

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

NEWSLETTER OF THE PA HISTORY SOCIETY



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Stephen D. Wilson, PA-C



The PA History Society is deeply engaged as it begins its 3rd decade of recording the profound past and recent history of our profession! Last month, the Trustees committed themselves to providing more in-depth coverage of ongoing historical changes within the profession as well as the

continued documentation of this profession's past social innovations in healthcare. There was excitement at this Board meeting about the progress of our website renovation. It was determined that our popular learning modules need an upgrade for better student engagement.

Currently, the Society has 339 [biographies](#) and 246 [oral history](#) interviews featured on our website. We are constantly adding to these collections. Our biographies highlight those who have had distinguished and inspiring careers involved with our profession and the healthcare PAs deliver. The oral histories tend to focus more on specific events or topics within these storied careers. The Society does not only record the history of those who have helped us get to this point, but also the current history that is being made as our profession continues its evolution. If you know a PA, administrator, faculty member, or legislator who you feel deserves to have their story told, please email us at: contactus@pahx.org.

(President's Message, continued on page 2)

Help the PAHx Grow its Archives!



The **PA History Society** would like to send a huge **thank you to the PAs** who support our mission to preserve and share the rich history of the PA profession! We continue to grow our acquisitions by collecting unique PA-related material. If you have an **item to donate**, please email us at contactus@pahx.org.

(President’s Message, continued from page 1)

The PAHx is proud of our robust and in-depth [website](#). With the upgrades to be completed soon, it will provide users even more accessibility and information. We will let you know when it is completed so that you can better enjoy how we celebrate recent events like “[World Health Day](#)”, topics such as PAs’ involvement with [COVID treatment](#), and focused essays in “[PA Historical Perspectives](#)”. Please don’t forget to checkout our latest publication, “[PAs as a Social Innovation in Healthcare](#).”

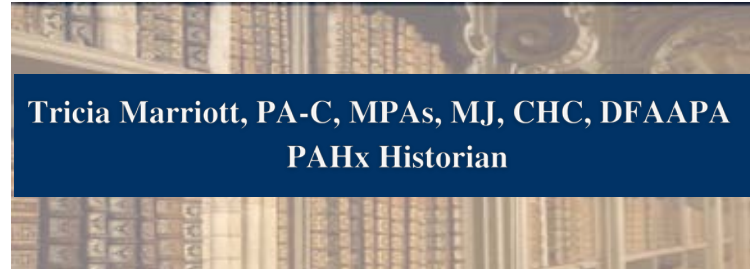
The “PA Educational Learning Modules” are available on our PAHx Associates only webpage. We are going to take a deeper dive into their upgrade, so that they can be better integrated into the PA student educational requirements, have better interactive capabilities and are more designed on specific topics. They have provided primary and secondary source materials to help students learn and appreciate the development, growth, and impact that the PA profession has had on American medicine for more than 55 years. The modules are a compendium of: PowerPoint slides containing photographs, and video & audio clips that can be integrated into personalized lectures; a syllabus of major themes that can be explored using the PAHx Society’s website; tests complete with answer sheets for each module; and a selected bibliography of articles to use as reference readings. They will be better than ever after this dedicated effort.

Spring is a time when we embrace a newness all about us. It is fitting that during this time the Society has chosen to refresh much of what it does. We hope you enjoy the new growth!

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.



Tricia Marriott, PA-C, MPAs, MJ, CHC, DFAAPA
PAHx Historian

**Business of Medicine:
Historic Changes to Medical Coding**



For years, this writer has been helping PAs and other practitioners navigate the complex rules around billing and reimbursement for the medical services they provide. So, when asked to present a CME session at a state chapter annual

conference, I happily accepted. Coding rules have recently changed, so I’d have something new to talk about. Unbeknownst to me, the changes are monumental, the old rulebook has been thrown out the window, and we no longer rely on bullet points, organ systems, and tally sheets. In 2021, changes were launched in the outpatient clinic/medical office settings, and in 2023 have been adopted in the acute care (ED, observation), inpatient settings, including critical care services, nursing facilities and more. The entire claim now hinges on medical decision-making or time spent. The decision charts are new, and some codes have been eliminated. This historic change merits attention, as no substantial changes to coding rules have been implemented since 1997.

