



# The Oslerian

## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT - JOHN NOBLE *Libraries-Books and Charles (Chuck) Gordon Roland*

Dear Colleagues:

The loss of Chuck Roland is poignant and sad. At recent AOS meetings, we spoke together of him coming down to Boston University as a Visiting Professor and to visit the marvelous collection of Oslerian books from his Library which I had purchased through Jim Goodrich, some ten years ago.

This tribute to Chuck comes from my library and the many Oslerians who have helped me to create it over the past forty three years.

During 1966, I spent three months at St. Mary's Hospital London learning about the virology of smallpox, in preparation to work in and subsequently to direct the Diagnostic Laboratory for Smallpox at the CDC in Atlanta. I often frequented a nearby anti-quarian book store and purchased Buchan's Medical Text 1802, for two pounds. When I showed the book to my professor, Keith Dumbell, he suggested that I visit an anti-quarian bookseller named R.D. Gurney to pursue my interest further.

A short while later, I walked to Mr. Gurney's house and was invited to sit in the parlor. He inquired about my interests. I said that I was interested in historical works describing physical diagnosis. He disappeared upstairs. A few minutes later he brought down several books, one of which illustrated the optimal locations for auscultation of the chest entitled *Fissura Sterni Cogenita: New Observations and Experiments*. It was described and illustrated in 1859 by the "patient", who was the author, Eugene Groux.

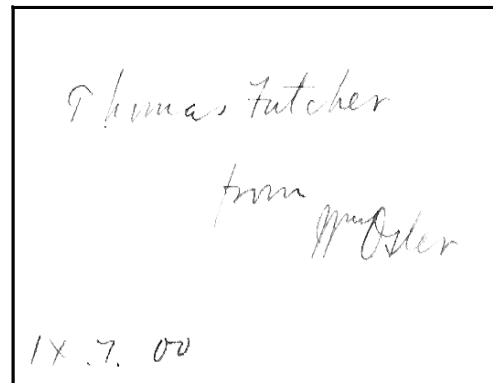
The defect enabled him to make a living teaching auscultation to medical students. This treasure marked the beginning of my library and a friendship of over fifteen years.

At the time of his retirement, Mr. Gurney was asked to help cull duplicate books from the Welcome Foundation Medical Library. He, in turn, shared this treasure trove with his long time customer- colleagues. My share of eight books remain the center piece of my collection.

Thomas Futcher was one of William Osler's residents at Hopkins. While attending Harvard College, his son, Dr. Palmer Futcher, often went on dates with my mother. Many years later, I met Dr. Futcher while attending a meeting of the American College of Physicians in Philadelphia.

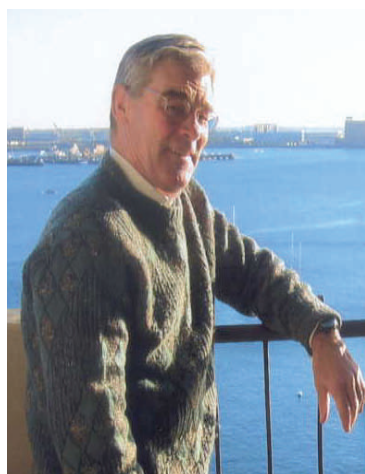
It was a wonderful visit. He shared with me his long and varied career at Johns Hopkins and later in Philadelphia where he served as the Executive Secretary for the American Board of Internal Medicine. Through the years, he collected many items that related to Osler, his family and Johns Hopkins.

In 1995, he sent a letter to me with a small package. In the letter he recounted how my mother and he liked to exchange books so many years ago, and then discuss what they had read on the next date. The letter was very nice. The package was equally nice, it contained *Aequanimitas*, inscribed on the flyleaf by W. Osler to Thomas Futcher:



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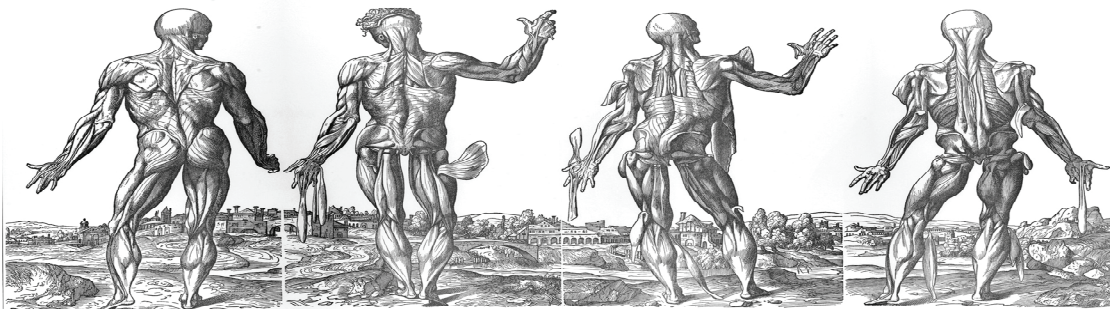


