Doctors’ Day celebrated by Barnes Auxiliary

The Barnes Hospital Auxiliary honored the 1,200 members of the hospital’s attending medical staff and house staff with red carnations, coffee and doughnuts at the annual Doctors’ Day Friday, March 30. Auxiliary members greeted doctors at the Queeny Tower, Renard and Wohl entrances and in the doctors’ lounge.

Doctors’ Day, a 20-year tradition at the hospital, has been observed since the Auxiliary was founded in 1958. Traditionally, the doctors are presented with red carnations, whose analogy is closely woven in medical science. This year’s participants included Marilyn MacDonald, Edie Curtis, Doris Smith, Carol Minor, Mary Barenkamp, Robin Snyder and volunteer director Debbie Lord.

The history of Doctors’ Day dates back to 1933. Eudora Brown Almond was reared in the small Georgia village of Fort Lamar and from early childhood was greatly impressed with the selfless devotion of the medical profession’s humanitarian service to mankind. She always carried in her heart fond memories of the gentle kindness of her family physician whose skill and understanding endeared him to her patients. In 1920 she married Dr. Charles B. Almond and moved to Winder, Ga. Her respect for medicine and the people who practiced it inspired her to present to her local auxiliary the idea of having a day on which to honor the doctors. The suggestion met with approval and the auxiliary observed the first Doctors’ Day March 30, 1933.

When suggesting that physicians be honored, Mrs. Almond originally had in mind only the Winder and Barrow County doctors. Little did she realize, when her dream became a reality, that it would include doctors in all parts of this country and the world.

Skywalk construction to get underway in May

Construction is scheduled to begin this month on a 56-foot long skywalk linking the Queeny Tower restaurant and coffee shop to the sixteenth floor of the West Pavilion. The project, which will be completed in four to six months, will alleviate some of the congestion on the Queeny Tower elevators and will give easy access to the East and West Pavilions.

The skywalk will consist of two steel beams, each weighing approximately four tons, that hang from a concrete beam on the roof of Queeny Tower to the sixteenth floor of the West Pavilion. The structural steel skywalk, which will be lined with windows, will hang from these beams. Two smaller beams will support the floors.

The first step on the project, according to Gary Frossard, McCarthy Brothers project manager for the Barnes construction, will be to build temporary partitions in the Queeny Tower restaurant and to remove the windows and the exterior stone. The concrete piers on the roof have already been poured.

After the initial demolition work, which should take about four weeks, the large beams will be hoisted by a derrick to the top of the West Pavilion and put in place with a crane. “The critical point will be when the beams are in the air,” Mr. Frossard said. Once they are in place the ironworkers will connect the steel and install the metal decking for the floor. “Once the steel beams are in place, it’s basically normal construction,” he said.

When Dr. Robert E. Frank, president of Barnes, delivered the annual address at the annual meeting of the Barnes Woman’s Auxiliary on March 29, he announced the plans for the skywalk.

Dr. Ogura receives DeRoaldes Gold Medal

Dr. Joseph H. Ogura, Barnes otolaryngologist-in-chief, was honored on April 1 by the American Laryngological Association, which awarded him its coveted DeRoaldes Gold Medal, the highest recognition the association can extend. The medal is awarded for distinguished career achievement and total contribution to the profession.

Dr. Ogura thus became only the third doctor in the history of the association to receive laryngology’s “triple crown”—the Casselberry Award, the James Newcomb Award and the DeRoaldes Gold Medal. He was given the Newcomb Award in 1967 for his research in nasopulmonary mechanics and the Casselberry Award in 1968 for distinguished accomplishments in laryngeal research. The only others to receive all three honors are Dr. Paul H. Holinger and Dr. Francis E. LeJeune.

Raymond E. Rowland retires as chairman

Raymond E. Rowland, chairman of the Barnes Hospital board of directors since 1969, retired at the April 25 meeting of the board. He was named chairman-emeritus.

Mr. Rowland, a member of the board of directors since 1962, is former president and chairman of the board of Ralston Purina Company, and a member of the board of directors of the Washington University Medical Center.

Under his leadership, Barnes Hospital has continued a building program, to be culminated with completion of the West Pavilion next year, which has resulted in the hospital having facilities unmatched by any major teaching hospital in the nation.

Mr. Rowland became chairman of the board April 23, 1969, succeeding Robert W. Otto who had filled the unexpired term of Edgar M. Queeny after his death in 1968. Prior to being named chairman, Mr. Rowland had served as general chairman of a $12 million Capital Fund Drive for the hospital.