Billing and reimbursement was not a component of the required PA curriculum when I graduated in 1986. PAs were not yet recognized by the Medicare program as billing providers. Services provided were billed under the physician and there were no “codes” for non-physician billing. There was no set methodology for submitting claims until 1992, when the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT ®) Evaluation & Management (E/M) codes were created.

(Medical Coding, continued on page 6)

Passages: Doug Condit

Stephen D. Wilson, PA-C, PAHx President

It is with heartfelt regret that I announce the passing of Doug Condit, PA-C, on Sunday April 2, 2023, as he succumbed to colon cancer. Vietnam Veteran, cardiac surgery PA, teacher, preceptor and mentor, professional and community activist, colleague, and friend.

Doug joined the Navy and became a corpsman. It was at that time that he read the article in 1966's *Look* magazine regarding PAs. He served with the Marines and served as a senior corpsman at the front lines where he earned the distinguished Vietnamese Service Medal with combat insignia and four bronze stars, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Unit Commendation Commendation, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

Upon Doug's return to the U.S. in 1970, he was honorably discharged and attended the University of Alabama Physician Assistant Program. After graduation in 1972, Doug went to the Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Surgical Postgraduate Physician Assistant Program which he completed and then became an integral part of the program while being the Senior PA in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery. He was also an adjunct faculty member for City College of New York PA Program at the Harlem Hospital Center and the Touro College PA Program. Doug began active

participation in the AAPA in 1972 where his service included being a Delegate for the New York State Society of PAs (NYSSPA) and held memberships on multiple committees. He became an influential member of the Association of PAs in



Doug with coveted Bronx Community Board 7 Wing Award. Photo credit, Betty Arce and courtesy, Norwood News



Cardiovascular Surgery (APACVS) where he was editor of the APACVS newsletter, *CardioVISION*. He also served as editor-in-chief of the *Surgical Physician Assistant Journal* and produced numerous papers for various medical journals. His professional awards included the Civilian PA of the Year Award from the AAPA Veterans Caucus, PA of the Year from NYSSPA, and the John W. Kirklin, MD Award for Professional Excellence from the now designated American Association of Surgical Physician Assistants.

Doug's generosity with his time and effort was not limited to his profession. He put deep roots down in his adopted state of New York, specifically in the Bronx. His community activity resulted in much recognition, including the New York Conspicuous Service Cross and the New York State Senate Commendation Award. His most prized award was the Bronx Community Board 7 Wing Award in 2018. For an in-depth accounting of his love for his community and their love for him, please see "One of a Kind" as published on April 10, 2023 in the Norwood News [Doug Condit "One of a Kind" - Norwood News](#)

Doug was quite a memorable individual. Quick with a smile and a laugh and energy enough to sustain two individuals. A willingness to help and give advice as well as challenge the "norms". Upon his passing my email lit up with remembrances of Doug and they included words such as "icon", "trailblazer", "colorful", "opinionated", "passionate about what he did", "mentor" and "friend". Because of our involvement in cardiac surgery, I knew Doug for years and consider myself one of hundreds who were his colleague and friend. I was pleased that I was able to pen his biography for the PA History Society before his death. For the biography and more about Doug Condit please visit the following:

[Condit, Doug – Physician Assistant History Society® \(pahx.org\)](#)

[OHC00135 - Doug Condit Oral History | Physician Assistant History Center \(pastperfectonline.com\)](#)

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of First National Conference

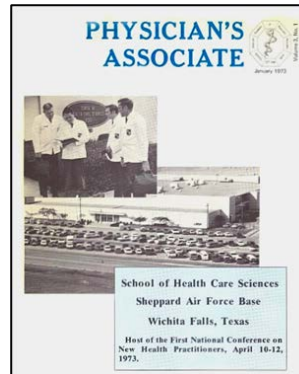
Reginald D. Carter, PhD, PA, Historian Emeritus

