



The JOURNAL of Phi Rho Sigma

Volume 110

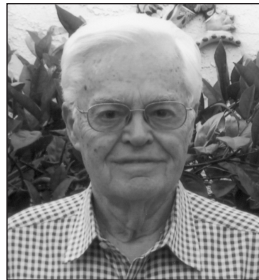
Winter 2015

Ramblings From a Very Senior Member of Phi Rho Sigma

Don Morehead is an elder statesman of Phi Rho Sigma. He was initiated into Alpha Chapter at Northwestern University in 1950 and has been an active member ever since. Dr. Morehead is a recipient of the Jesse Ansley Griffin Medal which is given for outstanding service to Phi Rho Sigma.

In honor of the Phi Rho's 125th anniversary we asked Dr. Morehead to jot down a few of his memories or his "Ramblings" as he calls them ...here are his favorite Phi Rho memories...

"I joined Alpha Chapter in 1950 because I was impressed with the strong leadership of the Chapter and also by its Councilor, Howard B. Carroll. Dr. Carroll had arranged for the chapter to be housed in a four story building in the same block as the Palmolive Building in Chicago. It was a six block walk to Northwestern University's Medical School. Across the street from the chapter house was the Passavant Hospital School of Nursing dormitory so the location turned out to be a great one and there were many weekend parties. We had a cook named Neal who provided our breakfasts and evening meals. Unfortunately, he died during my freshman year and many of the chapter members attended his funeral on the south side of Chicago.



Don E. Morehead

The Chapter officers did not realize that in Chicago it was necessary to tip the building inspectors, so within several years the building had many deficiencies. The taxes doubled so it became necessary to sell the building. We were then housed on the 4th floor of Abbott Hall, which was a Northwestern dormitory, where we had our own lounge and library.

I served as Councilor for Alpha Chapter for several years after I graduated until Paul Urnes took over that position. Dr. Urnes served as Councilor for many, many years.

I joined the Grand Chapter Board in the 1960's. Bill Ruhe was the National Secretary at that time and he became a great friend as well as a leading force to maintain and strengthen our fraternity. Others on the Grand Chapter at that time were Paul McLain from Pitt (our Student Research Award is named after him), Jack Huber from Temple, Tom Petty from Colorado, Meng Tan from Halifax and later on Steve Beering, Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine and Councilor to Pi Chapter.

I was Secretary-Treasurer of the Grand Chapter from 1963 to 1982 and was succeeded by Marty Wice who served for many years.

During the 70's the financial gurus of the Grand Chapter started investing in mutual funds, and thus our money grew into a sizeable Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund helped us to get through the bad times that started in the 70's with the anti-establishment attitude at many universities. Certainly we lost many of our chapters, but the chapters that had houses seemed to survive. Alan Adler of Pi Chapter managed the Endowment Fund for many years and is still involved with the Phi Rho Sigma Foundation which evolved from former Endowment Fund.

The Grand Chapter office was in Pittsburgh and it had three secretary's from the early 50's until the office was moved to Indianapolis in the early 90's. The move of the Central Office was excellent from a financial point and we hired a very efficient administrator that has kept us out of trouble all these years. She now maintains all communications with the chapters and alumni including the Journal of Phi Rho Sigma.

As the Grand Chapter Secretary I had the pleasure of visiting most of our chapters and enjoyed a wonderful experience meeting many of the medical school leaders throughout the United States and Canada. I particularly remember the houses and hospitality I received at Zeta, Iota and Alpha Iota.

I served as President of the Grand Chapter from 1984 to 1990. In the next few years my commitments in Ottawa precluded me from attending many of the Grand Chapter meetings.

As I look back over 50 years with Phi Rho Sigma the three important things that we accomplished were to encourage each Chapter to become involved with Community Service, allowing women to become members and electing four student members to the Grand Chapter Council.

Greetings to all of the Alumni."

