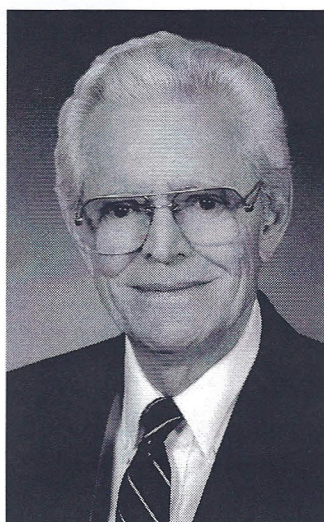


The Oslerian



IN MEMORIAM

John Phillip McGovern

2 June 1921-31 May 2007

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Memories of Jack McGovern

Greetings, Fellow Oslerians!

The sad news that Jack McGovern is gone from us reminds me of how I first (and last) met him.

Fifteen or twenty years ago, about the time I was first exposed to the American Osler Society, I got a call from Bill Anlyan who was then Duke's Chancellor for Health Affairs. Would I, he asked, be able to find time to examine a prominent Duke alumnus who wanted to "get checked over"? Dr. Anlyan often called on me for such tasks and I was happy to oblige. Thus I got a chance not just to talk with but to examine Jack McGovern, and to think with him about his health. I don't remember the details of

the encounter but I remember that I was struck by the rigor in which he regarded his own health and the great discipline he exerted to avoid anything that he thought might derail his health. Fortunately, there was no reason at that time for me to be anything other than reassuring about his health status.

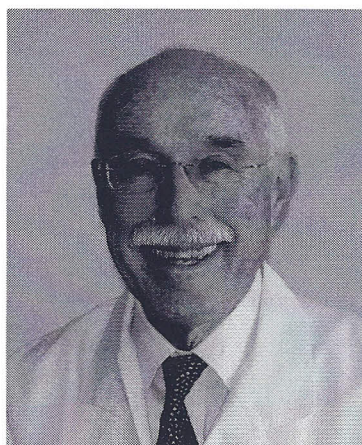
Afterwards, I got by mail a leather-bound copy of the *Collected Essays of William Osler* edited by McGovern and Charles Roland. It was more than I deserved, but I have cherished the three-volume set and use it often. It sits on my bookshelf now, a reminder of a moment in the clinic and of the truth articulated by Sir James Calvert Spence that "the essential unit

of medical practice is the occasion when, in the intimacy of the consulting room or sick room, a person who is ill, or believes himself to be ill, seeks the advice of a doctor whom he trusts. This is a consultation, and all else in the practice of medicine derives from it."

I am privileged to have been entrusted in such an intimate moment to meet Jack McGovern. I only wish that subsequent events had allowed us to build on our professional acquaintance, and for him to know how deeply his generosity has touched not just all Oslerians, but me personally.

Francis A. Neelon

neelo001@mc.duke.edu



Frank A. Neelon

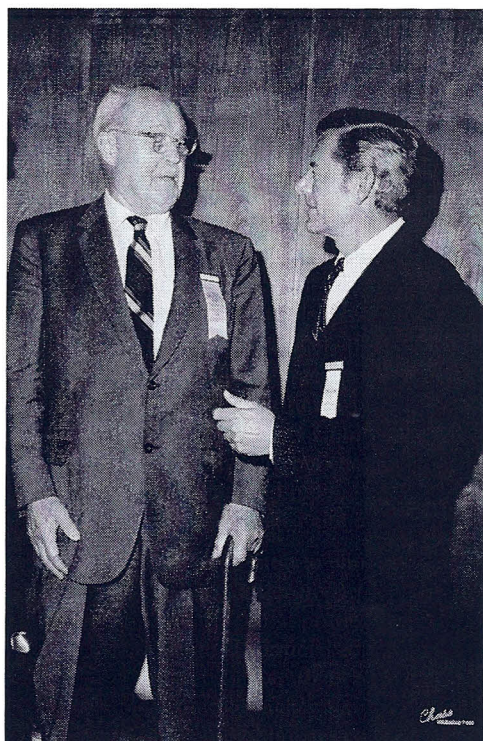
*In Memoriam***John Phillip McGovern**

John ("Jack") McGovern, a founder and constant benevolent friend to the American Osler Society and a generous supporter of a wide variety of medical-historical, educational, and scientific institutions, died in Galveston, Texas on 31 May 2007 at the age of 85.