As the newly appointed assistant director of the Duke University PA Program, I had the opportunity to attend the First National Conference on New Health Practitioners held at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, TX, April 10-12, 1973. The conference was co-sponsored by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA, now known as the American Academy of Physician Associates), the Association of Physician Assistant Programs (APAP, now known as the PA Education Association, PAEA), and the American Registry of Physicians' Associates (ARPA, which no longer exists). The facilities and logistics for the conference were provided by the U.S. Air Force School of Health Care Sciences. Although now considered the first annual conference for physician assistants, the conference was advertised for "New Health Practitioners" as an attempt to be inclusive of other models of education such as nurse practitioners, MEDEX and PAs trained in a variety of medical and surgical specialties. (1)

The conference featured many prominent authorities who contributed "their expertise to discussions centering on the issues of certification, accreditation, utilization, program management, and legal aspects of the physician assistant concepts." Dr. Edmund D. Pellegrino, Vice-President for Health Sciences at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, was the key-note speaker at a dinner held Tuesday evening April 10th at the Wichita Country Club. His topic was "Closing the Health Professional Gap." Like other conferences to follow, the conference provided continuing medical education for student and graduate PAs all day Friday, April 13th.(2)

Student representatives from 13 PA programs met on Friday night and Saturday morning to "exchange ideas and get to know each other for the elections." Those elected to the Student Board were John McElligott, Duke

University, President; David Terp, Alabama University, Vice President; Richard Kern, Indiana University, Treasurer and Charles Park, Yale University, Secretary. (3) The financial statement for the conference, which was attached to the AAPA executive committee meeting minutes of October 12, 1973, indicated that attendance was



approximately 235 individuals. After paying expenses that included 16 invited speakers, the Conference netted \$2,933.18 allowing the planners to repay the AAPA and the APAP \$500 for "seed money" to plan and advertise the conference.(4) The Second National Conference on

New Health Practitioners was held at the Monteleone Hotel, New Orleans, LA on March 27-30, 1974, with 525 attendees. Today, the American Academy of Physician Assistants Annual Conference is held in May. Prior to COVID-19, attendance averaged over 6,000.

References:

1. Sadler, Jr., A.M., & Piemme, T.E. (2021). First Annual Conference on New Health Practitioners. The journal of physician assistant education : the official journal of the Physician Assistant Education Association, 32 2, 90-92 . Accessed at [First Annual Conference on New Health Practitioners : The Journal of Physician Assistant Education \(lww.com\)](http://www.com).
2. Announcement for First National Conference on New Health Practitioners. (April 1973) Duke University Medical Center Archives. Accessed at [Document | First National Conference on New Health Practitioners | ID: mc87pq352 | MEDSpace \(duke.edu\)](https://medspace.duke.edu/document/mc87pq352)
3. Student Report: First National Conference On New Health Practitioners. (April 1973) Duke University Medical Center Archives. Accessed at [Document | Student Report: First National Conference On New Health Practitioners | ID: cn69m4153 | MEDSpace \(duke.edu\)](https://medspace.duke.edu/document/cn69m4153)
4. First National Conference on New Health Practitioners financial statement. (October, 1973) Duke University Medical Center Archives. Accessed at [Document | First National Conference on New Health Practitioners financial statement | ID: 3f4625467 | MEDSpace \(duke.edu\)](https://medspace.duke.edu/document/3f4625467)

PA History in 10 Museum Objects

In this fun online exhibit, the PA History Society has selected ten objects from our museum collection that correlate with ten milestones in the PA profession's history.



PA HISTORY IN TEN OBJECTS

Are you curious about:

- Which object in our museum is the heaviest and how does it relate to the dawn of the PA profession?
- How did PA program patches become a thing?
- How long has the profession wanted to change the official title from “Assistant” to “Associate”?
- How many name changes did the official AAPA journal for the profession go through before settling on *JAAPA*?
- What does a comic strip have to do with educating the public on the PA profession in the 1970s AND the profession's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2017?

