Historical Happenings Volume 5 Issue 2 Fall, 2006

# Historical Happenings

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HISTORY

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**HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS**

the official publication of the Society for the Preservation of P A Physician Assistant History.

Published quarterly and distributed on-line free of charge to members of the Society.

Editor:

Wendell S. Wharton Jr.

Co-Editor:

Lauren Feldsott

## Godkins Donates Materials

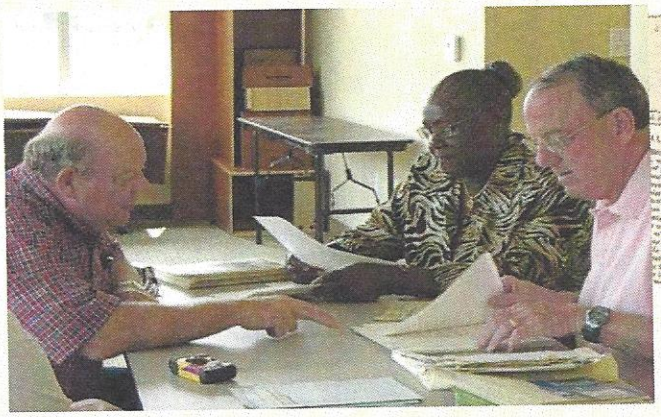
**By Reginald Carter**

On his way from Oklahoma to the North Carolina Outerbanks, Tom Godkins and his wife Lois stopped by the PAHx Center office to drop off some historic documents and do an oral history interview with Dr. Carter.

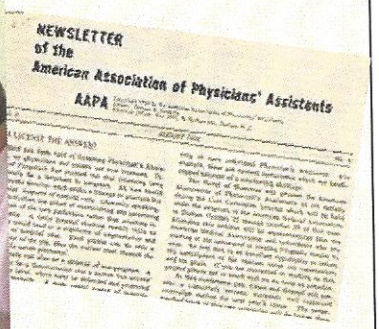
Godkins, a 1969 Duke graduate, was one of the first students to leave the working environment of Duke taking a job at the Mayo Clinic in the department of internal medicine/cardiology and later in Mayo's first satellite clinic in Plainview, MN. In 1972, he helped Bill Stanhope establish the Oklahoma PA Program and was president of the AAPA twice in 1972-73 and 1975-76.

As Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Director of Capital Planning at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Godkins is responsible for facility space management, real estate acquisition, development of contracts and leases for certain OUHSC properties, and capital planning and new construction projects.

Tom donated volume one of the AAPA newsletter issued between 1968 and1970, clippings, correspondence and old journals to the Society. As a surprise, Joyce Nichols, a 1979 Duke graduate, who served with Tom on the AAPA BOD in the early days, joined Tom, his wife Lois, Adonna Thompson and Reg Carter for lunch.



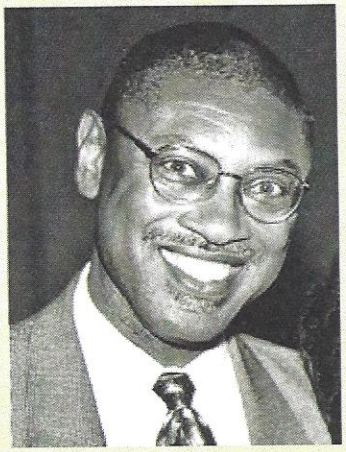
Carter, Nichols and Godkins review historic materials




**First AAPA Newsletter Example of Documents Donated by Godkins**

# EDITORIAL - "In The Beginning ..."

**By Wendell S. Wharton, Jr.**



Even individuals who claim not to be interested in or like history frequently seem to be curious about and captivated by the special events which happened "in the beginning ..."

History is something that is continuously being made. All of us are making history everyday of our lives. While most of the events in our lives are not "earth shattering" or "world changing" events, we are making history none the less. While there are "some people" who think that everything that they say and do is important, most of us believe that nothing that we do is significant enough to warrant being recorded as history.

What I am asking you to do is to look back over your professional life and try to recall any time that you were a part of the beginning of some group or activity. Think about the times when you were the first, or one of the first few, to do, try or think something that had not been done before.