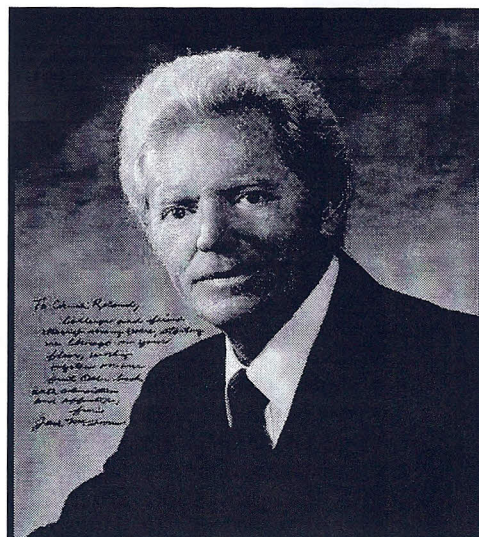
Jack was born in Walter Reed Hospital on 2 June 1921, the child of Dr. Francis X. McGovern, a general surgeon, and his wife. He was educated in schools in the Washington, D.C., area, before entering Duke University School of Medicine. There he had his historical epiphany, coming under the wing of his dean, Dr. Wilbur C. Davison, and through him a shared hero, Sir William Osler. While a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Davison had come to know and admire Osler, who became his lifelong hero. Davison passed this admiration along to Jack McGovern.

Jack McGovern also served his scientific apprenticeship at Duke. With characteristic energy, he designed a student project investigating immunization against whooping cough. He found that it was safe to vaccinate against the disease four months earlier than the then-accepted commencement at six months of age. Since whooping cough killed large numbers of babies younger than six months, this research had genuine clinical impact. This experience set Jack on a road to significant investigations of a wide variety of medical topics, especially those related to allergy and immunology.

Jack graduated from Duke in 1945, interned at Yale, and then became Captain J.P. McGovern, United States Army Medical Corps, 1946 to 1948. During this last assignment, Jack, already training as a pediatrician, was given charge of a paraplegic ser-



Jack McGovern (right) with Wilbur Davison during an early meeting of what became the American Osler Society.



John Phillip McGovern

vice—cynically, what one expects of armed services everywhere—while stationed at McGuire Hospital in Richmond, Virginia.

On discharge, Jack returned to Duke for two years as an assistant resident in pediatrics. One of his colleagues there has described him as weighing "at least 120 pounds, always carrying reference books, and always one step ahead of the pack of interns and residents and one step behind Dean Davison."¹ From Duke, Jack went on to serve as chief resident, Children's Hospital of the District of Columbia, 1950 to 1951. During this period he received the John and Mary R. Markle Scholarship.

For five years after completing his residency, Jack practiced pediatrics full time, connected first with the George Washington Medical School, then with Tulane Medical School. Often, he eased trepidation among his patients with disarming feats of magic and sleight of hand. He was a skilled and inspiring bedside practitioner, emulating both Osler and Davison. Early in this period, Jack became deeply interested in sarcoidosis. In 1956 he published a review of the disease that remains a major reference.²

In 1956, Jack made his last professional move, geographically. He began practice in Houston, Texas, specializing in allergic disorders, particularly those affecting children. Soon, the McGovern Allergy Clinic was instituted, a clinic still functioning vigorously in his chosen city and purportedly the largest private allergy clinic in the world. Valuable clinically, it became renowned also as a cite for postgraduate training in the field.

