



Historical Happenings

Newsletter of the Physician Assistant History Society

Message from the President

Deborah Gerbert, MS, PA-C



This is my first *Historical Happenings* message as I begin my two-year term as President of the PA History Society. First, a little of my background. I work in Jacksonville, Florida in the Division of Hospital Medicine for Nemours Children's Specialty Clinic. My entire 40-year PA career has been spent in Jacksonville in pediatrics and PA education. I have lived through and participated in much of the profession's history, and I am excited to see us making history as we break through barriers and continue to demonstrate our value to the world's health care systems.

In 2019, the PA History Society enjoyed the support of a record-breaking 90 PA Programs that joined PAHx as Associates. As Associates, those programs gain access to our useful Educational Toolkit. They can use this toolkit to teach the history of the profession, a required topic for program accreditation. We thank all the programs who see value in our work and support us in this way. Leslie Kole, Trustee, and the 21 volunteer authors are making tremendous strides in creating a new history book. We appreciate their progress.

In 2020, we plan to increase our outreach to PA Specialty Organizations, Caucuses and Constituent Chapters and encourage their support of the History Society. We have online tools and live boot camps that can assist PAs leading these organizations in preserving their own history. We encourage each organization to identify a historian to research and organize its history, ensuring that future PAs will be able to appreciate their past.

(President Message, continued on page 2)

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**"Link-up"
to
PA history!**

If you haven't already, please post the PAHx logo on your institution's website along with a link to the Society's website: www.pahx.org.

Help share the important history of the PA profession with your website users!

(President Message, continued from page 1)

Finally, I want to thank my presidential predecessor, Maryann Ramos, who has worked tirelessly for the Society for the past two years. I also welcome our new Student Trustee, Madison Taylor of the Mercer University PA program. Her excitement about history and the importance of its preservation is clear. We look forward to her contributions to the History Society this year.

I enjoy hearing from the PA community. Please feel free to email with any questions, ideas or comments to contactus@pahx.org.

AAPA Women's Interest Caucus and the Equal Rights Amendment

Marilyn Fitzgerald, Honorary PA

All of us witness history every day – our personal and family history, our PA professional history, our community's history and our country's history. On January 15, 2020, we witnessed an important day in the history of our country's history. The Commonwealth of Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, meeting the constitutional requirement for ratification of an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Background

U.S. women won the *right to vote* a century ago in 1920. The fight for *equal rights regardless of sex* is nearly as old. The original ERA was written in 1923 by members of the National Woman's Party. "The amendment failed to gain much widespread support in the 1920s partly because it divided members of the women's movement along class lines. Working women at the time were focused on gaining workplace protections for women and children and some were concerned that an Equal Rights Amendment would endanger laws that made factories safer and limited the number of hours women could work." ⁽¹⁾

(Women's Interest Caucus, continued on page 3)

Become a PA Historian: How to Save, Study and Share the Story of PAs, our History and Legacy



1-Day PA Historian Boot Camp

Friday, May 15, 2020

*Held prior to the AAPA Conference in
Nashville, TN*

The **PA Historian Boot Camp** has been reviewed and is **approved for 6 AAPA Category 1 CME credits!** If you have a passion for PA history, please plan to join us in Nashville!



Comments from the 2019 PA Historian Boot Camp participants:

"Much exceeded my expectations! Loved It!"

"This Boot Camp was an outstanding experience!"

"The dedication and expertise of the PAHx staff is truly inspiring and very motivational."

"The materials presented were very informative and helpful and the resources presented were absolutely remarkable."

Date: Friday, May 15 from 9am-4pm

Registration Fee: \$150.00

Fee Includes: Historian Toolkit, Boot Camp Handbook & Lunch

Registration: contactus@pahx.org or
678-417-8682

Deadline to Register: Friday, April 10, 2020

Participants will learn how to:

- ✓ Organize and preserve historical documents
- ✓ Attain archival skills for research and study
- ✓ Become an advocate for PA history and the profession
- ✓ Develop creative techniques to write, speak and share the history of your institution, constituent organization and the PA profession

This activity has been reviewed by the AAPA Review Panel and is compliant with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 6.00 AAPA Category I CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation. This activity was planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria for Live Programs and for Commercial Support of Live Programs.