Visit the exhibit and find out!

<https://pahx.org/pa-history-in-10-objects/>

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



PAHx's First Board Meeting May 2002

Reginald D. Carter, PhD, PA, Historian Emeritus

[Credentials in article reflect what the individual currently holds or held at time article was written (2022) or upon their death, not what they may have held at the time period that the article references.]

Although incorporated in North Carolina in January 2002, it was not until May 25th that the Society held its first meeting at the Sheraton Boston Hotel during the AAPA annual conference. After welcoming everyone,



Glen Combs, Ruth Ballweg and Jeff Heinrich

Reginald Carter, PhD, PA, the Society's acting director, turned the chair over to J. Jeffery Heinrich, EdD, PA-C Emeritus, whose first order of business was to appoint Elaine Grant, MPH, PA-C, parliamentarian for the

for the organization. The Board adopted the Society's Bylaws, appointed officers and board members to serve terms as defined within the bylaws, and appointed Dr. Carter and Ms. Mildred Woody as Executive Director and Administrative Coordinator of the Society. The first officers of the Society were: J. Jeffery Heinrich Ed.D., PA-C Emeritus, President; Ron Nelson, PA-C, President-Elect; Ruth Ballweg, MPA, PA-C Emeritus, Secretary; and Glen Combs, MA, PA, Treasurer. Other Board members were Elaine Grant, Donald Pedersen, PhD, PA, Eugene Schneller, PhD, William “Bill” Stanhope, MS, PA, and Ryan Brainard, (then a student PA).



Elaine Grant, Don Pedersen and Ron Nelson

(First PAHx Board Mtg, continued on page 9)

(Medical Coding, continued from page 2)

In 1995, documentation guidelines were created by the American Medical Association (AMA), owner of CPT®, and the Health Care Financing Administration, now the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. To oversimplify the story, the original guidelines relied heavily on the number of organ systems examined, which then added up to the level of service provided. The more organ systems examined, the higher the level code could be selected, garnering a higher reimbursement. It became immediately evident to those practicing in specialties - for example Urology, Orthopaedics, Neurology - that the guidelines did not reflect their practice and made it difficult to reach a code that would properly reimburse for the work provided. In 1997, the guidelines were subsequently revised to capture the thorough and focused specialist evaluations of a single organ system. In 1998, practices were advised to utilize the coding guidelines that best reflected their practice, either the 1995 or 1997 guidelines, to determine codes for billing.

Meanwhile, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 was passed by Congress, modifying the way the Medicare program pays for PAs. Suddenly, PAs needed to learn coding methodology along with their physician colleagues. Between 1999 and 2015, many attempts to amend the guidelines were proposed, but not accepted. Coding guidelines remained unchanged until 2021, when the new E/M guidelines were published for Office/Other Outpatient E/M Codes, and then in 2023 when the guidelines were expanded to include other settings.

Due to the massive upheaval in coding methodology, any notion of teaching the coding updates was abandoned. The CME session mainly emphasized that selecting the appropriate level of service is based on the level of medical-decision-making (number and complexity of problems addressed at the encounter, data reviewed and analyzed, and risk of complication and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management), OR the total time for E/M services performed on the date of the encounter. The

primary goal was not only to create awareness, but also some urgency for PAs to learn the new rules. Given that the responsibility for the selection of the proper code falls on the practitioner who provided the service and submits the claim, PAs must keep up with the historic changes. Conference attendees were directed to some very useful (and free) [resources](#) to help them get started.

Wanted:

1994 AAPA PA Day Button

Do you own this button? Do you want to do your part in preserving PA history? The PA History Society needs YOU!

We are looking for the 1994 PA Day button that was the first PA Day button sold by the AAPA. If you have this button and are willing to donate it to the PA History Society’s museum collection, please contact us at: contactus@pahx.org



Visit the PAHx Booth at AAPA!

We’re looking forward to speaking with you at the Society’s booth in Nashville this month! The PAHx booth will be located on the second floor of the Music City Convention Center at the top of the escalator. Please stop by our PAHx booth from **May 20-23** to see what’s new in PA history!