But in addition to clinical work, Jack nurtured his interest in Sir William Osler in particular, and in medical history in general. A substantial portion of his published work relates to this avocation. His crucial role in founding the American Osler Society is well known to all members.³ Even though his health has not permitted Jack's active participation in recent AOS meetings, his initial impact continues to resonate to our benefit thanks to generous financial grants made through the charitable John P. McGovern Foundation. (Dr. McGovern was also president of the McGovern Fund for the Behavioral Sciences.)

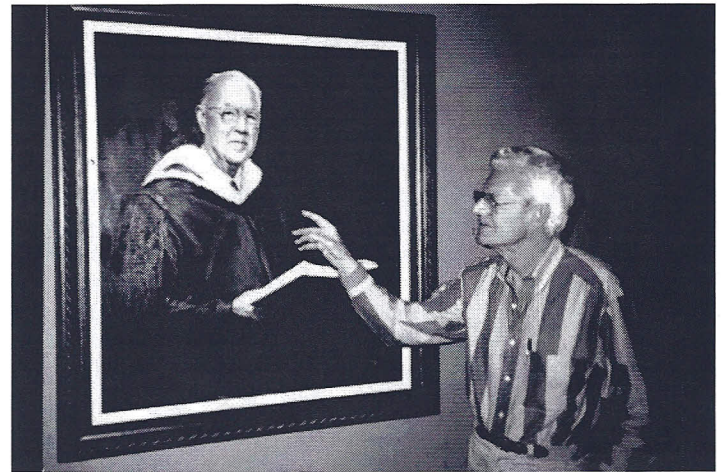
This generosity has been extended broadly, in support both of clinical and of historical causes. Eponymous chairs and awards abound, offering concrete indication of financial support. To mention just two especially important areas of support in recent years, it was the McGovern Foundation contribution that made it possible for Green College, Oxford, to purchase the old Osler home at 13 Norham Gardens, and that substantially underwrote the major renovations to modernize the Osler Library at McGill University. Nor are all benefactions made publicly; anonymous assistance has been very much a fact providing invaluable aid to many. In 2001, the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine was established at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. In an inspired, subtle tribute to Sir William, the Academy presents an annual award to a gifted house officer: the Thayer Award, named for W. S. Thayer, Osler's chief resident at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Jack's influence remains evident.

Jack's bibliography includes more than 220 articles or chapters and 22 books of which he is variously author, co-author, or editor. He has been honored with an impressive array of awards, medals, honorary degrees, named lectureships, scholarships, and honorary memberships. He was a member of both Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha. In 1973-1974 he chaired the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine.

I met Jack in Houston in 1967, thanks to a suggestion of my editor-in-chief at the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Our interests overlapped in many areas of medical history—particularly in matters relating to Sir William Osler. His enthusiasm and bottomless energy proved infectious. Among his friends and colleagues, Jack's energy was legendary. In the late 1960's, he



Jack McGovern with Wilburt Davison



Jack McGovern admiring a portrait of his mentor, Wilburt Davison

spent a weekend in my home in Wilmette, Illinois. When Monday came, exhausted, I realized we had wrapped up all the necessary planning for a substantial project—the fruit of which was a book that appeared two years later.⁴

We collaborated on many projects, always an invigorating and happy experience. We edited a number of books. One of the most important tasks was the founding of the American Osler Society, though in this case he was certainly the leader. I shall miss our exchange of ideas, the hour-long telephone conversations, and the good company.

Jack is survived by his wife, Kathy (nee Katherine Dunbar Galbreath).

Charles G. Roland
Historian-Archivist
The American Osler Society

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1. Caddy JA. In: *Appreciations, Reminiscences, and Tributes Honoring John P. McGovern*. Houston: Health Sciences Institute; 1980: 72. This volume, created in the Irish sense of celebrating the life before the wake, has happily done so by a quarter of a century and more.
2. Kendig EL Jr. In: *Appreciations, Reminiscences, and Tributes Honoring John P. McGovern*. Houston: Health Sciences Institute; 1980: 67.
3. Roland CG. The formative years of the American Osler Society. *Osler Library Newsletter* 2000 (93): 1-5. Reprinted in *The Oslerian* 2000; 1 (3 and 4): 5-7.
4. McGovern JP, Roland CG, eds. *William Osler: The Continuing Education*. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas; 1969.