(Women's Interest Caucus, continued from page 2)

The ERA was finally passed March 22, 1972 by the 92nd Congress due to the persistent work of Michigan Congresswoman Martha Griffiths. She had been working on the issue since her election to the House of Representatives in 1955.

The ERA reads as follows: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Sex meaning women AND men.

Because Constitutional amendments must be ratified by three-fourths of the states (38), state voting on ratification began. Within months of the Congressional passage, 30 states had ratified the ERA. When Congress passed the ERA, they also added a 1979 deadline (later extended to 1982) by which 38 states would have to ratify the amendment. Cultural wars and groups like Stop ERA (founded by Phyllis Schlafly) slowed the ratification momentum. By 1982, 35 states had ratified the ERA – three states short of the required 38.

Despite the deadline, activism on the ERA continued; 26 states adopted their own state ERAs. ERA activists continued to focus attention to the need for a Constitutional amendment. Nevada ratified the ERA in 2017. Illinois ratified the ERA in 2018. Virginia ratified the ERA on January 15, 2020.

Because Congress added and extended the deadline, they also have the authority to remove that deadline (Article V, U.S. Constitution). There is a bill (H.J.Res. 79) in the U.S. House of Representatives (sponsored by Rep. Jackie Speirer) to eliminate the deadline and there is a bill (S.J.Res. 6) in the U.S. Senate (sponsored by Senators Ben Cardin and Lisa Murkowski) to eliminate the deadline.

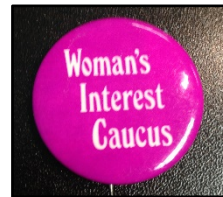
There are also questions about a few states that have rescinded or attempted to rescind their ERA ratification. The courts will decide whether rescission is legal. So, the jury is still out on whether the ERA (even though ratified by the required 38 states) will ever be part of the U.S. Constitution.

PA History Related to the ERA

The following article from the July 1980 edition of AAPA News, the official newsletter of the American Academy of Physician Assistants at the

time, shows PA attention to the ERA. The Women's Interest Caucus, an officially recognized AAPA caucus at the time, worked within the House of Delegates to adopt policy related to boycotting non-ERA ratified states as Annual Conference sites.

At the Seventh annual conference in Florida, a small group of women interested in women's issues within and outside of the Academy met and formed the Women's Interest Caucus (WIC). Two meetings of the Caucus were scheduled at the Eighth Annual Conference and the turnout of interested PAs showed that concern for issues affecting women and health providers was growing.



The first meeting of the WIC in New Orleans brought about 50 attendees. The tone of the meeting was friendly but earnest. Attendees introduced themselves and spoke briefly about issues pertinent to women in the Academy and in the health care field. Many common concerns emerged: the lack of women in leadership positions in the Academy, the purported salary inequities between male and female PAs, and the importance of studying women as healthcare providers and consumers.

The attendees agreed to postpone discussion of other issues and concentrated on the issue which had concerned a number of people for many years -- the planning of annual conferences to be held repeatedly in non-ERA ratified States. A resolution brought before the 1979 House of Delegates to boycott non-ERA-ratified states for future annual conferences had been defeated.

At the May 25, 1980, House of Delegates session, a resolution that the Academy endorse the ERA was defeated. Members of the WIC were concerned that a resolution yet to be considered by the HOD, again suggesting the boycott of non-ERA-ratified states as annual conference sites, would also be defeated. It was decided at the first WIC meeting that intense lobbying of delegates might influence the outcome of the upcoming vote.

(Women's Interest Caucus, continued on page 4)

(Women's Interest Caucus, continued from page 3)

This lobbying/education campaign seemed to have paid off because on May 26 the House of Delegates passed the resolution to not plan conferences in non-ERA ratified States after present contracts (through 1984) had been fulfilled. The states which had not ratified the ERA were Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia.