**Greetings,  
Fellow  
Oslerians!**

**President John Noble, shown here in his lair overlooking Boston Harbor, at the time of the 2008 Boston Meeting.**

**President's Message (continued), *lerianae privatissimae* (continued), *core?* continued)**

Dee Canale, neurosurgeon, has been an active Oslerian in the AOS and a book seller for many years. I was particularly taken by his transformation of the Woodcuts of human anatomy in Vesalius' *Fabrica* into a pastoral scene by printing the individual pictures in the reverse, which resulted in them being linked together in succession. This remarkable graphic combines anatomy, emotion, and nature. It is surprising how often beauty, nature, and science fit together!



As a tribute to Chuck Roland, to commemorate his many achievements, I propose that we Oslerians select a number of books from our personal libraries and give them to the Library which Chuck opened at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario many years ago. This will be a nice way to commemorate our shared friendship, our deep respect for him and his scholarship, love of books, and warm friendship that he so generously gave to all of us. Sincerely, John Noble, MD, MACP

**AOS Annual Business Meeting****April 23, 2009****MINUTES**

1. President Joseph W. Lella called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. in the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel Ballroom.
2. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Drs. Mark E. Silverman, Arthur Gryfe, and Leon Z. Saunders, who had died since the previous meeting.
3. The minutes of the 2008 annual meeting were approved as written, distributed, and previously published in the August 2008 issue of *The Oslerian*.
4. Secretary-Treasurer's report:  
Charles Bryan gave the report, reference being made to the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting. Bruce Fye raised a question about whether members who have not attended meetings for five consecutive years should be asked about their intent to remain as members. Discussion followed. No motions were made.
5. William B. Bean Student Research Award report:  
Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.
6. John P. McGovern Award Committee:  
Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.
7. Lifetime Achievement Award Committee:  
Dr. Pitcock gave the report. Dr. Lella presented the award (a medal) to Dr. Fye, who expressed deep appreciation. Dr. Lella announced that the Board of Governors had determined that Dr. Bryan would be next year's recipient.
8. Nominating Committee:  
Francis Neelon gave the report. Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.
9. Finance Committee:  
Marvin Stone gave the report. Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.

**10. Membership Committee:**

Dr. Lella gave the report. Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting. Gordon Frierson accepted his certificate. The other new members were not present, and their certificates will be mailed to them.

**11. Historian-Archivist's report:**

Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.

**12. Program Committee:**

Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.

**13. Publications Committee:**

Please see the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting.

**14. President's Report:**

Dr. Lella expressed his appreciation to membership for the honor of serving as president and reported the Society to be in good shape.

**15. Old Business:** There was none.**16. New Business:**

It was announced that the 2010 meeting would take place in Rochester, Minnesota, and that the 2011 meeting would take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The site for the 2012 meeting has not been chosen. Jonathan Erlen reported his willingness to make local arrangements for a meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Neelon suggested the Research Triangle area of North Carolina. No motion was made.

**17. Dr. Lella expressed his appreciation to the John P. McGovern lecturer (Patrick McKee), to the outgoing members of the Board of Governors (Stephen Greenberg, Pamela Miller, and William Roberts), and to committee chairs.**

**18. Introduction of incoming president:** Dr. Lella introduced John Noble as the incoming president and presented him with the chain and latchkey, the symbol of the office of AOS President.

**19. Dr. Noble expressed his appreciation of Dr. Lella for his service as president and presented him with a plaque containing a latchkey.**

**20. Dr. Noble adjourned the meeting at 8:00 A.M.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles S. Bryan, Secretary-Treasurer

**IN MEMORIAM****2009**

Since the last issue of *The Oslerian*, the Society has lost three members  
Leon Saunders - March 4  
Charles Roland - June 9  
William Gibson - July 4  
Their obituaries appear in this issue.

**Addendum (Attribution)**

Special thanks from AOS President Noble to Dr. Ed Wagner and colleagues at the University of Washington for sharing the Framework for Creating a Regional Healthcare System in *The Oslerian*, Volume 10, issue #1.

