Class Update

George C. Beattie, MD '43, retired from his orthopedic practice at the end of 2000, moving with wife Nancy to "a peaceful, pastoral and prosperous community" in the Valley of the Moon — part of California's wine country. They are very proud of their two sons who are working in neuroscience.

Robert Francis Shaw, MD '47, completed the preclinical curriculum at Chicago and went on to Columbia University to found a new multidisciplinary division that awards bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in biomedical engineering. Shaw currently is a clinical professor of surgery at the University of California-San Francisco. Also, by cutting back on his full-time operating schedule, he has helped form several successful companies. A recent project for one company was to develop a less invasive biological method for resurfacing the articular cartilage in the knees with cartilage or cartilage-like biological tissue. The resulting product will be in clinical trials within the year.

Harold Plotsky, PhD '45, SB '47, MD '49, continues to practice child and adult psychiatry, as well as serving as medical director of the Episcopal Center for Children in Washington, D.C.

Bernard Barash, MD '50, writes that he always feels pride when asked where he earned his medical degree and that he is grateful for the medical education he received "at this great university."

George A. Spikes, MD '51, was named "Citizen of the Year" this past May in his hometown of Douglas, Ariz., where he has been practicing medicine since 1958 and has been involved in several educational, civic and health endeavors. For example, Spikes is a driving force behind Community Healthcare of Douglas Inc., a nonprofit organization that helped a local hospital circumvent bankruptcy.

Arnold L. Tanis, PhD '47, SB '49, MD '51, and wife Maxine recently visited Gainesville, Fla., with Clifford W. Gurney SB '48, MD '51, and wife Doris. Tanis still is active in pediatrics in Hollywood, Fla., as the senior partner of Pediatrics Associates, the largest private group in the United States.

Richard N. Baum, MD '52, is still in practice, but hopes to retire soon. He is enjoying many activities in the art world and will devote more time to them after his retirement.

2003 Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association Officers

Stephanie K. Williams, AB '77, MD '81
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Chairman, Editorial Committee

Kathleen Kornafel, MD/PhD '85
Chairman, Leadership Annual Giving Societies

Daniel P. Mass, AB '71, MD '75
Co-Chairman, 75th Anniversary of the Medical School

Patricia M. Martin, AB '74, MD '78
Chairman, Annual Fund

Lampis D. Anagnostopoulos, SB '57, MD '61
Member Appointed

Thomas G. Benedek, PhD '47, SB '49, MD '52, retired from practice in 1999 but continues to teach courses in the history of medicine in Pittsburgh.

George M. Davies, PhD '47, MD '52, is traveling, enjoying his three grandchildren and spending some leisure time in Lake Tahoe.

A. Yale Gerol, AB '48, MD '52, married Shona Angle in May 2001. He is a volunteer docent at the Art Institute of Chicago and the proud grandfather of 11.

Elsa Leiter Gordon, PhD '47, SB '50, MD '52, is keeping herself busy with husband Leon, who introduced her to water-skiing, snow skiing and golf. She also works for the board of a nonprofit children's agency and spends time with her four children and 10 grandchildren.

Seymour L. Halleck, PhD '48, SB '50, MD '52, has been working in forensic psychiatry in North Carolina.

Kenneth Hayes, MD '52, has traveled from coast to coast with wife Janet Gray Hayes, AM '50. He has maintained his spot on the senior tennis circuit, all the while remodeling a second home in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Morris J. LeVine, PhD '48, MD '52, retired from practice in January 1993. He has held clinical and faculty responsibilities at the University of Southern Florida School of Medicine in addition to teaching Middle Eastern archaeology and civilization to senior citizens. LeVine's recent historical work includes working on an archaeological dig in Sepphoris, Israel. Also, he and wife Marilyn Fisher LeVine, PhD '48, SB '50, AM '51, are helping to raise 17 grandchildren.

Leslie R. Schroeder Jr., SB '50, MD '52, has been busy conducting ornithology tours in Mexico and in Central and South America and attending ballet and chamber music performances in the Boston area, where he lives.
Raymond W. Steblay, MD ’52, currently is researching the relationship between an artist’s health and his artistic product. Steblay’s case studies have included a Renoir sculpture allegedly created after the onset of rheumatoid arthritis.

Weldon L. Thomas, MD ’52, fully retired from the Wheaton (Ill.) Eye Clinic in January 2000. He and wife Juanita have been busy traveling, reading, volunteering and biking, as well as learning to play the piano again.

Shamay Cotev, MD ’57, is the chief of anesthesia and at Assuta Hospital in Tel Aviv, Israel. He has four children, all of whom are married, and 12 grandchildren.

David Lagunoff, MD ’57, is a professor of pathology at St. Louis University, where he served as chairman of pathology and the associate dean for research until 1996.

Richard D. Heimbach, AB ’56, SB ’57, MD ’60, retired from active medical practice, but maintains his visiting faculty status at Texas A&M University and the University of Texas. His current activities include “the three Gs: golf, gardening and grandchildren.”