The second meeting of the WIC was considerably more upbeat than the first. Over and over again, attendees stated that they had seen the power they could wield when working through formal channels such as educating members and delegates. Small discussion groups then met and focused their discussion and comments on the other areas of concern. With the new awareness of the machinations of working within the Academy structure, the women focused on ways to involve more women in the structure, i.e., becoming involved in constituent chapter committees.

The WIC maintains a mailing list of interested PAs. Please address correspondence and questions to Liza Solomon, 8272 Lark Brown Road, Ellicott City, Maryland 21043." ⁽²⁾

If any readers have additional information on the history of the AAPA Women's Interest Caucus, we encourage you to share it with the PA History Society at contactus@pahx.org.

- (1) <https://time.com/5657997/equal-rights-amendment-history/>
- (2) AAPA News, July 1980

PAHx Archives Needs YOU!

Help us complete our collections.

Advance for Physician Assistants (Journal)

- Vol. 7, no. 6 (June 1999)
- Vol. 11, no. 9 (Sept. 2003)
- Vol. 12, no. 1-3, 9-10 (Jan.-March, Sept, Oct 2004)

Physician Assistant, Health Practitioner (Journal)

- Any issues from Volumes 1 and 2 (1978, 1979)
- Vol. 4, no. 1-5, 7-9 (1980)
- Vol. 5, any issues (1981)
- Vol. 6, no. 1-6, 8, 9 (1982)

If you have intact, clean copies of these missing editions, please contact the PAHx Archivist at contactus@pahx.org

In His Own Words: Stephen D. Wilson, PA-C

Marilyn Fitzgerald, Honorary PA

Steve Wilson, PA-C, has been a PA for 46 years. As a PA pioneer, he has achieved several "firsts." He



graduated from the first BS degree PA program at Alderson-Broadbent College in Philippi, West Virginia in 1974. He was one of the first PAs to take the original NCCPA certification exam in 1975. He was an early leader in the American Academy of PAs, serving as a delegate from the Pennsylvania Society of PAs and House of Delegates Secretary and Vice Speaker in the late 1970s to mid-1980s.

Always willing to serve, Steve served on the AAPA Board of Directors in the 1990s and various AAPA standing committees, councils and commissions (1981 – 2013). The Maryland Academy of PAs, the Pennsylvania Society of PAs, the Association of PAs in Cardiovascular Surgery and Journal of AAPA Editorial Board have also benefitted from his service (1979 – 2019).

The PA History Society has been the lucky recipient of his leadership since he was invited to the Board of Trustees in 2016. He has participated on the Finance Committee and was elected Secretary-Treasurer in May 2019.

His PAHx biography may be found here. <https://pahx.org/assistants/wilson-stephen-d/>

Historical Happenings has asked Steve some lighter, personal questions. Here are his answers in his own words.

What did you "want to be" when you were growing up?

I wanted to be a soldier. Specifically, I wanted to go to West Point. My father was an Army infantry commander in the Pacific during WWII. Funny that I never even applied. I decided my math skills were not strong enough.

(In His Own Words, continued on page 5)

(In His Own Words, continued from page 4)

I guess I was fortunate that the guidance counselors at our high school were more focused on trying to keep the football players in school as opposed to advising the National Honor Society members.

Your PA clinical work has focused on cardiovascular surgery. What drew you to that specialty?

The intensity of skills required and knowledge needed. My professional experience was influenced by the fact that Hu Myers was my program director and he was a surgeon. Prior to graduation, I was advised to stay in surgery. That led me to my first job at the Shock Trauma Center at Maryland University Hospital. I have never been in such an intense environment, but it provided so many opportunities to develop surgical skills and critical care knowledge. I later worked with a surgeon in trauma and general surgery. There was a point that I felt I was losing some skills and critical knowledge, and cardiac surgery seemed to be the best fit for my need. I was right.

What is your favorite PA history memory?

It's personal. During an early AAPA House of Delegates meeting, I was standing in a hotel room with one of my best friends, Dave Bissonette (past Treasurer of AAPA), arguing the pros and cons of only going for "surgical 1st assistant reimbursement for PA services" vs. overall PA reimbursement. It was a HOD consideration. We did not agree. But when we got done, we went to dinner. Next day the House voted to support 1st assistant reimbursement. Global PA reimbursement followed. Dave and Nicole Gara were right. Take what you know you can get and build from there.