**AOS Annual Meeting 2009**  
**Cleveland, Ohio**  
**MINUTES: Meeting of the Board of Governors**

The Board of Governors of the American Osler Society met on Monday, April 30, 2009, at 7:10 PM in the Humphrey Room of the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. President Dr. Joseph W. Lella called the meeting to order. Present were Drs. Marvin Stone, John Noble, Claus Pierach, Dennis Bastron (by invitation), Philip Leon, Joseph VanderVeer (by invitation), Clyde Partin, James Young, Joseph Lella, Conrad Fulkerson, Francis Neelon, Paul Mueller, Charles Bryan, and Bruce Fye (by invitation), and Ms. Pamela Miller. Dr. Steven Peitzman was unable to attend because his airplane flight had been canceled at the last moment.

1. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Drs. Mark E. Silverman and Arthur Gryfe, who had died since the previous annual meeting.

2. Dr. Lella called for additional agenda items, of which there were none.

3. The minutes of the 2008 meeting of the Board of Governors were approved as previously written, distributed, and published in the August 2009 issue of *The Oslerian*.

4. Secretary-treasurer's report:

Dr. Bryan gave the report, reference being made to the information published in the February 2009 issue of *The Oslerian*.

A. As of April 21, 2009, there were 176 members, of whom 6 were honorary members, 115 active members, 45 emeritus members, and 10 in other membership categories. There was considerable discussion about the status of student members and associate members. The associate membership category, intended to encourage persons who have not done scholarly work in the medical humanities or submitted papers for the consideration of the Program Committee for the annual meeting, has not become popular, with only two such members at the present time. Discussion took place about whether to designate all students who have presented a paper at the annual meeting to associate membership status, with the stipulation that they would not be required to pay dues until they were two or more years beyond their residency training, at which time they would be invited to become full members contingent upon attending a meeting. Dr. Lella pointed out that it would be unnecessary to make a Bylaws change to accommodate such a policy. No motion was made, but it was agreed to continue this discussion.

B. As of December 21, 2009, liquid assets were \$400,586, of which \$118,905 was assigned to the William B. Bean Endowment Fund, \$245,722 to the John P. McGovern Lectureship Fund, \$5,600 to the

Publications Fund, and \$30,360 to uncommitted assets. The substantial decline in liquid assets was attributed to the loss of value of the Society's investment accounts (Fidelity Investments portfolio), attributed in turn to the global financial crisis that occurred in the fall of 2008. Likewise, further decline in the value of the Society's investment accounts accounted for an additional fall in value of the total liquid assets to (as of April 16, 2009) \$370,015.59. Since assigned assets (the John P. McGovern Lectureship Fund, William B. Bean Endowment Fund, and Publications Fund) totaled \$370,226.77, unassigned liquid assets were negative (-\$211.18). For clarification, it was pointed out that the money specifically contributed to the John P. McGovern Lectureship Fund and William B. Bean Endowment Fund through the years were substantially less than the totals shown above, since it had been the Society's policy for many years to assign as interest 12% of the previous year's balances to both funds (6% interest for the John P. McGovern Lectureship Fund the past two years, as assets in the fund are now more than ample to sustain the lectureship and its publication assuming even a 2% to 3% rate of return. It was agreed not to invade the principal or "basis" of these funds (that is, the amounts contributed as opposed to the amount arbitrarily assigned as interest for the purpose of internal record keeping).

C. Dr. Bryan reviewed the Society's expenditures over the past year, by category. There was considerable discussion of the expenses incurred in conducting the annual meeting, including the larger-than-usual losses incurred during 2006 (the meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia) and 2008 (the meeting in Boston, Massachusetts). Dr. Bryan reported that the tax return and compilation had already been prepared by C. C. McGregor Company. He presented all of the records for the calendar year 2008 (checks written against the Society's accounts, with documentation, bank statements, and other documents) to Dr. Bastron, the treasurer-designate, for his convening of an audit committee to review these records and the system for maintaining them.

D. Dr. Bryan reported that the revised Bylaws had been distributed by e-mail to members of the Board of Governors.

E. Dr. Bryan reported on the transition of the secretary-treasurer's duties. Dr. Mueller has agreed to serve as Secretary and Dr. Bastron as Treasurer.

5. Bean Student Research Award Committee report:  
Dr. Charles Ambrose, Chair of this committee, reported prior to the meeting that there had been eight high-quality applica-



**Board of Governors Meeting Minutes (Cont.)**

tions and that after much deliberation the recipients were determined to be Courtney Pendleton (Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine) and Christopher Dibble (University of North Carolina School of Medicine).

**6.** John P. McGovern Award Committee: Dr. Neelon reported that the 2009 recipient of this award is Dr. Patrick McKee of the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine.