John L. Skosey, MD ’61, PhD ’64, recently joined the Illinois Bone and Joint Institute in addition to his work as professor of medicine at the University of Chicago and lecturer in medicine at Loyola University. Previously, Skosey was director of medical affairs and chief academic officer at MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn, Ill.

Edward B. Crowell Jr., MD ’62, is the program director for the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

Paul T. Davidson, MD ’62, recently left his post as the director of tuberculosis control for Los Angeles County, having worked there since 1983.

Daniel A. DeVries, MD ’62, is practicing general surgery in Grand Rapids, Mich., and continues to enjoy it, even after more than 30 years.

Herbert I. Jernow, MD ’62, retired after 30 years of practicing internal medicine in White Plains, N.Y.

Herman E. Kattlove, SB ’58, MD ’62, practiced hematology and oncology for 19 years in Long Beach, Calif. In 1991, he entered the University of California-Los Angeles School of Public Health, earned a master’s degree in 1992 and left his medical practice in 1994. Kattlove worked in disease management programs until 1999, at which point he joined the American Cancer Society as medical editor, writing and editing cancer information for professionals and the public.

B.H. Gerald Rogers, MD ’62, is still in private practice and while he is slowing down a bit, he is not quite retired. Rogers is a part-time clinical professor at the University of Chicago, where he sees gastrointestinal patients once a week.

Robert G. Stagman, MD ’62, is enjoying retirement after 30 years practicing head and neck surgery. From his home in Seattle, Wash., Stagman currently is involved in pro-environmental activism and animal welfare.

Gary L. Gitnick, SB ’60, MD ’63, recently was elected president of the state medical board of California.

Julian J. Rimpila, SM/MD ’66, was elected vice president of the medical staff at Grant Hospital in Chicago. He also recently published an article, “Probiotics in Health and Disease,” in Chicago Medicine.
Eugene C. Corbett Jr., MD ’70, lives with wife Susan in rural Virginia, where they enjoy the company of their two grandchildren. Corbett is on academic sabbatical for 2002-03 as the Petersdorf Scholar-In-Residence at the American Association of Medical Colleges.

John A. Schafer, MD ’71, is a neurologist in Sacramento, Calif. He serves on the national board of directors for the American Heart Association and on the advisory board for the American Stroke Association. Schafer also co-chairs Sacramento’s Operation Stroke Task Force.

Robert Hugh Waterston, MD/PhD ’72, is the head of the department of genetics and the director of the Genome Sequencing Center at the Washington University School of Medicine. He recently was honored with the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation Award for his seminal contribution to cancer research. He received the Alfred P. Sloan Jr. Prize for determining the first complete genomic sequence of a multi-cellular organism. Also, the University of Chicago’s Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association honored Waterston with the Distinguished Service Award in May 2002 at his 30th reunion.

Michael William Penley, MD ’74, practices radiology part time in the United States and spends his remaining time conducting medical missions in Kenya, where his wife Julie teaches in a public school.

Nathan M. Szajnberg, AB/MD ’74, recently was appointed the Kreitman Visiting Professor at Ben Gurion University, where he lectures on “Jacob’s Despair, a Psychoanalytic Exploration.” He plans to use this lecture, along with previous lectures on Joseph, to craft a book on fathers and sons and the architects of Judaism. Szajnberg will continue to research the transition of kibbutz youth to young adulthood.

Mark L. Friedman, AB ’73, MD ’77, recently published a new book, titled Everyday Crisis Management: How to Think Like an Emergency Physician. He is currently a clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago, president of the Medical Associates Group and a practicing emergency physician.

Mariel Ann Harris, MD ’77, lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio, with husband Dan Cooperman, MD ’74, who is as professor of orthopedic surgery at Case Western Reserve University. Harris practices geriatric and rehabilitation medicine in the Metro Health Medical System, part of the Case Western system. She recently served on a committee of the Ohio State Bar Association to revise advanced medical directories. The Harris-Cooperman household recently became an empty nest after their two daughters left for college.

Laurence Dean Kanter, MD ’77, practices anesthesiology in Miami, Fla., and plans to slow down his 60-hour weeks to better enjoy life with his wife Debbie. Both his daughter Michelle and son Jonathan are in college.

Ralph W. Kuncl, MD ’77, PhD ’75, recently published a new book, Motor Neuron Disease. This past June, he assumed the posts of provost and professor of biology at Bryn Mawr College and professor of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania after 22 years of service at Johns Hopkins University. Kuncl was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the University of Chicago’s Medical and Biological Sciences Alumni Association during Reunion 2002.
Linda Goluch Phillips, AB '74, MD '78, is head of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and the Truman Blocker Chair of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. She is also the senior associate dean of the medical school and serves on the American Board of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and the Plastic Surgery Residency Review Committee.

William A. Phillips, MD '78, is the chief of pediatric orthopedics and scoliosis at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston and a professor of orthopedics and pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine.

