

Fred H. Hanold, MD, MACP, originally wrote this history in 1986. We are most grateful for his contribution.

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS IN NEW MEXICO

CHAPTER ONE

New Mexico, the Land of Enchantment, apparently cast its spell on the physicians early in this century. Physicians were reasonably well distributed in the early days of statehood. Those medical doctors, interested in Tuberculosis, probably were lured to New Mexico because of its reputation for a healthful climate, which attracted tuberculous patients and physicians alike.

The founding of tuberculosis sanatoria seemed a natural evolution with the attraction of more physicians with an interest in tuberculosis. The mining operations in New Mexico also attracted physicians to the state. Some physicians came to New Mexico for a cure of their own tuberculosis and remained to practice in the Wild West.

Robert Edwin McBride, M.D., was the first physician, to practice in New Mexico with a particular interest in Internal Medicine. He graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine in 1896 and began practice in Las Cruces in 1904. He served on the staff of the Hotel Dieu Sister's Hospital in El Paso. He became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in 1931.

James H. Johnson, M.D., also D.D.S., graduated from Physician's and Surgeon's College of Medicine in Kansas City, later Kansas University, in 1904. He contracted tuberculosis in his senior year and entered a sanatorium in Albuquerque. Because he had led his class, he was awarded his medical degree without actually completing the remainder of his senior year. He also held a degree in dentistry. After spending 18 months in the sanatorium, he engaged in part time practice at the mines in Cerrillos, Lamy and Organ. In 1917 he established a private practice in Las Cruces. It is not clear how much time he devoted to Internal Medicine. He never became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians.

Robert Osgood Brown, M.D. graduated from Rush Medical College in 1914. He served in the National Guard on the Mexican border in 1916 at which time he was diagnosed as having tuberculosis. This unhappy finding brought him to Santa Fe. Following his cure, he remained in Santa Fe to practice with a special interest in chest diseases. He was a member of the American College of Chest Physicians and became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in 1935.

The first physician to become a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in New Mexico was Meldrum Keplinger Wylder, a pediatrician. He graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in 1901. He became a Fellow in the college in 1927. Dr. Wylder chose to engage in general practice, with emphasis on obstetrics pediatrics. Nonetheless, he attended some of the early functions of the college about the late 1940's and early 1950's.

Leroy Samuel Peters graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1906. He had a great interest in tuberculosis and practiced at both the St. Joseph's and Presbyterian sanatoria. He was a master at physical diagnosis as pertains to the chest. He often drew a sketch of his findings and would make wagers with the radiologists that the sketch would match the x-rays. He apparently won more often than he lost. Dr. Peters became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in 1927. He also had the distinction of being the first Governor of the College for New Mexico, an office he held from 1928 to 1941.

Ralph Waldo Mendelson, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., was the first true specialist in Internal Medicine to practice in New Mexico. He graduated from Northwestern University Medical School in 1911 and became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in 1929. His career was both fascinating and fruitful. Please refer to an autobiography and oral history by his daughter, Josephine Wilcox and Dr. Robert Friedenberg. Carl Mulky, M.D., graduated from Rush Medical College in 1911. He, like Dr. Peters, was primarily interested in tuberculosis. He became a Fellow in the American College of Physicians in 1931.

John Robert Van Atta, M.D. and Marine Ruffner Warden, M.D., were both radiologists and pathologists. Dr. Van Atta graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1911 and Dr. Warden graduated from Rush Medical College in 1925. Dr. Van Atta practiced at Presbyterian Hospital and Dr. Warden at St. Joseph's Hospital. Both physicians were elected to Fellowship in the College in 1931.

John William Stofer, M.D. also was a radiologist or perhaps an internist interested in Radiology. He graduated from the University Medical College of Kansas City in 1908. He practiced in St. Mary's Hospital in Gallup. Dr. Stofer became a Fellow in the College in 1931.

Bernard Temple Brown, M.D. was another physician attracted to New Mexico because of his interest in tuberculosis. He graduated from Syracuse University College of Medicine. He practiced in Albuquerque. He also became a Fellow in the College in 1931.

