



# The Oslerian

## *A Message from the President*

By Clyde Partin, Jr.

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## A Brief Study of the AOS Presidential Addresses

The best laid schemes o' mice an' men  
Gang aft a-gley . . .

. . . from *To A Mouse* by Robert Burns

Knowing that I would need to send in an article after assuming the presidency, I carefully preserved my unpublished talk from the 2017 AOS meeting in Atlanta, for the *Oslerian Newsletter*. However, the editor, Michael Malloy, noted my 3000 word essay was 1500 words over budget. Rather than edit the marrow out of the paper, I decided to take the opportunity to immediately review the first forty-eight AOS Presidential Addresses. After experiencing Laurel Drevlow's stunning performance at her Presidential Address in Pittsburgh, I knew I had best start thinking about my topic. Removing the wrapping of the chocolate candy bar featuring Osler on one side and Dr. Drevlow on the reverse, I smoothed the wrapper and wrote on the back of it, "You have certainly raised the bar for presidential addresses" and presented the wrapper to her.

The first Presidential Address (PA) was in Denver in 1971. Although William Bean was President, the talk was not identified as a PA. *An Uncatalogued Paper Published by William Osler in 1902* was the first of only two papers delivered. In subsequent years, talks were characterized in the program as the Presidential Address, with the exception of 1976, when A. McGehee Harvey's oration, was heralded "Address", and titled *Sir William Osler and the Interurban Clinical Club*. The AOS meeting was combined that year with The Interurban Clinical Club. The introducer of the AOS president was also listed in the program for the first four years.

Of the forty-eight PAs, three have been by women, the first being Sandra Moss in 2013, followed in 2014 by Pam Miller. In 2018, Laurel Drevlow performed her PA in Carnegie Hall-like fashion. The titles of their presentations are not listed in the programs, although I know Laurel's to be *What is Your Opus?* There are five other years (1975, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2016) in which the title of the PA does not adorn the program. At least three PAs have been artistic performances, although many may argue any moment with



### President

Clyde Partin, Jr.

49<sup>th</sup> AOS President

installed at the 2018 meeting in Pittsburgh, PA.

### President's Message (Continued from page 1)

Claus Pierach at the lectern may be labelled a performance.

In 2001, Mark Silverman was in costume as Harvey Cushing, delivering a treatise on *De Motu Cordis*. Most of that costume is preserved in the custody of the Emory Health Sciences Library. Joe Lella, in 2009, dressed in the guise of William Osler, orated on *A Doctor's Religion*. As curtain time approached, Lella-as-Osler was nowhere to be found. His wife sent me on an expedition to locate him. Discovering him in the men's room, he was adjusting some recalcitrant piece of his costume. Some will recall that Lella, some years ago, had performed his one act play, *Willie – A Dream*, but that was not a PA.

Joe Lella, asked about recollections of his PA, replied: "This is a bit about how I came to write and become Willie in *Willie: A Dream*, then incorporate his persona into my Presidential Address. In 1983 or thereabouts I was treading the streets of Vancouver with an old friend and fellow student from grad school in Chapel Hill. Talking about our lives in academe, I said "I wish I could feel so engaged and so much as one with my academic work as I do when I'm on the stage doing theatre. He said "Why don't you join your academic work to your theatre?". That struck me like a thunderbolt as did the question I asked myself "why don't you do a one-man show as Osler?" On a lark I began writing "Willie: A Dream" on week-ends at our country place in rural Quebec. Nothing ever came more easily. I didn't tell anyone at McGill what I was doing as "they might think it frivolous." One thing led to another, a medical student friend who was bitten by the theatre bug said he'd play the dreaming student and help with lighting, etc. and we performed it in the Osler Library at McGill. It was an instant hit and I received all manner of kudos. I received a Hannah Grant to take it on the road, first to Ontario medical schools, and then was invited to other medical schools and venues throughout North America... ultimately to the AOS and then a video tape was produced with help from Hannah and the McGill Faculty of Medicine.