Don E. Morehead

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NEWS FROM ALUMNI

Now retired from the University of Kansas Medical School where he was a Professor of Pediatrics, **Antoni M. Diehl**, Theta Tau, has made over forty medical mission trips. He has been to Haiti five times and visited the Dominican Republic thirty-five times. On his trips he provides medical care for sugar-cane cutters and their families.

The Munaco family of Farmington Hills, MI are all members of Zeta chapter at the University of Michigan. Dad **Anthony** and Mom **Nancy Hurchik-Munaco** are Family Physicians while son **Anthony, Jr.** is still in fellowship training.

Erik Jansson, Mu, lives in Arcadia, CA where he has practiced ophthalmology for thirty-three years. Along the way he has enjoyed politics and served in various capacities for the Humboldt County Medical Society, the California Medical Society and the Hospital Medical Staff. Random circumstances opened the door for him to be involved in two Hollywood movies, "The Lost Woods" and the "The Majestic" as a "Background Artist". He also owns and operates five local fitness centers.

Living in Merrillville, IN is **Dr. William Forgery**, Pi, where he is Chair of the Department of Family Practice at S. Mary Medical Center in Hobart, IN. He is a consultant for many outdoor programs, camps, and expeditions. He provides travel and international medical consultation for patients and organizations world-wide. He also consults on legal cases concerning outdoor injury and death and has provided expert witness for both plaintiff and defendants. In addition he is currently the Medical Director of Correctional Health, Inc. which provides health services for inmates at the 1050 bed Lake County Indiana Jail. Dr. Forgery is the Advisor for the nonprofit Medical Student Missions, Inc. and has lead medical service projects in Jamaica and Haiti.

Congratulations to **Worthe Holt**, Pi, as he was promoted to Major General and Special Assistant to the US Africa Command. He also is VP, Office of the Chief Medical Officer at Humana. Worthe presently serves as Chair of the Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society Advisory Committee and has received the Griffin Medal for his service to the society.

Robert E. Morris, Alpha Lambda, joined the faculty of U.C.L.A. in 1986. He was the Health Care Director for the Juvenile Justice, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from 2005-2009. He also served as Co-Director of the U.C.L.A. Adolescent Medicine training program until 2011. Dr. Morris is now a Professor Emeritus but continues to teach. He resides in Pasadena, CA.

Chief of Urology and Professor of Surgery at Beth Israel Deacones Medical Center at the Harvard Medical School for over twenty five years is **William DeWolf**, Alpha. He loves his life of innovation and discovery.

Michael Simon, Alpha Eta, is a family physicians in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. He is a Past President of the Saint John Medical Society and the section for General Practitioners of New Brunswick. Each week he participates in a weekly radio and has a keen interest in sports medicine.

A retired ophthalmologist in Omaha, NE is **Stanley Truhlsen**. When he was in active practice, Dr. Truhlsen served as President of the American Ophthalmological Society, President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, President of the American Eye Study Club, and President of the Omaha Medical Society.

The new Chair of the American Academy of Family Physicians Commission on Quality and Practice is **Elisabeth Righter**, Alpha Upsilon. Currently Dr. Righter serves as National President of Phi Rho Sigma. She is a Past President of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians and lives in Dayton, OH.

Harry F.L. Pollett, Alpha Eta, is Medical Director of Northside General Hospital in North Sydney, N.S., Canada. He specializes in Pain Management and has spoken all over the world on that subject. He plans to retire in July 2015 and looks forward to a retirement full of family, sailing, skiing and golf.

Chief Medical Officer of the Washington State Department of Corrections is **George Steven Hammond**, Alpha Nu. He is also a Clinical Instructor in Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine. In 2014 he was given a Governor's Leadership in Management Award for Washington State.

An Alpha Omicron member is **Hubert Gordon Green** who resides in Dallas. He has served in the U.S. Public Health System and been on the faculties of medical schools in Arkansas and Texas. For sixteen years he was Dean at UT Southwestern School of Health Professions. His other interests include popular culture such as comic books, radio of the 1940's-50' and "B-westerns". He also read the "Sunday Funnies" on the radio. He and his wife love international adventure travel.

