



# Emeritus Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 22, No. 2, Spring 2016

**Mark Your Calendars and plan to attend!  
Two Exciting Firsts!**

**Saturday, May 7:  
Senior Staff Wellness Fair  
Edwards Hall (Charter House 1-109)  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Learn about new wellness programs designed specifically for staff over 60 and their spouse/domestic partner (Active & Emeritus). Enjoy the keynote address by Dr. Ed Creagan, workshops, wellness booths, light lunch and door prizes! Take advantage of the opportunity to learn ways to enhance your physical, emotional, mental and social wellness. Invitations have been mailed.

For more information on each event, see the [Emeritus Website](#).

**Tuesday, June 14:  
Social and Travel Circle  
Rochester Golf and Country Club  
6:00 pm**

Join the inaugural meeting of the Emeriti Staff Social and Travel Circle! We strive to establish a quarterly series of open-to-all events between the regular quarterly emeriti luncheons. Bring your significant other for a glass of wine, dinner, companionship, activity planning, interesting travel contents, and more!

**The Editor Says . . .** The activities above sound really interesting and we hope as many as possible can attend. In the Fall 2015 EQN, I described the home Dr. Louis B. and Maud Wilson built for themselves on Walnut Hill in 1924. Before writing the article I asked several emeriti about how familiar they were with the Wilson House. Some were acquainted with it, but others said something like, "Oh, of course. That's where the fellows stayed." In order to clarify things, this article is about the real Wilson Club where the fellows did stay.

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In the late 1920's, the fellows at Mayo Clinic formed an organization which they

named "Association of Fellows." The main orders of business in the early years were organizing social events and eventually, establishing a health insurance plan for themselves. Evening business meetings were

held in an empty clinic room or a fellow's apartment.

The Lawrence Hotel had been erected around 1913 and was located at 212 Second Street SW, directly south across Second Street from the current Mayo Building. It was a three-story structure with a porch across the front. Over the subsequent years, it was operated by a number of parties (Figures 1 and 2). In the depression years, room occupancy appears to have decreased and in 1932 foreclosure proceedings were started against the hotel. The Mayo Properties Association purchased the mortgage and became the new owner.

At some point after owning the hotel for a year or two it was decided that it could serve as the Fellows' headquarters and a place for bachelor fellows to stay. At the Association meeting of December 13, 1934, Dr. Lee Strohl's secretarial minutes state that president Dr. Harrison Wesson thought a name for the new headquarters should be selected. A fellow attending suggested they choose a living Mayo staff. Several names were offered. Dr. Louis B. Wilson, director of the Graduate School and a friend to all fellows, was selected by a vote. Thus, the Lawrence Hotel became the Wilson Club.

On December 29, 1934, the *Clinic Bulletin* announced that an informal open house was to be held that afternoon at the new Wilson Club. All fellows, staff and families were invited. The building had been remodeled

for its new use. The upper floors were rooms for about a dozen single fellows. On the main floor there was a kitchen that would serve cafeteria-style breakfast and lunch for house residents or any other fellows or staff. A big dining area also served



**Figure 1.** Photograph of Wilson Club in 1950's taken from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street S.W. The Congregational Church is to the left. The Worrall Annex Hospital is behind the Club and is connected to the Worrall Hospital by a walkway at the Annex's right (west) end. The Mayo Building site is behind the photographer.

for evening social functions and meetings. In addition, the main floor had a library and lounge. On the lower level there, was a dark room for camera buffs and a game room with a pool table and table tennis. In the next years a typewriter appeared and much later a TV set. And, thus, the Wilson Club opened and continued until 1970.

There are two stories about how the idea for the Wilson Club came about, both related many years later by early members of the Fellows Association's executive committee. The first was by Dr. Edward N. Cook, president of the Association in 1932 and later a member of the Clinic's Urology Department. Dr. Cook said that one day in

1932 he was simply asked by Harry Harwick if the fellows would be interested in having the Lawrence Hotel as their Association headquarters and “clubhouse.” Dr. Cook called together as many of the fellows as possible that day and they agreed that it would be a good idea. The hotel was then remodeled and opened as above.