As President of the AOS, I found myself faced with the prospect of THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS. I couldn't do "*Willie: A Dream*" - many had seen it already. However, I had recently been involved in a friendly exchange with our deceased friend and colleague Michael Bliss. Michael's book and post-publication discussion downplayed the role of religion in Willie's life. Taking healthy exception to that in a symposium on Bliss's biography of Willie, I thought, "Why not *be Willie* and have him talk about "A Doctor's Religion?" i.e., his own and so it was done. I was a little late 'taking the stage'... stuck last minute in the "loo" doing some make-up fine-tuning. (I think you found me) but it turned out to be a hit beyond my wildest expectations. A standing O and...students

and residents... taking pictures of me (as Willie) with them afterwards. (Personal Communication. Joe Lella. 26 May 2018)

In recent years, the PA has traditionally been delivered on Monday evening as there has been a tendency to convene Sunday through Wednesday. On other occasions when the meeting started on another day of the week, the PA was frequently, but not invariably, given on the second evening. Thru the first fourteen meetings, twelve presidential orations were given in the evening. In 1974, John McGovern's PA was the last talk of the afternoon and A. McGehee Harvey, in 1976, presented his PA at two PM in the afternoon. The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, held in Durham, NC in 1985, was the first two-day meeting, a Tuesday and Wednesday. The PA was given on the first day. A year later in 1986, the second two-day meeting was held Friday and Saturday in San Francisco and the PA was delivered Saturday night. Overall, seven PAs have been given as part of the morning program, two in the afternoon, and the remainder (39) in the evening as part of a more formal dinner. There have been two five-day meetings, seventeen four-day meetings, six three-day meetings, nine two-day meetings, and fourteen one-day meetings. Of the twenty-five meetings lasting three days or longer, the PA has been given on day one just once, day 2 x 13, day 3 x 10 and day 4 once.

Frank Neelon, who gave the PA in Boston in 2008, felt it was better to utilize the evening opportunity so as to avoid using up an hour (and 3 talks) of presentation time, and "instead giving it as an after-dinner chat at the Banquet at the Harvard Club. There were no slides and I rambled on about my life in medicine, using that as an excuse to recite several poems. I believe I called the talk "A Lonely Impulse of Delight," and know I recited Yeats's poem amongst others. There is no written draft because it was off-the-cuff. I think I have the outline somewhere." (Personal Communication. Frank Neelon. Email 26 May 2018)

Categorizing the talks may be of interest. Twenty-one PA titles have "Osler" (17) or "Oslerian" (4) in the title. From the titles, two other PAs can be deemed to be Osler centric. (2009- *A Doctor's Religion*; 1992- *From the Bed to the Dead-House*). Wilburt C. Davison is the co-subject with Osler of two talks. In the first one, by John McGovern, 1974, *Wilburt C. Davison (1892-1972) - Apostle of the Osler Tradition* leads to a second equally ecclesi-



### President's Message (Continued from page 2)

astic title, by Billy Andrews in 1997, *Wilburt C. Davison: A Disciple of Osler*. Scrutiny of the remaining PA titles reveals an array of topics encompassing medical education, contemplation of the medical profession, Thomas Hodgkins, stained glass windows, and a hospital ship. At least twelve were seemingly biographical. Just from the title, it was not possible to pigeon-hole some of them. (1973- *I am A Debtor*; 1991- *Through the Magic Door*; 1998 - "...from the horn of Amalthea...") Since we have never required the AOS president to submit an abstract, one has to find creative ways to learn about these talks. Other than Frank Neelon's note that he took the opportunity to read some poetry, none of the PAs seemed to have poetry as part of the title or theme of the talk. The most moving PA I recall is notable for being highly personal. Joe VanderVeer was the living pure embodiment of *aequanimitas* as he recounted taking care of his own family in the emergency room following a car wreck. Cool under pressure, it does not get any more Oslerian than that.

#### Conclusion by haiku:

AOS meetings  
 Presidential Addresses  
 Evening preferred

#### CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS OF AOS PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES:

I am trying to catalog the AOS presidential addresses that were published and where. If you have any information regarding that please forward to me. In addition, the Osler Library would like a copy, for their archives, of any unpublished manuscript of your Presidential Address. Please contact me at [clyde.partin@emoryhealthcare.org](mailto:clyde.partin@emoryhealthcare.org). I am working with Osler Library officials about the best way to get the documents there.

Thanks  
 Clyde Partin

## TSA Tales of the Latchkey

TSA people  
 Seem suspicious of latchkey  
 Just doing their job .

The ball we play fetch with is the ball with which we are playing fetch. By that I mean if my dog Abbie and I start with tennis ball A, we stay with it. Should I pick up tennis ball B and try to fool her, she rejects it. There are standards to live by in the world of fetch between dog and master. And when I fall short of those standards, there is a canine look I get. This look is a hybrid expression of puzzlement and disappointment when the wrong ball is thrown, which she then refuses to retrieve. Having been advised by out-going AOS President Laurel Drevlow that the AOS Latchkey met with zealous scrutiny by TSA personnel upon her return from Atlanta last year, I was spring-loaded to monitor the fate of my carry-on luggage.

