeting will likely be on the first day of the meeting, just like this year. Be thinking about presenting a paper at next year’s session. Any topic related to the history of the medicine of navies or the maritime environment will be welcome. Look for an official call for papers within the next month or two.

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Miscellanea

Rutty Upgrades Web Site

Medical historian Christopher J. Rutty, Ph.D. writes: “I’ve recently been updating/upgrading my Health Heritage Research Services Web site, and in particular the Polio History resources section. Check it out at <www.healthheritageresearch.com>. Enter the site and then click on the ‘Poliomyelitis’ link on the left frame under Specialty Historical Resources. There are also new resources on the history of whooping cough / pertussis vaccines and upgraded material on several other topics of special interest to me. Any comments/criticisms are welcome.”

Quiz Question

Is the urban legend true that Super Glue® was invented to seal and stabilize battle wounds?

(Answer below on page 107.)

Call for Proposals: College Book Art Association Biennial Conference

The next College Book Art Association (CBAA) Biennial Conference, “Art, Fact, and Artifact: The Book in Time and Place,” will be hosted by the University of Iowa Center for the Book (UICB) on January 8-10, 2009. Proposals due by June 1, 2008.

The art of the book has been at once visionary and documentary, imagining a future that has yet to exist while finding inspiration from the resources of the past. The first biennial conference of the College Book Art Association seeks to bridge the worlds of book art, book history, cultural criticism, and curatorial work through appreciation of the book as an aesthetic sensorium. Scholarship, artistic practice, and the digital age have evoked for us the multimedia nature of the book experience. Animated by practices that define anew the cultural record, contemporary book creators unsettle the categories whereby art is valued and appreciated, making new objects that express the range of human experience. Roused by research into the materiality of texts, humanities scholars and institutional curators have summoned new facts to explain communication technologies, writing an alternative history of word and image in the book format. Pressed by political urgencies, artists and researchers have measured the meanings of art and fact through bookwork that serves as cultural criticism. At a time when the book arts have never been more vital, “Art, Fact, and Artifact” builds from these energies and seeks presentations, papers, and studio demonstrations from artists and scholars interested in the future, present, and past of the book as an expressive form.

Along with session programming, the conference agenda will include exhibits, tours of facilities, open discussion time, and portfolio review.

The organizers invite submissions for individual presentations, pre-formed panels, and studio demonstrations for the conference program. Possible topics may include but are not limited to:

- Artist Presentations of Current Work or Work-in-Progress.
- Studio Demonstrations: Process/Experimentation/Resurgence.
- Questions of Materiality: The Actual, the Physical, the Virtual, the Digital.
- The Book as Document.
- Curating and Collecting: What Do We Want? How Do We Know?
- The Procedural Turn, Then and Now.
- Flat Art, Spatial Art, Temporal Art, Book Art.
- Intimacy and the Book: Sex, Touch, the Private, the Public.
- Institutions and Theories of Value.
- The Book as Witness.
- Questions of Practice: Modeling Methods.
- Ideologies of the Book.
- Craft Perspectives: The Hand in the Work.
- History and Documentation: Writing our History and Our Now.
- Humble Books and an Aesthetics of the Ordinary.
- Conceptualism, Bookwork, and Installation.
- The Role of Criticism.
- Space, Pace, and Plane.
- The Theory and Practice of Exhibition.
- Reading and the Hand-Operated Codex.
- The Archive as Muse.
Send proposals as e-mail attachments to:

<center-for-the-book@uiowa.edu>

or by snail mail to:

University of Iowa Center for the Book
216 North Hall
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242
Attn: Art, Fact, and Artifact

All proposal submissions should include: proposal title, name and contact information, biographies or vitae of participants, and audio-visual needs.

For individual proposals, submit a 200-250 word description of a paper (abstract for a 20-minute talk), artist presentation (20 minutes), or studio demonstration (include time requirements for demonstrations).

For organized sessions, submit a 250-word overview of the proposal. Organizers should assemble three speakers for a paper session and include individual paper abstracts in addition to the overview; three or four presenters for an artist presentation and include individual descriptions in addition to the overview; one moderator and up to four contributors for a panel or roundtable discussion; and two or three studio specialists for a demonstration.

For artist presentations, please include five to ten representative examples of work to be shown (JPG, PDF, or PowerPoint).

For studio demonstrations, please detail facilities requirements, including equipment, materials and supplies, and space requirements. Please be specific.

Alternative formats are encouraged.

The CBAA encourages graduate student participation. The UICB has secured funding to help defray costs for student presenters. To apply, include a brief letter describing your need for assistance.

Presenters must be members of the College Book Art Association. To join, visit the CBAA Web site at <www.collegebookart.org/>.