The second story was related by Dr. E. Lee Strohl, the Association’s secretary in 1934 and president in 1935. He said, one morning in 1934 while he was assisting Dr. Harrington with an operation he was unexpectedly called to Mr. Harry Harwick’s office. Mr. Harwick told him he was there as a representative of the Fellows’ Association. Mr. Harwick wanted to know about the annual fellows dance the preceding Saturday

night. Apparently, following the dance at about 2 AM someone had driven past Dr. Will’s house repeatedly sounding a loud horn. It had awakened Dr. Will. Could Dr. Strohl find out who it had been honking the horn and report back later in the afternoon? Dr. Strohl along with members of the Fellows’ executive committee reported back later but had been unable to determine who the horn honker was. As they were discussing the incident, Dr. Will entered the room and a few minutes later Dr. Charlie joined them. Dr. Charlie noted that it was unfortunate that unmarried fellows had no place to gather implying that a having a place to go might have prevented fellows from driving around late at night. Dr. Charlie then asked what had happened to the Lawrence Hotel. Mr. Harwick replied

that it was still unoccupied. Dr. Will suggested it might be a headquarters for the Fellows’ Association. Dr. Charlie volunteered to provide a ping pong table and a pool table from his house. Dr. Will offered a billiard table. Mr. Harwick suggested that the Kahler Corporation could supply cooking utensils from its storehouse. The meeting ended on a happy note. A few days later, Dr. Strohl was informed by Mr. Harwick that the Hotel would be available as a clubhouse at no cost to the Fellows’ Association.

Now, which story is correct, or do both have some elements accurately portrayed? The first story may fit a little better with the time of opening noted



**Figure 2.** Aerial view of Wilson Club and neighborhood looking south. Congregational Church is at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Wilson Club is next to it and the Rochester Library on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (now Mayo Clinic Medical School). Behind (south) the Congregational Church and Wilson Club is the large Worrall Annex. Behind the Library is the English Lutheran Church and south of that church is the Worrall Hospital with small “on call” rooms for residents on its roof. Across the street (north) from the Wilson Club is the Museum of Hygiene and Medicine which also had been Central School at one time.

by the Clinic Bulletin, but the latter is clearly more interesting.

In any case, the clubhouse was heavily used over the subsequent years by fellows and their friends. Most fellows had occasion to have lunch there, play a game of bridge, pool or table tennis, and attend meetings or social gatherings. During noon hours, many of us watched the Twins play in the 1965 World Series and lose in the seventh game to the Los Angeles Dodgers. "Lunch Hour" was an hour and a half in those days.

In 1966, food service was discontinued after the Harwick Cafeteria opened and in 1970 the club was closed, torn down and became the site of the Hilton Building, which opened in 1974.

However, there was continuing interest in having a convenient place for the fellows and staff to eat lunch. An area of the Harwick Cafeteria was designated as the "Wilson Club" but it was difficult to set its boundaries. Then, a room on the second floor of the Harwick Building was made into

a dining room and designated the Wilson Club. It was used mainly by staff that picked up lunch on the first floor and walked up the one flight or rode the elevator. In about 1989, shortly after the Siebens Building opened with a cafeteria on the fourth floor, the Wilson Club was moved to Siebens Room 4-02, the northeast corner of the fourth floor. Those attending remember there were often 20 or more staff members having lunch.

Later, the Club was moved to its present location in Siebens room 4-13. In the hallway outside of this room are several pictures of the original Wilson Club building, Dr. Wilson and the old downtown area. In recent years, the number having lunch has gradually diminished. The staff regulars have turned into emeriti and some of them have passed on and not been replaced by new members. At this point, the future of the Wilson Club is a little cloudy. Perhaps with some publicity about its availability, its convenience, and the good fellowship, more who work or frequent the Plummer and Siebens Buildings and elsewhere will help it continue.

## New Emeriti

### Rochester

Gregory J. Anderson, MD	Family Medicine	January 1, 2016
Donald J. Tindall, MD	Urology	January 1, 2016
John F. Pallanch, MD	Otorhinolaryngology	January 13, 2016
Julie A. Bjoraker, MD	Internal Medicine/GIM	February 1, 2016
Thomas J. Sebo, MD, PhD	Laboratory Medicine & Pathology	March 1, 2016
Robert D. Sheeler, MD	Family Medicine	April 1, 2016
David J. Cook, MD	Anesthesiology	April 21, 2016
John A. Laurie, MD	Oncology	May 5, 2016
Michael A. Pfenning	Research Administration	May 17, 2016

## Deaths

**Douglas T. Coles, MD** died in Rochester on March 6, 2016, at age 83. Doug was born in Boston, MA and received the degrees of AB (1954) from Harvard University and MD, CM (1958) from

McGill University. After interning at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, NH (1958-1959), he entered Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education for training in internal medicine and pulmonary. Dr. Coles was appointed to the staff of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine in 1963. He advanced through the academic ranks to become assistant professor in Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in 1977. Doug was especially interested in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer. He was active in several professional associations and was recipient of the Campbell Howard Award in Clinical Medicine from McGill University. Dr. Coles retired from Mayo Clinic in July 1995.