Born on a farm in Illinois, Mr. Rowland attended the University of Illinois and was graduated from the University of Wisconsin. After a brief time as a faculty member at State Teachers College in Conway, Ark., Mr. Rowland joined Ralston Purina Company as a junior salesman in 1926. In 1929 he was made district sales manager and in 1934 became a division assistant sales manager. After serving as manager of the Circleville, Ohio, plant, he became an assistant vice-president in 1940 and vice-president of the company in 1943. He was elected president in 1956 and was named chairman of the board in 1963, retiring in 1968.

During the years he led Ralston Purina, the company grew tremendously in total sales.

Robert E. Frank, president of Barnes, said, “It has been my good fortune to serve Barnes Hospital during the decade of Mr. Rowland’s presidency. Under his leadership, Barnes Hospital has continued a building program, to be culminated with completion of the West Pavilion next year, which has resulted in the hospital having facilities unmatched by any major teaching hospital in the nation.”
Immunotherapy vaccine helps fight cancer

An immunotherapy vaccine offered through Barnes surgical oncology clinic is now available to patients of Jewish and City Hospitals as well as Barnes. It uses the body's own defense system to fight cancer, according to Dr. Marc Wallack, head of surgical oncology at Barnes and developer of the technique.

A five-year program began at Barnes in January 1978 (see July 1978 Barnes Bulletin) and recently was expanded to include patients from Jewish and City Hospitals. The types of cancer include colon carcinoma, melanoma and renal carcinoma, and a joint clinical trial is underway here and at the Leon-Berard Cancer Centre in Lyons, France.

The early trials for the use of the vaccine were conducted by Dr. Wallack in 1974 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania under the direction of Dr. Hilary Koprowski, director of The Wistar Institute.

“We are concentrating our efforts toward those types of cancers that are particularly difficult to fully arrest surgically,” Dr. Wallack explained to a news conference April 18, where he reported on the new technique. “The major portion of solid tumors is surgically removed and then we attempt to kill the residual malignant cells by stimulating the body's immune mechanisms to attack them.”

To do this, Dr. Wallack and his team infect a bit of the excised cancerous tissue with cowpox virus (the same viral vaccine used to immunize humans against smallpox). The virus combines with the tumor cell surface and produces a more potent antigen. “This virus-augmented antigen is made into a vaccine and injected into the patient to stimulate the immune system. The body's immune cells then better recognize the cancer as foreign matter and migrate to kill the residual tumor cells.”

Patients referred to this program are given the vaccine as an intradermal injection in both upper arms and both upper legs each week for 13 weeks, then bimonthly for a year. Dr. Wallack reports that side-effects of the immunotherapy have been minimal except for pain and inflammation at the injection sites. Many of the oncologists at Barnes and Jewish Hospitals have expressed interest in these trials and participate in the administration of the therapy.

Barnes nurses participate in exchange program

Premature babies, both “normal” and those with complications, are benefiting from a cooperative nurse-exchange program among Barnes, Jewish and Children’s Hospitals. RNs in Barnes and Jewish nurseries rotate with their counterparts at the neonatal nursery at Children’s so that all have a fuller understanding of caring for premature infants.

“We’re in a unique situation because we have the hospitals so close to each other,” said Maureen Bales, RN in the premie nursery and a participant in the exchange program, said that “the program is extremely beneficial for Barnes nurses. We understand the disease processes here much better after going over there. They showed us things that are not normally seen here and their clinical lectures went into a lot of depth.”

hospital week theme is voluntary effort

“The Voluntary Effort—It’s Working for You” is this year’s National Hospital Week theme, emphasizing the health industry’s national voluntary program to contain health care costs while maintaining high quality care. The week will be observed May 6 through 12 with special events to bring attention to the voluntary effort and the role consumers can play in helping hold down health care costs.

Barnes Hospital has joined 6,400 hospitals across the country as well as insurers, suppliers, businessmen and consumers, all working to reduce the costs of health care.

Hospitals, including Barnes, are trying to educate the public to help keep costs down by having them ask their doctors how they can keep hospital stays as brief as possible, by seeking alternatives to hospital stays like pre-admission testing and one-day surgery and by taking non-emergency problems to personal physicians instead of to an emergency room.

As part of National Hospital Week and National Hypertension Month, employees and visitors at Barnes will have an opportunity to have their blood pressures taken to detect hypertension.