A Brief History of the Swiss PA Profession

Nancy Hurwitz, DScPAS, MHP, PA-C

*Director of Clinical Education & Associate Professor of Physician Assistant Studies
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences*

It is time to add Switzerland to the ever-growing list of nations who recognize the value of the PA profession. The first Swiss physician associate program, founded at Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), graduated their first 20 students in 2018 and the profession has continued to evolve and grow from there. Class size has doubled to 40 students as the recognition of and need for PAs has blossomed.



Anita Mansur Bonnard

The first program was a PA certificate program, designed by Anita Mansur Bonnard. She is the head of continuing education at ZHAW. She is also a nurse, a visionary and one of the founders of the Swiss PA profession. This venture began

in 2015, when two doctors at Kantonsspital Winterthur learned of the American physician assistant profession. They learned that the PA profession in America started in order to fill a need for primary care providers in rural and underserved areas. The two physicians realized a similar situation throughout Switzerland and contacted Ms. Bonnard at ZHAW, just down the hill from Kantonsspital. Dr. Markus Wepf, a visceral and thoracic surgeon, and Dr. Stefan Breitenstein, the chief medical officer and surgery department chief, recognized that their seedling idea would need a gardener (Ms. Bonnard) to create the garden (ZHAW) and water the seeds (students). These three individuals are truly the founders of the Swiss PA profession that allowed the first 20 students to become PAs within 3 years of the program's inception.



*Kantonsspital
Winterthur*

The first PA students signed on as non-physician healthcare professionals (primarily nurses) who felt a strong desire to expand their scope of practice. In 2022, ZHAW began a Master of PA Studies degree program, spearheaded by Ms. Bonnard. Enrollment in this advanced degree is open only to PAs who graduated with the PA certificate from ZHAW. There are seven students (six nurses and a physical therapist) in the first Master of PA Studies program.

Ms. Bonnard is in the process of developing a Bachelor's Degree in PA studies at ZHAW. This will be an entry-level program with plans to enroll the first students in 2024. The program will look similar to PA programs in the US, offering didactic education followed by clinical rotations.

The Swiss Medical Association is designing regulations for the practicing physician associate, creating a system of licensure, certification, and regulation. At this time, there is an understanding that the physician creates the scope of practice for PAs in their team.

As of 2023, there are currently 160 PAs working throughout Switzerland. They function in a wide variety of specialties including general, vascular, thoracic, and orthopedic surgery and family, rehabilitation, geriatric, and primary care medicine. More specialties are including PAs each year.

Glückwunsch (Congratulations) to the amazing trio of Ms. Anita Mansur Bonnard, Dr. Markus Wepf and Dr. Stefan Breitenstein for building the physician associate program from a seedling idea to reality and now to expansion. The future is bright for PAs in Switzerland. Now it's time to decide on a date for Swiss PA Day!

Passages:

Phoumy “Bobby” Bounkeua, PA-C

Marilyn H. Fitzgerald, Honorary PA



Phoumy “Bobby” Bounkeua, PA-C, passed away on March 30, 2023, from lymphoma in Seattle, Washington. He was a devoted son, brother, husband, father to three children, grandfather to two grandchildren, partner, friend, PA leader, and Lao and Thai

community advocate and interpreter. He demonstrated his unwavering dedication to the medical profession and his patients in his kindness, empathy, and selflessness. Phoumy had a way of making everyone feel heard, seen, and valued.

Born May 3, 1966, in Laos, he later immigrated to the United States as a child with his parents and sister. Phoumy’s passion for health care began when he witnessed the struggles of his parents to access quality healthcare in Laos and their new American home. He knew then that he wanted to make a difference in people’s lives.

Phoumy was the youngest student admitted to the University of Washington MEDEX Class 23. In 1991 after graduation, his first job was working for a solo semi-retired family practice physician, whose patients were mostly low income/recent immigrants

from Southeast Asia. In June 1992, he joined the US Department of Veterans Affairs/VA Puget Sound Healthcare System, Seattle, working in mental health and addiction until his departure in 2009.