Grayson Emery Tarkington, M.D. graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He was the chief of the syphilis staff, U.S. Public Health Service, and contributed papers on syphilis and malaria. He practiced for 5 years in Albuquerque from 1933 to 1938 and became a Fellow in the College in 1935.

Walter Albert Gekler, M.D. was still another physician with a primary interest in tuberculosis. He was elected to Fellowship in the College in 1935 while practicing in Albuquerque. Other than this, very little else is known about him.

Carl Herman Gellenthien, M.D. graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1927. Like so many of the early internists, his primary interest was tuberculosis. He established a tuberculosis sanatorium in a picturesque setting in Valmora, New Mexico. He became a Fellow in the College in 1935. Dr. Gellenthien is still alive and is the oldest surviving Fellow elected from New Mexico.

Although Dr. Chester Kurtz is a year older and became a Fellow in 1934, he did not reside in New Mexico at the time.

In 1941, two more fellows were elected to the College, Henry Israel Shakon practiced at the Veterans Administration Facility in Albuquerque and graduated from Tufts Medical School and later returned to Boston. Walter I. Werner practiced Internal Medicine and allergy in Albuquerque. He served as Governor for the College in New Mexico from 1949 to 1954. Dr. Werner was killed in a air plane crash in 1954 while on route to the Mayo Clinic.

One can only speculate as to why the Medical Schools, situated in Chicago dominated as the source of physicians in New Mexico. The most obvious explanation was the more ready access by train, but it might reflect emphasis in those schools on the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis. The excitement and romance of the Santa Fe Trail may have lured several doctors, who arrived from Kansas City and St. Louis. There were only two physicians who migrated from the East Coast, reflecting the general provincialism of the times. There was no representation from the Universities of Colorado, Utah, California or from Stanford University. For one thing, these schools were rather young, but the trend was certainly to move west, seldom, if ever, from west to east. It is unfortunate that more is not known about the day to day contributions of these early physicians in the state. Some must have had an all too brief day in the state.

The American Board of Internal Medicine did not initiate formal examinations until 1935. Thus most of the physicians alluded to above became diplomats by acclamation, the so called grandfather clause. Up to 1950, there are no records of American College of Physicians meetings in New Mexico. There were invitations to the state of New Mexico for regional meetings involving Colorado, Utah and other neighboring states. Beginning in the early 1950's, joint meetings with Arizona were initiated. Some of these were held in Albuquerque and copies of those programs are in the appendix. Guest lecturers included: Ford K. Hick, M.D., University of Illinois, Philip S. Hench, M.D., Mayo Clinic, (Nobel Prize Recipient), Howard P. Lewis, M.D., University of Oregon, William Bean, M.D., University of Iowa, Louis N. Katz, M.D., University of Illinois, George C. Griffith, M.D., U.S.C. School of Medicine, and William B. Castle, M.D., Harvard University School of Medicine (Nobel Prize Recipient). As will be seen, World War II brought many changes including a mobile society and the end to provincialism.

CHAPTER TWO

Many younger physicians were introduced to New Mexico by virtue of the military hospitals, bases and facilities in New Mexico, established during World War II. Well-trained internists were well represented. Some elected to remain in or return to New Mexico after the war.

Andrew M. Babey, M.D. graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1933. He received his training in Bellevue Hospital in New York, Brooklyn Hospital and Guy's Hospital in London. He, nonetheless, settled in Las Cruces, in the Wild West. He was a leader, always a source of encouragement and example to new, younger doctors and highly respected by internists throughout the state.

Pierre Salmon, M.D. graduated from Long Island College of Medicine in 1937 and received his postgraduate training at Brooklyn Hospital. He chose to practice in Roswell. He was a great asset, but the story goes that he moved on to San Mateo, California, because his wife yearned for the sounds and sights of the big city.

Eric Hausner, M.D., a refugee physician from Prague, engaged in graduate studies at the Mayo Clinic and then began practice in Santa Fe, after having served at Burns General Hospital in Santa Fe during World War II.

Dr. Charles McGoey graduated from New York University and received his internship and residency training at Bellevue Hospital. He contracted tuberculosis toward the end of his residency after World War II, gravitated to Denver and then to Santa Fe, where he initiated practice. Perhaps his illness had something to do with seeking the benefits of the extolled climate in the west. For many years he was President of the New Mexico Board of Medical Examiners. For whatever reasons, these two excellent physicians never became members of the College.

