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## Alabama Chapter

Laureate Award



"No person

was ever

bonoured

for what

he received.

Honour

has been the reward for what he gave."

—Calvin Coolidge

## Laureate Award

The Laureate Award honors those Fellows or Masters of the College who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, or research, and in service to their community, their Chapter, and the American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine.

Recipients of this award shall bear the title, Laureate of the Alabama Chapter.

Awards shall be presented at the annual scientific meeting. The awardee should accept the recognition in person, unless excused by the Governor. The awardee is to be nominated by a process that may originate from the Awards Committee or from any member of the Chapter. The nomination must document the attributes and accomplishments of the nominee.

Awardees shall be senior physicians and Fellows or Masters of long-standing, with acknowledged excellence and peer approval in the field of internal medicine. In addition, awardees should have served their Chapter with distinction. Exceptional circumstances may modify these requirements.

It is with distinct pleasure that this year the Alabama Chapter presents Laureate awards to Drs. Buss and Morris. These physicians are long-standing and loyal supporters of the College, have rendered distinguished service to their chapters, and have upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the College known.

We salute and honor them on this occasion and we wish them and their families well in the future.

> William E. Dismukes, MD, MACP Governor, Alabama Chapter

## JOHN BURRELL BASS, JR., MD, MACP

John Bass, MD, is a fourth-generation Alabama physician, who was born March 9, 1944, in Abilene, Texas, where his father was stationed in the Army. He grew-up in Gadsden,



Alabama, where his father and grandfather practiced medicine, attended Auburn University and Tulane University, and received his doctor of medicine degree from the Tulane University School of Medicine. Dr. Bass completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at UAB under Dr. Joe Reeves, was one of Dr. Dick Briggs' first three Pulmonary Fellows at UAB, and was Dr. Tom James' first Chief Medical Resident.

Dr. Bass has been a faculty member at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine since completing his training in 1974. Presently, he is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine, having previously served for twenty-five years as Director, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He has numerous publications in his scientific areas, pneumonia and tuberculosis, and has served on and chaired several important scientific committees for the American Thoracic Society and Centers for Disease Control.

Dr. Bass has been active in ACP-ASIM for many years, having presented Meet-the-Professor Sessions for the past fifteen years at the annual session and served on the first two pulmonary/critical care MKSAP committees. From 1995 to 1999, Dr. Bass served as Governor of the Alabama Chapter, ACP-ASIM.

Of all his professional activities, Dr. Bass is most proud of his teaching. He has taught each of the more than 1,600 students who have graduated from USA College of Medicine and has been selected as the Best Clinical Professor on six occasions. As a result of his many accomplishments in education, patient care, and clinical research, Dr. Bass has been awarded the Distinguished Faculty designation at graduation each year since the award was begun in 1990. In 1999, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the USA College of Medicine Alumni Association. Very recently, at the April 2000 annual meeting of ACP-ASIM in Philadelphia, the College bestowed on Dr. Bass a coveted Mastership in recognition of his many contributions to internal medicine.

Dr. Bass and his wife, Becky, have two children: John III, a jazz guitarist, and Anna, an artist-in-training.

4

## PETER WILLIAM MORRIS, MD, FACP

Peter Morris, MD is a native and life-long Alabamian, born in Birmingham in 1930, attendee of Birmingham public schools, and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Alabama, To



the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. He received his MD from the Medical College of Alabama in 1956.

Dr. Morris did both his internship and residency in internal medicine at University Hospital (UAB), flanked by two years of military service in the United States Navy. He then served a two-year fellowship in hematology/oncology at Duke University. After completion of his training, in 1963, Dr. Morris opened his office for the practice of internal medicine and hematology/oncology in Birmingham and has continued his solo practice uninterrupted for the past 37 years.

During his long and distinguished career, Dr. Morris has been a highly involved and visible member, leader, and valuable contributor to numerous local, state and national medical organizations. He ascended the ladder from Secretary-Treasurer to President (1981) of the Jefferson County Medical Society, serving on many important committees along the way. Especially noteworthy was his participation on the Steering Committee of the Jefferson County Medicine Business Coalition on cost containment sponsored by the American Medical Association and the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. He also

served two terms as President, Birmingham Society of Internists. Dr. Morris has held all of the important offices and served on the key boards of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, serving as President of MASA, 1992-93, and as a member of the State Board of Medical Examiners, State Committee of Public Health, 1983-1994. In addition, he was a member of the Physician's Advisory Board to the UAB School of Medicine, 1984-1989, and Chairman, 1989. At the national level, Dr. Morris is currently serving as one of our Alabama delegates to the AMA, and as a member of the Reference Committee for Constitution and Bylaws.

Dr. Morris' involvement in the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine since 1964 culminated with his being named Internist of the Year 1993, and President, 1995-1996. Over the past year, he has served on the Board of Directors, Alabama Chapter ACP-ASIM.

Dr. Morris and his wife, Diane, have two children, William and Adrianne.