**Thomas J. Sebo, MD, PhD** died on March 3, 2016, in Rochester at age 61 after a brief illness. Tom was born in Canton, IL and received the degrees of BS (1976) from Eckerd College in Florida, PhD (1982) from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and MD (1987) from the University of Illinois Springfield. He came to Mayo in 1987 and received training in internal medicine and pathology, and was a fellow in surgical pathology. He was appointed to the staff in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology in 1993. Tom rose through the academic ranks to professor of laboratory medicine and pathology (2006). He served as director of the Division of Anatomic Pathology's Image Morphometry Laboratory (1994-2016). Tom was active in the areas of thyroid cytology and molecular studies of thyroid cancer. Tom was active in a number of professional associations. He retired from Mayo on March 1, 2016.

**Richard Symmonds, MD** died in Rochester on February 7, 2016, at the age of 94. Dick was born in Greensburg, MO and received the degrees of AB (1943) from Central College in Fayette, MO, MD (1946) from Duke University, and MS from the University of Minnesota (1953). He interned at Los Angeles General Hospital (1946-1947) and then served in the US Navy (1947-1949). He then entered the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education (1950) for training in obstetrics and gynecology. He was appointed to the staff in 1953 and served as head of the Section of Gynecologic Surgery (1972-1974) and the Division of Gynecologic Surgery (1974-1983). He advanced through the academic ranks to professor (1970) in Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. Dick was widely recognized for his work in gynecologic surgery and served as president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists and the Society of Gynecologic Surgery. Dick retired from Mayo Clinic in March 1984.

**Guy Whitehead, PhD** died in Rochester on January 14, 2016, at age 96. Guy was born in Jellico, TN and received a BA degree (1941) from Eastern Kentucky State University and a MA and PhD (1949) from Vanderbilt University. Dr. Whitehead served in the US Army (1941-1946) and later was a faculty member of the University of Kentucky (1949-1956). Guy was appointed a member of the Mayo Section of Publications in 1956. As a medical editor, he was prominent in giving workshops in medical writing at Mayo and also nationally. He was appointed to the academic rank of instructor in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in 1973. Guy was active in various professional associations and served as president of the North Central Chapter of the American Medical Writers Association. Dr. Whitehead retired from Mayo Clinic in July 1984.

**Anthony J. Bianco, Jr., MD** died in Rochester on January 3, 2016, at age 89. Tony was born in Duluth, MN and received his MD (1948) from the University of Minnesota. He interned at St.

Mary's Hospital in Duluth (1948-1949) and then went into private practice in Duluth (1950-1952). In 1952, he entered the Mayo Graduate School (1952) for training in orthopedic surgery. His training was interrupted by service in the US Navy (1952-1954). After military service, Tony returned to Mayo Clinic to finish his training and complete work for a master's degree (1958). He joined the orthopedic staff the same year and advanced through the ranks to professor of surgery (1975). Tony served as chair of Mayo orthopedics (1982-1988), was a member of the Mayo Board of Governors (1975-1982) and Mayo Board of Trustees (1975-1983). He was active in a number of professional associations and was president of the Pediatric Orthopedic Association. Dr. Bianco retired from Mayo Clinic in November of 1991.

**Jack D. Key, MA, MS** died on December 22, 2015, in New Mexico at the age of 82. Jack was born in Enid, OK and received the degrees of BA (1958) from Phillips University, MA (1960); from the University of New Mexico, and MS from the University of Illinois. He served in the US Navy (1952-1955) and Naval Reserve (1955-1960). Subsequently, he was employed by the University of Iowa as pharmacy librarian (1962-1964) and as medical librarian for the Lovelace Foundation for Medical Education and Research in Albuquerque (1965-1970). In 1970, he was appointed director of Mayo Clinic Libraries. He published extensively on medical history and librarianship. He rose through the ranks to become professor in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine (1990). He was a member and chair of various Mayo Clinic administrative committees and a number of professional organizations. Jack served as president of the American Osler Society. Jack retired from Mayo in July 1994.