"In the beginning ..."

All groups began as an idea usually presented by one individual to one or more others. This small group probably discussed and debated the pros and cons of the idea and may or may not have been supportive. The actual transition from an idea to a formal or informal group may have been lead by one or two individuals.

The AAPA now has a number of "groups" that are part of or related to it including constituent chapters, caucuses, special interest groups and related, loosely affiliated organizationtons like the PA Foundation (PAF), the Political Action Committee (PAC), the Student Academy (SAAAPA) and the House of Delegates (HOD). There are also some "other groups" that are part of our profession like the various Physician Assistant programs and their alumni associations, the Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA), the Accreditation Review Commission for Physician Assistants (ARC-PA) and the National Commission for the Certification of Physician Assistants ( NCCPA).

Someone was responsible for the initial idea for each of these Physician Assistant "groups", someone had to be a part of the initial discussions and someone had to be present at the first meeting of the group. Each of these groups is unique and must have had a unique beginning. My questions are "Who are these people, who was there when they started and what happened with each group 'in the beginning ...'?"

We know about Dr. Eugene Stead and Duke University and Dr. Richard Smith and MEDEX Northwest but what about the other PA programs? We know that Rod Moser, Ph.D., P.A.-C., after having the first meeting all by himself, invited the PAs practicing in California to the second meeting of the group that was to become the California Academy of Physician Assistants (CAPA) but what about the other constituent chapters and the AAPA caucuses and special interest groups?

Before all of the "dinosaur" founding fathers die or get to a point that they cannot remember, let's record as much as is humanly possible of our professional history, especially the beginnings of each of our professional groups and associations. We have already had some PA

(continued on next page)

## NC Academy CME Meeting
### By Reginald Carter

Sherry and I took the Society's exhibit to Myrtle Beach, SC to solicit memberships during the NC Academy's 30th summer CME meeting. We exhibited three days for the 1000 plus PAs and NPs who attended along with their guest and 55 other exhibitors.

We netted 14 new members and sold 20 "Just Say for Me" books. In all, we talked to over 100 individuals about the Society and its mission. Even the nurse practitioners were interested in what we are doing. We hope that some of the individuals who took applications will complete them and send them to us after the meeting.

To encourage folks to join during the meeting, we held a drawing on the last day for a $50 gift certificate to Tanger Outlet Shops. Jason Coggins, a PA working in Orthopedics in Ayden, NC, was our winner. Jason was the first person to join at the conference so; in this case, the early bird did get the worm!

**Winner Jason Coggins, receives a gift certificate from Carter at the North Carolina Academy CME meeting in Myrtle Beach,**

## EDITORIAL - "In The Beginning ..."
Continued from page 2

groups to dissolve and disappear while some have evolved and grown into totally different organizations.

If you were there "in the beginning ..." when any of these groups or any other Physician Assistant focused group began, send me an e-mail and let's find a way to record this history. If you are not willing to put it in writing, call me. I am willing to listen and write while you talk.

Together we may come up with some interesting bit of information that the historical experts consider significant. If that happens I will be perfectly happy to let them pursue the data gathering with you. The Society can provide you with guidance, direction and assistance as you begin to review your groups historical beginnings.

I can be reached by telephone at 310-608-0477 or via e-mail at: wendell@medexenterprises.com.

# President's Perspective
## All PAs are Leaders
### By Pam Scott

For many of you this is not an unfamiliar phrase. It was something that I emphasized during my term as President of the AAPA and believe is just as true regarding our Society.

Whether you recognize it or not, if you are a physician assistant, you are a leader. First you took a chance on a profession that is not yet 40 years old. Second, at some point in your career you had to define your role to your patients and often their opinion of our profession, whether positive or negative, was made on this initial interaction with you. Finally, we are a small profession in terms of numbers when compared to other health care careers, e.g. physicians, nurses; therefore, it takes all of us working together to ensure that our voices are heard so we can provide the best possible care to our patients with the minimum of prohibitive restrictions.