What is your favorite personal history memory?

I will exclude personal memories. I have to remember what set me on my path. I had returned to campus for the final term after clinical rotations. Remember, this was the first four-year program in a small school, and faculty and students knew everyone well. Dr. Hu Myers and his wife, Avanelle, ran the program as Medical Director and Program Director. I was walking down the hall of "Old Main" and Ms. Myers came out of her office and said she wanted to speak with me. I had flashbacks of every potential thing I had done wrong in my life thus far. But, alas, she says to me: "Hu and I were talking about you at dinner last evening. We think you should stay in surgery." God had spoken. I was a specialist.

What volunteer activities give you the most satisfaction?

I assume this is professional. Scouts and church aren't included. You know that I have served in multiple state and national offices. My service on the PA History Society is special. But I have to say that my service on the JAAPA Board was so rewarding in terms of moving the Journal to an indexed journal and being able to help define the educational opportunities for our colleagues.

(In His Own Words, continued on page 6)

Welcome New Student Trustee, Madison G. Taylor, PA-S

The PAHx Board of Trustees welcomes Madison G. Taylor as its new Student Trustee. She began her one-year term on January 1, 2020.

Madison grew up outside of Griffin, Georgia in Pike County. Pike County has one stop light, "...with lights on both sides," she says with her charming southern drawl. Her interest in history was sparked when she participated in the Griffin Historical Society's high school Junior Guild Program.

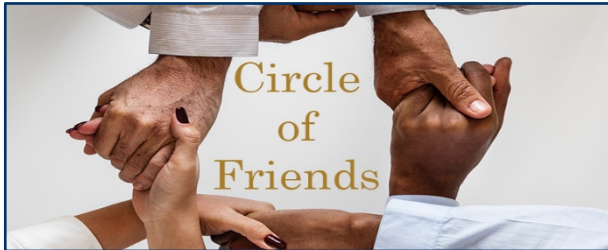


Madison graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia, College of Public Health, in Athens, Georgia, in May 2017, with a BS in Health Promotion, Health Services. She spent a Discover Abroad Maymester in Australia/New Zealand. "I knew I wanted to be a PA from the time I was a freshman at UGA. I had a personal PA in Griffin and knew I wanted to work in public health and pursue a meaningful and challenging career in medicine." In January 2018, she was accepted at the Mercer University PA Program, College of Health Professions, in Atlanta. She began her PA studies as a dual MPH/MMSc candidate and received a HRSA grant for primary care practitioners.

(Student Trustee, continued on page 8)

Join the PA History Society's "Lifetime Circle of Friends"

You can help preserve PA history by becoming a *Lifetime Friend* of the Society.



"Lifetime" Circle of Friends Levels:

A one-time donation of \$2,000 or more for individuals under the age 65 years,

OR

A one-time donation of \$1,000 or more for individuals aged 65 years and older or retired.

Your one-time donation will assist the PA History Society with:

- ❖ Preserving the Archives collection
- ❖ Developing educational materials (history books, toolkits)
- ❖ Scanning materials for digital use
- ❖ Expanding our biography and oral history collection
- ❖ Providing student scholarships to attend PAHx educational programs
(example: PA Historian Boot Camp)

Please visit www.pahx.org to make your donation by credit card or mail your check to:

**PA History Society 12000 Findley Road, Suite 100
Johns Creek, GA 30097**

Upon receipt of your donation, you will receive a letter of receipt for tax purposes. If you do *not* wish for your name to appear on the Society's *Lifetime Friends* webpage, please let us know.

Thank you for becoming a *Lifetime Friend* of the Society!

(In His Own Words, continued from page 5)

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

I am in cardiac surgery. There is nothing funny about that. I am the patriarch of my family. There is nothing funny about that. (Please do not speak to my family or my colleagues about this question.)

What is your favorite Saturday afternoon activity?

You mean after playing golf? Is there Saturday after golf?

What was the last movie you saw in the theater?