Phoumy and his family immigrating in the 1970s from his native Laos to the United States of America

Throughout his career, Phoumy served the underserved, especially the Lao immigrant community, working at a medical clinic providing cultural and linguistic health services for Asian Pacific Islanders and others at International Community Health Services in Seattle.

Phoumy was a generous volunteer leader with the AAPA – the Committee on Diversity (1999-2001), the Nominating Committee (2003-2004), and the House of Delegates (1997-2009). He served on the Washington State Academy of PAs Board of Directors, president (2002-03). He was co-founder, president, and executive director of the Asian and Pacific Islanders PA Caucus of AAPA.

A lifelong learner, Phoumy made time for graduate education. He received a Master of Science degree in PA Practice in June 1996 from Finch University of Health Sciences, the Chicago Medical School. He received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Sciences in 2004 from the Medical University of the Americas – Nevis, West Indies. His dissertation was “Observation Report on the Health Care System in Lao People’s Democratic Republic: Developing a Primary Health Care Training Program in Lao PDR.”

Between 2003-2009 Phoumy was a medical volunteer and team leader/administrator with the Aloha Medical Mission to Laos. During 2005-2009, he was a founding member of Health Leadership International (HLI) and co-director of the Lao Healthcare Training for Rural Village Healthcare Providers Continuing Medical Education.

The goal of the program was to strengthen the manpower capacity of the Lao Ministry of Public Health in remote Lao villages and to address the training needs of village health workers. Phoumy used key elements of the PA model of training to develop a sustainable workforce of qualified health care professionals who are trained to provide clinical and surgical services to villagers in remote area of Laos.

(Passages: Phoumy Bounkeua, continued on page 9)

(Passages: Phoumy Bounkeua, continued from page 8)

For this work he received AAPA’s Humanitarian PA of the Year Paragon Award in 2010. In his award application, Phoumy explained that the Lao government “...granted a Five-Year Memo of Understanding between the Lao PDR government -



AAPA Paragon Award, 2010

Ministry of Health and HLI to conduct future health training programs for the Village healthcare workers. It was a highlight of my 10 years of hard work in Laos. I was very proud to have earned the privilege of signing the Memo of Understanding.” With this achievement, Phoumy had come full circle – leaving his native Laos for America in the early 1970s to return to Laos 40 years later to perform medical missions.

Granted a MEDEX Champion Award in 2019 during the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the University of Washington MEDEX, Phoumy’s “vitality, vision, and commitment have left MEDEX and the entire PA profession in a far better place.” Phoumy’s generosity, gentle spirit, and infectious smile will be missed.

(First PAHx Board Mtg, continued from page 5)

While meeting in Boston, the AAPA House of Delegates (HOD) adopted a resolution submitted by the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants (NCAPA) that “The American Academy of Physician Assistants endorses and supports the mission of the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History (SPPAHx)* and the PA History Project, and



Reg Carter, Ruth Ballweg and Bill Stanhope

encourages physician assistants and their representative organizations to contribute to and actively participate in efforts to preserve, study, and present our unique professional history through an illustrated, virtual history web site [sic] accessible to a diverse audience, and encourages AAPA constituent organizations to be ‘founding’ sponsors of the Society for the Preservation of Physician Assistant History (SPPAHx) and PA History Project.”

The AAPA provided the Society with a complimentary booth in the exhibit hall. Bill Stanhope, Ruth Ballweg, Jeff Heinrich, and Reg Carter set up and staffed the booth while Ron Nelson, Glen Combs and Dennis Blessing worked the crowd to get individuals to drop by, chat and get more information about the Society. By doing so, the Society registered 125 new members at the Boston Meeting. Those registering from 2002 to 2003 became [founding members](#) of the Society. Potential members and sponsors were encouraged to use the Society’s new website to download a membership registration form directly from the internet.

As the Society enters its third decade of operation, we would like to thank all those who believed in and supported the goals and mission of the Society by assuming leadership roles and becoming founding members and sponsors. Also, we want to thank the AAPA for its support in helping us reach its constituent members during the Boston 2002 annual meeting.