"No amount of explanation seemed to satisfy the TSA guy. He just did not get it. But he finally let me by," Laurel informed me.

Thus warned, I was not surprised

to see the TSA person suddenly display, as my bag came into his view, the same look I see from my dog when there has been a perturbation of protocol. A subtle and quizzical clouding of facial features - a this-just-ain't-right-you-got-to-be-kidding-me sort of look. The conveyor belt came to a halt. Seven seconds passed as I observed him observing the contents of my carry-on. Glad to know they are paying attention. Then he let it pass and restarted the belt. And that was it. Stay tuned to see what happens next year when I head to Montreal.

Please share with us your TSA Latchkey tales.



Clyde Partin, Jr.

## AOS Business Meeting Minutes Pittsburgh, PA May 16, 2018

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President Drevlow called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

A moment of silence was observed to honor those members who passed away in the past year: Michael Bliss, Shigeaki Hinohara and Bruce Innes.

The minutes of the 2017 meeting were approved.

Renee Ziemer provided the Secretary's Report on behalf of Doug Lanska. She reported that the minutes had been published in *The Oslerian* and she asked if there were any questions.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joan Richardson reported that 21 people have not paid dues for 2018. Three notices have been sent to those who have not paid but another attempt will be made after the meeting. The total income for 2017 was \$195,843; total expenses \$118,938; and total liquid assets \$753,483. The income from the meeting in Atlanta was \$4,900. A question was asked about what are the society's expenses. Joan indicated that about 50 percent is normal business expenses and money market advisory fees, 30 percent is for the annual meeting, and 20 percent is the administrator's salary. The costs associated with the managing of the Fidelity accounts will be taken out of Fidelity instead of the checking account.

Joan shared that the Board approved raising the dues from \$150 to \$200 in 2019. She thanked everyone who made a donation to the meetings in Atlanta and Pittsburgh. The donations significantly help to offset expenses and create an income from the annual meetings.

**Financial Committee Report:** Mario Molina reported that all is going well financially for the society and did not have anything else to add from Joan's thorough report.

Pam Miller introduced the new librarian at the Osler Library at McGill University. Mary Yearl was hired in 2017 and has experience with rare books and archives. Mary is excited for the opportunity to get to work with researchers from the society.

**The Oslerian Editor's Report:** Laurel thanked Mike Malloy for the work he has done on the newsletter this past year. Mike requested photographs from the meeting be sent to him to include in the upcoming newsletters. He thanked those who submitted articles and encouraged members to continue to submit articles in the future. It was noted that the newsletter can be shared by members with students at their institutions since it is in a digital form.

**Nominating Committee:** Joe VanderVeer presented the Nominating Committee Report. The Committee recommended the

following changes to the membership of the AOS Board of Governors for 2018-2019:

Rotating off the BOG: Herbert Swick (Past President, 2014-2015), Bryant Boutwell, John Ward, James Wright

Staying on: Clyde Partin (President), Mario Molina (First Vice President), Joan Richardson (Treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> term), Douglas Lanska (Secretary), Laurel Drevlow (2017-2018), Joseph VanderVeer (Past President 2016-2017), Paul Mueller (Past President 2015-2016), James Ballard (2019), Gordon Frierson (2019), Ronald MacKenzie (2019), Eric Matteson (2019), Vivian McAlister (2019), Barbara Thompson (2019), Michael Malloy (*ex officio*)

Recommendations for Board vacancies: Second Vice-President: Mike Jones, Members-at-large: Bill Evans, Gabby Frank, Pete Travers. The nominations were approved by the membership.

**Membership Committee Report:** Mario Molina reported that the Membership Committee would like to propose nine new members to the Society. Applications supported by the committee and Board were Jack Coulehan, Bruce Hoekstra, Susan Kelen, Alice Rhoton-Vlasak; honorary membership Eric Cassell; membership through Bean Award Tiffany Brocke, Christopher Magoon, Joshua Niforatos, and Brit Trogen. The membership voted to approve these individuals for membership. Mario encourage members to solicit new individuals for membership. New membership certificates were presented to Susan Kelen and Jack Coulehan who were in attendance.

**Program Committee:** Clyde Partin shared that 78 abstracts were received and 52 were presented at the meeting.

**Local Arrangements Committee:** Laurel thanked John Erlen for his work on the LAC indicating that the campus environs were both energizing and lovely. John recommended that the society look at hosting meetings in venues other than hotels, which tend to be very expensive.

**William B. Bean Student Research Award Committee Report:** Renee Ziemer reported on behalf of Jock Murray that Michael Stanley from Tufts University School of Medicine – Maine Track Program is the recipient of the 2018 William B. Bean Award. Richie Kahn and Chris Boes are his faculty sponsors. The committee reviewed 21 applications.

**Publications Committee Report:** Mike Jones reported that this committee deals with less printed publications than in the past and is focusing on digital materials. The online database on the AOS website is a searchable database that includes the presentations from past meetings, the newsletters, and other articles of interest to the society. Pete Travers developed a database for tracking copyrights and permission forms.

**President's Report:** Laurel has been in communication with a physician from Johns Hopkins regarding a meeting scheduled in

September 2019 that is a Stethoscope Symposium with the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh that members may be interested in attending. There will be information about this meeting in an upcoming newsletter. She has also corresponded with this physician regarding collaborating with the AOS on teaching initiatives with more information forthcoming.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Rick Fraser announced that next year’s meeting will be in Montreal from May 12-15. There will be special events and projects honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Osler’s death. One project is having individuals donate a book that influenced your life for students to be able to read. A bookplate would be placed in the donated book listing the person who donated it and the reason they recommended the book.

The meeting in 2020 will be held in Pasadena, California.

It was recommended by a member to try and avoid Mother’s Day for the annual meeting in the future.

Laurel thanked Dr. Ober for his “plumb” historical McGovern Lecture, the outgoing members of the Board of Governors and the outgoing committee chairs and members for their service. Laurel introduced Clyde Partin as the new president and Clyde thanked Laurel for her services as president and her stunning presentation Monday evening. Clyde presented a plaque to Laurel.

Clyde thanked John Erlen again for a superb meeting and joined Laurel in expressing deep thanks to Renee for her tremendous role in organizing another great meeting.

Clyde called for adjournment of the meeting at 8:12 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Renee Ziemer  
AOS Acting Secretary*

**Future meeting dates:**  
May 12-15, 2019 – Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
2020 – Pasadena, California

## American Osler Society Committee Membership 2018-2019

COMMITTEE	CURRENT CHAIR	CURRENT MEMBERS	NEW CHAIR	ROTATES OFF	NEW MEMBERS
Bean Award	J. Murray	S.Podolsky, B.Thompson, J.Wright	J. Wright	J.Murray	J.Harris
McGovern Award*	J.VanderVeer	P. Mueller, H. Swick	L.Drevlow	H.Swick	None
Lifetime Achievement Award	C.Pierach	J.Barondess, B.Fye, S. Moss,	No Change	S.Moss	B.Mennel
Nominating*	J.VanderVeer	P. Mueller, H. Swick	L.Drevlow	H.Swick	None
Finance	M. Molina	B. Cooper, M. Stone	No Change	None	None
Membership#	M.Molina	C.Boes, W.Evans, M.Jones	M. Jones	M.Molina	C.Fulkerson
Publications	M. Jones	W. Roberts, J. Greene, M. Malloy, H. Travers	No Change	W.Roberts, J.Greene	None
Annual Meeting† – Program Committee	C.Partin	T.Frank, J.Harris, M.Molina, B.Silverman, J.Wright	M.Molina	T.Frank, J.Harris, C.Partin, B.Silverman, J.Wright	M.Jones, E.Matteson, G.Frank, M.Trotter
Annual Meeting – Local Arrangements Committee	J.Erlen	G.Duker, K.Bettermann, D.Lanska (ExCmtLiason)	Rick Fraser	G.Duker, K.Bettermann, D.Lanska	P.Miller, R.DelMaestro

OSLERIANS NEWS

# AOS Pittsburgh Meeting Review

The Pittsburgh meeting kicked off under somewhat cloudy skies, but there was still plenty of sunshine and mild temperatures to make for a pleasant stay.

The highlight of the Sunday arrival day was certainly to be found in the Frank



Neelon Literary Gathering. Sylvia Pamboukian and Robin Maier provided interesting insights into the writings of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the skullduggery intertwined into the adventures of Sherlock Holmes. This was followed by a review of a number of poems written by one of the AOS new members, Jack Coulehan. Jack is a well published poet with a number of collections to his name. Frank Neelon then offered a review from a JAMA Piece of My Mind essay, *The View from Fiesole* (JAMA 2013;310:147-148) prompting a discussion of the importance of what it takes to preserve the soul of a physician. The session closed with the presentation of several original offerings of the audience.



The first day of presentations began with a musical offering from a University of Pittsburgh choral group of the Star-Spangled Banner followed by beautiful hymn. The morning talks

ranged from “Literary Moments” that included reviews of writings from Kipling to Osler. The morning session ended with the John P. McGovern Award Lectureship given by Patrick Ober on *A Cautionary History from the Age of Sewer Gas*. Thus, properly prepared, we were off to lunch.