Heinz Richard Landmann, M.D. graduated from the University of Berne in Switzerland in 1934. He settled in Santa Fe and became a Fellow in 1952.

Murray Friedman, M.D. and Aaron Margolis, M.D. also settled in Santa Fe. Dr. Friedman, practiced radiology and Dr. Margolis was a superb pathologist.

Dr. Paul Noth established a practice in internal medicine in Los Alamos. He was quite active in the New Mexico Heart Association.

But, the most dramatic changes occurred in Albuquerque. Prior to World War II, the majority of physicians in the city were general practitioners. Drs. Mendelson and Werner were internists. The other American College of Physician Fellows represented other specialties as noted above. The end of the war brought an influx of well-trained young physicians to Albuquerque, including internists. Dr. Robert Friedenber, M.D. served as chief of medicine at the Veterans Hospital, Albuquerque, for one year following discharge from the Army. He then initiated his private practice in Albuquerque.

Dr. Friedenber graduated from the University of Illinois College of Medicine but received his postgraduate training in Brooklyn. He, in essence, picked up where Dr. Mendelson left off. Dr. Friedenber represented Internal Medicine at its best and was always helpful toward the younger internist and had a great steadying effect. Drs. Roy Robertson, John Dettweiler and Albert Maisel also established practices at that time. Harold Linton January, Oliver S. Cramer, Robert Secrest, Louis Levin and Samuel Painter joined the Lovelace Clinic during this period. Drs. Fred H. Hanold, Charles R. Beeson, Virgil Seibert, Thomas Lyle Carr, Alan Frankel and Jack Fitzpatrick established practices in Albuquerque in the early 1950's. This was shortly followed by the arrival of Drs. Thomas B. Gibbons, George M. Boyden, John D. Abrums, Donald Huelsmann, George Simson, Clyde E. Tomlin, and Hugh Woodward. Dr. Richard Streeper also joined the Lovelace Clinic.

Dr. Friedenbergr was appointed Governor of the American College of Physicians for New Mexico on the death of Dr. Werner. Dr. Freidenberg endeavored to make the College more visible in New Mexico and was eminently successful. Joint annual meetings with Arizona continued. These usually culminated with a banquet and a presentation by a member of the College Board of Regents. Local internists presented papers at the meetings for the most part, but occasionally a physician from an adjoining state contributed.

These were exciting times and the internists throughout the state enjoyed good rapport with one another. This was particularly true in Albuquerque where the exchange of newly learned state of the art occurred, both formally and informally. Those who had already sat for board examinations tutored candidates for the American Boards. Curbstone consultations, along with formal consultations, were frequent.

Dr. Eric Hausner initiated an annual cardiac session in Santa Fe, at which physicians in the State presented interesting or unusual cases. In the beginning, it was simply a means of picking each other's brains, but these sessions proved to be so successful that meetings were scheduled twice a year with Santa Fe and Albuquerque alternating as hosts. Guest experts were also invited. At one session devoted to electrocardiography, Drs. Charles Kossmann, Samuel Bellet, Conger Williams and Raymond Pruitt were all present.

The internists interested in pulmonary disease likewise scheduled a series of excellent Pembine type meetings at Socorro and Fort Stanton. Guest consultants discussed the diagnostic and therapeutic fine points of unusual cases presented by attending physicians. Many of the internists in New Mexico made a point of attending the excellent annual meetings devoted to aspects of cancer, held at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, hosted by the Penrose Glockner Hospital.

The physicians in Santa Fe initiated monthly meetings, which evolved into excellent, more formal, seminars with guest speakers. The internists in Las Cruces associated with fellow internists in El Paso at the Hotel Dieu Sister's Providence and Beaumont Hospitals. Thus, despite the geographic isolation in New Mexico from the more prestigious centers of medicine, the internists were not deterred from continuing to be students of disease and pursuing excellence.