Coming back full circle to the reason she went into medicine in the first place and her first love is **Bernadette Arnecke**, Alpha Nu. A primary care internist in Phoenix she has worked at various roles in medicine...office based primary care, hospitals, quality and utilization management and hospice. She felt honored to receive fellowship status in the American College of Physicians.

George Bohigan, Chi Eta, is Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at Washington University School of Medicine and maintains a private practice in Des Peres and Arnold, MO. He has been involved in many medical missions out of the country, including Uganda, Central America, Armenia, and the Philippines, and works with both the Armenian Eye Care Project and the Orbis International Flying Eye Hospital. In his volunteer work with the Flying Eye Hospital, he flies to hospitals in third world countries and teaches doctors how to treat patients with eye problems.

REFLECTIONS

by Joseph R. Wheeler, Iota

February 10, 2014

This is day three working at the hospital, it has been intense. I knew I was excited for my time working at the hospital, but I had no idea how much the staff would enjoy having me as a student. The residents and physicians seem to really enjoy using me to practice speaking English and are great about translating when necessary. They, thankfully, have also been very patient while I try to speak Mandarin and are teaching me a few words and phrases so I survive my trip. During this rotation I am working in the CCU and it is already at capacity. There is only a total of 6 rooms on the unit, but each room holds anywhere from 3-9 patients. I can't say that I know anywhere enough mandarin to really make any major contributions, yet I help where I can and I feel like I'm taking some of the load off the residents. The attending physicians are also taking the time to involve me in rounds by asking me a few questions; making me feel as though I am part of the team. All in all, I am excited to see how the rest of the rotation goes.

February 14, 2014

It's Valentine's Day and I'm in CHINA! I honestly didn't know what to expect when it came to celebrating the day of love in this part of the world. According to Serena, a resident at the hospital, it is a devel-



oping holiday that really has only caught on within the last 5-10 years. So as I walked through the shopping area, I was a little surprised to see how many people were selling flowers and chocolates. Yet, make no mistake, the priority of the day was without a doubt the Lantern Festival, a day celebrating the closing of Spring Festival. It was just by chance that both of these holidays happened to fall on the same day. I must say I feel quite blessed to have been invited to Serena's house to celebrate the holiday with her and

her husband. It was an incredible time filled with traditional Chinese tea, a homemade "hot pot" dinner and an amazing dessert treat. However, my favorite activity of the night was Serena and her husband teaching Caleb and I how to make dumplings. My dumplings were at least edible, but theirs were phenomenal.

In walking through the shopping markets, there were a ton of lanterns hung literally everywhere. The displays were impressive in size, while remaining very detailed and many even told a story. What really blew my mind was the crowds out to look at the lanterns; they were unlike anything I have ever seen in Omaha. It was impossible to step to the left or to the right

GRAND CHAPTER MEDALISTS - 2015

Phi Rho Sigma is now calling for nominations for the Society's gold medals which are to be presented at our June 2015 meeting in Tampa.

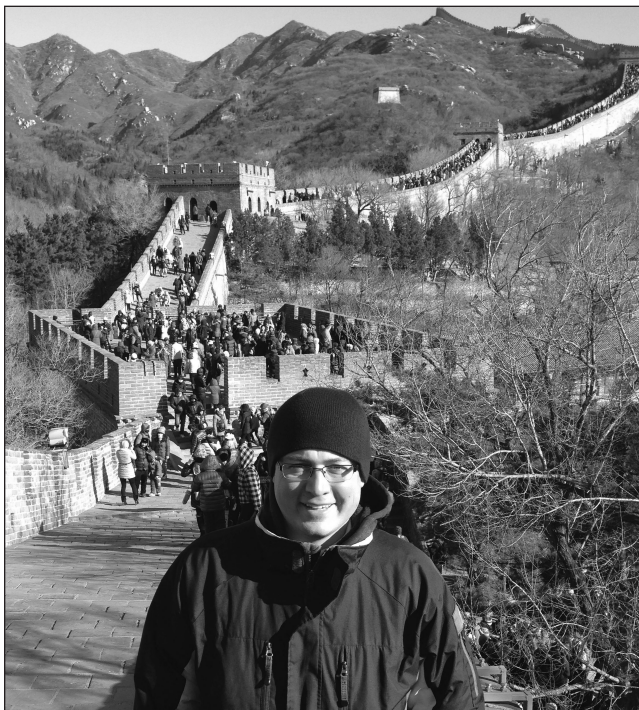
The Irving S. Cutter medal is presented to a member of Phi Rho Sigma who has made an outstanding contribution to medicine during his/her medical career.