Reminiscences

Memories of Jack McGovern

I was born and went through high school in Texas. I even applied to the University of Texas School of Medicine but was rejected. They said that I was no longer a citizen of Texas, hence was ineligible, since I had been gone for five years and attended college elsewhere. However, my acquaintance with that other Texan, Jack McGovern, did not begin until after the American Osler Society was organized. Through Osler-related activities thereafter I came to know him fairly well, as friend and coauthor.

In 1959, well before the inception of the American Osler Society, I had privately printed the historical snippets published in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* under the title, "Of Men and Books." I gave the assembled collection the same title. I distributed these among known Oslerians and medical libraries. Jack McGovern was one who expressed his warm appreciation and invited me to come fishing with him off the coast of Galveston. Alas, that opportunity never presented itself.

Jack and I continued to meet at annual meetings of the American Osler Society after 1970. In the late nineteen-seventies I showed him a manuscript I had prepared concerning the correspondence between Osler and a former student and devotee, C.N.B. Camac, author of *Counsels and Ideals From the Writings of Sir William Osler*. After reading the manuscript he asked that I let him join me in writing the introduction and funding the publication. He wanted something of the sort to give to his senior medical students and to members of the American Osler Society. We called it *Student and Chief*. Jack and I signed a copy for each member of the American Osler Society attending the 1980 meeting in Boston. Jack had requested that it match, in cover and format, Camac's *Counsels and Ideals*.

Over the years I had been gathering material published about Osler. As I read each piece I made notations about it on a three by five card. Jack McGovern wanted to see this project when he heard about it. I sent him my large collection of cards. They were arranged alphabetically but not otherwise edited or altered. After he and some of his people had gone through this material Jack became enthusiastic about its publication. We agreed that it needed professional editing. He enlisted the help of Charles Roland for this task.

Jack McGovern was on the Board of Kent State University and offered to fund the publication of the material by that university's press. Charles Roland, as I recall, suggested the title, *An Annotated Checklist of Osleriana*. This publication took a while to finalize and necessitated many telephone conversations and much correspondence with Jack McGovern. There were invitations to visit him in Galveston. I was very busy and never was able to visit Jack until the occasion of the annual meeting in Houston and Galveston in 2004. I wished him adieu at that time. I owe him much gratitude, as a friend and co-author.

Earl F. Nation



Jack McGovern (left), Palmer Howard, and Earl Nation signing copies of *Student and Chief* at an early meeting of the American Osler Society in Boston.

AOS Members Recall Jack McGovern's Generosity

Perhaps less well known to the AOS members were Jack's remarkable gifts to the Texas Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine. He supported the History of Medicine program at BCM, donated money for a new clinic building, was the financial mover behind Houston's Museum of Medicine, and made many other contributions too numerous to mention here. Even failing health did not preclude his ongoing generosity. He was a man to be admired on many levels.

—Bruce R. Parker

Jack McGovern was the Founder and driving force behind the American Osler Society. His kindness and generosity have been responsible for the perpetuation of Oslerian ideals throughout the world. Despite ill health, his enthusiasm for everything Oslerian never wavered. When Rob and I visited Jack and Kathy in 2003 to film an interview, this enthusiasm was obvious. I'm glad we were able to formally honor Jack at the 2004 AOS meeting in Houston-Galveston.

—Marvin J. Stone

It is clear that the Osler Library at McGill University would not be where it is today without Dr. McGovern's generosity. How fortunate to have had our recent meeting in Houston, with a visit to Galveston, so that those from far away could appreciate his staggering generosity.

—Pamela J. Miller

Although Jack McGovern had considerable funds to support many worthwhile causes he did not impose his own views as a condition of his largesse and he did not seek undue kudos for his generosity. His spirit will be commemorated in the American Osler Society's annual John P. McGovern Lectureship.