In the early 1950's, an unusual joint effort between the Bernalillo County and the Indian Service culminated in the construction of the County Indian Hospital, now known as the University of New Mexico Hospital. The Bernalillo County Medical Society pledged its support and the commitment to staff the new hospital. This was a most commendable effort with the majority of the members donating their time and effort. Very shortly, an extension of a three-year surgery residency in operation at the Albuquerque Veterans Hospital expanded to four years by virtue of the residents rotating on the surgical service at the County Indian Hospital. The establishment of one-year rotating internship and residency programs in Internal Medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, and pathology followed this program. The internists were intimately involved in the internship program and the residency program in Internal Medicine. A medical foundation was established through contributions from the attending staff (modest fee of \$25.00 per visit to the hospital). This fund provided books, journals, and occasional post-graduate meetings

for members of the house staff. It also provided an honorarium for several visiting professors. These post-graduate programs at the County Indian Hospital required weekly conferences and monthly clinical pathological conferences. The internists on the staff contributed admirably to these, which, along with ward rounds, represented considerable blocks of time away from their practices. All this was contributed essentially gratis. In the early 1950's, Drs. Jack Dettweiler and Lucy McMurray established a free cardiac clinic. This effort was sponsored jointly by the Bernalillo County Health Department and the Bernalillo County Heart Association. The Clinic was held in the boiler room of the County Court House. Drs. Freidenberg, Hanold Streeper, Tandysh, Gibbons, Luan and Conrad soon contributed to this effort. The Clinic moved to new quarters in the County Health building, nicely equipped with sound proof examining rooms. Many cases of congenital heart disease were diagnosed. A very successful cooperative relationship with the Crippled Children Association resulted in free surgical correction of defects when indicated. The clinic existed for twenty-five years. Drs. Richard Pyle, Frank Mowry and Alan King later joined in from the Lovelace Clinic, along with Dr. Robert Castle from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. Similar clinics were established in Roswell, Santa Fe, and Los Alamos. Dr. Eric Hausner established a cardiac clinic in Santa Fe in 1951. After his death, Drs. Richard Streeper and Alvina Loorham ably staffed the clinic. Dr. Paul Noth initiated the cardiac clinic in Los Alamos. More recently Drs. Anne Linnebur and Jon Johnson have staffed the Los Alamos clinic.

During the 1950's, but particularly toward the close of the 50's, new internists arrived in Albuquerque and to a lesser extent in the other large cities of New Mexico. There was representation of internists in Farmington, Los Alamos, Espanola, Carlsbad, Clovis and Roswell. In 1957, Chester M. Kurtz, M.D., a distinguished cardiologist from Wisconsin joined the staff at the Veterans Administration, Albuquerque. Internists in Albuquerque have appreciated his teaching and counsel. New internists had joined the Lovelace Clinic and the Clinic had initiated a post-graduate program, facets of which dovetailed with the program at the County Indian Hospital. Thus, the 1959 directory of the American College of Physicians listed New Mexico internists as follows:

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

Abrums, John Denise, 717 Encino Pl. NE---IM
BEESON CHARLES RISCHE, 717 Encino Pl. NE.---IM
BLOOM, BENSON, V.A. Hospital ---IM, Card
Boyden, George Moore, 717 Encino Pl. NE---IM, GE
CARR, THOMAS LYLE, 801 Encino Pl. NE---IM
Frankel, Alan Louis, 717 Encino Pl. NE---IM, Card
FRIEDENBERG, ROBERT, 143 Madison St NE---IM, Card
Gibbons, Thomas Bernard, 109 Wellesley Dr. SE---IM, Card
GORDON, BURGESS LEE, 4800 Gibson Blvd. SE---IM, DC
Hanold, Fred Heath, 9 Encino Medical Plaza, NE---IM
HARRIS, JOSEPH EDWARDS 221 W. Central Ave.---DC, IM
Huelsmann, Donlad, 4221 Silver, SE---IM
Longfield, Aaron, North, V.A. Hospital---IM, Phys, Card
MENDELSON, RALPH WALDO, 1016 Parkland Pl. SE---IM
ROSENSTIEL, HENRY CARL, V.A. Hospital--- IM

Simson, George, 717 Encino PI NE---I, Card, DC
Tomlin, Clyde Edward, 106 Encino PI NE---IM, Card
VAN ATTA, JOHN ROBERTS, 801 Encino PI NE---R, Path
WYLDER, MELDRUM KEPLINGER, 801 Encino PI NE---Pd