The afternoon began with a review of methods for Keeping Green the Memory of Osler using methods to inform, in particular, medical students about the virtues of Oslerian medicine. We were then treated to a presentation by Tiffany Brocke, a Bean Student Research Award Recipient, on *The Influence of the Johns Hopkins Hospital on Abortion Access in Baltimore, 1945-1973*. Although the time period of her research may have stretched back 45 year, the issues are quite as relevant today as then. The later afternoon session covered surgeons with particular emphasis on Harvey Cushing. Despite the stimulating talks, it is still difficult to maintain a laser-like focus so late in the afternoon, so we adjourned for naps and preparation for dinner.



Dinner was at the University Club and we were thoroughly entertained by our AOS Presidential Address from Laurel Drevlow. Presenting her subject of “What Will Be Your Opus” she worked her way through an number vocal and piano excerpts from a number of great composers. And at the conclusion of her presentation, she had the entire audience singing along. Clyde will have a hard time following this performance for his Presidential Address next year.



Tuesday morning got off to a fast start with a review of Ancient and Pre-Oslerian Medicine. The early session ended with another Bean Award Presentation from Christopher Magoon on *Medical Team 19 and the Limits of Medical Humanitarianism at the Dawn of the Cold War*. This was a very interesting review of the short-lived efforts of a U.S. team of Quaker-organized pacifist medical aid workers who attempted to provide nonpartisan care to both the war-

OSLERIANS NEWS

ring Communist and Nationalist forces until forced to withdraw. The later morning session covered issues of Osler as a Practitioner and A Bit About Pharmaceuticals. Nelson Holmes a second year medical student at UTMB presented a review of the *History of Pharmaceutical Advertising in America*, bringing up the question of what to do about the dilemma of direct-to-consumer advertising.

We then broke for lunch and resumed with a Smorgasbord & Some Bite. The early afternoon session began with a review of the life of



Christiann Barnard by David Cooper and ended with a note on Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dentist*. The later afternoon session included offerings on various women's contributions to healthcare from Florence Sabin to Marie Elizabeth Zakrzewska and Mary Elizabeth Garrett.

That evening we were treated to an organ concert at the visually and acoustically spectacular Heinz Chapel.

Looking more like a cathedral than a chapel this edifice was built from 1933 to 1938. The neo-Gothic design is highlighted by highly vaulted ceilings and extensive use of stained glass. With a 100 foot high ceiling in the nave and a

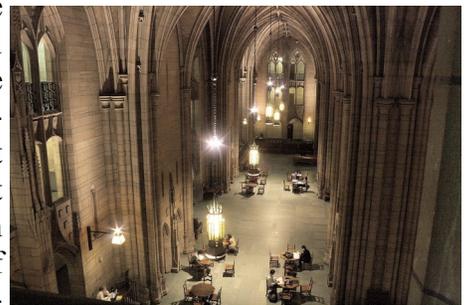


256 foot steeple it is a massive structure. Unusual is the fact that all the windows (23) were designed and created by one studio. Subjects of the windows range from historic ancient figures, both biblical and secular to early 19th and 20th century personalities. Seventy-three foot transept windows, some of the tallest

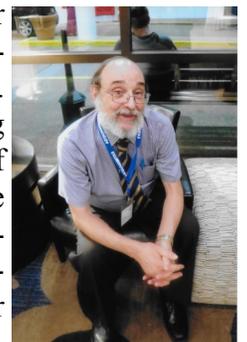
stained glass windows in the world adorn both sides of the nave. Finally the original Skinner organ was updated by the Reuter Instrument Co. in 1995 and now offers 4,272 pipes (73 ranks), 82 stops, and a 3 manual console. The organ fills the acoustically perfected chapel which contains ceramic acoustical tile in the ceilings with a marvelous full and brilliant sound. It was a magnificent concert and venue.

Dinner was then offered in the William Pitt Union Ballroom with a healthy dose of barbecued chicken, cornbread, and salads. We were then treated to another tour of one of the magnificent structures on the campus, the Cathedral of Learning. This Gothic Revival building was started in 1926 and completed in

1934 and is the tallest educational building in the Western Hemisphere (535 feet and 42 stories). It contains more than 2,000 rooms, 30 of which are Nationality Rooms that were funded and designed by various ethnic groups that that were common to the Pittsburgh area. We had an opportunity to visit a number of these rooms which are functioning class rooms during the day. Also of note is the common study area on the first floor which cannot help but be conducive to study. It was quite a grand tour.