Our second award, the Jessie Ansley Griffin medal, is given to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society.

The Paul L. McLain Research award recognizes research done by a society member during his/her medical education. Information on the criteria for this award was sent to all chapters in November.

Nominations for the Cutter and Griffin medals are due in the National Office by February 15th...please send your information to PO Box 90264, Indianapolis, IN 46290 or via email at hrodenbe@sbcglobal.net.

without bumping into someone. Overall, this holiday was just an unbelievable experience and I only wish that I had taken more photos to share with others.



been to Caleb and I during this trip. We had people taking us to a variety of places throughout Shanghai, treating us to several dinners and have even had a few homemade treats. Living at Tongji University we stayed at the international dorm and were able to meet people from all over the world, such as Demark, Spain, Italy, and Mexico. It's amazing how quickly and deeply the bonds with these individuals have been formed and I can only hope that I am able to keep in close contact with them.

Of course let's not forget, about the hospital experience. It was really what I would expect when I think of a cardiology rotation with a few exceptions. There were the typical cases of chest pain, heart failure and abnormal cardiac rhythms. The treatments plans aligned with what my education had taught me with an occasional curve ball where they included the traditional Chinese Medicine. While there were several cultural differences compared to the United States, the end goal of providing the best care possible to the patient remained the same. In the end, I learned about cardiac conditions and treatments, but what really made this education unlike anything I could of had at home was the cultural difference that can only be experienced by throwing yourself into the environment.

February 26, 2014

I am coming to the end of my rotation in the CCU and my trip to China. Has it ever been an adventure! Where to even begin, I got to experience the Chinese New Year, including the Spring Festival and the Lantern Festival. I traveled to Shanghai, Beijing and Suzhou. I feel like I have been on every form of transportation this country has to offer except the scooters, I have my limits. There has been no end to my sightseeing in China, I went to the Great Wall of China, the Ling Shan Temple and the Pearl TV Tower. Overall its been an amazing adventure.

I can't even begin to express how wonderful everyone has



 **US OUT!**
New Website at
www.phirhosigma.org

TWO CANADIAN ALUMNI HONORED

Dr. Thomas John (Jock) Murray, Alpha Eta, Halifax- based world leader in Multiple Sclerosis was recognized as a Canadian medical hero with induction into The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame at a gathering of more than 575

Canadian health care and business leaders in Kingston, Ontario in April of 2014.

Receiving the Research Achievement Award from the Canadian Cardiovascular Society at

its Scientific Congress in Toronto was Dr. Robert Roberts, Alpha Eta. Dr. Roberts was also inducted as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2013.

STREET NAMED IN HIS HONOR

Robert G. Travnicsek, Iota, practiced medicine in Wilbur, Nebraska for 22 years. He then completed an MPH at Harvard in 1990 and joined the Mississippi State Department as a Health Officer along the Mississippi gulf coast. He was there as a member of the Emergency Operations Center during Katrina in 2005. Dr.