Barnes Auxiliary members, volunteers and education and training personnel have joined forces to designate May 9 as “Hypertension Day,” offering free blood pressure checks from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the ground floor of the East Pavilion.

Information about hypertension will also be available. High blood pressure can lead to strokes and heart attacks, yet it can be easily controlled by medication if one is aware of the problem.

Two long-term employees retire from Barnes

Two long-time employees of Barnes Hospital retired in late March. They are Roe Champlain, a plant engineering employee for almost 33 years, and John Wilton, a lab employee for 20 years. Both received Certificates of Appreciation from hospital president Robert E. Frank.

Born on a farm south of Jefferson City, Mr. Champlain spent most of his time fishing and gardening during his retirement. “I think I have done my part in fixing things around Barnes,” he said. “Now I’m going to catch up on relaxing.”

Mr. Champlain plans to spend most of his time fishing and gardening during his retirement. “I think I have done my part in fixing things around Barnes,” he said. “Now I’m going to catch up on relaxing.”

Mr. Wilton came to the United States from Germany in 1951. He worked for a dental laboratory in St. Louis prior to joining the Barnes staff in 1959. He, too, plans to spend more time fishing during his retirement as well as traveling in his motorhome.

When asked what he will most remember about Barnes, he said, “I saw a lot of buildings going up and coming down here.” Dr. Leonard Jaretz, director of labs, said the hospital is losing a valuable employee. “Whenever John was here, we knew he had the situation under control,” Dr. Jaretz said.
Employes honored at service award dinner

Sarah Buck, pharmacy, and Jennie French, Barnes OR, were honored for 30 years service to Barnes Hospital at the semi-annual employe service awards dinner held at the Chase-Park Plaza Tiara Room March 30.

The festivities were in honor of those employes who observed their 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30-year anniversaries between January 1 and June 30, 1979. A party later this year will recognize employes with special anniversaries in the second half of 1979.

Six employes, Angela Barbour, Betty Collins, Ella Daniels, Esther Granger, Georgia Leaks and Carmen Wright, received their 25-year pins. Sixteen received 20-year pins: Mildred Halliburton, Mildred Ireland, Hippolite Johnson, Mildred Jones, Daisy McLalster, Nella Meeks, Applias Moore, Mary Petty, Thelma Ray, Marie Rhodes, Bettye Robinson, Rose Stephens, Thelma Stocking, Margaret Sykes, Julia Taylor and Katie Walker.


Pamela Lehnhoff, Patricia McKeveit, Donald Marlo, Armadell Mason, Roselee Parks, Bulah Payne, Bertha Pickens, Mary Prentiss, Charlotte Redding, Beatrice Reymer, Norma Robinson, Ankica Rollins, Joyce Rounds, Joan Rueweler, Loubetha Shaw, Doris Skillman, Laurelyn Steffen, Bobby Steward, Wilo Stout, Ethel Thompson, Sandra Thompson, Joanne Tonn, Sandra Waldon, Diane Way, Ann Wilder, LaVerne Will, Juanita Williams, Veronica Williams, Ruth Wilson, Barbara Woods and Janet Worley.
A Decade of Leadership

Raymond E. Rowland's retirement from Ralston Purina in 1967 resulted in redirection of his energies and abilities to guide Barnes Hospital through the dramatic changes in health care evolving during the 1970s.

Ralston Purina's loss was Barnes Hospital's gain, one ultimately benefiting Barnes patients who come from the St. Louis Metropolitan area, a wide portion of the Midwest and the world.

When Mr. Rowland was elected chairman of the board in 1969, the hospital had just begun a building program designed to modernize the hospital so that rapidly changing and improving patient care could be provided in the best facilities available. In 1969, many of the buildings had been standing since the hospital was opened in 1914. Queeny Tower had been opened in 1965, the first step in a facility improvement and construction program which is still continuing.

Under Mr. Rowland's leadership, the East Pavilion was completed, a multi-level parking garage was constructed at the corner of Kingshighway and Audubon (subsequently sold to Children's Hospital), the subsurface parking garage south of Barnes was completed, the Peters Building was conceived and built, major renovations were carried out in all areas of the hospital and construction begun on the West Pavilion which is scheduled for completion next year.

When the West Pavilion is opened, all patients will be housed in rooms which are new or which have been renovated since 1965. Few, if any, major medical centers in the nation can match these facilities which have come about largely because of Mr. Rowland's leadership of the hospital as chairman of the board of directors.