—Peter Warren

Jack McGovern, A Renaissance Man of the Twentieth Century

I first met Jack McGovern in 1974 at the fourth annual meeting of the American Osler Society in Philadelphia. I had written Jack requesting a reprint of one of his papers. With the reprint he sent a note inquiring about my interest in Osler. Over a period of six months or so we continued to write one another. In one of his notes, he asked if I wouldn't like to attend the upcoming meeting of the Society. As it happened, I was to be in Bethesda a few days earlier for a meeting at the NIH, and I had a collaborator at The University of Pennsylvania that I needed to see, and thus I readily accepted.

At that meeting held at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Jack was president, Edward C. Rosenow was vice-president, Raymond D. Pruitt was secretary, and Alfred R. Henderson was treasurer-historian. The meeting itself occupied only one half-day—an afternoon. William B. Bean spoke on "Osler's Clubs," Ilza Veith considered "Osler as an acupuncturist," and Charles G. Roland edified us on "Osler's Rough Edge." Jack was to present the Presidential Address: "Wilburt C. Davison (1892-1972)—Apostle of the Oslerian Tradition."

The evening banquet was particularly memorable for me. At the social hour everyone was quite friendly and I had to speak with several old friends including Chester Burns and K. Garth Huston, Sr., the latter who was a year ahead of me in medical school. When the time approached for the banquet itself with the Presidential Address, Jack took me aside and informed me that the banquet was for members only, and that I would have to leave. Thus, I walked upstairs to spend the evening in the College library.

The following morning, it happened that Jack and I shared a cab, riding together to the Philadelphia airport several miles to the south of the city. We had a most enjoyable conversation. At the air terminal, as we disembarked, I paid the cabbie, giving him a generous tip. Jack was visibly disturbed: "No, no, I'll take care of that." He seemed almost surprised and annoyed that someone would not take advantage of his largesse.

A month or so later, Jack again wrote, suggesting that I might prepare something for one of the meetings. It was two years later that I was able to attend the meeting held at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. The rest is history.

The last time I saw Jack McGovern was ten years ago, in 1997, at his winter home in Indian Wells. Joe Lella had come to Southern California to pursue some interests historical. Although many of the details escape me, it was a great visit. One evening we drove into Pasadena to have an enjoyable dinner with Earl F. Nation. The following evening we drove out to the Choachella Valley to see Jack at Indian Wells. Jack recounted a number of anecdotes about Wilburt Davison, his mentor and the dean at Duke University School of Medicine. He also spoke of Osler, elaborating on details about which neither Joe nor I were well informed. As an aside, quite surprising to me, in showing us through his home Jack informed us that the furnishings were just as they had been purchased with the house, furniture, Japanese prints on the walls, china, even the linens and kitchen utensils. Joe and I had a most wonderful time.

My last contact with Jack was while I was editing the AOS McGovern Lectures for *Our Lords, the Sick*... He was most interested in the progress of the volume, and through his administrative assistant we communicated about once a month.

Jack was a most interesting, and sometimes inscrutable, human being. He could be one of the most charming individuals I have ever known. His passion for things Oslerian knew no limits. But don't be misled; he also could be quite tough-minded. We were blessed that as a young medical student Dean Wilburt Davison recognized the spark, the keen mind, and the passion that contributed to Jack's becoming one of the legendary disciples of Osler as well as Davison. Indeed, we have been richly blessed.