Carlsbad

Hauser, Theodore, Edwin, 906 Pierce St.---IM, Card, GE
Sullivan, James Polk, 610 N. Canal St.---IM

Fort Bayard

KURTZ, CHESTER MOTT, V.A. Hospital---IM, Card
Las Cruces
BABEY, ANDREW MICHAEL, 250 W. Court Ave.---IM, Card

Los Alamos

Noth, Paul Henry, Los Alamos Medical Center---IM, Card

Santa Fe

FRIEDMAN, MURRAY MARCUS, 141 E. Palace Ave.---R
LANDMANN, HEINZ RICHARD, 227 E. Palace Ave.---IM
MARGULIS, AARON EDWIN, 141 E. Palace Ave.---Path

Valmora

GELLENTHIEN, CARL HERMAN, Valmora Sanitorium---IM, DC.
CHAPTER THREE

During the 1950's, students from New Mexico could attend the respective medical schools of Universities, which were members of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), at tuition cost equal to that of in-state students. The state of New Mexico paid the difference between tuition and the actual cost of education; about \$2000.00 per student per year. This was a highly successful program. At its peak 52 students, spread over 4 years, were enrolled. It also represented a very inexpensive alternative to a medical school in New Mexico.

But good things are often short-lived. WICHE requested an outside evaluation on future trends. The conclusion was that the baby boom would result in a great increase in demand for post-graduate education, including medicine. The demand was anticipated to peak about 1970. Tom Popejoy, President of the University of New Mexico, believed that it was imperative to establish a medical school as expeditiously as possible. Otherwise, New Mexico students might be frozen out of the WICHE Program.

There were doubts and misgivings about both the need and chance for success of the projected medical school. There were three feasibility surveys. The combination of the County Indian Hospital and Veterans Administration Hospital, with residency programs in place, apparently impressed the survey teams. A grant from the Kellogg Foundation, somewhat token support from the state legislature, and a prayer were sufficient to establish a medical school.

In 1961, Reginald H. Fitz, M.D., F.A.C.P., was recruited as Dean. Solomon Papper, M.D., F.A.C.P., was appointed head of the Department of Medicine. A faculty was recruited over the next two years and the first class convened in the fall of 1963.

Dean Fitz made a studied effort to forestall any town-gown confrontation, and Dr. Papper wisely appointed an advisory committee to the Department of Medicine, consisting of practicing internists. A close working relationship between the Department of Medicine and the practicing internists was quickly established. Many of the internists took turns on ward rounds and assisted in teaching the art of obtaining a patient's medical history and performing a physical examination. The residency programs improved greatly, and a weekly Grand Rounds Conference was initiated. Review sessions, primarily for the housestaff preparing for the American Board of Internal Medicine examination, were scheduled at night. These were well attended by the internists in private practice. Most importantly, the presence of the medical school allayed any lingering fear regarding isolation and being out of the main stream of medicine. It was reassuring to have the faculty members available to make consultations in the private hospitals on difficult cases.

Dr. Friedenberg continued as Governor of the College for New Mexico. In 1961, the New Mexico Annual Meeting was enhanced by participation of members of the faculty of the medical school. Members of the faculty added to the roster of the College and encouraged young doctors completing their training to join. Dr. David Law was particularly effective in this regard.

In 1963, Dean Fitz was appointed Governor for the College in New Mexico as Dr. Friedenberg had served the maximum years allowed. The quality of the annual meetings continued to improve, with usually two guest lecturers and considerable participation by members of the faculty. Residents and fellows also presented papers.

The 60's were a period when practices were easy to establish and earnings increased dramatically by virtue of the inauguration of Medicare and Medicaid. Internists continued to arrive in New Mexico in increasing numbers. Up to this time, virtually all the internists practiced general internal medicine, although many had one or another sub-specialty interest. Colleagues respected their particular expertise and regularly called upon them for consultation.

Dr. William Lovekin, a young cardiologist on the faculty, elected to enter private practice in Albuquerque in 1968. He was the first internist to restrict his practice exclusively to a sub-specialty. This seemed to augur a change, as the influx of new internists was predominantly one of sub-specialists.

The increase in the size of the faculty and fellowship programs, together with the increasing influx of internists, resulted in a more rapid growth of the College.