**7.** Nominating Committee: Dr. Neelon reported the following slate of officers: For second vice-president, Dr. Michael Bliss; for three-year terms on the Board of Governors, Dr. Paul Berman, Dr. Laurel Drevlow, and Dr. Barry Silverman. This slate was approved by acclamation. Also approved were the following new officers: for secretary, Dr. Paul Mueller, for treasurer, Dr. Dennis Bastron, and for Newsletter Editor, Dr. Joseph VanderVeer. It was determined that there would be, at least for the time being, no position of web master as Dr. Mueller evaluates the Society's web site and its potential usefulness.

**8.** Finance Committee: Dr. Marvin Stone, who replaced Dr. Paul Dymont in mid-year at Dr. Dymont's request, gave the report, dated March 30, 2009. Dr. Stone reported that the 28.4% decline in the Society's principal investment fund (with Fidelity Investments) during 2008 compares favorably with the Wilshire 5000 Index (stocks), which declined 37.2%, and with the S&P 500 Index, which declined 37.0%. He reported further that the Society's investment portfolio continued to decline in value during the first three months of 2009, but increased in value by 4.84% during March 2009. He concluded with the optimistic view that perhaps "we've turned the corner" and reviewed the need to transfer some assets from the Society's investment portfolio (the "Y99" account with Fidelity Investments) to the money market account (the "X15 account").

**9.** Membership Committee: The following five applicants for regular membership were reviewed and approved by acclamation: Drs. Joseph J. Fins, Gordon Frierson, Michael Fuller, Chryssa McAlister, and George Sarka.

**10.** Historian-Archivist report: It was reported that Dr. Charles Roland has submitted the report and that the Society's archives are in order.

**11.** Publications Committee: Dr. Clyde Partin reviewed the committee's activities. He reported the consensus that the specific Publications Fund should be left undisturbed until sufficient funds have accrued for its usage. He reported that the eleventh volume of the Osler Library of the History of Medicine series (Dr. Roland's biography of Archibald Malloch) has been published. In review are manuscripts submitted by Dr. Charles Ambrose (on Dr. Joseph Pratt, "The Man Who Would Be Osler") and by Dr. Richard Golden (on Osler's preparation for his monograph on the history of medicine). Dr. Golden's manuscript is being proof-read and should be

ready for publication in the near future. Dr. Partin presented the desideratum that the slides from the meeting presentations (that is, the Power Point slides) be made available on the Society's web site. It was pointed out that this could present a potential problem of copyright violation. After considerable discussion it was determined by common consent that the slides should not be presented on the Society's web site, but that the meeting abstracts could be thus made available.

**12.** Program Committee: Dr. Noble gave the report. It was reported that 44 papers will be presented at the 2009 meeting.

**13.** AOS-AAHM Liaison Committee: Dr. Lella reported that this committee had been inactive since the previous year's meeting.

**14.** Lifetime Achievement Award Committee: The report by Dr. Cynthia Pitcock that Dr. Bruce Fye should be 2009 recipient of this award was conveyed and approved. Dr. Fye expressed his gratitude.

**15.** President's report: Dr. Lella reported on his activities during the past year. Reference is made to Dr. Lella's four messages in volume 9 of *The Oslerian*, including his review of the demographics of the Society. Members expressed appreciation to Dr. Lella for his leadership over the past year.

**16.** Old Business: There was none.

**17.** New Business:

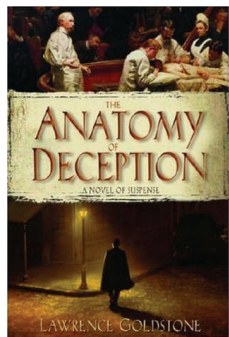
- Committee appointments for 2009-2010 were determined and have been published in *The Oslerian* June 2009, Volume 10, Number 1.
- Ask Sam Database: Drs. Francis Neelon and Mike Jones reported on the status of this project.
- Report on past presidents' dinner meeting: It was reported that a successful meeting had taken place with 19 attendees and that discussion had centered largely on membership, engagement of students, and outreach.
- Dr. Bryan was excused briefly from the meeting, and in his absence Dr. Bryan was announced as the 2010 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

**18.** Future meetings and dates:

The 2010 meeting will take place in Rochester, Minnesota, April 26-29. Drs. Mueller and Fye will assist with the local arrangements. The 2011 meeting will take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Drs. Peitzman and VanderVeer were suggested for assistance with the local arrangements. The location of the 2012 meeting has not been set. The question was raised how meeting sites are selected, and it was pointed out that these are determined by the Board of Governors after input has been solicited.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles S. Bryan, Secretary-Treasurer



### From the Editor: A book that may be of interest to our members

**Attention, Oslerians!** To get a head start on the 2011 AOS meeting in Philadelphia, I recommend the 2008 historical novel by Lawrence Goldstone, *The Anatomy of Deception*. It's a well-written forensic thriller set in Philadelphia in 1889 that gives a flavor of the era, and features Osler and a Dr. Ephriam Carroll, one of his residents at Blockley, as they unravel a murder. It draws in a number of interesting and famous Philadelphians like Thomas Eakins and his portrait of surgeons Gross and Agnew. W. S. Halsted and others from Baltimore also figure prominently in the plot.