For more information about this call for proposals, please contact:

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Web site <www.uiowa.edu/~ctrbook>

From the President

First things first, some thank you’s. Many thanks to Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, ALHHS Immediate Past-President. Filling her shoes will be a challenge, and I am grateful to her for being available to guide me on this journey. Thanks also to Secretary/Treasurer Brooke Fox, and to Arlene Shaner for helping to manage the membership list, to Russell John- son for his work on the Web site, and Eric Luft for editing The Watermark. I would also like to acknowledge the Members-at-Large of the Steering Committee — continuing members Judy Chelnick and K. Garth Huston, and departing members Tim Penny-cuff and Toby Appel — for their service to ALHHS. Also, please give a warm welcome to our newest Steering Committee members, Chris Lyons and Howard Rootenberg.

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Rochester. Chris Hoolihan did an amazing job on local arrange-ments, and the Program Committee put together an excellent set of presenters. I picked up several new ideas to try out in my shop, and I’m sure many other attendees did as well.

As the previous paragraphs attest, this organization thrives on the active participation of its members. Keep in mind that this is YOUR association. ALHHS belongs to all of us — not just to the Steering Committee, or just to those who attend meetings. The more members that participate in ALHHS, the stronger we are as an organization.

There are several upcoming opportunities for members to become involved and serve ALHHS.
We are recruiting a new Editor — or at least a Content Editor — for The Watermark. An announcement specifying the duties of this position will be sent to the listserv shortly.

Members will be needed to serve on the following committees:

- Nominating Committee
- Program Committee for 2009 meeting
- Local Arrangements for 2009 meeting
- Awards Committee
- Ad hoc Committee on the ALHHS Archives
- Ad hoc Committee to Review ALHHS Bylaws and Procedures

Over the coming weeks and months, I will be sending announcements out to the listserv with more details on these opportunities, and I hope that many of you will consider getting involved. You’ll get to work with some fabulous people and it can be a lot of fun! Serving on a committee is a great way to stay involved, even if you are unable to attend the annual meeting. If you are too busy to serve on a committee, please consider participating in ALHHS by writing an article for The Watermark or by recruiting new members.

Although I enjoyed interacting with many of you in Rochester, I realize that more than half of the membership does not attend the annual meetings, for a variety of reasons. I am committed to seeing that ALHHS is relevant to all of its members.

As President, I am always open to hearing ideas from members, so please, feel free to contact me, or any of the officers, with your suggestions or concerns. If you’re on Facebook, I invite you to add me to your friends list. My profile is at <www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=626558140>. I think you’ll find that several of your ALHHS colleagues are on Facebook as well.

I am truly honored to serve as your President for the next two years. I hope that I can count on all of your support.

Onward!

Lisa A. Mix
President, ALHHS
Manager, Archives and Special Collections
UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management
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A Few Words from the Editor

I have just returned from another wonderful annual meeting of ALHHS. Much was accomplished, the program was excellent, and best of all was the chance to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones. I will always treasure my memory of dinner at the Dinosaur Bar B Que <www.dinosaurbarbque.com/> with (alphabetically) Debbie Coltham, Mike Flannery, Michael North, Debra Scarborough, Julieanne Simpson, and Crystal Smith — during which, among other things, Mike and I agreed that a smaller portion of the Big Ass Pork Plate should be called the Half Ass Pork Plate.

As there was a significant call at the meeting for a new index to The Watermark to supplement what Carol Clausen did in 1996 for Volumes 1-18 (1976-1995), I have compiled one and included it below. Also, some members expressed a desire for a full list of Watermark issues so that they could look for duplicates to complete their runs. Accordingly, that checklist is below too.

Send me your ideas for the cover of the next Directory — cf. “Few Words,” 30, 4 (Fall 2007): 105. Brooke Fox and I will be putting it together this summer.

... and ... I still would like to give up this gig as Editor as soon as anyone steps forth — cf. “Few Words,” 31, 1 (Winter 2007-2008): 24. Please contact either me <ericvdluft@verizon.net> or our new President, Lisa A. Mix <lisa.mix@library.ucsf.edu>.
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Vol. 16, no. 4 (Fall 1993): 51-73.
Vol. 17, no. 3 (Summer 1994): 49-76.
Vol. 19 [sic, i.e., 18], no.1 (Winter 1994-[1995]): 1-23.
Vol. 18, no. 4 (Fall 1995): 110-149.

Answer to Quiz Question: Almost true. Chemist Harry Coover, Ph.D., accidentally discovered what later became known as Super Glue® while a graduate student at Cornell in 1942. Nothing came of this discovery until Kodak patented it in the 1950s. Medics and soldiers in the Vietnam War used it as an emergency hemostat, for which it was very well suited. See <web.mit.edu/invent/iow/coover.html>.
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