In 1969, Dean Fitz left the medical school to join the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

In 1969, Dr. Papper left the UNM School of Medicine to assume duties at the University of Miami. Dr. Ralph C. Williams, succeeded Dr. Papper as Professor and Chairman of the

Department of Medicine at the UNM School of Medicine. Dr. Williams' interest in rheumatology and his endeavors in basic research, particularly in immune mechanisms, brought distinction to the University. He has broadened the program in internal medicine at the medical school and has significantly influenced younger internists, many of whom have chosen to remain in New Mexico to practice. Dr. Williams recruited an outstanding faculty, many of whom have contributed greatly to College activities and particularly to the annual meetings.

Thomas Lyle Carr was appointed Governor. Under his leadership, the College roster in New Mexico continued to increase. The annual meetings maintained their excellence. Dr. Carr served as Governor from 1969 to 1975.

The College Board of Regents contemplated some changes in policy during Dr. Carr's tenure in office. One change established a year as Governor-elect, followed by a four-year term as Governor, in contrast to the previous six year terms. Another change effected was to have future Governors elected by their peers in their respective states. Yet another change was more controversial. It was proposed that chapters of the College be established in each state, with the intent of encouraging more grass root input. Also, the Governors were convened officially as the Board of Governors with representation on the Board of Regents. The idea of chapters invoked much controversy, but the Board of Regents persisted in exploring the idea.

Chapter Four

Dr. Carr was enthusiastic about the chapter concept. He may have realized that despite New Mexico's small geographic size, the internists throughout the state knew each other well. They were a more cohesive group than in many of the more populous states.

Coincidentally, Dr. Fred Hanold was elected to the office of Governor-elect in 1974; the first elected Governor in New Mexico. Dr. Carr delegated the organization of a Chapter to Dr. Hanold as his project for his year as Governor-elect. There were no major problems, but the provisional council insisted that the Governor should not serve a dual role as President of the Chapter (despite this being the recommendation in the model by-laws). New Mexico became the first incorporated chapter in the American College of Physicians on February 8, 1974.

Dr. Thomas Gibbons served as the first President of the New Mexico Chapter and Dr. Hanold assumed his duties as Governor in 1975. The Chapter did get more members involved. The council meetings allowed for better integration of committee activities and provided a ready source of advice for the Governor. In addition, members of the council learned something of the governance and policies of the College. With the creation of the Chapter, a spring reception for new members was initiated, hosted by the President.

A milestone, of sorts, occurred in 1975 when Dr. Carr became the first Governor from New Mexico to serve on the on Board of Regents. He represented New Mexico well during his 1975-1980 term of office.

The membership increased and that trend continued with a doubling in five years. The 1979 directory listed 160 members. The names of women physicians appeared for the first time. Names included: Drs. Marlene Haffner, Maire Buckman, Dorothy Ghodes, Julia Pfile, Carolyn Linnebur, Frederica Smith, Barbara Bogart and Katharine Witherington. With a great increase in members representing sub-specialties, it became possible to design the program of the annual meeting around a theme and to group papers presented by related subjects. Also, the various sub-specialty societies contributed to the annual meeting by sponsoring a guest speaker. Overall, the excellence of the meetings was sustained. The College also initiated an associate level of membership for housestaff. The New Mexico Chapter has long sought to enroll housestaff members and has encouraged housestaff to present papers at the annual meetings.

Dr. Ulton Hodgkin was installed as Governor-elect in 1978 and assumed his duties as Governor in 1979. He served through 1983. Dr. Hodgkin introduced a new program, namely a reading retreat. Attendees received a packet of key journal articles on a chosen subject. Each participant discussed one or two articles with the guidance of two knowledgeable moderators.

During Dr. Hodgkin's tenure, the College became convinced that the rapidly changing socio-economic scene demanded that the College become involved in politics. So that it might better represent the voice of Internists, the College issued policy statements, and served as a resource for legislators in Congress. Dr. Hodgkin created a Health and Public Policy Legislative Committee to address similar needs in the state of New Mexico.