In 2011, the PA History Society became a supporting organization of the National Commission on Certification of PAs. We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to Dawn Morton-Rias and the NCCPA Board of Directors for their tremendous support during the past 12 years. The PAHx Board of Trustees and staff looks forward to a long partnership together.

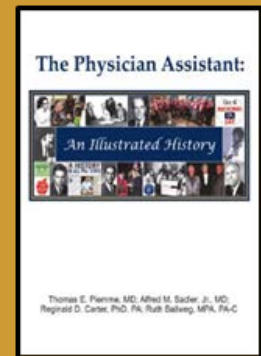
* The incorporated name of the PA History Society
Source: PA History Society Newsletter (Summer 2002) at [Summer-2002-Newsletter.pdf \(pahx.org\)](#)

This Year in PA History: From the PA History Society Timeline

10 Years Ago - 2013

Based on the hiring activities of more than 200 hospitals and group practices, the Medicus Firm, a physician placement company, ranks PAs as being one of the 10 most sought-after health care providers.

The PA History Society produces its first book about the history of the PA profession, *The Physician Assistant: An Illustrated History*.



20 Years Ago – 2003

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) expands the ability of PAs to have an ownership interest in a practice under the Medicare program.

30 Years Ago – 1993

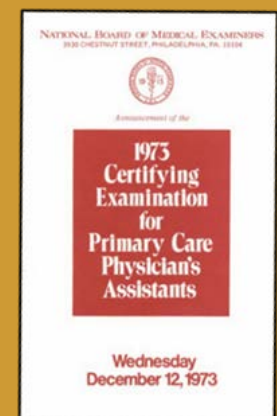
The first pilot test administration of NCCPA's Pathway II recertification examination is offered as an alternative to the proctored PANRE.

Advance for Physician Assistants is published to provide PAs with the latest in practice and clinical information.



40 Years Ago – 1983

NCCPA's Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) is redesigned to include three components: a general knowledge core, an extended core in either surgery or primary care and observational checklist clinical skills problems (CSPs).



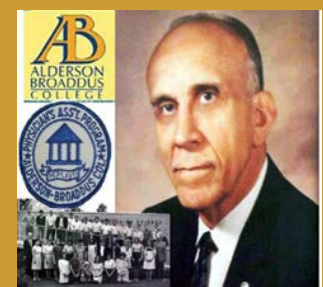
50 years Ago – 1973

The AAPA officially changes its name to the American Academy of Physician's Assistants accepting as members PAs, MEDEX, NPs and informally trained PAs. The First Annual Conference on New Health Practitioners is held at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, TX with 235 attendees including NPs.

The National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) administers the first Certifying Examination for Assistants to the Primary Care Physician to 880 candidates, 10% of whom are graduates of nurse practitioner programs.

60 years Ago – 1963

Hu Myers, MD, approaches the Alderson-Broadbudd College Board of Trustees in Philippi, WV, about starting a four-year degree-granting program to educate physician assistants similar to the degree granting nursing program that he had helped establish at the College in 1945. The Board turns him down for lack of funding.



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PA INSIGHTS WITH NCCPA



Learn more about the PA History Society's educational publication, PAs as Social Innovators in Healthcare, on the latest episode of PA Insights, NCCPA's podcast:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/pa-insights-with-nccpa/id1503068550>

There are three interesting and insightful features in this episode:

Segment 1: Two recipients of the nccPA Health Foundation's Kathy J. Pedersen Grant to Promote Equitable Care discuss their grant outreach projects, what the application process was like, and tips they have for future applicants. (1:01)