The difference is in how we choose to lead. Some of us choose to become officers of our national organizations, or serve on their committees and councils. Others are leading our constituent organizations, either on their boards of directors or via committee work. Still others, are leaders in their place of employment by serving on quality control committees, hospital review committees, local health department boards, or oversee other employees. Yet others, are leaders in their community by being active in their church, their child's school, their child's extracurricular activities (e.g. soccer, T-ball, dance, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts), or other worthwhile projects (e.g. volunteering at homeless shelters, libraries, or free clinics or participating in Big Brothers or Big Sisters type programs, adult literacy program, or civic groups), and the like.

So what does all of this have to do with the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History? Just like the AAPA, we all need to be "leaders" in the Society as well. And just like the AAPA, we all need to be leaders on the "right level" for where we are in our own lives in regards to priorities to family, church, occupation, civic, and yes, even ourselves.

Not everyone has to serve on the Board of Directors or even on a committee. We certainly appreciate the contributions these volunteer leaders are making to the organization. Still, we realize that not everyone is at the point in their live, or may ever be, to serve the Society in this capacity; and that's okay. However, we feel that it is up to all PAs to be members of the Society so that there are adequate funds available to the many necessary activities by staff and volunteer leaders who currently have the time and interest to become active in the Society to carry out our vision and mission.

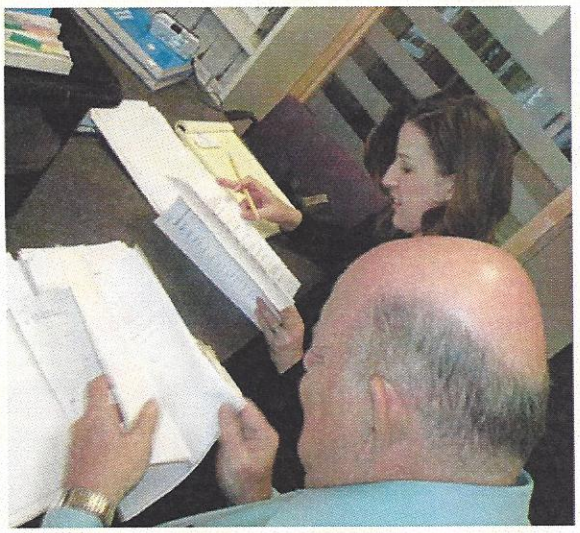
Just as it is up to us to carry our profession into the future, it is up to us to ensure that our past is properly and accurately preserved for future generations.

Therefore, I ask if you read this article and are not a member, join today. If you are a member, encourage other PA colleagues, supervising physicians, employers, etc. to become a member.

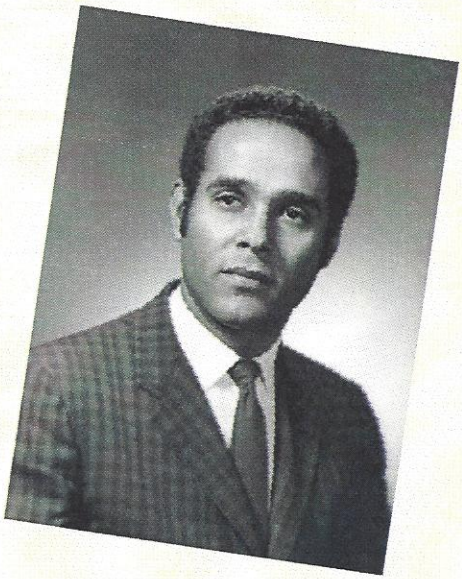
Thank-you!

# Seattle Trip

**By Reginald Carter**



**Carter and Thompson reviewing MEDEX Northwest PA Program's papers**



**Richard Smith, MD—Founder of MEDEX**

The trip to Seattle, WA the first week of August was two-fold: (1) to ask the NCCPA BOD to continue funding the Society for another three years and (2) to assess the University of Washington's extensive collection of MEDEX historic documents and records.

Ruth Ballweg, past president of the Society and a current NCCPA commissioner, and I presented a proposal asking the NCCPA to award the Society $12,500 annually for the next three years to help us accomplish our mission. The reception was collegial. The NCCPA's has been actively involved in the PA history project from its inception. The Commission's finance committee will consider our request and bring it before the commissioners at their next meeting. Ruth Ballweg, Dan McNeill and Wayne Von Seggen spoke about visiting the Stead Center and how impressed they were with what is being done to educate PAs and others about our professional history.

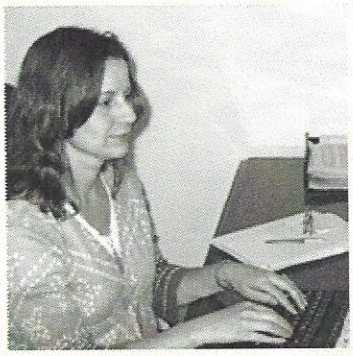
Adonna Thompson and I spent Monday reviewing the "MEDEX" collection kept in the Northwest MEDEX PA Office. Sally Mantz, a staff assistant, gave us three boxes of materials complete with a container list of files and descriptions. This made our jobs easier than expected. The next day we spent reviewing a photographic collection and four boxes of materials that were maintained by the University of Washington's archivist. To read Dr. Smith's correspondence during 1968 while he was establishing the MEDEX program was exciting and illuminating. We will continue working with Ruth Ballweg and her faculty and staff to preserve these documents for future prosperity.

As an aside, Ruth Ballweg, Roderick Hooker and Jim Cawley spent three days recently in Hawaii with Dr. Smith conducting oral history interviews for the UWA and Society.

**MEDEX Northwest Logo**

## ARCHIVIST'S CORNER
## PICTURE THIS: PART I

**By Adonna Thompson**



Recently I decided to look through some of my personal photos to find some worthy of framing. I pulled out numerous "photo" boxes that had been accumulating over the years. And after shuffling through several boxes and countless photos without finding much, I began to get discouraged and more than a little lost in my trip down memory lane. I, like many of you, know how daunting dealing with photograph collections can be. We all snap pictures at birthdays, holidays, and other momentous life events because we realize the importance of capturing the moment. But often our drive for preserving history ends here, or very soon after we look at the prints. They are then relegated to a drawer, box, or shelf where all our other photos reside.

I realize that for being an archivist the state of my own photos looks exceptionally bad. So we will begin together. In the next few articles I will take you through the proper steps for preserving your photos as I perform this task on my own collection.

First and foremost you must **begin somewhere**. It doesn't matter where. First I plan to look at the whole of my collection to determine its extent. This will help me when I order the needed supplies and it will also remind me that this is not just a one-weekend project. The entire process will take some time. But the time spent on this project will pay off the next time I try to look for a particular photo, not to mention the countless generations of relatives who will thank me for doing this. I have inherited someone else's photo nightmare and know this for a fact. The second step is to order supplies. There are a number of reputable suppliers of archival photo products who would be more than happy to send you a catalog, Gaylord, Light Impressions, University Products, and Archival Methods are but a few. Though they are not inexpensive, it is important to buy archival quality products for anything you wish to keep and pass on. However because of the expense, you may want to sort through photos and cull out those of lesser value (historically speaking).

Because the photo process itself is not a stable one chemically speaking, photos present many challenges to preservation. This is precisely why you should know the contents of any product you plan to place next to a photo. If a product is simply labeled archival or acid free, you do not have enough information. Black and white photos are produced using a different chemical process than color photos and each have their own unique storage needs. For black and white photographs you should use either calcium carbonate buffered folders or polypropylene, polyethylene, or polyester photo sleeves. Color photographs and negatives can also be housed in these sleeves but if you use folders they should be un-buffered archival folders. All photos should then be placed in acid free archival boxes.

**Products to stay away from:**

Store bought albums with plastic sleeves

> Unless they have passed the Photo Activity Test (PAT) and are labeled as such. The pages in these albums are most likely made of PVC plastic and are therefore highly acidic. Some exceptions can be found in photography stores or among scrapbook products.

Magnetic albums (you know, the ones with sticky pages)

> These albums are considered an anathema to the archivist. They cover your photos in PVC plastic sealing them inside with a sticky glue substance that is highly acidic. Your photos cannot breath and when the glue ages, photos often become permanently stuck.

Wood or decorative cardboard photo storage boxes

> Both are either highly acidic or contain questionable materials.