### Members in the News

#### Charles T. Ambrose, M.D.

Kudos to Oslerian Chuck Ambrose, who recently received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, from Transylvania University in Lexington, KY. Chuck has long championed the historic role of that institution, the first university west of the Alleghenies. His scholarly presentations before the AOS (in Pasadena and Cleveland) have always been enlightening. Bravo!



### Oslerian Progress Notes

Thanks to the efforts of a number of Oslerians (including Mark Silverman, Clyde Partin, & Charles Ambrose), a student-centered Osler group has blossomed at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, concurrent with their new curriculum. Beginning with the class of 2011, the students were divided into four societies; Osler, Semmelweis, Harvey and Lister. Pictured left above is the Osler society group, and below, medical student Sharjeel Hooda receives his pin from Associate Dean Dr. Ira K. Schwartz in a ceremony in February 2009. In Clyde's address to the group that day ("Why Bother to Study Osler?"), he emphasized the new teaching paradigm was essentially Oslerian, and if they wished to put Sir William on a pedestal, they should position it right behind them at the bedside.



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## OBITUARIES

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### IN MEMORIAM LEON Z. SAUNDERS, DVM, Ph.D.

This AOS Honorary Member died at age 89 of Alzheimer's disease in Brentwood, TN. Trained in Canada in veterinary medicine, he served in the Royal Canadian Artillery in WW II as a veterinary officer, caring for mules carrying vital supplies across the Himalayas in Burma. He pursued graduate studies at Ames, IA, and Cornell, where he got his Ph.D. in neuropathology. During his tenure at Cornell he actively participated on the polo team, and enjoyed snow skiing with his family, in America, Canada and Switzerland.

Dr. Saunders spent the bulk of his career as Head of Pathology & Toxicology for Smith Kline & French Laboratories. He published more than 90 articles and 6 books. He nurtured a special interest in the history of veterinary pathology, and two books on that topic led to Saunders' honorary election to the American Osler Society. He was a founder of the journal *Veterinary Pathology* and served as managing editor for 25 years. For his scientific and professional accomplishments he received a number of honors, including the Centennial medal by the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, the Theodor Kitt Medal from the University of Munich, and the Lifetime Achievement commendation by the American Veterinary Medical History Society in 2000.

His daughter, Christine, on the pharmacology faculty at Vanderbilt, said her father was a dedicated and proud member of AOS.

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### IN MEMORIAM WILLIAM C. GIBSON, M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D.

This AOS founding member, a diplomat respectively of the Universities of British Columbia, McGill, and Oxford, has died at age 95 in Victoria. The first half of his academic career involved psychiatry and neurological research; in the latter half, he manifested broad interests in the history of medicine. The Gibson Collection of over 5,000 volumes in the history of medicine and the natural sciences is housed in a Memorial Room at U.B.C. named after Canadian businessman Charles Woodward.

The room contains a magnificent tapestry (view it at this web site: [http://vancouverhistory.ca/archives\\_tapestry.htm](http://vancouverhistory.ca/archives_tapestry.htm)) that Dr. Gibson was instrumental in obtaining from France. Gibson wrote many articles and ten books, including *Wesbrook and His University* (1973) about the physician founder of the University of British Columbia.

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### IN MEMORIAM CHARLES GORDON ROLAND, M.D.

BELOVED FOUNDING MEMBER  
AND AOS HISTORIAN

What a loss! Chuck Roland was beloved of many Oslerians, for his kindness, magnanimity and scholarship. I suspect those of us who missed his presence at the CLE meeting did not appreciate that he was then battling a recurrence in his liver of a colon cancer resected five years earlier, which caused jaundice and then his death on June 9.