Jun Ihara, MD '82, celebrated the birth of her first child, Valerie Aiko Wen Li, with husband Thierry. Ihara is working for the Southern California Permanente Medical Group in Fontana and has a volunteer faculty appointment as an associate clinical professor at the University of California-Irvine. Her Saturday mornings with first-year medical students remind her of her experiences at the University of Chicago.

Katherine L. Roscoe Levin, MD '82, PhD '78, lives in Indianapolis and works at Indiana University Medical School as an anesthesiologist. She has two children, ages 9 and 15.

Janice Lyon, AB '78, MD '82, has a private OB/GYN practice in Hinsdale, Ill., and has piloted a research project studying the relationship between breast cancer and women's underarm hygiene.

Glenn A. Call, MD '87, has been a staff neurologist for 10 years at Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Fla.

David Ronin, MD '87, lives in the Chicago suburbs with his two daughters, the younger born on his birthday last year.

Jeffrey William Voss, PhD '88, recently was promoted to group leader responsible for genomics and bioinformatics at Abbott Bioresearch Center in Worcester, Mass.

Kathryn Ruth Damberg, MD '93, has begun her third year living in Hong Kong with her husband, two sons and daughter. Damberg has been enjoying more time with her family since she took a hiatus from practicing medicine.

Sean-Xavier Neath, AB '86, MD '97, PhD '94, is currently an assistant professor of emergency medicine at University of California-San Diego.
He gave me the courage to think. He was all about helping people think.

— Lawrence Pottenger, Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery
“Bob was always ready to juggle his schedule to go wherever he was needed, not always the safest places, and with very little notice,” said Susannah Sirkin, deputy director of Physicians for Human Rights. “He brought an unparalleled combination of scientific and technical expertise, and a deep personal determination.”

Kirschner also devoted considerable effort to the detection and prevention of child abuse, especially shaken baby syndrome. He frequently was consulted by police, attorneys and physicians about child abuse injuries.

“He believed strongly in using medicine to advance human rights and used his skills to fight repression and torture,” said Flint Taylor, a civil rights lawyer with the People’s Law Office in Chicago. “He used his expertise on dead bodies to deal with live situations in a way that ultimately prevented a lot of abuse, suffering and death.”

Born Oct. 30, 1940, in Philadelphia, Kirschner was the son of two politically active schoolteachers who passed on their passion for courage, justice and freedom. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Penn., in 1962, and a medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1966. He completed his residency in pathology at the University of Chicago in 1971. After serving in the U.S. Public Health Service from 1971 to 1973, he joined the faculty as an assistant professor in pathology.

In the early 1970s, however, Kirschner found that he “enjoyed the big ideas of research, but not the day-to-day grind,” and his interests began to shift from scanning electron microscopy of minute cellular structures toward criminal investigation of death. In 1978, he began to work for the newly created Cook County Medical Examiner’s Office as a forensic pathologist. The next year, while helping to identify the remains of the 273 people killed in the crash of American Airlines flight 191, he met Clyde Snow, a renowned forensic anthropologist, who would involve him in investigations around the world.

Kirschner’s skills and experience performing an average of 500 autopsies a year as a deputy medical examiner from 1978 to 1986 and as deputy chief of the Cook County Medical Examiner’s Office from 1987 to 1995, made him an authority on non-accidental injuries and deaths — “not something,” he often said, “that you can learn from books.” He provided crucial evidence in many high-profile trials, testifying as an expert witness in more than 600 criminal and civil cases in 15 states plus federal, military and international courts.

In 1985, Snow recruited Kirschner to join a team pulled together by the American Association for the Advancement of Science to investigate skeletal remains in Argentina. Kirschner and Snow collected evidence of widespread murder and torture, identified many of the bodies and trained Argentine students in the techniques of forensic science. Their evidence helped convict nine former junta members of human rights violations.

The trip also left Kirschner hooked on human rights work. In 1987 and 1988, as a volunteer for Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), he went to Kenya to investigate deaths in police custody — and wound up briefly in police custody himself. Trips soon followed to Czechoslovakia, Israel and the West Bank, South Korea and El Salvador. From 1985 to 2000, he was involved in 36 international human rights missions at the request of PHR, the Organization of American States, the United Nations or AAAS.

Kirschner served as chairman of the AAAS committee on scientific freedom and responsibility, was a member of the board of directors of PHR and established its international forensic program. He presented nearly 200 lectures around the world, received numerous honors for his efforts to support human rights in the United States and abroad, and was interviewed by CBS’s “60 Minutes,” ABC’s “Nightline,” National Public Radio, the BBC and Voice of America.

He was a founder of the Child Death and Serious Injury Review team for Cook County, a member of the advisory board of the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome and a member of the board of directors of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. He also served on the editorial boards of three journals devoted to forensic medicine and child abuse and wrote chapters on the pathology of abuse in two of the major child abuse texts.

Kirschner is survived by his father Walter, brother Richard, sister Joanne Oppenheimer, wife Barbara, three children and one grandchild.