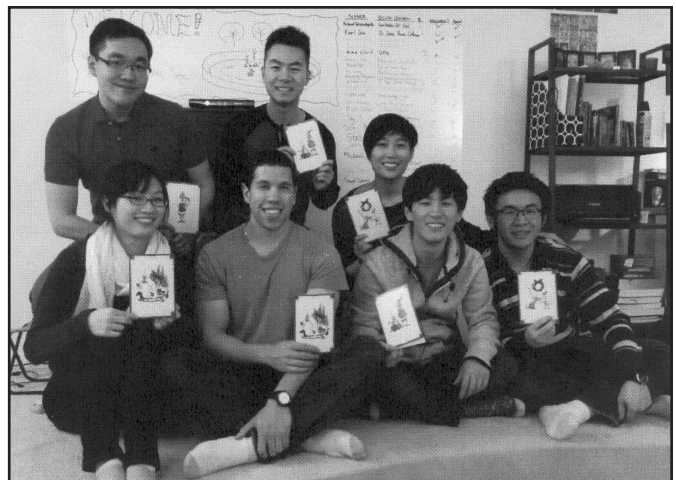
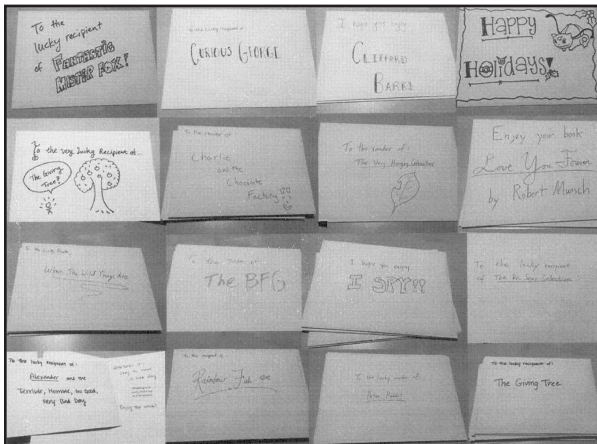
Travnicsek was honored by the Mississippi State Medical Association for Excellence in Medicine by receiving the Associations’s 2012 Community Service Award. In 2013 he was honored by the city of Gulfport and Harrison County by renaming a street in his name for a lifetime of

work in the area. From now on the portion of 45th Avenue between West Railroad Street and Memorial Drive in the city of Gulfport on which the Department of Health is located will be known as Dr. Robert Travnicsek Boulevard.

ALPHA CHAPTER COMBINES HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Alpha Chapter’s philanthropy chairs combined the chapter’s Holiday Party with a Book Giving Service Event. Each member who attended the party selected a children’s book to be donated to Reach Out and Read, a program to increase childhood literacy and interest in read-

ing at UpTown Clinic in Chicago. After ordering a book for the clinic on-line, the member wrote a personal note to the child who would be receiving said book. In total the chapter donated thirty-seven books to the clinic.



From the Archives . . .

Richard Smith was looking for information on his grandfather, Dr. Justin Kay Toles, when he came upon the following information which was published in The Southern California Practioner Volume XV April 13, 1901.

Phi Rho Sigma

The Medical Fraternity, Phi Rho Sigma, of the College of Medicine, U.S.C. has established a chapter house at 221 College Street. The house contains five well lighted and commodious rooms with bathroom, hot and cold water and all major improvements in connection.

A telephone will be put in and the rooms will be a great convenience to the fraternity members. The rooms are within two blocks of the college and therefore of ready access at all times. Two of the students have moved into the house and more will follow.

The fraternity now has twenty active members in its chapter and as the number is limited to 25 (active) there will probably be no more students taken in until next year. The following gentleman were initiated at the last regular meeting: H.W. Barlow, Justin Toles, J.H. Hall , R.S. Petter.

**The Journal
of
Phi Rho Sigma**
(ISSN: 0022-3581)

Volume 110
Winter 2015

Published by:
Phi Rho Sigma
Medical Society
P.O. Box 90264
Indianapolis,
Indiana 46290

Distributed without
charge to every
member.

Central Office e-mail:
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PRSRJ STD
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The Journal of Phi Rho Sigma
PO Box 90264
Indianapolis, Indiana 46290-0264
Address Service Requested