(Continued on page 7)



### **Roland Obituary (continued)**

His early years were spent in a log cabin in northern Manitoba; his father died when Chuck was young, having spent most of that time in a TBC sanatorium. The family moved to Ontario in his high school years, and he began his long writing career as a sports reporter and then year book editor. He attended college at the University of Toronto and returned to Manitoba to attend the Medical College in Winnipeg. He earned money for tuition by working as a bellhop at Chateau Lake Louise, where he began another life-long love, mountaineering. He was a member of the Alpine Clubs of Canada and Switzerland. In Ontario, after a brief stint in family practice, Roland began volunteer work with the *CMAJ*, which led to his application for a job with the *JAMA* in Chicago, where he spent five years as a senior editor, honing his editing and writing skills. He was recruited from the *Journal* to develop a department of biomedical communication at the Mayo Clinic in 1969. Soon he was executive editor of their *Proceedings*, which he completely overhauled, redesigning its format. His editorial prowess was recognized by his election as president of the American Medical Writers Association in 1969. Chuck returned to Canada in 1977 as the newly created Jason A. Hannah Professor of the History of Medicine at McMaster University Medical School in Hamilton.

*[Hannah was a neuropathologist who in 1937 set up one of the prepaid health plans in Canada, which were put out of business by the adoption of the Canadian health service; funds from the dissolution of his Associated Medical Services led to the establishment of several Hannah Chairs of medicine in Canadian medical schools.]*

Roland served as president of the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine and edited its *Bulletin*. He wrote for the popular press and for scholarly journals, almost 500 articles in all. He was associated in various capacities with ten leading American Canadian medical periodicals.

Chuck Roland's interest in Osler, and his involvement in the AOS was extensive, and he regularly attended our congenial annual meetings. He served as historian for the group for many years and was generous with his time, a blessing to many of us. He wrote or edited eleven compilations of Osler's aphorisms and facsimiles of his papers, including three volumes of Osler's collected essays. His most recently published work relating to Osler was a biography of Archibald Malloch, the surgeon who introduced Lister's antiseptic surgery to Canada. Roland authored two seminal books about WWII: a 1992 account of medical care in Warsaw, *Courage under Siege: Starvation, Disease and Death in the Warsaw Ghetto*, for which he received the Jason Hannah Medal of the Royal Society of Canada; and *Long Night's Journey into Day: Prisoners of War in Hong Kong and Japan, 1941-1945*, published in 2001. Other honors included a Doctor of Science from the University of Manitoba and the John P. McGovern Medal from Oxford.

### ***Here follow some short tributes by his friends in the Society:***

It strikes me that every loss from our ranks is sad, but none more so than this latest. I suppose that the American Osler Society has reached that age where such news must be anticipated, but I continue to be saddened every time another name is struck from the list of active members. Chuck may have been the last of the active Charter Members of the American Osler Society, but I always thought he was one of our "young" members and amongst the most generous; I will miss his welcoming presence at our meetings.

—**Frank Neelon**

Chuck Roland was without question one of the giants in the history of the health sciences. Among the fine aspects of Academic Medicine are the many first-rate human beings whom you get to know and associate with. This "invisible college" is a treasured group of exceptionally bright, highly motivated over-achievers, who in addition to their scholarly contributions are among the finest people on God's Green Earth. What can one say? Chuck's passing is such a great loss. Keep Well, and Persevere!

—**Larry Longo**

In addition to all of Chuck's traits, his warmth, Oslerian knowledge, humanity, and general "likeableness", he also had fabulous editorial skills, and well utilized by me. The void he left in the AOS will be hard to fill at many level

—**Clyde Partin**

When AMS was superseded by Canada's equivalent of your Medicare, the Hannah Institute was formed, and for over three decades it's been a founder, leader, and vital supporter of history of medicine, especially (but not exclusively) within medical communities.

It was mostly an "institute without walls," the unique benefits of which were spread around our country. The Hannah Chairs in five Ontario medical schools and several affiliates elsewhere in Canada were created in this initiative. Chuck Roland held the one at McMaster until he retired, and I am very fortunate to occupy one at Queen's University in Kingston. Grants for research, scholarships and fellowships were also supported by Hannah funds. So here's something for our American friends to think about: If your new President succeeds in bringing a national health insurance plan, then there might be a LOT of private insurers with a LOT of money looking for worthy things to do in order to keep and manage their capital. Maybe the torch can be passed. Might we consider The Charles G. Roland Institute? The Osler / Roland Institute? It's worth pondering and perhaps pursuing!

—**Jacalyn Duffin**

*(continued on page 8)*

### Roland Obituary (continued)

Chuck had a subtle wit, and was the author of several E.Y.D. additions to the literature one of which appeared in PJAMA (The Pseudo Journal of the American Medical Association), an invention of his fertile mind during his early days as editor at JAMA.

A meticulous researcher, I best remember him on several occasions at the Osler Library in shirtsleeves surrounded by books and manuscripts taking copious notes relating to his current project. Chuck served for many years on the Board of Curators of the Osler Library where he was a voice of reason and wisdom.