Lawrence D. Longo

A Privileged Friendship with John P. McGovern

It is an overwhelming task to choose only a few of the privileged moments and events associated with Jack and his wife Kathy McGovern that tell of one of the most important relationships in my life. Dean Wilburt C. Davison of Duke University School of Medicine requested that I attend the first meeting of the American Osler Society in Denver Colorado, 1971, in order to meet Jack McGovern, who founded the society; Wilder Penfield, who was expected to attend; as well a group of Osler disciples—these persons would later change and benefit my career in medicine and the humanities. Jack McGovern and Earl Nation introduced me to friends for life, including some I had met at Duke: Dr. George T. Harrell, builder of medical schools; William B. Bean, who gave us *Osler's Aphorisms*; Martin M. Cummings, director of the National Library of Medicine; Charles Roland, our Oslerian historian; and

other distinguished persons who would lead the American Osler Society. These short discussions over two days about Davison, Osler, pediatrics, and many aspects of Duke University fueled our friendships for a lifetime. The enduring span of time and growth of the Society illustrate Jack's abilities to organize and inspire.

On another occasion I truly realized Jack's greatness and monumental impact on medicine, pediatrics, allergy, immunology, local and national leadership in child health, education, medical history, ethics, humanities, and philanthropy was during a two-day visit to Houston, Texas, when I visited his home, The McGovern Library, The McGovern Allergy Clinic, and the McGovern Foundation. In the clinic, children of different ages paid great attention to him, ran into him, and drew his smiles. The staff was completely respectful and freely established conversation with him. A meeting with the medi-

cal staff was well organized with excellent participation; the students and residents gave him perfect attention. He answered questions with expert and cordial replies, even with several telephone interruptions. Afterwards I visited The Museum of Health and Medical Sciences and the McGovern Children's Zoo, which gave him such great pleasure. Jack was an extraordinary person; he used his time wisely to benefit all in an almost unbelievable number of endeavors. I truly understood why Davison had said, "Jack could have done anything he set out to do."

Jack was a gifted, learned conversationalist, and we felt free to discuss any and a great variety of subjects. Before we retired for the evening, we were waxing philosophically and he gave me the statement, "We have been fortunate in our lives to have such won-

derful careers, great mentors, beautiful and wonderful wives, good friends and challenges and opportunities to fulfill," and then: "To serve and to love are the greatest action and ethical verbs in our language, and to serve and to love are the greatest ideals for medicine and life." This quotation has been on the wall in front of my desk next to Jack's photograph for years.

Jack has been a shining example to all who have benefited from his great knowledge, wisdom, service for children, and philanthropy. Our parting word for four decades was *Agape*. The life and legacy of John P. McGovern have blessed mankind and will continue to remind us of the highest virtues and important values for medicine and life.

Billy F. Andrews

The Osler-McGovern Tradition Thrives in Galveston, Texas

Google the "John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine" and you'll find a marvelous web site that begins as follows:

In 2001, Houston physician-philanthropist John P. McGovern donated \$5 million to provide endowments for the William Osler Scholars: practicing physicians on the School of Medicine faculty selected based on their history of giving highly competent, humane, compassionate care and serving as outstanding teachers and role models for these qualities. Each Osler Scholar holds the honor for five years; together, they comprise the new John P. McGovern, M.D., Academy of Oslerian Medicine.

The site then tells how it all began. In 1942, Jack McGovern sat nervously in the office of Wilburt C. Davison, founding dean of Duke University School of Medicine, not knowing quite what to do with himself while Davison dealt with telephone interruptions during McGovern's crucial interview for medical school. Finally, McGovern got up and began to look at the photographs on the office wall. He was struck especially by the image of "a man with a walrus moustache and dark, piercing eyes." When Davison finally got off the phone, McGovern asked him "Who's that?" Thus began a mentor-protégé relationship between McGovern and Davison remarkably similar to the relationship between Davison and Osler. The rest is history.

In December 2006 I was privileged to be the first Visiting Scholar at the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine, an experience that exceeded my high expectations. The highlight was of course a visit with Jack and Kathy McGovern at their home on the west end of the Galveston Island, arranged for me by Sandy Sheehy. Jack, despite his frail health and failing memory, was a stimulating conversationalist. We talked at some length about the various personages represented in his library. And we talked about birds—Galveston is a Mecca for amateur bird watchers and the McGoverns were avid enthusiasts. I'd spent my two years of obligatory service time at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Galveston, and I often went out to Eight Mile Road, not far from the McGovern residence. I was delighted to find on my return visit that old friends such as the yellow-crowned night heron and the roseate spoonbill were still there, joined by a handsome



Jack and Kathy McGovern at their home on Galveston Island, December 2006

newcomer, the sandhill crane. Numerous artifacts in the McGovern home bore witness to this common interest.