Wow. When is this published? My wife is a movie aficionado. She saw 96 movies last year in the theater. I probably was present for less than half of those. So, look at those out this week and I have seen one of the top three. I don't do horror films. My favorite film: Red Violin. I love movies that require a lot of thought to try and see how it will end. Comedies you can see on TV and don't need the big screen.

What has a grandchild taught you?

They will take your hand and walk wherever you happen to go or they lead. They don't care. They just want you there. They want you to understand that there is nothing else more important than that time together. There is nothing more important than those standing right in front of you.

What is your favorite dish to cook?

Cacio e Pepe. Lots of ways to do it and none is wrong in my mind. Add this, add that. Throwing it together with a glass of wine. Plenty of time for conversation. What is not to like?

Name one item you can't throw out and why?

My painting T-shirt. For 43 years I have painted every room of our homes with the same T-shirt on me. I can tell you every color and which house it was in. My wife bought it for me originally. It has a picture from the collection of my favorite cartoonist Gary Larson. It has a pigeon sitting on a tree limb looking down and everyone's head has a target on it. Perfect!

What is the most valuable life lesson you ever learned and why?

If I may, my Father's advice always rings in my ears. He told me once that he did not care if I dug ditches but that I

(In His Own Words, continued on page 7)

An **eBook** version is available of *The Physician Assistant: An Illustrated History*. You can order a Kindle version of the book through [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) [here](#).

(In His Own Words, continued from page 6)

should dig the best ditch to be dug. He also said that “the job will never pay more if the job does not mean more than the pay.” This second advice has served me well. My first three jobs were for the same salary. I was after the experience. It has served me well.

What's the most interesting thing about you that we wouldn't learn from your biography alone?

I never considered myself very interesting. I suppose that the “cooking” aspect of my bio may need definition. I like to cook. I am not a chef. I can follow directions. I love the Food Channel. However, my mom taught me how to make pie crust. From that you can make a lot of pies. I have made all the pies for holidays for my family. Even the pumpkin pie for Thanksgiving that one of the cats ate. I missed my mom's pies so much that I rolled my first crust out with a coke bottle my first year away from home. I inherited my mother's rolling pin upon her death. I am not worthy to use it.



Steve cooking with grandson

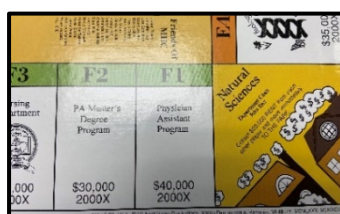
From the Archives: Alderson-Broaddus Board Game

Michelle Schabowski, MSIS



Broaddus College. The reason? To raise money from the alumni to buy TVs for the lobbies in the student residences. This delightful artifact

Did you love your alma mater so much, you wished that they would make a Monopoly-style board game out of it? The students of Alderson-Broaddus decided the answer to that was yes! In the 1980s, the Men's Hall Council created 500 copies of The Game of Alderson-



was donated to the PA History Society because two of the game's squares feature the school's PA program!

Visitors to the NCCPA and PAHx offices will be familiar with our display cabinets on the second floor. One of the most commented on artifacts housed in the cabinets is the unique parking sign once belonging to Victor Germino. Mr. Germino was one of the first three PAs to graduate in 1967. The sign says “Physician Assistant Parking Only. Others will be shot” followed by an image of a syringe. The next time you visit our offices, please check out this piece of PA history, along with the other historical items in our displays.



Pop Quiz: Do you Know your PA history?

Test your knowledge of PA history by answering this question:

Goal 1: Describe the major events that occurred in the first half of the 20th century in America that led to a crisis in health care delivery in the 1950s.

In 1910, the Flexner Report was released in the United States transforming medical education and medical schools. What major changes occurred in medical education because of the Flexner Report?

- A. There was more emphasis on science in the curricula
- B. Medical Schools began enrolling more women and minorities
- C. Hospitals began providing internships and residencies to train specialists
- D. All the above

Note: This question is one from **Module One: Why PAs**. It is one of many found in the *Educational Toolkit* modules that the PA History Society has

(Pop Quiz, continued on page 8)

(Pop Quiz, continued from page 7)

produced to assist PA educational programs in fulfilling their obligation (as detailed in the ARC-PA Standards of Accreditation)"...to instruct their students in the PA profession, its historical development, and current trends..." The Toolkit is available to PAHx Associates. Learn more about the [PAHx Associate benefits here](#).

