



SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Historical Research Center, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library

No. 4
2013

Newsletter

Fall 2012—Spring

Fall 2012 Dinner Meeting



Dr. Joseph Bates, speaker at the 31st annual dinner of the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions.

Preserving and making accessible the health sciences history of Arkansas.

Society for the History of
Medicine and the Health
Professions

To hear people tell it, tuberculosis has always been around, and is coming back, and its bad, and there is no easy cure. Some people have relatives that lived at the Sanatorium in Boonville, and some have relatives that died there.

Dr. Joe Bates is one of the people who had someone they loved die there, and that death is probably what made him so interested in finding out everything he could about the disease, and the best way to treat it. His interest and knowledge is so consistent and continuing that when tuberculosis is talked about among health professionals, Dr. Bates' name usually comes into the conversation. Presently he is Deputy State Health Officer, Arkansas Department of Health as well as Associate Dean for the UAMS College of Public Health.

When he spoke at the thirty first annual meeting of the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions on September 6, 2012, his presentation was called "The History of TB: a brief look at the history of tuberculosis with special attention to Arkansas."

Important points included the fact that while skeletons with indications of tuberculosis have been found dating to as early as 4000 BC, and scrofula was present in Europe, it wasn't until people began living in cities that pulmonary tuberculosis grew to epi-

demographic proportions. Another important fact was that Native Americans had no problem with tuberculosis until Europeans began to move into North America.

Even more interesting was the fact that while tuberculosis deaths occurred among slave ship crew members, tuberculosis was not mentioned as a problem for slaves and was uncommon among slaves living in the United States. However, it became a major problem for African Americans after emancipation.

After touching on the major points about the discovery of the tuberculosis bacilli and the drugs to treat it, Dr. Bates focused on the Sanatorium Movement, the way it was presented in Arkansas, and the details involved in the change from sanatorium treatment to outpatient treatment. This treatment change was based on the results of studies using available drugs and other types of research.

Dr. Bates was involved with the change from the Sanatorium Movement to the outpatient treatment and was able to give background and insight to the facts:

- He helped develop a tuberculosis bed unit at Jefferson Regional Hospital in Pine Bluff in 1967.
- The movement to outpatient treatment experienced great opposition from the State Medical Society, the Tuberculosis Association, and the State Sanatorium Board and staff.
- The Arkansas State Legislature made the funds available for outpatient treatment by subtracting the needed amount from the Sanatorium budget.
- Great support was received from Senator Doug Brandon and Arkansas Gazette writer Bill Lewis.

The results from the Jefferson Hospital Program:

- Average length of stay – 14 days.
- Patients were discharged on chemotherapy while sputum smears and cultures were still positive for the TB organism
- Follow-up of household contacts – there were no new infections among the household members after the patients returned home.

These results were well received nationally and internationally and were rapidly adopted in the United States. The two sanatoria in Arkansas were closed by 1972, and about 600 sanatoria in the United States closed by 1977.

Arkansas' present tuberculosis case rate is now lower than the national average at 2.9 per 100,000; in 1952 the rate was 90 per 100,000.

A lively discussion followed Dr. Bates' excellent presentation.

Dr. Bachelor's Legacy

All too frequently the lives and experiences of early Arkansas physicians are known only to their descendants, if at all. Often, only their obituaries, their listings in the *American Medical Directory*, and perhaps a record of their membership in the Arkansas Medical Society, survive to provide some limited information. Fortunately for historians and the general public curious about Arkansas history, and particularly the history of the medical profession in Arkansas, some early physicians left behind papers, diaries and records of medical cases.

The descendants of Wilson R. Bachelor, MD, have preserved historical documents about his medical practice in Arkansas. At the October 2009 annual dinner meeting of the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions, two of Dr. Bachelor's descendants, Dr. William L. Lindsey and Bill Russell, gave a presentation on Dr. Bachelor's life as a physician in western Arkansas during the late 1800's. The historical information preserved in his diary and a scrapbook of newspaper articles he wrote was of great interest to the members of the Society. Dr. Lindsey and Mr. Russell worked with relatives to bring the diary back to Arkansas from California to be donated to the UAMS Library's Historical Research Center, where it was conserved and digitally scanned for preservation purposes.

Dr. Lindsey and Mr. Russell also transcribed and annotated Dr. Bachelor's diary and gathered other information in hopes of publishing a book about his work. They and Stephen Schafer from Institutional Advancement worked with Mary Ryan, UAMS Library Director, and Amanda Saar, Head of the Historical Research Center, to gather more information about Dr. Bachelor and to identify options for publication of the book.