Another highlight was the opportunity to spend an evening with the Osler Student Scholars at the home of Jack and Lynn Alperin. The McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine selects each year four students: two rising sophomores and two students entering the second, third, or fourth years. Each of these students receives \$10,000 per year, continuing until the expected date of graduation. Here's the Mission Statement for the Osler Student Scholars:

The Osler Student Scholars of the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine, inspired by the life of Sir William Osler, are dedicated to the principles of compassionate and patient-centered care, the science of medicine, and the preservation of professionalism. The mission of the Osler Student Scholars is to cultivate these principles by promoting a balance between humanism and science in the practice of medicine, by advocating for leadership and responsibility in the medical community, and by fostering a sense of idealism in the daily care of patients.



Jack Alperin presides over a pizza supper with John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine student scholars and their significant others. (Lynn Alperin is seated at Jack's right; guest Donna Bryan is at the far right.)

Using selected Osler aphorisms as springboards for conversation, I probed the students' understanding and appreciation of various Oslerian ideals. I was impressed!

I also spent time with Faculty Osler Scholars, who are nominated by their peers on the basis of "their devotion to the art of compassionate care and for excelling as role models for students and other physicians." Barbara Thompson (chair of the UTMB Department of Family Medicine) and Joan Richardson (vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics) showed us (by "us" I include my wife, Donna, and also my daughter, Chandlee, who was born at the John Sealy Hospital at UTMB) their incredible, recently-renovated home on Galveston Bay and then took us to dinner at the Artillery Club, said to be the oldest private club in Texas. They then turned me over to my host for the visit, Jack Alperin, a hematologist who has won nearly every teaching award to be had on Galveston Island. I also spent time with Judy Aronson, a pathologist; Frederick Huang, a pediatric oncologist; Kristine Gugliuzza, a transplant surgeon; Mark Holden, a general internist; and Robert Beach, Assistant Dean for Educational Development. What impressed me most about the Osler Scholars was their obvious pride in holding this highly visible position, which carries the obligation to exemplify Oslerian ideals to the rest of the medical community.

Jack Alperin told me of the plans for a permanent home for the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine in the old St. Mary's Hospital building adjacent to the UTMB campus. Other activities of the Academy include: (1) a Thayer Teaching Award for Residents, based on nominations by medical students; (2) a John P. McGovern Lifetime Achievement Award in Oslerian Medicine for faculty members, former students, and/or former residents; (3) an Oslerian Pathology Project; (4) a John D. and Mary Ann Stobo Scholarship; (5) A John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine Scholarship; (6) a McGovern Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society; (7) Student Osler Societies; and (8) twice-monthly meetings of the academy on the first and third Tuesdays "to study Osler and to develop ways to integrate the ideals and examples of Sir William Osler into the UTMB curriculum and culture." The McGovern-Osler tradition indeed thrives in Galveston!

—CSB



John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine faculty Osler scholar Barbara Thompson and Mary Alice O'Donell, who chairs UTMB's Project on Medical Professionalism, strike a pose on Mary Alice's dock, Galveston, Island. The O'Donell home is a noted bird sanctuary.

Oslerian Progress Notes

The Endocrine Society announces the development of the **Clark T. Sawin Memorial Library**, which will be the world's first library containing a comprehensive collection of materials related to the history of endocrinology. The nucleus for the collection will be Clark's personal collection of more than 5,300 books along with other materials. A generous contribution from Clark's widow, Mrs. Leslie Sawin, along with a \$250,000 commitment from the Endocrine Society Council, will stimulate a strategic planning initiative. The Society is now working toward establishment of a one million dollar endowment to support the library's construction, start-up costs, ongoing projects (including an impressive oral history project), and a research fellowship. For more information, contact the website (<http://www.endo-society.org/Sawin/index.cfm>) or Nancy Chill ([301] 941 0203 or nchill@endo-society.org).