Dr. Hodgkin was Chairman of this committee from 1982 to 1983. Dr. Paul Cochran then chaired this Committee. Contact was made with all of the New Mexico legislators offering them consultations, information and position papers published by the central office of the American College of Physicians. The first Legislative Retreat was convened in December 1983 and again in January 1985. These were planned to precede the NM State Legislature sessions. On both occasions nine members of the Legislature attended and served as a faculty to review the legislative process. A "get to know each other" atmosphere prevailed, a dialogue was established, and physicians and legislators alike felt there was mutual benefit from this learning process.

The annual meetings continued to be of high caliber, and the membership continued to increase, aided by a significant number of associate members. In 1982, Dr. Martin J. Conway was elected Governor-elect and began his tenure as Governor in 1983. He continued the programs evolved over the years. The annual meetings continued to be the focal point of Chapter activities and excellence persisted.

New Mexico can be proud of its medical heritage. This account reflects that there were capable medical pioneers, along with the adventuresome settlers in the early years of statehood. The American College of Physicians was well represented and exerted a positive influence on the development and trends in the practice of medicine. These effects were greatly amplified by World War II and the increased ease of travel. The inception of the UNM School of Medicine added another dimension as a resource to the State, a

stimulus for continuing education and the addition of many capable physicians to the roster of the College.

All members of the New Mexico chapter can be proud of the quality of medicine practiced throughout the state but cannot rest on these laurels. Many new and vexing problems confront medicine. The New Mexico Chapter of the American College of Physicians will consider these challenges with an intent to preserve the superb quality of medicine achieved in New Mexico, the pursuit of excellence and the dignified, expert care of patients.

Dr. Hanold wrote an addendum to this history in late 1998.

In 1987, Darwin Palmer was elected Governor. He served until 1991 and was succeeded, in turn, by Richard Honsinger, 1991-1995, Howard Gogel, 1995-1999 and by Barbara McGuire, 1999-2003. Dr. McGuire will be the first woman Governor of the New Mexico Chapter.

Normally, a Governor's two chief responsibilities are soliciting new members and presentation of an annual scientific meeting, (which in NM is chaired by the Chapter President-elect). The Governor is also charged with encouraging established members to become Fellows. In most chapters, the Governor also serves as President of the chapter. The constitution and by-laws of the New Mexico Chapter stipulate that the President of the chapter be someone other than the Governor. The powers that be in the ACP's national office have been ambivalent about this policy, but during Dr. Honsinger's term as Governor, the few chapters with this arrangement were officially granted approval.

In the New Mexico Chapter, there has been a policy of delegating the responsibility of organizing the annual scientific meeting to the President-elect. The annual meetings have been consistently excellent and very well attended. Usually, a theme is chosen. In recent years, themes have included infectious disease, cardiology, oncology, emergency medicine, women's health care, computers in medicine and evidence-based medicine.

The excellent attendance can be attributed, in part to a policy of not charging a registration fee, although in recent years a \$25.00 fee was requested of nonmembers. Funding has been received from the College and from pharmaceutical companies. The ACP national office has taken a somewhat dim view of the latter source of funds, but begrudgingly has commended the Chapter for the superb quality and attendance at the annual meetings. A popular segment of the meetings is the Clinical Vignettes, presented by residents and students. An Awards Dinner has become a standard part of the meeting, as well. Thus the Governors can take pride in the way they have discharged their responsibility for annual meetings.

During the past ten years the Governors' efforts to enroll new members have been less successful than in the 1970' and 1980's. This may be due to subspecialists having primary loyalty to their specialty organizations, and the financial constraints of paying multiple dues. The number of members advancing to Fellows has also been fewer despite liberalization of the pathways to Fellowship.

The Governors have consistently attended Chapter Council meetings and reported the activities and actions of the College, in depth. They have also kept the membership informed via excellent newsletters. Periodically, the Governors have received data, pro and con, on issues in advance of the College writing position papers. The Governors have enlisted the assistance of members of the Council to review and respond to this information in order to achieve a grass-roots consensus.