But not all of his efforts resulted in such recognizable things as buildings or equipment. He continued the emphasis on Barnes Hospital being effectively and efficiently managed and assisted in the development of an outstanding medical staff. He actively supported the hospital's change to self-insurance when malpractice insurance premiums escalated dramatically.

Mr. Rowland has served as a member of the Washington University Medical Center board of directors and, in that capacity, has fostered the excellent relationship between Barnes and other members of the medical center.

Mr. Rowland has had, during his decade of leadership, a deep concern for the increasing cost of health care in the United States. As a result of that concern, Barnes has constantly held its cost increases under the national average and during the last two years the rates of increase have been less than the proposed target of increase suggested by President Carter.

At the same time, Barnes Hospital has enhanced its reputation as one of the leading medical centers in the world and today stands committed to meet the challenges of the next decade.
Speaking at ceremonies officially dedicating the East Pavilion.

Designating Barnes as part of the Illinois Trauma System in 1973. Missouri Governor Christopher Bond and Illinois state officials took part in the ceremonies, which received extensive media coverage.

Telling a funny story at a meeting of the Barnes Hospital Auxiliary.

Saluting Barnes doctors who have served 25 years or more on the active staff.
Anthem, defined as a song of praise or gladness.

"Anthem," in my life. I am actually doing what I've dared

Perhaps even to sail the Atlantic Ocean." predicted, scheduled life for a chance to travel,

"We're out to have a good time—no definite

This year the cost of plastic knives and glasses

Unfortunately, the situation can only get worse

There is a possibility that the knowledge learned

Sick leave benefits extended to pregnancy

Islets of Langerhans transplanted in rats

Although trials in humans are several years off, research now being done by Dr. Paul Lacy, Barnes pathologist-in-chief, and Dr. Joseph Donohue, head of medical genetics and immunology at WUMS, may ultimately eliminate the complications of diabetes and perhaps also overcome the rejection of organ transplants.

Dr. Lacy has perfected a technique of transplanting the insulin-producing cells of the pancreas, the islets of Langerhans, into diabetic rats, thus relieving the symptoms of diabetes. In previous experiments, the rat's immunologic defenses recognized the transplanted cells as foreign and rejected them.

The new technique includes incubating the donor islets of Langerhans at room temperature for a week, rendering impotent the white cells responsible for rejection, although Dr. Lacy says the mechanism for this is not known. The cells may then be transplanted into a diabetic rat without rejection.

There is a possibility that the knowledge learned from these experiments may someday be useful in controlling rejection when kidneys, hearts and other organs are transplanted. Rejection is the critical problem in transplant procedures today and patients must take large doses of immunosuppressive drugs that then render them susceptible to everyday infections that their normal defenses can no longer fight off.

Dr. Lacy said that transplantation of the islets of Langerhans should not be considered a potential "cure" for diabetes but it could eliminate the wide fluctuations in blood sugar levels and thus prevent complications such as blindness, kidney disease, heart attacks, stroke and gangrene. "We still are looking for a cure," he emphasized, "and that will come only after doctors can determine what causes the malfunction of the pancreas that results in diabetes. Then perhaps it can be prevented."

Dr. Lacy reported his work in the April 20 issue of Science and held a news conference April 13. He has been working on transplanting islet cells since 1968.

Transportation Information Center established

A centralized Transportation Information Center for employees who travel to and from work has been established at Barnes. The idea was first used in 1974 during the gaso-line shortage then and is being reinstated in view of the expected increase in prices this year.

The Center includes maps of the metropolitan area showing zip codes. Color cards in three colors are provided for indicating that the employee wishes to either join a car pool, obtain a driver's license or get a car. Depending on the area being covered, they can be filled out and put in a pocket in the appropriate zip code area, making it convenient for persons living near another one to make transportation arrangements.

Bill Davis, personnel, who is coordinating the project, said this is a way the hospital can help conserve energy while helping employees save money.

OPEC price hikes increase the cost of plastics

OPEC's April price hike of 9.05 percent on top of a 5 percent increase on January 1 of this year will significantly affect the cost of plastic disposable hospital products, making cost containment ever more difficult. According to the Barnes purchasing department and the Hospital Association of Metropolitan St. Louis.

Because Barnes is in the enviable position of purchasing many plastic items in large volume and on a relatively long-term contract basis, the full impact of the increase will not be felt on all items immediately. "We are a prestigious account for most suppliers and because of that they tend to give us the best possible rates to get our business," said Walter Scharz, Barnes purchasing agent.