Just as Osler gave immortality to John Y. Bassett in "The Alabama Student" so did Roland in his biographies of Harold N. Segall and Archibald E. Malloch. A charter member of the American Osler Society, he remained active for forty years serving as governor, president, and historian, helping to preserve the fading memories of the early days of the Society and its founders. He received the Society's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007.

Following the tradition of Eli Lilly and Charles E. Frosst in presenting American and Canadian graduates with a copy of "Aequanimitas," Roland edited and introduced "Sir William Osler 1849-1919: A Selection for Medical Students" presented to Ontario medical students by the Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, as well as a translation for Francophone readers. Chuck Roland has left us an extraordinary multifaceted legacy that will continue to inspire and instruct our Oslerian efforts and ideals.

— **Dick Golden**

Knowing Chuck Roland helped dissipate my stereotypes. He had no pretensions. He was a humble man who came to medicine, history and Osler because he found a work ethic, and down to earth ideals to live by. Chuck took Osler as he was to be found, a man among men, with his "rough edges," a teacher who communicated openly with and gave himself fully to patients, students and colleagues (whom Chuck said it was difficult to emulate because of his natural reserve). Chuck's history was a way of learning about himself, his communities, his country and his profession. Through his work he helped us all to learn about ourselves, how we are, how we were, and how we have come to be. This was all possible because as an historian he 'dug wide and deep.' He also dedicated many years of hard work to this Society. It was good to know that he was there doing it, implicitly challenging us to think of how we could do it too, in our own way.

— **Joe Lella**

William Osler once began an obituary, "**For nearly thirty years I have enjoyed the friendship of Weir Mitchell, so that it is difficult for me to write in measured terms about his character and work.**" That message resonates as I share this personal reflection on the loss of a dear friend. I first met Chuck Roland in August 1976 at the 25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the History of Medicine. Chuck's letter sent the following month set the tone for a relationship that grew ever closer over the ensuing decades: "Thanks for your note...and a copy of your review of *The Evolution of Modern Medicine*. I enjoyed the review. I also enjoyed visiting with you on frequent occasions in Quebec City. I hope we will be able to continue the dialogue in the near future." He was then chairman of the Department of Biomedical Communications at the Mayo Clinic—little did I know that I would eventually wind up there. Chuck was secretary-treasurer of the American Osler Society when I became a member in 1978, and we saw each other almost every year thereafter. In addition to our shared interests in medical history and William Osler, Chuck and I collected things. He was a bibliophile who fueled my bibliomania with gifts and offers to acquire some wonderful things he accumulated over the decades: autographs, books, inscribed reprints, and memorabilia. We recently coauthored three biographical sketches on Canadian cardiologists. Sadly, our final paper, on Jonathan Meakins, has yet to appear. A few weeks before he died, Chuck sent me a copy of the December 1959 issue of the *University of Manitoba Medical Journal* with a note: "My first article relating to Osler." Entitled "Footsore in Montreal," it presaged a passion for medical history. He wrote fifty years ago, "Any doctor visiting Montreal should have high on his list a visit to the Bibliotheca Osleriana....an impressive marble doorway leads to the treasures inside." Chuck was so full of life it is hard to believe that he is gone. Chuck Roland's impact on so many aspects of medical history will be felt for generations. Today, he is sorely missed.

— **Bruce Fye**

*Your ideas for the **Oslerian** are of course most welcome! Direct all correspondence by e-mail to the editor at: [joebv2@aol.com](mailto:joebv2@aol.com)*



**IT'S NOT TOO EARLY to mark your calendar for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Osler Society, to be held in Rochester, Minnesota, April 26-29, 2010.**

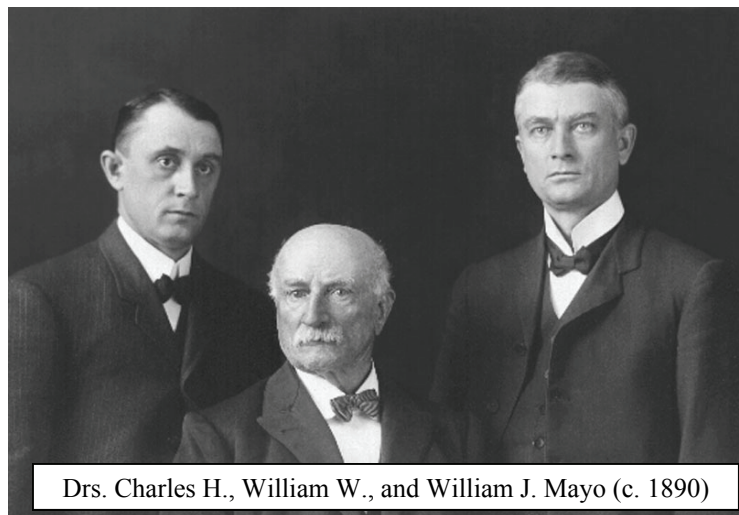
The 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Osler Society will be held at the Kahler Grand Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota, (<http://www.thekahlerhotel.com/>). The hotel is located in downtown Rochester across the street from Mayo Clinic. To help you plan your stay and learn more about what Rochester has to offer, please visit the Rochester Convention and Visitors Bureau web page at (<http://www.rochestercvb.org/>). The skyway and subway systems make it easy to navigate through downtown Rochester.