The President of the Chapter serves a one-year term. As has been noted, Presidents have been “baptized by fire” orchestrating the annual scientific meetings. Projects and activities of note undertaken by the chapter under the aegis of the successive Presidents include:

- Legislative retreats or workshops have been convened every other year just prior to the long session of the New Mexico Legislature. State legislators are invited to meet with physicians to discuss upcoming issues of concern. These sessions have been successful in stimulating debate on medically related issues and, in some instances, have favorably influenced legislation.
- An Associates Committee was appointed, usually chaired by a Department of Medicine faculty member from the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. A residents’ representative has also been invited to sit on the Chapter Council. A policy was established by which the NM Chapter of ACP and the Department of Medicine equally share in paying the annual membership (\$80.00) dues for all Internal Medicine residents. The Chapter has sponsored “Mastery in Medicine” sessions to encourage medical students to pursue careers in Internal Medicine, and to give graduating students advice on applying for residencies. Another type of gathering is designed to inform residents of options in practice settings as well as deliver practical tips on contracts, overhead, cash-flow, on-call schedules, etc.
- The Health and Public Policy Committee has endeavored to address factors responsible for inequities in access to health care.
- The most recent important business facing the Governor, the President and the Council is the merger of the American College of Physicians and the American Society of Internal Medicine. This has been a long time coming, and is viewed most favorably. The merger required rewriting the constitution and by-laws. Key members of each organization were integrated on the new NM ACPASIM Chapter Council. The merger will increase the memberships of the New Mexico ACP-ASIM Chapter substantially.

American College of Physicians
Governors of the New Mexico Chapter of the American College of Physicians
1928-Present

1928-41 LeRoy S. Peters, Albuquerque
1941-49 Robert O. Brown, Santa Fe
1949-54 Walter I. Werner, Albuquerque
1954-63 Robert Friedenber, Albuquerque
1963-69 Reginald H. Fitz, Albuquerque
1969-75 Thomas L. Carr, Albuquerque
1975-79 Fred H. Hanold, Albuquerque
1979-83 Ulton G. Hodgins, Albuquerque
1983-87 Martin J. Conway, Albuquerque
1987-91 Darwin Palmer, Albuquerque
1991-95 Richard Honsinger, Los Alamos
1995-99 Howard K. Gogel, Albuquerque
1999-03 Barbara J. McGuire, Albuquerque

Officers of the New Mexico Chapter

1975

President: Thomas Gibbons
Secretary: John Saiki
Treasurer: Ralph Friedenber

1976

President: Ulton Hodgins
Secretary: Neil Kaminsky
Treasurer: Glenn Lubash

1977

President: Martin Conway
Secretary: Jonathan Abrams
Treasurer: Ralph Parks

1978

President: David Law
Secretary: Ralph Parks
Treasurer: Anthony Williams

1979

President: Richard Angle
Secretary: Stanley Berman
Treasurer: John Saiki

1980

President: Ralph Parks
Secretary: Darwin Palmer
Treasurer: Julia Pfile

1981

President: Darwin Palmer
Secretary: Richard Honsinger
Treasurer: Bruce Feldman

1982

President: Julia Pfile
Secretary: Donald Romig
Treasurer: Paul Berger

1983

President: Richard Honsinger
Secretary: Michael Kaufman
Treasurer: David Bennahum

1984

President: Loren Pitcher
Secretary: Bruce Feldman
Treasurer: Toby Simon

1985

President:
Secretary: Secretary:
Treasurer:

1986

President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

1987

President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

1988

President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:

1989

President:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

1990

President:

Secretary:

Treasurer: Neal Friedman

1991

President: Dianne Klepper

Secretary: Barbara McGuire

Treasurer: Neil Friedman

1992

President: Howard Gogel

Secretary: Lynn Bryant

Treasurer: Barbar McGuire

1993

President: Ken Smith

Secretary: Lynn Bryant

Treasurer: Barbara McGuire

1994

President: David Coultas

Secretary: William Reed

Treasurer: Howard Sunderman

1995

President: Barbara McGuire

Secretary:

Treasurer: Timothy Lopez

1996

President: William Reed

Secretary: Carolyn Voss

Treasurer: Timothy Lopez

1997

President: President: Barbara McAneny

Secretary: Secretary: Lucy Fox

Treasurer: Treasurer: Tim Lopez

1998

President: President: Steven Kanig
Secretary: Secretary: Lucy Fox
Treasurer: Treasurer: James Sussman

1999:

President: President: Steven Kanig
Secretary: Secretary: John Bell
Treasurer: Treasurer: James Sussman