QUIZ ANSWER:

Please see page 10 of the newsletter.

(Student Trustee, continued from page 5)

Madison serves as the Historian for Mercer University's Class of 2021. "I keep all records of service and activities through photo documentation. I also maintain our social media presence on Instagram, promoting service, student life, and frequently highlight students in our class as Student Spotlights." As the Student PA Trustee, Madison plans "to promote student involvement within the society" and "help build a network between long-standing members of the profession and new PAs." "It is important to mentor younger generations in the profession to ensure that today's events that will become history are accurately recorded and passed down," she states.

When not studying and serving her program, Madison enjoys photography and volunteering at Grace Village Medical Clinic and Good Samaritan Health Center of Gwinnett, in Atlanta.

"I am excited for what this Student Trustee opportunity has to offer both in service to the PAHx and in service to the profession." We look forward to a productive year of accomplishments with Madison on the PAHx Board of Trustees.

PA History Society's

Mission: To share the history of the development of the PA profession and illustrate how PAs continue to make a difference in our society.

Vision: The PA History Society brings PA history to life by inspiring the next generation of PAs, patients and policymakers.

Passages: Manuel A. Maldonado

Maryann F. Ramos, MPH, PA-C Emeritus

Manuel A. Maldonado, Sr. was a 1974 graduate of the first US Public Service PA Training Program, Staten Island, NY. He was the epitome of Dr. Eugene Stead's idea: a Navy Corpsman who transitioned to a career as a physician assistant. Born in the Bronx, NY, Mr. Maldonado passed away in Morrisville, Pennsylvania on December 26, 2019 at age 69.

Mr. Maldonado enlisted in the Navy as a high school student and then embraced the life of a Corpsman serving with the Marines. He served both in the Vietnam and Gulf War conflicts. He found out about the PA profession by reading a Life Magazine article in which Dr. Stead asserted that Vietnam veterans could fill the medical provider gap. When Mr. Maldonado learned that New Jersey did not have a PA program, he went to Staten Island for his PA education.

Mr. Maldonado joined the board of the New Jersey State Society of PAs in 1976 and became an advocate for PA practicing legislation within the state. Mr. Maldonado's parents immigrated from Puerto Rico to New Jersey to build a better life for their children. Mr. Maldonado achieved their dreams for that better life by embracing Dr. Stead's dream and becoming a PA.

To learn more about Mr. Maldonado, please view his biography on our website:

<https://pahx.org/assistants/maldonado-manuel-a/>

You may also view the obituary here:

<https://www.hooperfuneralchapel.com/listings>



*All things PA History can be found
on our website at www.pahx.org!*

FLASHBACK 1972 – 48 YEARS AGO

While the PA profession was progressing and making its own history in 1972, the United States of America was making its own history.

1972 PA Profession History Highlights:

Visit the PAHx Timeline <https://pahx.org/period-03/>

- Upon recommendation of its Goals and Priorities Committee, the National Board of Medical Examiners approves [development of a certifying examination](#) for the assistant to the primary care physician. Barbara J. Andrew, PhD, is chosen to direct the project. Edmund D. Pellegrino, MD, is appointed by [John P. Hubbard](#), MD, President of the NBME, to chair a Special Advisory Committee that includes representatives of the AMA.
- [The Association of Physician Assistant Programs \(APAP\) is established](#) with sixteen charter members to facilitate communication and cooperation among physician assistant education programs at universities and colleges throughout the United States. [Alfred M. Sadler, Jr.](#), MD is elected as the organization's first president.
- The first book written about PAs, [The Physician's Assistant: Today and Tomorrow](#), by [Alfred M. Sadler Jr.](#), MD, [Blair L. Sadler](#), JD, and [Ann. A. Bliss](#), RN, MSW, is published by Yale University Press — based on a "White Paper" that was funded by the Carnegie Corporation, the Commonwealth Fund, the Foundation for the Aid to Crippled Children, the Macy Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.
- The Bureau of Health Professions Health Resources Administration awards its first contracts to support the development of assistant to primary care physician assistant educational programs.
- Nine sponsoring colleges of medicine located throughout the United States establish a

National Council of MEDEX Programs to advance the cause of rural health care.