On Tuesday evening, the reception will be held at the Rochester Art Center. The exhibit at the center will feature more than 250 prints and engravings depicting a broad range of medical themes. Selected from W. Bruce Fye's personal collection, the works span five centuries: from a 1493 German woodcut *The Dance of Death* to Rosemary Covey's 1998 wood engraving *Antigenic Shift*. Most of the prints in the exhibit were produced in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries by artists and craftsmen who used various engraving, etching, or lithography techniques. They will be grouped thematically with major sections devoted to anatomy, patients in various contexts, nurses, portraits of physicians, surgical treatment and other therapies, military medicine, caricatures, and patent medicine advertisements.

There will be opportunities to go on self-guided tours of the Mayo Clinic Historical Suite where the last offices of Drs. Will and Charlie Mayo are displayed, the Mayo Clinic History of Medicine Library, Mayo Clinic Heritage Hall museum, a tour of the splendid Mayo Clinic art collection and Saint Marys Hospital, as well as a guided tour of the Plummer Building carillon bells. The banquet on Wednesday evening will be in the beautiful Landow Atrium in the Mayo Clinic Gonda Building (see photograph below).

For those of you interested in attending the American Association for the History of Medicine annual meeting, it too will be held at the Kahler Grand Hotel starting on Thursday, April 29 and ending on Sunday, May 2, 2010.

Questions regarding registration can be directed to the Mayo Clinic Continuing Medical Education (CME) Office at 800-323-2688 or [cme@mayo.edu](mailto:cme@mayo.edu). For all other questions, contact Renee Ziemer at 507-284-2585 or [ziemer.renee@mayo.edu](mailto:ziemer.renee@mayo.edu).



Drs. Charles H., William W., and William J. Mayo (c. 1890)

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**We're on the web!****Check us out at:****www.americanosler.org**

## Call for Abstracts for 2010 Annual Meeting in Rochester, MN 26-29 April, 2010

**Abstracts** should be sent by e-mail to: **timm.elizabeth@mayo.edu** with a copy to **mueller.pauls@mayo.edu** and must be **received** by 15 November 2009. Abstracts submitted by e-mail will be acknowledged. The abstract should be no longer than one page. It should begin with the complete title, the names of all co-authors, and the corresponding author's mailing address, telephone number, FAX, and e-mail address. This should be followed by a two to three sentence biographical sketch indicating how the author would like to be introduced. (This will probably be your entire introduction. Don't be modest!). The text should provide sufficient information for the Program Committee to determine its merits and possible interest to the membership. The problem should be defined and the conclusions should be stated. Phrases such as "will be presented" should be avoided or kept to a minimum.

**Three** learning objectives should be given after the abstract. Each learning objective should begin with an active verb indicating what attendees should be able to *do* after the presentation (for example, "list," "explain," "discuss," "examine," "evaluate," "define," "contrast," or "outline"; avoid noncommittal verbs such as "know," "learn," and "appreciate"). The learning objectives are required for Continuing Medical Education credit.

**A cover letter** should state: Whether any of the authors have a potential conflict-of-interest such as direct financial involvement in the topic being discussed, and whether there will be any mention of off-label use of drugs or other products during the presentation.

**Standard audiovisual equipment** will consist of a laptop computer and LCD projector. Presenters should carefully weigh, and justify, requests for additional AV equipment since this will add substantially to the cost of the meeting.

**Each presenter** will have a 20-minute time slot, which will be strictly enforced. **Presenters should rehearse and time their papers to 15 minutes**, in order to permit brief discussions and to be fair to the other speakers. Although 20 minutes might seem quite short for a paper in the humanities, our experience with this format has been overwhelmingly favorable.

**Abstracts will be accepted by e-mail up until 15 November 2009. Send with objectives and cover letter to: timm.elizabeth@mayo.edu with a copy to: mueller.pauls@mayo.edu. Please make submissions in Microsoft WORD format.**

**AOS Members — Please forward to the editor (joebv2@aol.com) information worth sharing with one another for MEMBERS IN THE NEWS column—JBV.**