

**MAY 2023**

# RESPONSE TO DR. DANIEL REDDY'S EDITORIAL ON ABORTION



Sunday, May 14

## Inside this issue:

<i>Response to Dr. Daniel Reddy's Editorial on Abortion</i>	1-2
<i>Response to Editor's Knee</i>	2
<i>Dr. Walter O. Evans: Surgeon and Collector Extraordinaire</i>	3-11
<i>Productivity</i>	12-13
<i>Down Memory Lane</i>	14-15
<i>WSU Conferences</i>	16
<i>WSSS Dues</i>	17
<i>WSSS Members</i>	18-19



### 2023 WSSS OFFICERS

**President:**

Larry Narkiewicz (WSU/GS 2004/09)

**Vice-President:**

Joseph Sfera (WSUGS 1991)

**Secretary-Treasurer:**

Bruce McIntosh (WSU/GS 1989/94)

**Members-at-Large:**

Jay Dujon (WSUGS 2011)

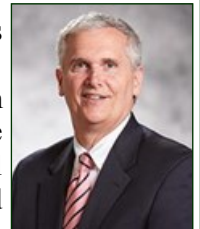
Robert Holmes (WSUGS 1983)

Jennifer Bradley (WSUGS 2015)

**Resident Member:**

My two cents:

Similar to the Editor, I was raised Roman Catholic attending an all-boys Catholic high school on Detroit's east side (not DeLaSalle) and, therefore, ethical questions like the abortion issue were black and white - abortion was murder...period. My interview for 'early' admission into the WSUSOM in the Fall of 1980 with a staff Radiologist at children's Hospital of Michigan was pleasant enough, but included a question on whether I'd perform an abortion at the request of a couple who discovered that their gestating child had Tay-Sachs disease. I was told Tay-Sachs was essentially a death sentence and the newborn would die in a matter of months. Would I perform the abortion? Of course, I said no. He pressed further and I still said 'no'. After the interview concluded and I was leaving, he told me the practical professional move would be to refer the couple to a colleague who was capable and willing to perform the abortion.



Dr. William Cirocco

As a WSUSOM 3<sup>rd</sup> year student (1983-84), I rotated on GYN at Receiving and my eyes were opened to the real world by Dr. Charles Vincent, longstanding Professor of OBGYN at WSUSOM and Dean at the school (I forget what department—admissions?). In a discussion during early morning rounds in a mostly empty ER on a very 'light' service, Dr. Vincent told the GYN resident and myself about the pre-Roe v Wade era of what those rounds would have consisted of - including caring for young women who had subjected themselves to so-called 'back alley' abortions. Many of these otherwise healthy young women would succumb to septic deaths from uterine perforation/septic abortion and associated ills. It brought into focus how important that 1973 Supreme Court ruling had been to the health and well being of young women with unplanned pregnancy.

My other remembrance was witnessing Receiving nursing staff (Filipino nurses with religious objections) who refused to enter a patient's room who was undergoing a planned abortion procedure that included transvaginal Lamicel (for cervical dilation) based on their religious convictions (again Catholic) - even if the patient was in distress.

Now, I have a more balanced view of life and an appreciation of the big picture. It is disturbing that Supreme Court justices (some with Catholic backgrounds) who vowed that they would not overturn Roe v Wade - lied. The argument that this is a States' Rights issue is a canard.

Although more than half of U.S. abortions are 'medical' using the abortion pill, there may be activity by zealots to pull FDA approval of these drugs to interrupt this practice. From a surgical perspective, we perhaps can all agree that the government has no right inserting itself into the surgeon-patient relationship and to dictate management decisions

Continue page 2



MAY 2023

## RESPONSE TO DR. DANIEL REDDY'S EDITORIAL ON ABORTION, cont...

(or lack thereof). Not in America! Doing so would trample our constitutional (14<sup>th</sup> Amendment) 'right to privacy' that was the basis of the Roe v Wade decision - the constitutional threat that required a Supreme Court opinion in 1973. I agree with the Editor that it is a certainty that abortion on demand will continue, whatever political machinations and decisions evolve. It is also a certainty that the patient populations most impacted (negatively) will be the lowest socioeconomic group - let the body count begin once again.

Happy Easter!  
Bill Cirocco (WSUSOM 1985)

## RESPONSE TO THE EDITOR'S KNEE

Dear Editor,

Your days of genuflecting are over! Dr. Lucas, I wish you good progress in your recovery.

Sincerely,

Simon Kovalik, MD, FACS (WSUGS 1981)



Dr. Simon Kovalik

Dr. Lucas,

I'm glad you are recovering well. I enjoyed your report in the newsletter about the history of your problem. As an athlete in my younger years, I can relate.

I enjoyed the 9 flights of stairs we did at Harper, doing gravity rounds, and did my best not to let you get too far ahead of me. As I recall, we took them two at a time.



Dr. Tim McGuire

I must admit, I figured you were trying to help the obese students/residents with their weight loss goals, not rehab your knee. Maybe your goals were multifocal.

All the best,

Tim  
Timothy McGuire, MD (WSUGS 2003)

P.S. I would have been disappointed if you said Partner won the tennis match. As MacArthur said, "America loves a winner and will not tolerate a loser".



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS

Dr. Walter Evans (WSUGS 1976) was recently recognized at the Southern Surgical Association Annual meeting by Dr. David Adams who published his dissertation about Dr. Evans in the April 2023 issue of the Journal of the American College of Surgeons (JACS). The following is the report in JACS.

*“Yale historian David Blight had just finished speaking to Savannah middle school history teachers about Frederick Douglass when a retired general surgeon, Walter Evans, was introduced to him and said that he had some materials at home that might interest Blight. Blight had received similar invitations many times where nothing of importance was discovered but nevertheless politely accepted the invitation to visit the Evans home. On the dining room table, Evans began laying out some carefully rebound scrapbooks with page after page of newspaper clippings, letters, photographs, and personal reminiscences of one of the most famous men in nineteenth century America. Blight was looking at the Douglass Family scrapbooks, carefully assembled and annotated by Douglass’s sons, largely unknown to scholars. The year was 2006, and when Blight saw this collection, Evans heard him say, “I’m going to have to write another book.” “I was astonished,” Blight later recalled, “I’m not even sure I knew what I was seeing at first.” Evans described it a bit more vividly: “I could see David’s head exploding.” The scrapbooks on Evans’s dining room table were the inspiration for Blight’s Pulitzer Prize-winning biography **Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom** published 12 years later with a dedication to Walter O. Evans and Linda Evans. Blight described Evans as “a collector extraordinaire of African American art, rare books, and manuscripts.” Blight visited the Evans home twice a year for more than a decade. “I have spent countless days and weeks doing research on the dining room table - at ‘my chair’ - at the Evans house,” Blight remembers. The 9 scrapbooks constructed by Douglass’s sons described a period of Douglass’ life that was previously unstudied. Blight described the collection as “the most extraordinary private collection of Douglass manuscript material in the world.” As Blight completed each chapter, he asked Evans to read it. Evans realized immediately that Blight was on the pathway to a Pulitzer Prize.*

*Continue page 4*



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

*The Douglass collection was acquisitioned by the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection at the Yale University Beinecke Library in 2020. Melissa Barton, curator of the Johnson Collection, described Evans as “one who has long been known both for his extraordinary collections and as someone devoted to sharing those collections with the public in an effort to bring much-deserved attention to African American artists, writers, and other historical figures.” Evans commented, “I believe that the past informs the future. America has not yet successfully addressed the wrongs of its past. Frederick Douglass’s struggles, acts, and words are relevant and essential today. My hope is that scholars, students, and researchers will find this collection a wellspring of profound thought and analysis from which to construct a new path to understanding, resolution, and reconciliation for America.”*

*The Beinecke Library’s partnership with Dr. Evans began in 2013 when Evans transferred his rich collection of the letters of James Baldwin to the library, now one of the library’s most frequently consulted collections. In 2020, Evans’s collection of approximately 200 original drawings of editorial cartoons by “Ollie” Harrington was another important acquisition by the Beinecke Library. Harrington attended the Yale School of Fine Arts in the 1930s. Considered one of America’s greatest African American cartoonists, Harrington fought racism and advocated for civil rights in the U.S. with a series of satiric cartoons that appeared in the African American press for several decades beginning in 1935. The Evans Harrington collection was on view in early 2022 in an exhibition entitled **Dark Laughter Revisited: The Life and Times of Ollie Harrington** at Ohio State’s Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, in Columbus, Ohio. In November 2022, Evans lectured at the Grolier Club in New York about Harrington.*

*The acquisitions of Evans’s Douglass, Baldwin, and Harrington collections by the Beinecke fulfilled one of Evans’s goals in life. “Since I first began collecting in the mid-1970s,” Evans explained, “my goal has been to collect art, books, letters, and manuscripts that told the story of the African American experience. A part of my mission was to share what I had collected with the general public.”*

*How did this mission begin? Who is this retired general surgeon who has given so much to so many? Walter Evans, the youngest of 5 children, was born in Savannah, Georgia on February 19, 1943 to Fred Benjamin Evans and Willie Mae Rakestraw Evans. The family moved to Beaufort, South Carolina when Evans was*

*Continue page 5*



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

3 years old. Evans's father was a carpenter, and his mother was a nurse who worked at doctors' offices, the Beaufort Naval Hospital, and Beaufort Memorial Hospital. On August 31, 1952, Hurricane Able struck the coast of South Carolina, and Evans's father died as he was travelling up the coast on his way to work, 1 of 3 fatalities from a storm with 110-mph winds and a 100-mile path of destruction. When Evans's grandmother became ill, the family moved back to Savannah where Evans completed 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He remembers the segregated South Carolina and Georgia school systems as ones that taught him well, particularly with an education in African American history and literature. "All of my teachers were great," he said. "I received the best possible education."

The family moved to Philadelphia and later to Hartford, Connecticut, where Evans completed high school. He was a good student who at times sought to be rebellious, a spirit that led to a few school suspensions. He got As in math and science courses when he wanted to, but was not afraid to get an F. On his daily walks home from Hartford High, Evans frequently came across a group of neighborhood roughnecks who harassed him for toting books around the neighborhood. Evans found a solution: he acquisitioned an extra set of textbooks which he kept at home, leaving the other set in his desk at school. His classmates could not understand how he got such good grades and never studied. He studied plenty, and when the neighborhood roughnecks bothered him, he could outrun them, his hands free of textbooks— books now sitting under the same roof as collectible copies of books by James Baldwin, WEB, Du Bois, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, and Malcolm X. At Hartford High School, Evans was put in shop classes and told by his counselor that African Americans did not need to go to college. He was advised that "there were plenty of jobs in Hartford that didn't require a college education." After high school, Evans enlisted in the U.S. Navy when he was told by a recruiter that his superlative entrance exam score would win him a position at the U.S. Naval Academy. This was not true, and Evans instead ended up on the USS Bennington, an Essex-class aircraft carrier in service during World War II, as well as later, during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. During his high school years Evans had worked as an orderly at Hartford Hospital, and decided to enroll in the Medical Corps School in San Diego, California. Evans was number one in his Medical Corps graduating class, winning him the privilege of selecting his first duty station. He chose the Philadelphia Naval Hospital.

In Philadelphia and in the U.S. Navy, Evans encountered a form of racism that was far worse than anything

Continue page 6



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

*he had experienced in the South. In the Navy he frequently heard the “N-word” and was told to get a haircut and “cutoff that steel wool.” During his tour of duty at the Naval Hospital, Evans was targeted for speaking with a White woman while on duty. He was court-martialed and sentenced to hard labor, demoted in rank, and confined to quarters for a month. Overturning adversity, Evans used that month to spend extra time in the hospital library, where he befriended the hospital librarian. He remembers that his “hard labor” sentence, washing windows, was not that hard, and he had plenty of time to spend in the library reading Dickens and Dostoevsky. The slings of racism did not hold Evans back.*

*Always listening when opportunity knocks, Evans discovered a life-changing event in Philadelphia when a woman he liked suggested a visit to the Philadelphia Museum of Art. “I was working in Philadelphia,” Evans explains, “and I wanted to take a girl out on a date. And she wanted to go to a museum. We didn't have museums down here for Black folks, not down South. So, I went to the Philadelphia Public Library, the big one on the Parkway, and read everything I could about the Philadelphia Museum of Art. When I took her on the date, I could talk about everything in that museum.” Although the date did not lead to a long-term relationship, it was a success in lighting a life-long fire in Evans for art and literature. “The girl is long gone, but the art stayed,” he said. Evans continued to read about artists, visual arts, and world literature, and paid attention to the New York Times bestseller lists.*

*In 1964, Evans enrolled at Howard University which gave him the opportunity to visit the fine arts museums of Washington, DC, as well as the Howard University Museum of Art which featured prominent African American artists that were not yet part of mainstream gallery collections. The Black Power movement had appeared on the Howard campus, and Evans encountered Stokely Carmichael, Sterling Brown, and other activists during his Howard years. The historian Imani Perry visited Evans on her journey south of the Mason-Dixon line and recounts her visit with Evans in her 2022 National Book Award winning work, **South to America**. “When he went to Howard University, Evans was well read and well versed in fine art,” Perry writes, “But Howard led him in another direction. The thrall of the freedom movement was everywhere on Campus...His nascent love of art and literature dovetailed with his growing race man sensibilities - that particular traditional African American orientation to life in which, whatever endeavor one pursues, the uplifting of one’s people remains at the forefront.” Perry explains how Evans’s collection of African American art was*

*Continue page 7*



MAY 2023

## **WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...**

*inspired by the Black Power movement and how he became a person at the crossroads of two histories. “He situated himself in the tradition of forerunners like WEB Du Bois, who saw his charge in life as documenting and preserving the artifacts of Black people precisely because their significance had been obscenely discounted and diminished, and of the Black Power activists of his own day, for whom that tradition shaped how they lived and worked in an unapologetic commitment of self-determination.”*

*Evans worked three jobs during his years at Howard and continued to send money home to his family. Evans left Howard after 3-1/2 years, 2 credits shy of a degree. He enrolled at Meharry Medical School in Nashville when a BA degree was not a prerequisite for an MD degree. He transferred to the University of Michigan Medical School in 1970 for his last two years of medical education when Michigan offered him a generous scholarship at a time when U.S. medical schools began to recognize the importance of diversity in medical education. One reason Evans chose the University of Michigan was his interest in the ministry of Albert Cleage, a civil rights activist and Black Nationalist Christian minister in Detroit, who later renamed himself Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman. Demonstrating that a general surgeon is an internist who operates, Evans later served as Agyeman’s personal physician. When he arrived at Michigan, Evans was one of a handful of African Americans in the medical school. Evans found Michigan free of much of the overt racism he experienced in Philadelphia, and stayed in Michigan for a surgical residency at Wayne State University in Detroit when Alexander Walt was the chair, and where Charles Lucas and Anna Ledgerwood served as valuable mentors.*

*After completing his general surgery residency, Evans stayed in Detroit, carrying on a busy general surgery practice at the Detroit Medical Center’s Hutzel and Harper Hospitals from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 2001. Evans served for a period of time as Chief of General Surgery at the Hutzel Hospital and was a member of the clinical faculty in the Wayne State University Surgery Department. On a typical operating day, Evans would run two rooms and perform anywhere from 10 to 14 operations. Mentor and colleague Dr. Charles Lucas, remembers: “Only the senior level residents got to do much operating because the more junior residents were not fast enough, even with his expert help.”*

*Detroit was a haven for Evans and his family. Housing prices were relatively low and “White flight meant we could live in mansions,” Evans remembers. Evans had “no aversion to living in a Black community that*

*Continue page 8*



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

*Was healthy, solidly working class, and filled with homeowners, it was in some ways an ideal circumstance.” Evans was in solo practice until two years before retirement, sometimes scheduling three operating rooms on a daily block schedule. Somehow, he managed to balance his hospital life with a life outside of the hospital. He was an avid sports fan and held season tickets with the Detroit Pistons and Detroit Tigers, balanced by a home that became a meeting place where he supported and promoted artists and gallery exhibitions. Every two months he took 9 days off, travelled, and continued to meet and cultivate artists, gallerists, and collectors. He also took time to travel to Peru to work in undeserved community hospitals.*

*It was during this time period that Evans’s genius and passion for collecting great art and literature expanded exponentially. Several years after he established his surgical practice, Evans met Shirley Woodson Reid, an artist, educator, and gallerist who recommended that he take a look at some Jacob Lawrence silkscreen prints entitled **The Legend of John Brown**, a portfolio of 22 prints created to accompany a poem by Robert Hayden. “Although I had made my first acquisition of fine art,” Evans commented, “the idea of building a collection still never entered my mind.” Evans’s next acquisition came after he attended a benefit for the dancer Nanette Bearden, where Evans met Bearden’s husband, Romare Bearden, and purchased Bearden’s painting **The Magic Garden**. Evans began holding benefits for artists in Detroit. In December 1979, he hosted a benefit and purchased two more Bearden works: **Sunrise** and **Reclining Nude**. Later, he hosted a benefit for Elizabeth Catlett and acquired two of her works: **Pensive** and **Head of a Nigerian**.*

*June 1981 marks the month that Evans says he consciously began collecting art. A trip to Seattle, Washington with his twin daughters, Malika and Maisha, to meet Jacob Lawrence, led to the acquisition of Lawrence’s work **The Card Game**. Evans’s early purchases of notable art were works by African Americans with images of African Americans which could be seen and appreciated by his daughters at home. Evans realized, “Many museums in the U.S.A. had a few works by African American artists but rarely showed them.” Although there were notables who mentored Evans in the art of collecting art, he was venturing into the new frontier of African American art which had yet to be carefully explored and charted. Contemplating his pathway to becoming a successful collector, Evans wrote, “No one person taught me how to collect art, although attending David C. Driskell’s lectures was a major influence on my collection. I learned strategies from some dealers, most notably June Kelly, but proceeded primarily by trial and error and on-the-job training.” Evans was*

*Continue page 9*





MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

*sanguine about the challenges of collecting African American art of that time when advantages available today did not exist. His early acquisitions of works by Bearden, Lawrence, and Catlett underscore Evans's talent to identify the works of important artists. Bearden, a strong presence in the Harlem Renaissance, became known as one of America's preeminent artists. Lawrence remains famous for his depictions of the African American Diaspora and is one of the best known 20<sup>th</sup> century American artists. Catlett was a pioneering social realist sculptor who was ahead of the times in depicting issues of race, gender, and class. There were no models upon which to base my collecting practice," Evans remembers. "Curators at major museums and gallery owners were largely uninterested in works by African Americans. Scholarly research in the field was in its elementary stages. In addition, very few private collectors cared for the subject..." Knowledgeable critics were hard to find. Evans researched and purchased paintings and sculptures by 19<sup>th</sup> century African American masters like Edward Mitchell Bannister, Robert Scott Duncanson, Mary Edmonia Lewis, Charles Ethan Porter, and Henry Osawa Tanner. He discovered the joys of being a collector and of tracking down rare items. His method of trial and error was followed by more sophisticated methods that led to acquisition of works by Richmond Barthé, Robert Blackburn, William A. Harper, Edwin Harlston, Aaron Douglas, Margaret Burroughs, Marion Perkins, Horace Pippin, Sarent Claude Johnson, Hughie Lee-Smith, Eldzieer Cortor, Beauford Delaney, Richard Hunt, Clementine Hunter, Norman Lewis, Archibald J. Motley, Fr. Charles Alston, Charles White, and William H. Johnson, amongst others. Evans commissioned works included those by Jacob Lawrence, Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Richard Hunt, and Fred Jones.*

*"I want to invest in my culture," Evans said, "Culture defines a people and art is a significant part of that definition, like music and literature." Evans's success as a collector of African American art and literature in Detroit was a result of timing and Evans's personal charm, talent, and discerning eye. His Detroit home became a salon where artists and writers would come and stay for a week or two. He became friends with Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, Richard Hunt, and writers Margaret Walker Alexander, Gwendolyn Brooks, and others. The result was that he "was able to acquire such an extraordinary collection the days before Black art was astronomically expensive. The prices were relatively low, and the community could grow intimate." Today African American art has sky-rocketed in value as museums and wealthy collectors are acquiring it. However, when Evans began buying art, he had his pick. Back then, few people collected works by African American artists or even acknowledged the existence of such a specialized field. For relatively modest*

*Continue page 10*



MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

sums, Dr. Evans was able to acquire more than 300 major paintings and sculptures and thousands of cartoons and prints.

In 1991, Evans and his wife, Linda Evans, created a travelling exhibition with 80 works from their collections of African American art. This exhibition travelled to 45 museums over 16 years, bringing art by and about African Americans to museums that had a paucity of African American art and African American images. The catalog for this exhibit, *The Walter O. Evans Collection of African American Art*, spans over 150 years of African American art displayed in 80 plates. Evans's experience on a date decades earlier was one of the inspirations for this traveling exhibition. Remembering his visit to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Evans said, "The reason I did this was because going into that museum was a game changer for me. It changed my entire life, it not only got me interested in art but literature as well because I started reading about the artists so I dove into the libraries as well as the museums." Evans and his wife, Linda, an educator, sought to make their collection of African American art a game-changer for young Americans nationwide. Many pieces from the collection have hung in government offices, offices of university presidents, and through the Art in Embassies program of the U.S. State Department, in American embassies. Linda Evans continues to coordinate loans from the collection which are sent throughout the world to exhibitions which highlight African American art. Walter and Linda Evans gifted a portion of their collection to the Savannah College of Art and Design Museum in 2005. The Walter and Linda Evans Foundation for Art and Literature was established to secure the future appreciation and education about African American art and literature. In 2011, the Savannah College of Art and Design Museum established the Walter and Linda Evans Center for African American Studies. In September 2021, the Yale Beinecke Library announced another contribution by Evans to African American history education. In conjunction with the Yale Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, the Walter O. Evans Fellowship for the Study of Slavery or Race, a postdoctoral fellowship honoring Evans, was established in order to study the American or global experience of slavery or race.

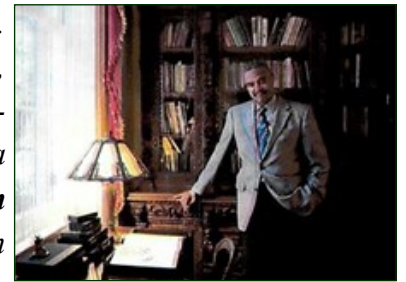
Evans's introduction into the refined world of collecting printed works was different than his earlier introduction to collecting art. Always showing a knack for opening the door when opportunity knocked, Evans met a friendly gentleman named Glen Horowitz on the elevator at the Strand Book Shop in New York City in February 1983. Before his mentorship from Horowitz, a luminary on the American antiquarian book scene, Evans

Continue page 11

MAY 2023

## WALTER O. EVANS, MD: SURGEON AND COLLECTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART, RARE BOOKS, AND MANUSCRIPTS, cont...

*simply acquired first editions, paying little attention to the book's condition. Horowitz taught Evans the fine art of collecting books and printed material, paying attention to the dust jacket and the book's condition and looking for opportunities to acquire books with important associations. One example of a great acquisition in Evans's early career is **A Pictorial History of the Negro in America** which was inscribed to Duke Ellington by its authors, Langston Hughes and Milton Meltzer. Evans lectured at the Grolier Club in New York City in 202 on his favorite books with memorable associations. Some of other favorites in his collection include a letter that Napoleon Bonaparte wrote to Toussaint Louverture, a first edition of **Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl** by Harriet Jacobs, and love letters of Romare Bearden. Evans is a popular lecturer and has delivered talks at the Library of Congress about his favorite books and manuscripts, which include those authored by Paul Laurence Dunbar, Jacobus Capitein, Phillis Wheatley, Benjamin Banneker, Henry Box Brown, Toussaint Louverture, Malcolm X, Harriet Wilson, and Frederick Douglass. These authors are characterized as people who rebelled against racism and Black enslavement in the U.S. and found redemption in rebellion through words and deeds.*



Dr. Walter O. Evans

*Evans notes that if a person has not gone to a museum by the time that they are 19 years old - the age he was on his first museum visit - "it's usually too late to get them interested in museums." Fortunately for Evans, he made a date with a lovely lady who gave him "a very compelling reason to go." He follows up that thought, explaining, "So that's why I like to share my art, because...it changed my life as much as it did." Evans balanced his life as a collector with the life of a general surgeon. Had he not walked into that Philadelphia museum, he conjectures, "I probably would have been a surgeon anyway, but I would not have had the rich life that I've led if I had not known these artists and their work.*



Monday, May 29

MAY 2023



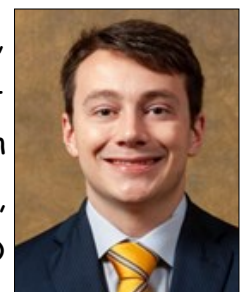
# PRODUCTIVITY

Dr. Jonathan Saxe (WSUGS 1990) was the senior author of a publication in a recent issue of *The American Journal of Surgery*, entitled "Emergency Department Disposition: Do Surgical Residents Contribute to Inefficiency?" Dr. Saxe and his teammates at Ascension-St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis reported on the efficiency of surgical residents providing consultation as part of their trauma program. Their objective was to study the flow of Emergency Department patients who have been injured and to determine any factors which contributed to an increased length-of-stay. They analyzed 145 consecutive Emergency Department consults and documented the residents' activities as it relates to all aspects of patient care. They demonstrated that the average time from patient arrival to definitive disposition from the Emergency Department was 305 minutes and that residents averaged 47 minutes to see and deal with surgical consults. The longest intervals during this period of time were related to the time of arrival until imaging studies (75 minutes) and imaging times (73 minutes). The average time to disposition and discharge was 170 minutes. They concluded that surgical residency and staff consults are within the norms for care established by the hospital and that any bottlenecks regarding overall length-of-stay are related to imaging.



Dr. Jonathan Saxe

Dr. Jock Thacker (WSUGS 2024), one of our senior level surgical residents, published a paper in the current issue of the *American Journal of Surgery*, entitled "Utility of Arterial CO<sub>2</sub>-End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> Gap as a Mortality Indicator in the surgical ICU." His co-authors were Alyssa Stroud, MD (WSUGS 2023), Michael Carge, MD (WSUGS 2022), Ms. Carolyn Baldwin, Awni Shahait, MD (WSUGS 2022), James Tyburski, MD (WSUGS 1992), Heather Dolman, MD (WSU/GS 2000/06), and Samantha Tarras, MD (WSUGS 2011). These authors demonstrated that end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) measurements have been an established tool for assessing critically ill patients. The authors attempted to show that PaCO<sub>2</sub>-ETCO<sub>2</sub> gap can be



Dr. Jock Thacker

Continue page 13

MAY 2023



# PRODUCTIVITY

used as a predictor of mortality over a seven-day ICU stay. They performed a retrospective analysis on intubated surgical patients with documented measurements of  $ETCO_2$ . They demonstrated in a group of 34 patients that patients who died were found to have longer days on vasopressors and higher lactic acid levels on days 2-3 and 7.  $PaCO_2$ - $ETCO_2$  gap were higher on days 2-4 in those patients who died. Using statistical analyses, they determined that the  $PaCO_2$ - $ETCO_2$  gaps on days 2 and 4 had good sensitivities and were comparable to lactic acid sensitivity in predicting mortality.

***Editorial Comment:*** *The  $PaCO_2$ - $ETCO_2$  in ventilated patients can also be used as a surrogate technique for monitoring Zone 1 of the lung, namely the zone of dead space. Using inert gases, the famous Dr. Sam Powers demonstrated that techniques used to increase oxygenation in patients on ventilators often include increasing the pulmonary mean arterial pressure, which is associated with an increase in dead space. More recently in 1983, Dr. Harrigan (Am Surg 1983) showed that increasing tidal volume was likewise associated with decreased oxygen consumption and increased dead space. More recently (British Journal of Anesthesia 2016), the increase in tidal volume led to a decrease in cardiac delivery associated with an increase in the  $PaCO_2$ - $ETCO_2$  gap. Possibly the above authors might monitor the effects of airway pressure as changed by increasing tidal volume or increasing positive end expiratory pressure might have on  $O_2$  delivery to see if the relationship between these elements are still present.*



Friday, May 5



## "EXCERPTS FROM LOG BOOK" - DOWN MEMORY LANE

**Anna M. Ledgerwood, MD**

7/16/71 - Staff: Dr. Alex Walt; Chief Resident: Dr. Ingida Asfaw

1. AB: Abscess left thenar space, treated with incision and drainage.
2. SB: GSW right lower quadrant abdomen with tangential laceration cecum and laceration branch of right iliac vein with 600 ml hemoperitoneum, treated with closure cecal laceration and ligation of ranch iliac vein.
3. JK: 22-yo with slash wound chest and abdomen with large and small bowel evisceration with laceration right and left lobe3s of liver (12 inches), transection costal cartilages right chest and sternum, laceration pericardium and diaphragm, transected internal mammary arteries, hemopneumothorax left with 2.5 liter hemoperitoneum, treated with suture of bleeding wounds of the liver, ligation transected intercostal arteries, repair of pericardial and diaphragmatic lacerations, and insertion of chest tube.



Dr. Anna Ledgerwood

7/17/71 - Staff: Dr. Pelok; Chief Resident: A. Ledgerwood

1. WK: GSW right flank, left thigh, right forearm, and left forearm with fracture left radius and thru-and-thru laceration right lobe of liver, treated with exploratory laparotomy.
2. KW: Stab to neck with laceration cricoid and thyroid cartilages, treated with repair of cartilages and tracheostomy.

7/18/71 - Staff: Dr. P. LeBlanc; Chief Resident: Dr. I. Asfaw

1. WG: 7-yo with draining pilonidal sinus, treated with incision and drainage.
2. JK: 27-yo with GSW abdomen and laceration of liver with a thru-and-thru wound measuring 6 cm, both right and left lobe, with thru-and-thru laceration of gallbladder and 1.5 liter hemoperitoneum, treated with suture of bleeding liver wounds and cholecystectomy.

7/19/71 - Staff: Dr. Hartzell

1. WT: 41-yo with stab wound right posterior chest with a steak knife and 5.5 inches in the chest and broken from the handle. Knife embedded in subcutaneous tissue. Initially treated with chest tube and had 400 ml/hr of bleeding for three hours, thus had right posterior thoracotomy and evacuation of 2.5 liters of clot. There was laceration of inferior aspect of right upper lobe of lung and posterior segment of right lower lobe of lung. Lung was sutured and 2.5 liters of blood evacuated.

Continue page 15



## "EXCERPTS FROM LOG BOOK" - DOWN MEMORY LANE, cont...

1. CP: 18-yo with GSW both proximal thighs and GSW left lower quadrant of abdomen. Bilateral arteriograms were normal. Patient had laparotomy with findings of hematoma in the base of the ileal mesentery and six lacerations of the small bowel. Operation included closure of lacerations proximal ascending colon, resection portion of ileum with primary anastomosis, and repair of laceration of iliac mesentery.

7/21/71 - Staff: Dr. F. Jackson

1. CH: Stab wound left mid-arm with laceration of radial nerve, treated with primary repair.
2. CW: 36-yo with penetrating stab wound to chest, left second interspace, and stab wound mid-epigastrium with findings of 10 cm thru-and-thru bleeding laceration of lateral segment of left lobe of liver, laceration of left diaphragm, 0.4 cm laceration of anterior aspect of distal thoracic aorta with 2 liter hemoperitoneum, treated with bilateral anterior thoracotomy with suture of bleeding aortic laceration, laparotomy with suture of bleeding liver wounds, and insertion of bilateral chest tubes. Of note, this patient had a cardiac arrest shortly after induction with anesthesia, and the left chest was opened immediately with internal cardiac massage and heart action restored in less than four minutes.

7/22/71 - Staff: Dr. A. Weaver

1. WF: Perforated appendicitis, treated with appendectomy.
2. LB: GSW abdomen in left upper quadrant and both thighs. Bilateral femoral arteriograms were negative. GSW to abdomen went through the space of Retzius, anterior to the bladder and lodged in the mid-thigh. Operation included laparotomy with Penrose drains in the space of Retzius.
3. RW: Palmar abscess left hand, treated with incision and drainage.





## WSU MONTLY CONFERENCES

### 2023

Death & Complications Conference  
Every Wednesday from 7-8



Didactic Lectures — 8 am  
Kresge Auditorium

*The weblink for the New WebEx Room:*  
<https://davidedelman.my.webex.com/meet/dedelman>

#### Wednesday, May 3

“Annual Program Evaluation (APE)

David Edelman, MD

Program Director, WSU Surgical Residency

#### Wednesday, May 10

Death & Complications Conference

“History, Current Applications and Ethical Considerations of Robotic Surgery”

Alyssa Stroud, MD

Graduating Surgical Resident, DMC/WSU School of Medicine

#### Wednesday, May 17

Death & Complications Conference

“The History, Art, and Science of Intestinal Stomas”

Maseray Kamara, MD

Graduating Surgical Resident, DMC/WSU School of Medicine

#### Wednesday, May 24

Death & Complications Conference

“My Most Memorable Case” Presentations

Graduating Surgical Residents, DMC/WSU School of Medicine

#### Wednesday, May 31

Death & Complications Conference

ALEXANDER J. WALT ENDOWED LECTURE

“Two Dozen Years, Two PD’s and Top 10 Lessons Learned in Surgical Education”

J. Scott Thomas, MD, FACS

Department of Surgery, Texas A&M University School of Medicine

Baylor Scott & White Memorial Hospital, Temple, Texas

**NOTE: NEW EVALUATION CODES:**

Surgical Death and Complications Rounds #2022321125 Sept-Dec2022 CME Reflective Evaluation,

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SQ2929T>

Surgery Grand Rounds #2022321064 Sept-Dec2022 CME Reflective Evaluation,

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SW&VQNL>





**Wayne State Surgical Society  
2023 Donation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Description	Amount
---------------------	--------

2021 Dues Payment _____ \$200	_____
-------------------------------	-------

My contribution for "An Operation A Year for WSU" _____	_____
---	-------

*Charter Life Member _____ \$1000	_____
-----------------------------------	-------

Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment by Credit Card**

Include your credit card information below and mail it or fax it to 313-993-7729.

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type: MasterCard Visa Expiration Date: (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of card (if different from above):

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\*I want to commit to becoming a charter life member with payment of \$1000 per year for the next ten (10) years.

Send check made payable to **Wayne State Surgical Society** to:

Charles Lucas, MD  
Department of Surgery  
Detroit Receiving Hospital, Room 2V  
4201 St. Antoine Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48201

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

*Michigan Chapter ACS Meeting*

*May 17-19, 2023*

*Boyne Mountain Resort*

*Boyne Falls, MI*

*Central Surgical Association 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting*

*June 8-10, 2023*

*Kilton Cleveland Downtown*

*Cleveland, Ohio*

*Midwest Surgical Association Annual Meeting*

*July 30-August 1*

*Eagleswood Resort and Spa*

*Itasca, Illinois*

*American Association for the Surgery of Trauma*

*82nd Annual Meeting*

*September 20-23, 2023*

*Anaheim, California*



**Please Update Your  
Information**

The WSUSOM Department of Surgery wants to stay in touch. Please email Charles Lucas at [clucas@med.wayne.edu](mailto:clucas@med.wayne.edu) to update your contact information.



## Missing Emails

Over the years the WSU Department of Surgery has lost touch with many of its alumni. If you know the email, address, or phone number of the following WSU Department of Surgery Residency Program graduates please email us at [clucas@med.wayne.edu](mailto:clucas@med.wayne.edu) with their information so that we can get them on the distribution list for the WSU Department of Surgery Alumni Monthly Email Report.

Mohammad Ali (1973)

David B. Allen (1992)

Tayful R. Ayalp (1979)

Juan C. Aletta (1982)

Kuan-Cheng Chen (1976)

Elizabeth Colaiuta (2001)

Fernando I. Colon (1991)

David Davis (1984)

Teoman Demir (1996)

Judy A. Emanuele (1997)

Lawrence J. Goldstein (1993)

Raghuram Gorti (2002)

Karin Haji (1973)

Morteza Hariri (1970)

Harrison, Vincent L. (2009)

Abdul A. Hassan (1971)

Rose L. Jumah (2006)

R. Kambhampati (2003)

Aftab Khan (1973)

Samuel D. Lyons (1988)

Dean R. Marson (1997)

Syed A. Mehmood (2007)

Toby Meltzer (1987)

Roberto Mendez (1997)

Mark D. Morasch (1998)

Daniel J. Olson (1993)

David Packer (1998)

Y. Park (1972)

Bhavik G. Patel (2004)

Ami Raafat (1998)

Kevin Radecki (2001)

Sudarshan R. Reddy (1984)

Renato G. Ruggiero (1994)

Parvid Sadjadi (1971)

Samson P. Samuel (1996)

Knavery D. Scaff (2003)

Steven C. Schueller (1974)

Anand G. Shah (2005)

Anil Shetty (2008)

Chanderdeep Singh (2002)

David G. Tse (1997)

Christopher N. Vashi (2007)

Larry A. Wolk (1984)

Peter Y. Wong (2002)

Shane Yamane (2005)

Chungie Yang (2005)

Hossein A. Yazdy (1970)

Lawrence S. Zachary (1985)

## Wayne State Surgical Society

*The Wayne State Surgical Society (WSSS) was established during the tenure of Dr. Alexander J. Walt as the Chairman of the Department of Surgery. WSSS was designed to create closer contact between the current faculty and residents with the former resident members in order to create a living family of all of the WSU Department of Surgery. The WSSS also supports department activities. Charter/Life Membership in the WSSS is attained by a donation of \$1,000 per year for ten years or \$10,000 prior to ten years. Annual membership is attained by a donation of \$200 per year. WSSS supports a visiting lecturer each fall and co-sponsors the annual reception of the department at the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Scott Davidson (WSU/GS 1990/96) passed the baton of presidency to Dr. Larry Narkiewicz (WSU/GS 2004/09) at the WSSS gathering during the American College of Surgeons meeting in October 2022. Members of the WSSS are listed on the next page. Dr. Narkiewicz continues in the hope that all former residents will become lifetime members of the WSSS and participate in the annual sponsored lectureship and the annual reunion at the American College of Surgeons meeting.*



*Members of the Wayne State Surgical Society  
Charter Life Members*

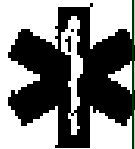
Ahn, Dean	Clink, Douglas	Gerrick Stanley	Lim, John J.	Porter, Donald	Sullivan, Daniel M.
Albaran, Renato G	Chmielewski, Gary W.	Grifka Thomas J. (Deceased 2022)	Lucas, Charles E.	Prendergast, Michael	Sugawa, Choichi
Allaben, Robert D. (Deceased)	Colon, Fernando I.	Gutowski, Tomasz D.	Malian, Michael S.	Ramnauth, Subhash	Tuma, Martin
Ames, Elliot L.	Conway, William Charles	Herman, Mark A.	Marquez, JoFrances	Rector, Frederick	vonBerg, Volrad J. (Deceased)
Amirikia, Kathryn C.	Davidson, Scott B.	Hinshaw, Keith A.	Martin, Donald J., Jr.	Rose, Alexander	Washington, Bruce C.
Anslow, Richard D.	Dente, Christopher	Holmes, Robert J.	Maxwell, Nicholas	Rosenberg, Jerry C.	Walt, Alexander (Deceased)
Antoniolli, Anita L.	Dujon, Jay	Huebl, Herbert C.	McGuire, Timothy	Sankaran, Surya	Weaver, Donald
Auer, George	Edelman, David A.	Johnson, Jeffrey R.	McIntosh, Bruce	Sarin, Susan	Whittle, Thomas J.
Babel, James B.	Francis, Wesley	Johnson, Pamela D.	Missavage, Anne	Sferra, Joseph	Williams, Mallory
Bassett, Joseph (Deceased)	Flynn, Lisa M.	Kline, Gary	Montenegro, Carlos E.	Shapiro, Brian	Wills, Hale
Baylor, Alfred	Fromm, Stefan H.	Kovalik, Simon G.	Narkiewicz, Lawrence	Silbergleit, Allen	Wilson, Robert F.
Bouwman, David	Fromm, David G	Lange, William (Deceased)	Nicholas, Jeffrey M.	Smith, Daniel	Wood, Michael H.
Bradley, Jennifer	Galpin, Peter A.	Lau, David	Novakovic, Rachel L.	Smith, Randall W.	Zahriya, Karim
Cirocco, William C.	Gayer, Christopher P.	Ledgerwood, Anna M.	Perrone, Erin	Stassinopoulos, Jerry	

*Members of the Wayne State Surgical Society—2023-24 Dues*

Alpendre, Cristiano V.	Carlin, Arthur	Goltz, Christopher J.	Kaderabek, Douglas J.	Mayuiers, Matt	Schwarz, Karl W.	Vasquez, Julio
Asfaw, Ingida	Dawson, Konrad L.	Gutowski, Tomasz	Klein, Michael D.	McGee, Jessica D.	Shaheen, Kenneth W.	Wood, Michael H.
Babel, James	Dittinbir, Mark	Hall, Jeffrey	Kosir, Mary Ann	Meade, Peter C.	Shanti, Christina	Ziegler, Daniel W.
Bambach, Gregory A.	Dolman, Heather	Hamamdjian, Khatch	Larson, Sarah	Mueller, Michael J.	Siegel, Thomas S.	Zoellner, Steven M.
Barnwell, John	Dulchavsky, Scott A.	Hilu, John	Liebold, Walter	Noorily, Michael	Spencer, Amy	
Baylor, Alfred	Edwards, Ryan	Hollenbeck, Andrew	Lloyd, Larry	Paley, Daniel S.	Taylor, Michael G.	
Bloch, Robert	Fernandez-Gerena, Jose	Holmes, Robert	Lopez, Peter	Phillips, Linda G.	Tennenberg, Steven	
Bucci, Lorenzo	Field, Erin	Jeffries, Christopher	Malian, Michael S.	Porterfield, Lee	Thomas, Gregory A.	
Camero, Luis	Gallick, Harold	Joseph, Anthony	Marquez, JoFrances	Robinson, Steven	Thoms, Norman W.	



*Operation-A-Year  
January 1—December 31, 2024*



The WSU department of Surgery has instituted a new group of alumni who are remembering their training by donating the proceeds of one operation a year to the department. Those who join this new effort will be recognized herein as annual contributors. We hope that all of you will remember the department by donating one operation, regardless of difficulty or reimbursement, to the department to help train your replacements. Please send you donation to the Wayne State Surgical Society in care of Dr. Charles E. Lucas at Detroit Receiving Hospital, 4201 St. Antoine Street (Room 2V), Detroit, MI, 48201.

Albaran, Renato G.	Chmielewski, Gary W.	Gallick, Harold	Huebel, Hubert C.	Malian, Michael	Nicholas, Jeffrey	Sferra, Joseph	Whittle, Thomas J.
Anslow, Richard D.	Conway, William Charles	Gutowski, Tomasz	Johnson, Jeffrey R.	Marquez, JoFrances	Novakovic, Rachel L.	Siegel, Thomas S.	Williams, Mallory
Antoniolli, Anita L.	Davidson, Scott	Gayer, Christopher P.	Johnson, Pamela D.	Martin, Donald J.	Perrone, Erin	Silbergleit, Allen	Wills, Hale
Anthony, Joseph	Dente, Christopher	Hamamdjian, Khatch	Joseph, Anthony	Maxwell, Nicholas	Porter, Donald	Smith, Randall	Wood, Michael H.
Bambach, Gregory A.	Dujon, Jay	Herman, Mark A.	Ledgerwood Anna M.	McGuire, Timothy	Prendergast, Michael	Sugawa, Choichi	Ziegler, Daniel
Bradley, Jennifer	Edelman, David A.	Hinshaw, Keith A.	Lim, John J.	McIntosh, Bruce	Sands, Duane	Sullivan, Daniel M.	
Cirocco, William C.	Francis, Wesley	Holmes, Robert J.	Lopez, Peter	Missavage, Anne	Sankaran, Surya	Tuma, Martin	



**WSU SOM ENDOWMENT**

The Wayne State University School of Medicine provides an opportunity for alumni to create endowments in support of their institution and also support the WSSS. For example, if Dr. John Smith wished to create the “Dr. John Smith Endowment Fund”, he could donate \$25,000 to the WSU SOM and those funds would be left untouched but, by their present, help with attracting other donations. The interest at the rate of 4% per year (\$1000) could be directed to the WSSS on an annual basis to help the WSSS continue its commitment to improving the education of surgical residents. Anyone who desires to have this type of named endowment established with the interest of that endowment supporting the WSSS should contact Ms. Lori Robitaille at the WSU SOM> She can be reached by email at [lrobitai@med.wayne.edu](mailto:lrobitai@med.wayne.edu).