Wednesday began with our AOS Business meeting and the introduction of our new members. Topics for the remaining morning session ran from the Hellenism of William Osler to the Poetry of the Healer. We concluded with resounding applause for the local organizing committee, particular thanks going to Jon Erlen.



Although the meeting ended at noon, some of us stuck around for the afternoon ballgame (Pirates won over the White Sox 3-2).



By Michael Malloy  
Pictures from Pete Travers,  
Charley Bryan, and Jon Erlen

## OSLERIAN NEWS

*(Continued on page 11)*

## AOS Welcomes New Members In Pittsburgh

**Jack Coulehan:** Jack is Emeritus Professor of Medicine and former director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care, and Bioethics at Stony Brook University. His articles and book chapters range in topic from clinical trials of depression treatment in primary care and studies of heart disease among Navajo Indians to essays



on medical humanities, the physician-patient relationship, and poetry in medicine. Jack has published six collections of poetry, most recently *The Wound Dresser* (2016); an award-winning textbook, *The Medical Interview: Mastering Skills for Clinical Practice*; *Chekhov's Doctors*, a collection of Chekhov's medical tales; and coedited two anthologies of poems by physicians, *Blood & Bone* and *Primary Care*. Among Jack's honors are an NEH Fellowship in Medical Humanities, Tony Brook's Aesculapius Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Humanities Award of the AAHPM, and the Nicholas Davies Award of the ACP for lifetime contributions to humanism in medicine.

**Bruce Hoekstra:** Bruce grew up in New Jersey and completed an undergraduate degree in English literature at Rutgers. He is a former member of the Texas A&M Family Medicine group and the Medical Humanities. He now resides in Maine and is a Staff Physician at Pen Bay Dermatology in Rockport. He is an avid bibliophile with particular interest in Sir Thomas Browne's *Religio Medici*. He has rendered the *Religio* into 21<sup>st</sup> century English with explanatory footnotes for historical and theological references.



**Susan Kelen:** Susan is a clinical psychologist in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada with close ties to the Oslerian

legend. Her grandfather was W.W. Francis, the first Osler librarian. Susan has remembrances of her grandfather and memorabilia from him that belonged to Osler. She grew up surrounded by the Osler legend and has continued to research the many keepsakes that she has inherited.



She has written a number of articles based on this memorabilia and hopes to continue to share her historical remembrances with the members of the American Osler Society.

**Alice Rhoton-Vlasak:** Alice grew up in Gainesville, FL. She attended Wake Forest

University on a tennis scholarship. She completed medical school at the University of Florida. OB/GYN residency was completed at the University of Florida, followed by a Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility fellowship at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. It was like going home, as her family moved to



Gainesville from Rochester in 1972. Alice has been on the faculty at the University of Florida OB/GYN department since 1998. She is actively involved in medical student and resident education, clinical duties, and some research. The best part of daily life is helping to mentor young colleagues and students. My area of special interest is Oncofertility, or Fertility preservation in cancer patients. I am married and have 2 wonderful children. I love to garden, bake cakes, exercise, and now read historical medical books.

## Meet the Bean Award and Del Maestro Award Winners

**Tiffany Brocke (Bean Award):** Tiffany is a rising third year medical student at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She grew up in rural Michigan and studied biochemistry and Latin at the University of Michigan. Her research interests include the history of physician power and the history of female health

## OSLERIAN NEWS &amp; MEDICAL HUMANITIES

care. She is passionate about understanding how social determinants of health influence equity in health care access and outcomes. In her free time, she enjoys weightlifting, cooking and knitting. Her presentation was: The Influence of Johns Hopkins Hospital on Abortion Access, 1945-1973.



## POETRY CORNER



## Second Opinion

“Genitalia unremarkable”  
- from a patient note

Our neighborhood is seamless  
Kids wander in and out of homes  
Like a pack of canines.

Sometimes I do a home invasion  
Looking for chocolate chip cookie dough  
Or the latest *New York Times*.

These same neighbors who  
Occasionally discover me in their kitchens  
I discover in my exam rooms  
Seeking a yearly check-up.

Everything looks good I say  
See you in the morning for a bike ride  
Don't forget the neighborhood dinner party  
Tomorrow night.

And there in the intimate  
Confines of wine, friends,  
The warmth of a remarkable fireplace  
In an abiding room  
A bosom of neighborly contentment.

My examined neighbor  
Reads for the assembled guests  
From his medical record  
Just one line, two words

*Genitalia unremarkable.*

His wife sits upright  
Her back stiffens  
Posture erect

I beg to differ  
She opines.

By Clyde Partin

**Christopher Magoon (Bean Award):** Christopher Magoon is a fourth-year medical student at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, currently on a research year out studying Public Health and Mandarin on a Fulbright grant in China. In addition to his medical studies, he is passionate about writing, history, and China studies. He graduated with a History degree from Yale College and worked in rural China for an educational non-profit organization and as a freelance writer before starting medical school. He hopes to incorporate writing, both for the popular and scientific press, into his career. He will apply for residency programs in psychiatry next year. He welcomes your comments and contact through his website at [www.christophermagoon.com](http://www.christophermagoon.com) or on Twitter at @c\_magoon.



**Clare Fogarty (Del Maestro Award):** Clare Fogarty is a first year medical student at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Prior to her medical studies, she pursued an Honours Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Immunology with a minor in the History and Philosophy of Science at McGill. Clare focused her minor on the History of Medicine, with a particular interest in medical history and ethics pertaining to minorities and vulnerable populations. Under the supervision of Dr. David Wright in the Department of History, Clare received first place in the McGill Osler Society Pam and Rolando Del Maestro Essay Contest and presented her work at McGill Osler Day 2017. She hopes to continue applying her interest in the social studies of medicine through a future career in public health.



## OPINION

## Legacies & Journeys

Articles expressing opinions on contemporary issues related to the medical humanities, ethics, and practice of medicine will be presented in this section.

The American Osler Society (AOS) lost two major contributors to the Oslerian cause last year. Michael Bliss and Shigeaki Hinohara both left legacies of great leadership and scholarship. Laurel Drevlow our retiring President in her Pittsburgh address to the AOS posed the question of what would be our legacies? What would be our “opus” that we leave behind? She demonstrated this beautifully with music utilizing the works of some of the great composers. She suggested that although our “opus” may not be a great work of music or scholarship that perhaps our opus could be a “life of serving others.” “Teaching can be a legacy”, she noted, we could be “artisans for the common good.”

In an address to the incoming medical school class of 2021 this past Fall, I strove to do as Laurel suggested; supporting, teaching and mentoring these young physicians-to-be. I offered the students the following advice: “Most of you are at an age of rapid personal growth and change that is occurring at the same time you are being subjected to the ordeal of medical school and being inundated with information that the process of medical education involves. You will be learning about what makes other humans as well as yourself work. It is a stressful ordeal. But remember, you are not alone. Although it may be small consolation to know that the person sitting next to you in class or at your dinner table tonight is probably equally stressed, take heart in knowing that you can get through this. You were chosen because you are good at learning, because you are a good and decent person, because you are the cream of the crop of young people. We selected you, because we thought you would succeed and we, the faculty, staff, nurses and other health care professionals, are here to help you get through this. I was lucky during my medical school career to find a couple of mentors who helped me through this period of self-discovery. Reach out and take advantage of the help that is all around you. As a disciple of William Osler, I would recommend you do as he did in using the humanities literature to help you find direction and to reassure yourself that you are not the first human to feel alone and lost. Osler had a reading list he called his “Bedside Library for Medical Students”. It included the Bible, Shakespeare, Montaigne, Plutarch’s Lives, Marcus Aurelius,

Epictetus, Religio Medici, Don Quixote, Emerson, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Perhaps a dated list by today’s standard, but a list that contains much wisdom and helps one understand that our thoughts are not so unique, that we are one of many who have experienced similar emotions and situations.

As physicians-to-be you are building on the works of all those who preceded you. I encourage you to read about the history of medicine, to read and understand the traditions from which your profession sprang. Maintain your identity as physicians. Although you will be considered to be a health care provider among others within a health care system, remember that your origins suggest that you are a natural philosopher of the art of healing. It is a unique calling with responsibilities and ethical standards that exceed those of health care systems. **You are my legacy.** I am confident that there is life after death, because I already see it in your presence and your success. My time is waning, but I am assured that I leave medicine in the hands of people who will continue to build on the legacy of those who came before you. You may not be perfect, you will make mistakes, but you are the best that humanity has to offer and as such you have a responsibility to do the best that you can do. Good luck and may whatever you hold sacred or divine speed you on your way.”

As I have remarked to students in the past, The Journey of a Physician is a long and arduous task. First is to learn.

To learn is to explore,  
To explore is to go into the unknown.

Then is to cure.  
To cure is to right a wrong,  
To right a wrong is to make peace.

Then is to heal.  
To heal is to make whole,  
To make whole is to unify.

To become a physician,  
Is to learn to practice the art of curing and healing.

To practice the art of curing and healing,  
Is to go into the unknown, making peace, and unifying.

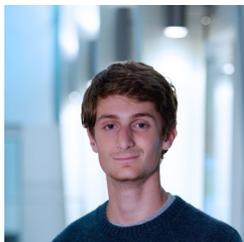
Thus we go,  
“To cure sometimes, to help often, to comfort always.”

By Michael H. Malloy

## LETTERS - OBITUARIES - NOTICES

**Del Maestro Award Winners and Presenters from Pittsburgh (continued)**

**Andre Lametti (Del Maestro Award):** André Lametti is a medical student at McGill University, Montréal. Before medicine, he completed collegiate studies in Arts and Science at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, Montréal. His interests include ancient languages in medical teaching, as well as the Western Latin tradition, from ancient epigraphy to contemporary New Latin. His essay, *Ars uero longa: Teaching Hippocrates in Medieval Italy*, written under the supervision of Prof. Faith Wallis of the department of History and Classical Studies of McGill University, was awarded joint first prize in the Pam and Rolando Del Maestro William Osler Essay Contest at McGill's Osler Library in November of 2017.

**Notices - News Flashes**

**Charles Bryan, Joseph Fins, and Kenneth Ludmerer** were among 25 U.S. internists elected to fellowship in the Royal College of Physicians, London.

**Pam Miller** received the AOS Lifetime Achievement Award at the AOS meeting in Pittsburgh. Here is Pam's own statement about her Lifetime Achievements:

"I don't think that my career has been luminous, but it has been enormously fun and stimulating. My parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles have been wonderful examples of achievements in many fields. But there was never overt pressure to "succeed". One just hoped not to disappoint anyone. As children, we were included in adult conversations and events and grew up feeling that what our parents were doing (mostly academic, law or medical) was enormously important and that they loved what they did.

I was born and brought up in Montreal, where I still live. I benefited from excellent educational opportunities (McGill University, University College,



London) and study and work abroad. Learning to be fluent in French was a priority. Playing an instrument (bassoon) and enjoying music has been a life-long preoccupation. As an archivist at the Hudson's Bay Co., London, Curator of Archival Collections at the McCord Museum of Canadian History, Montreal and as History of Medicine Librarian, Osler Library, I have spent my time reviving and opening up collections through archival descriptions, exhibitions and publications. I hope that I have helped researchers in many areas and I have certainly learned extensively from their work. Of course, working with AOS members has been an education in itself.

I have been so fortunate in my personal life, married to an extraordinary man, Carman Miller, Professor of Canadian History, McGill University and we have 3 children and 5 grandchildren who are continuing to educate us, through their varied and demanding careers. (and none lives more than 2 hrs. away from us!)

**Obviously a bit too modest of a description—  
Congratulations, Pam!**



**The Brothers Regiii (Pierach and Bryan)  
displaying their tuxedos at the Banquet**

## AMERICAN OSLER SOCIETY

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*The AMERICAN OSLER SOCIETY exists to bring together members of the medical and allied professions, who by common inspiration are dedicated to memorialize and perpetuate the just and charitable life, the intellectual resourcefulness, and the ethical example of Sir William Osler, who lived from 1849 to 1919. Its OSLERIAN is published quarterly.*

We're on the Web!

√ us out at: [www.americanosler.org](http://www.americanosler.org)

## Looking Back at Pittsburgh



*Looking back at Pittsburgh brings memories of Sherlock Holmes and poetry at the Frank Neelon Literary Gathering; inspiring talks by members, guests, and students; an elegant setting in the midst of the Cathedral of Learning and the Heinz Chapel; a musical Presidential oration; a few showers, pleasant temperatures, and the comradery inherent in our wonderful gathering.*

## Looking Ahead to Montreal



The 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Society – marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of William Osler's death – will be held in Montreal, Quebec from May 12 to 15, 2019. We anticipate a significant level of interest in this meeting and enthusiastically await your arrival. In addition to our usual stimulating papers, there will be special visits to the Osler Library as well as events related to the man and medicine in Montreal in the 1800 and 1900s. Members of the extended Osler family are hoping to attend. The weather here is usually perfect at this time of year and the exchange rate means everything you buy is at a discount! Save the date now!

### Call for Abstracts for 2018 Annual Meeting in Montreal, May 12-15, 2019

Abstracts should be sent by e-mail to: [aosrenee@gmail.com](mailto:aosrenee@gmail.com) and must be **received** by 15 November 2018. Abstracts submitted by e-mail will be acknowledged. Detailed submission guidelines will appear in the August *Oslerian*.



**AOS Members** — Please forward to the editor information worth sharing with one another as well as "Opinions and Letters". - MHM