Fiat Flux: the Writings of Wilson R. Bachelor, Nineteenth-Century Arkansas Country Doctor and Philosopher is scheduled for publication by the University of Arkansas Press in May of this year. *Fiat Flux* was edited by Dr. Lindsey and contains a forward by Dr. Tom Bruce and an afterword by Dr. Jonathan Wolfe, both of whom are members of the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions.

It is this type of activity with which the Society is eager to be involved. Dr. Bachelor was both a physician of the late 1800's and a person who questioned a great deal about the beliefs and activities of his time. While there were probably others of his type, Dr. Bachelor's diary and writings survived to be treasured by his descendants and shared with others through publication, and through the conservation and preservation services of the UAMS Historical Research Center and the support from the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions.

Former Library Director Dies

Audrey Newcomer, UAMS Library Director from 1991 to 1996, died December 5, 2012 after suffering a massive stroke. She is survived by her husband Gary, and sons Gary and John.

Audrey began her career in the medical library field at the Washington University School of Medicine Library, and in 1981 she moved to the University of Nebraska Medical Center as the Associate Director for Technical Services at McGoogan Library of Medicine. From her position at UAMS, she went to St. Louis University as the Director of the Health Sciences Library. She left that position in 2001, and In December of 2001 she moved into the position of Director of Archives and Records at the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

In her memory, the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions made a donation of \$250.00 to the UAMS Library's Rose Hogan Endowment Fund. This Fund had been a special project of Audrey's while she was director, and all consulted considered it a fitting memorial.

Dolores Fay Bruce

A lifetime member of the Society, Dolores Bruce, 83, of Little Rock died Jan. 11, 2013.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Thomas A. Bruce, also a lifetime member. Other survivors are her children Thomas Bruce of Niles, Michigan and Dana Thomas of Little Rock, 4 grandchildren, and a sister, Anita Higginbotham.

She was a person who was actively engaged in the communities in which she lived throughout her life. In the past several years she received numerous awards for her activities, including the Double Helix Award from UAMS and the President's Award as Philanthropist of the Year by the Arkansas Chapter of the American Society of Professional Fundraisers.

A memorial was held at 2 pm Friday, January 18, 2013 in the Lucy Lockett Festival Theatre at Wildwood Park for the Arts.

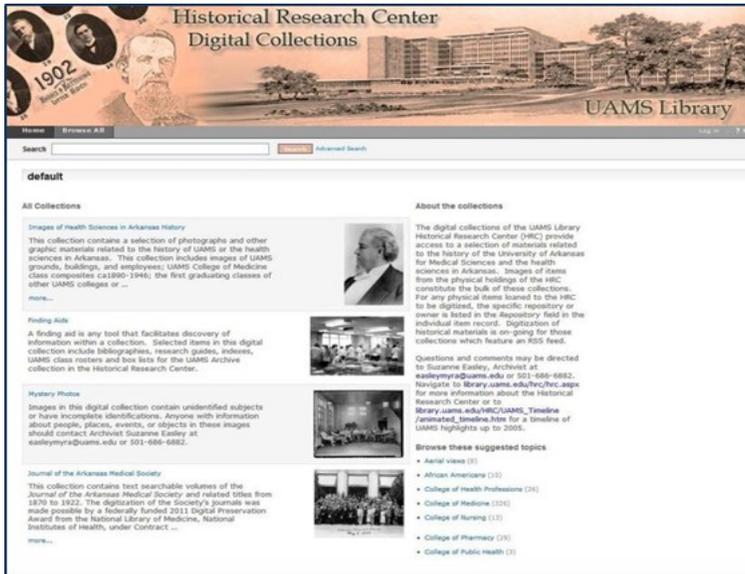
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Dolores Bruce memorial Fund at the Arkansas Community Foundation, 1400 W. Markham St. Little Rock 72201.

Copies Still Available

Copies of *Contributions to Arkansas Medical History*, volume 1 and volume 2, are still available from the HRC, as are copies of W. David Baird's *Medical Education in Arkansas 1879-1978*. For details, contact Amanda Saar at SaarAmandaE@uams.edu or 501-686-6733.

Historical Research Center Digital Collections -- New Look and New Collection

The digital collections website of the Historical Research Center in the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library has a new appearance and new features. The new URL is <http://hrcdigitalcoll.uams.edu/cdm>.