Mr. Scharz pointed out that there are easily 20,000 petroleum-based plastic items used in the hospital, ranging from disposable syringes to knives, forks and spoons used in the cafeteria. Items which carry oil manufacturers' names, such as trash bags and styrofoam cups, are already getting expensive as oil-by-products normally used to produce them are in short supply and are also used for other purposes. "It is still too soon to predict how much the oil price hike will eventually affect some items," Mr. Scharz said.

A hospital supply representative pointed out that as OPEC raises the cost of crude oil, it produces a ripple effect, with the final customer paying the higher cost. "The end user always pays," he said. "No business can absorb the rising costs and stay in business without passing them on."

Not only will the cost for the base price of the plastics be higher, but the cost for the electricity to produce the item will also increase, according to the supplier. In addition, newer products which could take the place of some plastic products, such as cold drink cups and waxed paper, will go up as well as many cleaning materials that have a petroleum base.

Robert Briggs of the Hospital Association of Metropolitan St. Louis said, "In general, plastic items are used so much in hospitals that the increased cost of oil is a major problem. Costs are steadily going up and these raises are linked to the rising cost of petroleum."

This year the cost of plastic knives and glasses has already risen 30 to 40 percent. A plastic stoma-ch tube, which is inserted through the nose to the stomach when food cannot be tolerated, has increased 13.4 percent during the past year.

Unfortunately, the situation can only get worse as the price of crude oil goes up. The 9.05 percent increase in April raised the price for Arabian light crude oil from $13.34 to $14.55 for a 42-gallon barrel. At that time Iran, which lost more than two months of export revenue because of its rev-olution, urged members of OPEC to raise prices even more. This would raise the basic price of Arabian light crude to $17.45 per barrel.

Sick leave benefits extended to pregnancy

Barnes Hospital is extending sick leave benefits to cover disabilities due to pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, effective as of April 29.

Permanent full-time employees accrue sick leave on the basis of 12 days per year, with the maximum amount accumulated over the years limited to 60 days. Although an employee begins to build sick leave entitlement from the first day of employment, six months of continuous permanent employment is necessary before an employee is eligible to use it.

Under the new program, all absences after April 29 resulting from pregnancy-related temporary disabilities are covered under the sick leave policy. At the time that an employee's accrued sick leave, if any, should run out, she can request a formal leave of absence, if necessary, in accordance with the provisions of the Barnes leave of absence policy.

Further information on the new coverage will be available from the Barnes personnel office.
IN MEMORY OF:

Thomas D. Winston
M/M John Barton
M/M John C. Emig
Dept. of Social Work
Thomas F. Ferguson,
M.D.
Friends in Area 11 at
Goldsmith’s Oak Court

IN MEMORY OF:

John Burton
M/M Thomas B. Singleton
M/M W. T. Terry

IN MEMORY OF:

Mary Hildreth’s Service to
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Crocheted caps are new items in premie nursery

It’s not because they look cute . . . and it’s not because they’re off to the slopes for a little skiing. The babies in Barnes Hospital premie nursery are now wearing colorful crocheted caps for a medical reason.

"Wearing the caps helps them to utilize calories from milk for growth instead of using it for heat maintenance," said Jane Clausen, assistant head nurse. A prime concern with premies is that they retain their body heat. Because there is such a large surface area of skin on the head which isn’t normally covered as compared to the size of a baby’s body, much of the heat loss is through the head.

The idea for the stocking caps came from a newspaper article which Ms. Clausen’s mother had sent to her about the same thing being done in an out-of-state hospital. Staff nurse Karen Bales told her retired aunt, Helen Peters, about the idea and she crocheted several samples in various colors to determine the correct size.

"The mothers are really excited about it," Ms. Clausen said. "If they don’t have them on their babies, they want them." Presently, there are 10 babies wearing caps; they are especially used on the little ones who need more help to maintain their body temperature.

Premature babies are first placed in an incubator. When they reach the weight of four pounds and seven ounces, they graduate from the incubator to a crib. When they reach five pounds, they are normally allowed to go home. The length of their stay in the premie nursery usually depends on how little they were when they were born. Ms. Clausen pointed out that it is very important to keep them warm because cold stress is really hard on them and can worsen their condition. "Any premie has a hard time keeping his temperature up," she said. "They have less fat to burn."

When the stocking caps first came to the nursery, they were gas autoclaved to make them sterile and then were allowed to air before being placed on the babies. When a baby goes home the cap that he was wearing is sterilized again for the next baby to use.