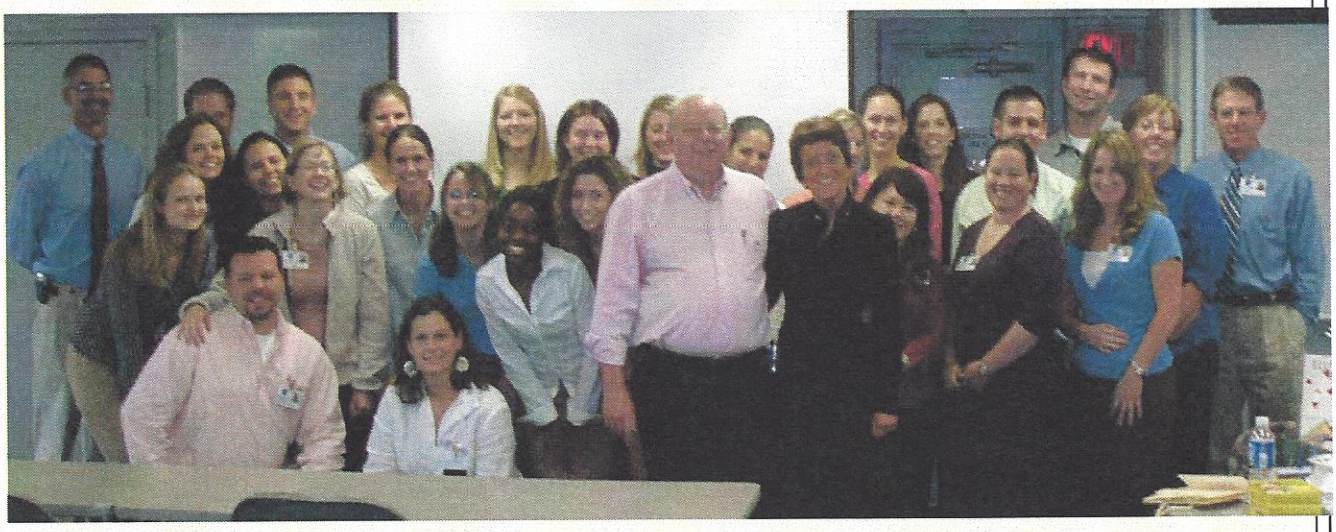
(Continued on next page)

## Going To The Students

**By Reginald Carter**

In less than a week, I had the opportunity to speak to four separate groups of students about their professional history and legacy. I started at Duke University in Durham, NC with a two hour lecture on Thursday morning. Then I traveled to Winchester, VA to speak to students at Shenandoah University on Monday morning and to Harrisonburg, VA to speak to students at James Madison University Monday afternoon. I was joined in Roanoke, VA Tuesday morning by Pam Scott, our current president, to speak to students at the Jefferson College of Health Sciences. Pam and I also had time for questions and answers during lunch with students and faculty. Pam remained on during the afternoon to give a clinical lecture to students. While there, we had a chance to meet and discuss Society business.

Many thanks to Justine Strand, Pat Dieter, Tony Miller, Rachel Carlson, Jim Hammond, Pamela Kennedy for inviting us to speak to their students and the warm hospitality we received during our visit. Interestingly, all three of the Virginia programs visited are located just a few miles off Interstate 81, a picturesque drive through rolling blue mountains and wide green valleys.



**President Pam Scott and Reginald Carter visiting with the faculty and students of the Jefferson College of Health Sciences PA Program in Roanoke, Virginia**

## Archivist's Corner

**Picture This Part I– cont**

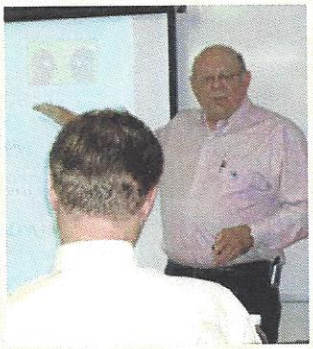
Pressure sensitive tape (Scotch tape etc.)
- Post-it notes
- Rubber-bands
- Paper-clips
- Unidentifiable plastics

Products with high acidity can permanently discolor, fade, and damage your photographs.