A major change is the addition of a main landing page which provides descriptions and a sample image for each individual digital collection. Users will also find general information pertaining to all the digital collections, browsing and keyword search options, and suggested search topics on this page. Links to individual landing pages for each digital collection provide further information about the collection's scope and content as well as thumbnail images of recent additions.

Users may also enable an RSS function to be notified whenever new items are added to that particular collection.

The Historical Research Center is also proud to announce the addition of a new digital collection containing 14,984 page images and searchable text from journals published by the Arkansas Medical Society from 1870 to 1922. Consulted frequently for biographical research, these articles are also a significant source of information regarding medical knowledge, education, practice, and social attitudes toward the treatment and prevention of disease in Arkansas. Fifty-four volumes were digitized in-house by Library staff using equipment purchased with a federally funded 2011 Digital Preservation Award (National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health Contract No. HHSN-276-2011-00007-C with the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library). With the completion of this project, the HRC staff plans to begin digitizing other frequently consulted historical materials including yearbooks, matriculation records, and physician directories.

Check out the new website and let us know what you think. Your feedback helps the HRC staff prioritize digitization and preservation efforts. We may also be able to provide or recommend additional materials related to your topic of interest.

Send questions, comments, or suggestions to Suzanne Easley, Archivist at easleymy-ra@uams.edu.

Edward Durell Stone and UAMS

The first building of what is now the UAMS campus was the hospital, designed by a team of architects that included Edward Durell Stone. In October of 1949, the UA trustees appointed the Little Rock firm of Erhart, Eichenbaum, and Rauch as architects for the then new hospital. Later in 1949, at the insistence of UA President Jones, Edward D. Stone of New York, but a native of Fayetteville, became a part of the architectural team.

Stone's early buildings are considered important examples of modern architecture. The UAMS Medical Center, designed with his input in the early 1950's, was photographed from various angles and points of view by members of the Medical Illustration Department when it was first built. Those photographs are part of the UAMS Library's HRC collection. In the past two years requests were received from the authors of two new books about Stone for photographs of the UAMS Medical Center after it was built. The HRC now owns copies of those books:

Hunting, Mary Anne. *Edward Durell Stone.; Modernism's Populist Architect*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2012.

Stone, Hicks. *Edward Durell Stone: a son's untold story of a legendary architect*. NY: Rizzoli, 2011.

To see these books, and/or the photographs of the hospital as originally designed, feel free to come by the Historical Research Center on the second floor of the UAMS Library.

For more information, contact Amanda Saar or April Hughes at 501-686-6733 (SaarAmandaE@uams.edu; HughesAprilS@uams.edu)



**SOCIETY FOR THE
HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND
THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

Historical Research Center, UAMS Library

2013 Membership Invitation

Please join the Society's efforts to acquire, preserve, and make accessible the history of the health sciences in Arkansas in 2013.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Student Membership | \$5.00 |
| Individual Membership | \$15.00 |
| Family Membership | \$25.00 |
| Sustaining Membership | \$100.00 |
| Patron Membership | \$200.00 |
| Benefactor Membership | \$500.00 |
| Life Membership | \$2500.00 |

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Please make check payable to the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions, or SHMHP.

Send to: SHMHP
UAMS Library # 586
4301 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205-7199

Phone: 501-686-6733

Web site: <http://www.library.uams.edu/hrc/SHMHP.htm>

Email: SaarAmandaE@uams.edu

Historical Research
Center
UAMS Library

586
4301 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72205-
7199

Phone: 501-686-6733
Fax: 501-296-1423

Email:
SaarAmandaE@uams.edu

Web:
UAMS Library:
www.library.uams.edu

Historical Research Center:
www.library.uams.edu/hrc/
hrc.aspx

Society for the History of
Medicine and the Health
Professions:
[http://www.library.uams.edu/
hrc/HMA.htm](http://www.library.uams.edu/hrc/HMA.htm)

The Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions grew out of the History of Medicine Associates of the UAMS Library. With the name change in 2010, the scope of the association is expected to more obviously include areas of interest not perhaps considered "medical."

Activities occurring during 2012 included research on the Arkansas Department of Health's VD billboard campaign in the 1940's, acceptance of donations of books, papers, and artifacts from various retired faculty and other interested donors, and adjusting to the renovation of the UAMS Library. Requests for information and/or photographs of those involved in the medical professions, past and present, continued.

Don't forget to check out the new HRC Digital Collections website at <http://hrcdigitalcoll.uams.edu/cdm> It is nice to be able to search the *Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society* from 1870 to 1922 by keyword.



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES