

From your Alumni Office. . .



Dear All,

Greetings on behalf of the Medical Alumni Office in New Orleans. I am pleased to report that reunion weekend in June was wildly successful, with nearly 700 alumni attendees. Classmates from across the country celebrated in various venues across the city.

Our Scientific Session featured several excellent speakers, including Dr. David Lefer, who recently joined the LSU faculty as Director of the LSU Cardiovascular Center of Excellence. Dr. Lefer's interest is in translational cardiovascular research using advanced animal models which more closely resemble human cardiovascular disease processes.

I want to remind you that our alumni played a vital role in development and completion of the Isidore Cohn Jr., MD Student Learning Center and the Russell C. Klein, MD Center for Advanced Practice. Both of these simulation and cadaveric centers serve as key features at our beloved medical school that continues to attract the best and brightest medical students, residents and faculty.

It is now time for a new project that will allow LSU to be at the forefront of cardiovascular research. The project involves renovation to our current animal care facility to construct a vascular lab that will allow endovascular procedures designed to promote new and innovative solutions to cardiovascular disease.

Please understand that as state funds decline, the School of Medicine is increasingly dependent on alumni donations to ensure state-of-the-art training facilities for our students.

As always, you are the reason we can be proud to be LSU, stronger than ever.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathi Fontenot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cathi Fontenot ('84)
Associate Dean
for Alumni Affairs and
Development

Tiger in the News

Robert. N. Helm ('49), of New Roads, LA, was honored as the Louisiana recipient of the "Heart of Hospice" Award, presented by the Louisiana/Mississippi Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Dr. Helm arrived in Pointe Coupee as a young doctor sixty years ago. He currently serves as medical director and volunteer for Pointe Coupee Hospice.



Dr. Helm

Lincoln Continental coupe. Now working on a 1939 Dodge 2-door sedan."

Carl Poche, Lutchter, LA – Retired on 7/1/2011 after 52 years active family practice.

'57

Guy Guarino, Hickory, NC – "Wife and I are enjoying retirement. Our first grandchild is applying for college."

Robert L. McManus, Iota, LA – Retired private practice in 2005. "Work 12 hours weekly at Crowley Office of Behavioral Health. My son, David, is ER doctor in Lafayette. Daughter will start medical school in fall/2013 and son hopes to start fall/2014."

Gene C. Miller, Winter Park, FL – Retired from private practice for 12 years in general surgery. "I keep busy assisting in surgery a few times a week. Still love the OR."

'65

John Sorrells, Lake Charles, LA – Retired.

'68

William T. Hall, Loudon, TN – "Packed up or shipped all my toys to Little Tennessee River near Knoxville! My daughter, Dr. Michelle B. Hall (LSUHSC – Shreveport), is double-boarded Pediatrics & Pediatric ER and works at East Tennessee Children's Hospital. On 4/2/13 received insertion of Boston Scientific Spinal Cord Stimulator for right L-4 nerve injury – Geaux Tigers!"

Charles A. Olivier, Lafayette, LA – Still working full-time at Hamilton Medical Group since 1975.

'70

R. Parker Griffith, Huntsville, AL – "My brother, Tom Griffith ('66), and I continue to be retired. Robert L. Baird ('70) is hanging in here with us."

Victor (Tory) Gunderson, Lafayette, LA – Retired January 1,

'49

John Hamilton, St. Petersburg, FL – "Still playing in 2 bands and managing real estate. Large happy family."

'53

Reuben Eisenstein, Fox Point, WI – "I have finally retired and turned to writing. My first novella, *Date Certain*, was recently published by Fithian Press and received good reviews."

'54

Robert Cangelosi, New Orleans, LA – "Attended Order of Malta Medical Mission to Granada and ran an eye clinic for the week of March 2-9, 2013. Been doing so since the year 2000."

'56

Alexandre C. Miller, Eunice, LA – Retired after 52½ years of practice in Ob/Gyn – ER. "Restored 1947

'60

George Dewey Dunn, Nashville, TN – "Still working full time at the Nashville VA Hospital. There is much joy in working with Vietnam and Korean Veterans."

'63

Daniel B. Lestage, Fleming Island, FL – "I was recognized recently by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians (FAFP), for excellence in patient care, continuing education, and service, at the FAFP Winter Family Summit and Annual Meeting in Amelia Island. I received the Art of Medicine Award in recognition of the belief – proven by personal example – that the patient receives the full benefit of total care only when the science of medicine is practiced as an art. I am only the 19th recipient of this special recognition since its establishment in 1965. I currently live in Fleming Island, FL with my wife Helen Newcomer Lestage of Orlando."

Tigerlines

2013 – “Time for serious fishing. Looking forward to next reunion.”

John V. Richey, Alexandria, LA – “I am here at the Alexandria VA Hospital with my classmate, William Mitchell ('70), taking care of our veterans.”

'71

C. Richard Hudson, St. Helena, CA – “Enjoyed seeing all of you at the reunion in 2011. Still in full-time psychiatric practice in the Napa Valley of California – come see me!”

'72

Champ Baker, Columbus, GA – Selected to Columbus State University Athletic Hall of Fame – Team Physician over 25 years.

'73

Louis E. (Lebo) Mire, Branson, MO – “Have enjoyed 30+ years of Emergency Medicine in beautiful Ozarks. Live on lake and have ranch. Currently single, four grown children and two grandchildren. Thinking of missionary work with Native Americans next year.”

Pop Neumann, Tallulah, LA – 8 grandchildren – 4 boys & 4 girls – a balanced life. 1 grandmother – sweet.

'74

Elisabeth Schonlau, Mandeville, LA – Retired this year from anesthesiology career. “Three adult children now 4th generation physicians (on my side.) Son: Cody Mayo ('09), Baylor radiology resident; daughter McKenzie Mayo Hollon ('11), Emory anesthesia

Tiger in the News

Edward Jeffries ('72) was named Chief Operating Officer for Baton Rouge General Physicians. Dr. Jeffries has served as Chief Medical Officer of Baton Rouge General Physicians since 2009. In addition to his current role as Chief Medical Officer for the network, Dr. Jeffries will oversee the daily operations of Baton Rouge General Physicians. Dr. Jeffries has practiced family medicine in the Baton Rouge area for more than 35 years and has served in various roles including President of the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians and Chief of Family Medicine for Baton Rouge General.



Dr. Jeffries

resident; and daughter India Mayo Hill ('13), UAB dermatology resident starting in July 2014 in Birmingham, AL. Third generation LSU med alumni – my father – James W. Schonlau ('38) would be proud!”

'76

Bill Krooss, Jackson, MS – “Marie and I are selling our practice management company to a National Company. I will be travelling more to help them acquire other medical management companies. I only practice medicine to back up partners now. After 37 years, on call is nice – Email is: bill@dna.gs – Contact me to catch up.”

'80

Catherine Grenier, Eugene, OR – Practicing pediatrics at a community health center in Springfield, Oregon.

Mark Rubin, Monroe, LA – “I hope that all my classmates are having fun and enjoying good health.”

'83

Pam Hymel, Yorba Linda, CA – “Still working as Chief Medical Officer for Walt Disney Parks & Resorts. Enjoying learning the business and traveling to Orlando every other month and opening a new theme park in Shanghai!”

'88

Robert Haydel Jr, Houma, LA – “Hi everyone, as the years go by I appreciate more and more my classmates and faculty at LSUMC New Orleans. For four years, I was around the best people I have ever met. I miss you guys, you are forever in my heart, and I am the physician I am today because of all those great influences and experiences. Married with four children all still in the nest – Whew – and loving it!!!”

'89

Michael Halle, Springfield, VA – “Three sons, one graduates NYU, one in Penn State, one in high school. Happily married in Virginia.”

Tigerlines

Ann Patterson, Sitka, AK – “Enjoying myself and my career providing much needed service for Alaskan Natives. Make Sitka a vacation destination soon.”

'90

Staci Fischer, Providence, RI – “Now in my fifth year of serving as Director of Graduate Medical Education at Rhode Island Hospital, the primary teaching hospital for Brown Medical School.”

'01

Louise Gombako-Amos, McComb, MS – “My husband Corey Rene Amos and I added an addition to our family, Kori Renee Amos (3 years old). My son, Raleigh Gombako-Lee is studying in the United States Navy for Advanced Computer Electronic Field.”

'04

Emily Lifsey Burke, Metairie, LA – “I am in private practice as an ENT in Metairie with my father, Michael Lifsey ('79) and his partners. I just gave birth to our third baby girl, Anne Elise, in March 2013. Anne's big sisters, Lucie and Charlotte, and my husband Daniel were excited for another girl.”

'05

John Termini, Richmond, KY – “On completing a cardiothoracic anesthesiology fellowship, I was privileged to be called to duty as a Navy Reservist to serve in Kandahar Afghanistan at the Rold-3 Trauma Hospital from February 2011 to September 2011. I had the opportunity to treat not only our

wounded troops, but also wounded civilians and enemy combatants.”

'06

Eric J. Hill, Evans, GA – “After seven years and one deployment to Iraq, I finished my military service in June 2013. I am moving to Colorado with my family and will practice emergency medicine in Denver, CO.”

'08

Corey Falcon, Altus, OK – Serving as Active Duty Air Force Pediatrician.

DECEASED

1944

Bernard Brandchaft

1949

Bartholomew M. Bush

1950

Mignon W. Jumel

1954

David J. Mitchell

1955

Robert C. Fortenberry

1956

Jack L. Winters

1958

Russell R. Conley

1964

Alfred E. Krake
Ladislav Lazaro

1980

John H. Hilton
Rebecca
Russell-Weidenfeld

1999

Charles K. Wagner

LSU System

F. King Alexander, PhD
President

Frank Opelka, MD

*Executive Vice President for Health Affairs
and Medical Education Redesign*

LSU Health Sciences Center

Larry H. Hollier ('68)
Chancellor

Steve Nelson, MD

Dean, School of Medicine

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[one position vacant]

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Dear Fellow Alumni,

I have had the privilege to serve on the Alumni Board for the last seven years. I must admit that having the opportunity to listen to Larry Hollier ('68), Chancellor for the LSU Health Sciences Center; Dr. Steve Nelson, the Dean of the LSU School of Medicine; and Cathi Fontenot ('84), our Alumni leader, on a regular basis has truly been enlightening. The different challenges that they have encountered, and yet conquered or circumvented, to continue to bring about excellence through such difficult times since Hurricane Katrina has been mind boggling and really opened my eyes to their commitment to the medical school. The financial issues that we have all experienced in our practices is difficult and the School of Medicine has seen the same to the tune of 88 million dollars cut from the school's budget over the last few years. Interestingly, every time the school has had a tuition increase, the school has noted state funding cuts by the same amount.

Because of so many financial challenges I cannot begin to tell you how much each and every dollar that is raised by the Alumni Association helps the school. I recently learned that the Committee of 100 – Champions of Excellence, one of the fund-raising modalities, was started in 1983 by two doctors whose goal was to create a one-million-dollar endowment fund by getting 100 people to donate \$10,000 each. Because of such generosity, the funds are now worth over one hundred million dollars. Although the Committee of 100 has been amazingly successful over the last 30 years, we still need to aggressively support this endeavor and other fund raising activities. The importance of the money that we, as alumni, donate to the school cannot be overstated. The four million dollars that the alumni gave toward the Russell C. Klein, MD, Center for Advanced Practice has helped to provide a state of the art experience for students, residents, and doctors involved with continuing education programs.

In board meetings over the last few years, everyone has agreed that we tend to function better with a definitive project to support, and once again we have one. The school is so fortunate to have recently brought to the campus Dr. David Lefer. He is heavily involved in cardiovascular research. Dr. Lefer is bringing his large animal cardiovascular labs to LSU. It is estimated that the labs will cost 5 million dollars. During the reunion weekend, the Alumni voted to commit \$2.5 million and the LSUHSC Foundation agreed to match this amount. I am very excited about the LSU School of Medicine Alumni Association being able to support Dr. Lefer and his research.

In closing, I am once again asking for your support. If you are not yet a member of the Committee of 100, please consider joining. If you are a member, but have fulfilled your obligation, please consider becoming a life member. The monthly commitment is \$83 to fulfill the \$1,000 annual obligation. I personally have this on a monthly draft, which makes it very easy. If you prefer to make periodic donations to the Alumni Association, we have a new financial goal for the support of Dr. Lefer's large animal cardiology research lab. If you choose to make a donation to this project, please specify this so the money can be directed appropriately.

Thank you for all of the support that you provide to the school in so many ways.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Brown III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James M. Brown III ('92)
President
LSU Medical Alumni Association