As always if you have any questions or concerns regarding your photo collections please don't hesitate to email or call.

**Don't know much about PA history...**

**Maybe I know more now!**

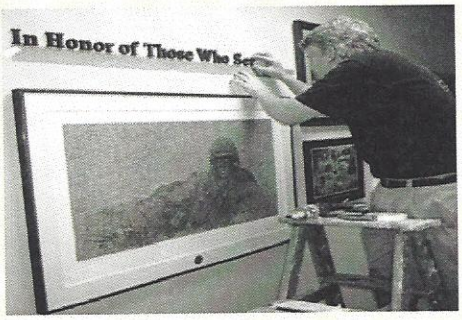


## Veterans Wall Exhibit

**By Reginald Carter**

Tim Egan, Vic Germino and Ken Harbert donated posters to the Society to have placed in the Eugene Stead Center. The posters include "Reflections" by artist David Ehlert, "God loves the Grunt" and "Life Savers then … Care Givers Now" by artist George L. Skypeck and "Veterans Caucus poster "Honoring Navy PAs – Memorial Day, May 31, 1999."

Thanks to our archivist, Adonna Thompson, the four prints are mounted professionally on the hallway wall near the Prentiss Harrison Resource Room. Alan Dippy, Preparator Nasher Museum of Art, Duke University, mounted letters above the prints to read "Reflections - In Honor of Those Who Served."




**Alan Dippy applying lettering on the Veterans' Wall**

**We appreciate the continuing support of our partnering organizations in helping us accomplish our mission.**
***Society's Board of Directors***

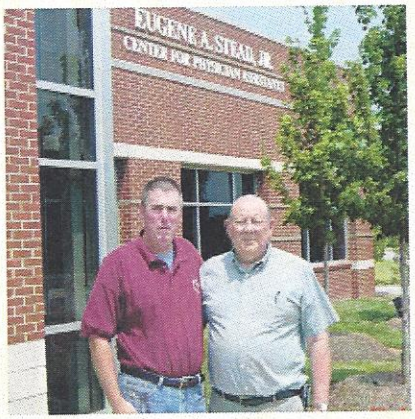
## McNeill Visits Center

**By Reginald Carter**

While visiting the area on family business, Dan McNeill, program director of the Oklahoma University Physician Assistant Program, came by to "see for himself" the Stead Center that had been mentioned in the Society's newsletter. The Oklahoma Program has been an annual sponsor of the Society since January 2004. Dan is a certified PA with a Ph.D. in anatomy and has been director of the program since 1994.

Dan is also the current president of the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants which joined the ranks of other AAPA Chapters this year as an annual sponsor. Dan said he would tell folks back home how professional looking the Center is and their need to support the Society's efforts. At Dan's bidding, the Oklahoma Academy approved purchasing four display cabinets for the Society to be placed in the Lobby of the Stead Center. One of the first exhibits in the new cases will be about Oklahoma's contributions to the profession.

The Oklahoma Program has a wonderful history and played a key role in the development of the Oklahoma Academy and in gaining state enabling legislation. Four of the first ten American Academy presidents were at one time or other members of the Oklahoma Faculty. These past presidents include Bill Stanhope, Tom Godkins, Roger Whittaker and Dan Fox.




**Dan McNeill, Oklahoma Academy's president, visits the Stead Center**

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTIONS
# OUR FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
# BY
# REGINALD CARTER

On January 17, 2007 we will celebrate our fifth anniversary as a Society. Between January and July 2007 when our first fiscal year began, we launched a major campaign to sign up founding members and gain support from our national organizations and state constituent chapters.

The national advisory board for the PA History Office met on May 25th at the Boston Sheraton Hotel during the AAPA Annual Conference and elected Jeff Heinrich as the Society's first president. In turned, he named members of the advisory board as officers and members of the Society's Board of Directors. A set of bylaws and budget were approved and committee chairs were appointed.