- The Army starts a PA training program.
- The American Medical Association (AMA) announces approval of the first PA training programs to be accredited by its Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs for Assistants to the Primary Care Physician (JRC-PA). The programs receiving approval are: Alderson-Broadus College, Philippi, WV; Bowman-Gray School of Medicine, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC; the Brooklyn Hospital, Brooklyn, NY; and the Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC. Thirteen other newly created PA programs are listed as receiving Preliminary Approval and Provisional Approval.

1972 American History Highlights: (<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/1972>)

Social, Economic and Entertainment History

- The 92nd [U.S. Congress](#) votes to send the proposed [Equal Rights Amendment](#) to the states for ratification.
- [Ms.](#) Magazine begins publication.
- Country singer [Loretta Lynn](#) makes history by becoming the first female ever to win the Country Music Association's Entertainer of the Year Award.
- The first female [FBI](#) agents are hired.
- The [Supreme Court of the United States](#) rules that the [death penalty](#) is unconstitutional ([Furman v. Georgia](#)).
- The [Dow Jones Industrial Average](#) closes above 1,000 (1,003.16) for the first time.
- Sound recording – records, tapes, etc. are granted U.S. federal [copyright](#) protection for the first time.
- [Bobby Fischer](#) defeats [Boris Spassky](#) in a [chess](#) match at [Reykjavík](#), Iceland, becoming the first American chess champion.
- [HBO](#) begins operating as a [pay television](#) service.

(Flashback 1972, continued on page 10)

(Flashback 1972, continued from page 9)

- Atari introduces the first generation of video games with the release of PONG, the first game to achieve commercial success.

International History

- U.S. President [Richard M. Nixon](#) makes an unprecedented [8-day visit](#) to the [People's Republic of China](#) to meet with [Mao Zedong](#).
- The U.S. and the Soviet Union join 70 nations in signing the [Biological Weapons Convention](#), an agreement to ban [biological warfare](#).
- Prompted by the [North Vietnamese](#) offensive, the United States resumes bombing of [Hanoi](#) and [Haiphong](#) and U.S. President [Richard Nixon](#) orders the mining of [Haiphong Harbor](#) in [Vietnam](#).
- [Richard Nixon](#) and [Leonid Brezhnev](#) sign the [SALT I treaty](#) in [Moscow](#), as well as the [Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty](#) and other agreements.
- U.S. President [Richard Nixon](#) announces that no new draftees will be sent to [Vietnam](#).
- Following a visit to [South Vietnam](#), U.S. [National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger](#) suggests that "peace is at hand."
- The last US ground troops are withdrawn from Vietnam.
- Eleven Israel athletes are murdered by Arab gunmen at the Munich Olympics.

Political History

- [Watergate scandal](#) - U.S. President [Richard M. Nixon](#) and [White House](#) chief of staff [H. R. Haldeman](#) are taped talking about using the [C.I.A.](#) to obstruct the [F.B.I.](#)'s investigation into the [Watergate](#) break-ins.
- The [Democratic National Convention](#) meets in [Miami Beach](#). Senator [George McGovern](#), who backs the immediate and complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from [South Vietnam](#), is nominated for President. He names fellow Senator [Thomas Eagleton](#) as his running mate (later replaced by R. Sargent Shriver).

- The [Republican National Convention](#) in [Miami Beach, Florida](#) nominates U.S. President [Richard Nixon](#) and Vice President [Spiro Agnew](#) for a second term.
- [U.S. presidential election, 1972](#): [Republican](#) incumbent [Richard Nixon](#) defeats [Democratic](#) Senator [George McGovern](#).