**Randolph A. Rovelstad, MD, PhD** died on December 11, 2015, at Charter House in Rochester at age 95. Randy was born in Elgin, IL and received the degrees of BA from St. Olaf College (1940), MD from Northwestern University (1944), and PhD from the University of Minnesota (1954). He interned at Passavant Memorial Hospital in Chicago (1944-45) and came to Mayo for further training (1945) which was interrupted by a tour in the US Army (1946-1948). He then returned to Mayo Clinic to complete his training in internal medicine and gastroenterology. He was appointed consultant in internal medicine and gastroenterology in 1953. He advanced through the academic ranks to become associate professor of medicine (1969). He was active in a number of professional associations. Randy retired from Mayo Clinic in 1985.

### Deaths of Spouses of Emeriti Noted

**Mildred Stillwell**, surviving spouse of George Stillwell (D.9/2/2005)

### Recognitions

**Audrey Nelson, MD**, was named a 2015 Distinguished Alumni at a private event held October 2015. Dr. Nelson is emeritus consultant in general internal medicine, rheumatology and pediatric and adolescent medicine, and an emeritus professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic's Rochester campus. She is one of the founders of pediatric rheumatology and has made contributions in education, research, clinical practice and administration in rheumatology and medicine in general. Dr. Nelson established a classification system for morphea (localized scleroderma) that is still in use today.

### Future Quarterly Emeritus Staff Luncheons for 2016

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 – Phillips Hall, Siebens Building

Speaker: Donald D. Hensrud, M.D., M.P.H., consultant in Preventive Medicine

\*Note: this is the last *Wednesday* in the first month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter – invitations have been mailed, please RSVP if you plan to attend.

Tuesday, July 26, 2016 – Phillips Hall, Siebens Building (spouse/guest invited)

Speaker: Roger Peterson, Chief of Police, Rochester

\*Note: this is the *last Tuesday* in the first month of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

Tuesday, October 11, 2016 – Balfour Hall, Foundation House (Annual business meeting)

Speaker: To be announced

### News from Arizona

**Adventure Series Presentation** “Honor Flights” Susan Nielsen (guest speaker)

May 2, 2016 – Taylor Auditorium

interview the candidates on March 17th, and present the award to the selected recipient at MSGME graduation on June 2, 2016.

**Spirit of Mayo Clinic Award (SOMCA) Update**

Eight graduating resident candidates are nominated for this year’s prestigious award sponsored by the MCA Emeritus Staff. A panel of SOMCA committee members will

Julie A Hilliard, Emeritus Administrative Assistant, says as always, we welcome our Emeritus Staff members from Minnesota and Florida to join us for activities and events when they are visiting Arizona.

### News from Florida

Informal monthly emeritus luncheon meetings at The Lodge at Ponte Vedra continue on the 2nd Tuesday of the month after summer recess. Dates of future luncheon meetings; April 12, 2016; and May 10, 2016. Summer recess is June, July, August and September.

Emeritus members from Rochester and Arizona are always most welcome to our luncheons. They are informal pay as you dine affairs at the Oceanside Lodge of Ponte Vedra. Please call or e-mail Medical Staff Office Services Mayo Clinic Florida at least one week prior to the luncheon date. Phone # 904-953-6254

### Announcements

**DAHLC Healthy Aging Week (April 25<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup>)** - Check out this exciting opportunity! Whether you are already a member of DAHLC or have been thinking about enrolling, this would be a great time to experience a variety of offerings: Active Older Adult Fit Day, Cooking for 1 or 2, Fall Prevention, Mindfulness Meditation, Drop in Classes, Dermatology Screening, and much more... Some of these sessions require registration. For more information, pick up a flier at the DAHLC or see the Senior Staff Wellness Program [website](#).

**Community Service Opportunity** - Do you want to make a real difference in the life of a struggling reader? Does a flexible, part-time job with attractive hourly pay and personal reward

appeal to you? If so, the [Reading Center](#) needs you! For more information, see the Senior Staff Wellness Program website or call (507) 288-5271.

*Emeritus Quarterly Newsletter* is published quarterly for members of the Mayo Clinic Emeritus staff. It also is mailed to current Mayo consulting staff age 60 or older. To contribute news to share with your fellow emeritus staff, e-mail Gene G. Hunder, MD., at [ghunder@mayo.edu](mailto:ghunder@mayo.edu) or mailing address: Dr. Gene G. Hunder, Emeritus Quarterly News, Plummer North 10, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN 55905.

**Emeritus Officers 2015-2016**

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