Thanks to a complementary booth provided by the AAPA, 125 new founding members were added to the Society's membership roster in Boston. The Academy's House of Delegates approved a resolution submitted by the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants to support the Society's mission and encouraged State Chapters to become sponsors and individual PAs to become members of the Society. The PA Foundation BOD approved to print, market and sell Don Pederson's painting titled "The Preceptor" to raise money for the Society.

With the continued support of our partners; the Academy, Commission, Association, and Foundation, we have achieved much progress during our first five years. We now have over 600 members and 100 annual sponsoring organizations. We have a full-time archivist helping grow our collection of historic materials and teaching our various organizations and institutions how best to organize and preserve their materials. We are located in the new Eugene A. Stead, Jr. Building for Physician Assistants which provides ample space to house our growing collection of reference materials and artifact. Our website is heavily used by faculty and students to learn about the history of our profession.

Although we have come a long way in five years, we still need to become stable financially. The Board of Directors and the Strategic Planning Committee are pursuing all avenues that will enhance access to our constituents and provide annual funding necessary for our PA History Center staff to carry out our academic mission.

How should we celebrate our fifth Anniversary? First, we should thank all of those who have contributed money, time and effort to our mission. Second, we should be diligent and use our resources wisely. Third, we should become active participants and supporters of the Society and encourage others to follow our example.

I would like to hear from you. How else might we celebrate our fifth Anniversary?

## Board of Directors 2006-2007

**President**
***Pam Scott, MPAS, PA-C***
pamscottpa@citlink.net

**Past President**
***Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C***
rballweg@u.washington.edu

**President Elect**
***Richard Dehn, MPA, PA-C***
richard-dehn@uiowa.edu

**Secretary**
***Judith E. Colver, MMS, PA-C***
colver@uthscsa.edu

**Treasurer**
***Glen E. Combs, MA, PA-C***
gec122448@aol.com

**BOD Members at Large**
***James F. Cawley, MPH, PA-C***
purljfc@aol.com

***Elizabeth (Libby) A. Coyte, PA-C***
lcoyte@aol.com

***Glenn Forister, MPAS, PA-C***
forister@uthscsa.edu

***Richard Rhar, EdD, PA-C***
rrahr@utmb.edu

**BOD SAAAPA Member**
***Tiffany Perkins, PA Student***
Tifdiger3779@aol.com

**BOD AAPA Member**
***Pam Scott, MPAS, PA-C***
pamscottpa@citlink.net

## Committee Chairs & Co-Chairs 2006-2007

**Strategic Planning & Evaluation**
***J. Jeffery Heinrich, Ed.D., PA-C***
npajjh@gwumc.edu

**Bylaws & Policy**
(Position Vacant)

**Nominations & Elections**
***Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C***
rballweg@u.washington.edu

**Finance**
***Glen Combs, MA, PA-C***
gec122448@aol.com

**Research & Education**
***Jim Cawley, PA-C***
PurlJFC@aol.com

**Publications**
***Wendell Wharton, PA***
wendell@medexenterprises.com

***Lauren Feldsott, PA-C***
lrf115@hotmail.com

**Membership**
***Elizabeth (Libby) Coyte, PA-C***
lcoyte@aol.com

***Gloria Stewart, EdD, PA-C***
stewartg@marietta.ed

## Calendar of Events

**October 25, 2006**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1:00 to 4:00 PM | Basics of Archives Workshop<br>Adonna Thompson, MLS, Facilitator |

**October 27, 2006**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1:00 to 1:50 PM | Strategic Planning Committee |
| 2:00 to 2:50 PM | Board of Directors Meeting |

Workshop and Meetings will be held during the 2006 PAEA Education Forum in Room 415 (a meeting room on the 4th floor) at the Loews Le Concorde Hotel in Quebec City, Canada.