Martin L. Dalton is now Dean of Mercer University School of Medicine, Macon, Georgia.

Herbert L. Fred received the Award for Excellence in Editorial Writing at the annual meeting of the Federation of State Medical Boards on May 5, 2007.

Charles F. Wooley has written (with Barbara A. Van Brinner) *The Second Blessing: Columbus Medicine and Health—The Early Years*.

AMERICAN OSLER SOCIETY

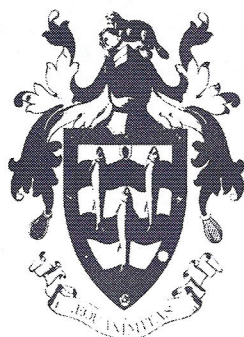
American Osler Society
Charles S. Bryan, M.D., Secretary-Treasurer
2 Medical Park, Suite 502
Columbia, SC 29203

Phone: 803-540-1000
Fax: 803-540-1072
Email: cbryan@gw.mp.sc.edu

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Aequanimitas

The Oslerian is published approximately four times a year by the American Osler Society, Inc., a non-profit organization. Members of the American Osler Society are encouraged to send news items of interest, including but by no means limited to their personal activities and accomplishments and accompanied by photographs or other illustrations. For distribution of reprints and other materials of possible interest to AOS members, please send 180 copies. Your ideas for *The Oslerian* are of course most welcome! Direct all correspondence by mail, fax, or e-mail to the Secretary-Treasurer.

The American Osler Society has been founded for the purpose of bringing together members of the medical and allied professions who are, by their common inspiration, dedicated to memorialize and perpetuate the just and charitable life, the intellectual resourcefulness and the ethical example of **William Osler** (1849-1919).

This, for the benefit of succeeding generations, that their motives be ever more sound, that their vision be on everbroadening horizons, and that they sail not as Sir Thomas Browne's Ark, without oars and without rudder and sails and, therefore, without direction.

Call for Abstracts for 2008 Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, 4-7 May

The Board of Governors will meet on Sunday, 4 May. Assuming that we once again have a surplus of abstracts, we will meet through noon on Wednesday, 7 May.

For several years we have received more quality submissions that can be accommodated. The Program Committee will be chaired by the First Vice-President, Joseph W. Lella. Please note the following guidelines for submission of abstracts (some of these are required for Continuing Medical Education credits):

1. Abstracts can be sent by e-mail to: smitche@gw.mp.sc.edu or by regular mail. If sent by e-mail they must be **received** by 1 November 2007; if sent by regular mail, they must be **received** by 15 November 2007. Early submission is encouraged. Abstracts submitted by e-mail will be acknowledged. However, we will not be responsible for lost e-mail submissions.
2. 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.
3. 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"), which is required for Continuing Medical Education.
4. Standard audiovisual equipment will consist of a computer and an LCD projector. Presenters should request additional equipment only if absolutely necessary on account of the additional expense that must be incurred by the Society.
5. All presentations except the special lectures will ordinarily occupy a 20-minute time slot. Our experience has been that 20-minute slots, with the papers carefully rehearsed and timed to 15 minutes, work quite well for nearly all presentations and allow time for discussion. Presenters should justify requests for additional time.
6. A cover letter should state whether any of the authors has 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.

Abstracts will be accepted by e-mail up until 1 November 2007 (smitche@gw.mp.sc.edu) or by regular mail up until 15 November 2007. If submitting by regular mail, please send five copies of the abstract, a computer diskette containing the abstract (ideally in Microsoft Word format), and a cover letter to: Charles S. Bryan, Secretary-Treasurer, American Osler Society, Two Medical Park, Suite 502, Columbia, SC 29203. Again, the deadline for receipt by e-mail is 1 November 2007 and by regular mail 15 November 2007.