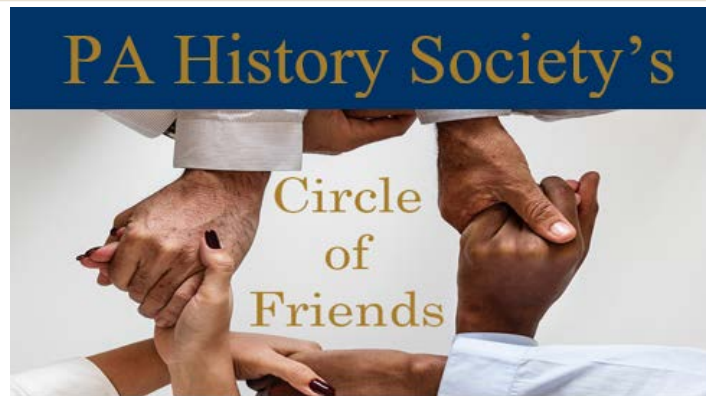
Segment 2: A Board-Certified PA practicing in pediatrics shares her story of how she's educating her patients on heart health not just in the exam room, but in a children's book. (23:24)

Segment 3: The PAHx Book Editor, Leslie Kole, PA-C, discusses the latest publication about the PA profession. (32:54)

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Support the work of the PA History Society so that we can continue to develop exceptional projects! Through the help of donations from our generous patrons we have been able to:

- Created **educational resources** for PA students, such as our Learning Modules for PA programs and a variety of PA history related books.
- Established the only **PA Veterans Garden** (located at the Stead Center).
- Produced the **PA History Traveling Banner Exhibition** with the National Library of Medicine.
- Develop **PA Historian Boot Camp** workshops.
- Update our interactive **website** to be more dynamic and user friendly to promote the PA profession to people around the globe.
- Add new and interesting stories in our **Biography & Oral History Interview depository**.
- Maintain the archives, assist researcher requests with PA history, and continue **to preserve, grow, and share our collections**.

To see more of the interesting projects that the Society has undertaken, please visit our **Project Timeline** on the Society’s website [by clicking here](#).

Become a Friend of the Society and help us to continue doing our important work of preserving and sharing the rich history of the PA profession and the contributions that PAs make! The Society offers these tax-deductible levels of giving:

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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 or retired.

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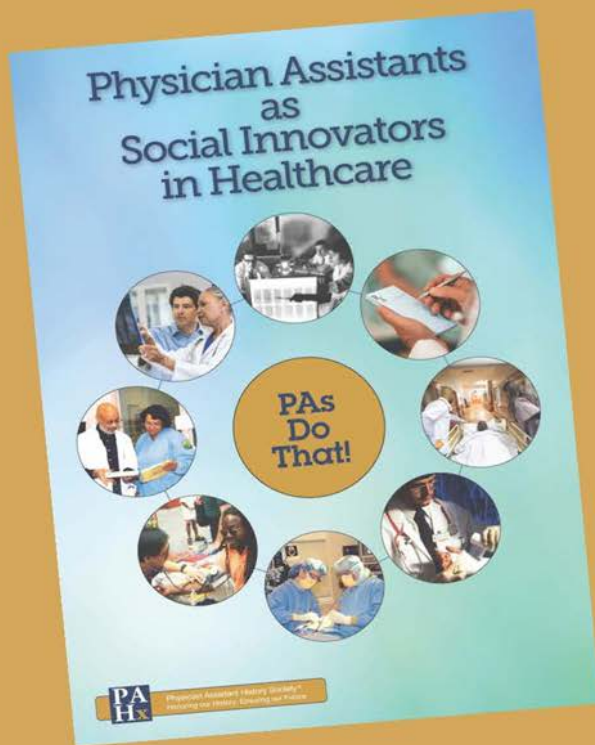
An annual donation of \$100 or more each year.



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The perfect educational resource for PA faculty, students, researchers, and legislators!

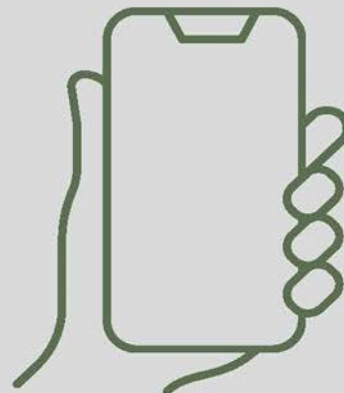


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