# Society for the Preservation of PA History
# Organizational Annual Sponsors

## PA Educational Programs

Albany Medical College
Arcadia University
Arizona School of Health Sciences
Baylor College of Medicine
Butler University/Clarian Health
Central Michigan University
Drexel University
Duke University
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
Emory University
Gannon University
George Washington University
Hofstra University
Jefferson College
Marietta College
Marquette University
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy
Medical College of South Carolina
Methodist College of Health Sciences
Midwestern University of Downers Grove
Midwestern University of Glendale
New York Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Oregon Health Sciences University
Pace University-Lenox Hill Hospital
Pacific University
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Philadelphia University
Quinnipiac University
Rosalind Franklin University
Shenandoah University
South University
Southwest Missouri State University
St. Louis University
Stanford University SOM – Foothill College
Stony Brook University-SUNY
The City College of New York/SDSBE
Towson University-CCBC Essex
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of California, Davis
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Florida
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of North Dakota
University of North Texas Health Sci. Cntr.
University of Oklahoma
University of St. Francis at Albuquerque
University of Texas HSC, San Antonio
University of Texas Southwestern MC, Dallas
University of Utah
University of Washington (MEDEX)
Univ. of Wisconsin-LaCrosse-Gundersen-Mayo
Wake Forest University
Weill Cornell Medical College
Western Michigan University
Wichita State University
Yale University

## PA Student Organizations

Arcadia University Student Society
Arizona School of Health Sciences Society
Drexel Univ. Wilbur W. Oarks Society
Duke University Eugene Stead Society
Emory University Student Society
GWU James K. Tolton Society
Marietta College Student Society
Marquette University Student Association
Midwestern University PA Student Society – Downers Grove
New York Institute of Technology PA Student Society
Nova Southeastern University PA Student Society
Oregon HSU Student Society
Philadelphia COM Student Society
Quinnipiac University Student Society
St. Louis Univ. Student Organization
Stony Brook – SUNNY Society
Southwest Missouri State Univ. Student Society
Stanford University SOM PA Student Society
Univ. of Alabama Birmingham Student Society
Univ. Detroit Mercy William Beaumont Society
Univ St. Francis Albuquerque Student Society
UTHSC at San Antonio Class 2007 Society
UTSW Student Society
University of Utah Student Society
Univ. of Wisconsin-LaCrosse-Gundersen-Mayo Student Society
Univ Washington MEDEX Student Society
Wake Forest Univ. Katherine Anderson Society
Weil Cornell College PA Student Society
Western Michigan Univ. Student Society
Yale University SOM Jack Cole Society

## PA Professional Organizations

African Heritage Caucus
Amer. Acad. of Nephrology Physician Assistants
American Assoc. of Surgical Physician Assistants
Assoc. of Family Practice Physician Assistants
California Academy of Physician Assistants
DC Academy of Physician Assistants
Downeast Association of Physician Assistants
Iowa Physician Assistant Society
Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants
New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants
New York State Society of Physician Assistants
North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants
Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants
Oregon Society of Physician Assistants
Society of Army Physician Assistants
Texas Academy of Physician Assistants
Washington State Academy of Physician Assistants
Wisconsin Academy of Physician Assistants

## Corporate Sponsors

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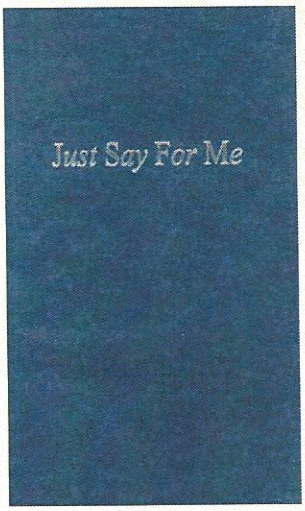
Date: September 18, 2006




*JUST SAY FOR ME* was first released in June 1968. The book contains 342 quotes by Dr. Eugene Stead, Jr., about medical practice and education compiled by two residents, Earl Metz and Fred Schoonmaker in the Department of Medicine at Duke University.

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*"My father, Dr. Joe LeBauer, gave me a copy of Just Say For Me about a year ago, and he has talked about Dr. Stead's philosophy all my life. I have been a Licensed Massage & Bodywork Therapist for 6 years, and have just started my education as a Doctor of Physical Therapy at Elon University, and I find the ideas and philosophies that Dr. Stead writes about influencing my life and work on many levels. I have some friends, colleagues and teachers with whom I would like to share this book. I was delighted to find out that it is now available for purchase through your Society."* - Aaron LeBauer, LMBT, LeBauer Structural Bodywork, Greensboro, NC (01/18/06)

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