Medical and Scientific History

- U.S. President [Richard Nixon](#) orders the development of a [space shuttle](#) program.
- The [Pioneer 10](#) spacecraft is launched from [Cape Kennedy](#), to be the first man-made satellite to leave the [Solar System](#).
- The First International Conference on Computer Communications is held in Washington, DC with a demonstration of ARPAnet, a precursor of the Internet.
- [Herbert Boyer](#) and [Stanley N. Cohen](#) conceive the concept of [recombinant DNA](#). Separately in 1972, [Paul Berg](#) also recombines DNA in a test tube. These actions changed the field of biological sciences, especially [biotechnology](#), and opened the door to [genetically modified organisms](#).
- The Environmental Protection Agency bans the use of the pesticide DDT.

Stay in Touch with PAHx through Social Media!

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POP QUIZ: Answer

The Correct Answer is: A

Feedback: The Flexner Report released in 1919 resulted in the (1) closure of 50% existing medical schools, (2) increased sciences in curricula, (3) decreased women and minorities in medicine, and (4) medical schools becoming attached to academic centers – universities and colleges.

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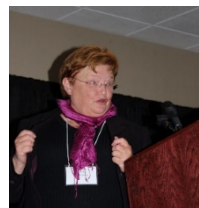
Are You Looking for a Speaker for a Special Event?

PAHx Associates have access to a valuable benefit -- access to the PA History Society *Speakers Bureau*. Our Trustees and Historians are experienced PA presenters, who would be honored to speak at your next event [pending availability]. **Ken Ferrell**, one of the nation's first PAs, is also part of the PAHx Speakers Bureau. Travel costs are covered by the event host.

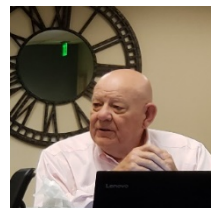
Please include the interesting history of our profession at your next PA celebration! You can learn more about the PA History Society Board of Trustees and our Historians from our website: <https://pahx.org/who-are-we/>

Please send your questions and/or Speaker Bureau inquiry via email to our office at: Contactus@pahx.org. Please include the following information in your request:

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Ruth Ballweg,
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PAHx Board of Trustees, Historians and Staff

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- PAHx Speakers Bureau
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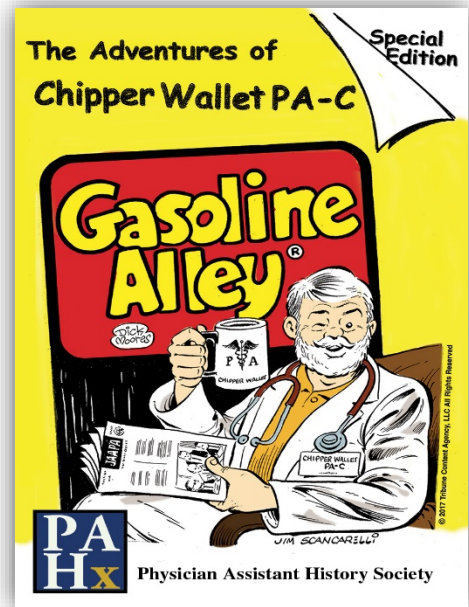
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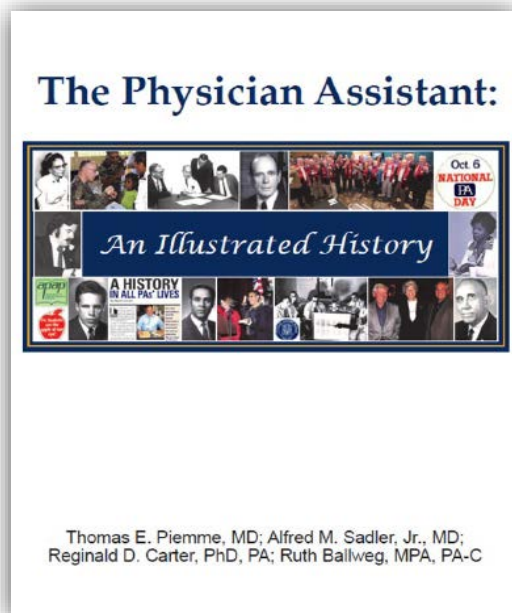
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