



ED Update

Wright State Emergency Medicine Residency
Department of Emergency Medicine

Volume 33, Issue 3 July 2011

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APPROACHING SUMMER

Although the distribution date of this communication falls after the summer solstice, the content follows our spring awakenings.

From March through May we received 24 inches of rain. That staggering amount pushed riverbanks out of their beds around here. Fortunately, there was less sloshing of waves against manmade structures in the Miami Valley than North Dakota and the Missouri Valley. When the water receded, the sun beat down mercilessly raising our temperatures into the 90's. Yet it was the humidity that wilted everyone. We were able to successfully engage in spring outdoor departmental activities. We held the spring retreat at Dominic Lofino Park and carried out a joint disaster exercise at Calamityville. The weather also permitted travel by ground and air.

MASCAL



(*full story inside on pages 8 & 9)

Reminder: You can view the color version of our ED Updates on our website at:
<http://www.med.wright.edu/em/res/multimedia.html>

TRAVEL AND RETURN

Although **Dr. Olson** disappeared to Nova Scotia, Dr. Brown to Italy and many of our military faculty made trips to the sand, most of us made day trips or went on a fixed wing apparatus with a weeks worth of underwear.

I had the yearly pleasure of driving to Louisville to attend a Derby party. After consumption of a few mint juleps and with either a brat or burger in hand we watched someone other than ourselves win a few bucks. It is exciting to watch the race on Dr. Buchino's TV, but one year it would be neat to actually go to the track.

Many of us went to Boston. The majority had gone to attend the SAEM meeting. I had a shorter trip for the purpose of attending an editor's meeting for *UpToDate*. Those of you who access their computer driven books know that the writings are excellent. As to currency they presently issue new information quarterly and at the meeting they discussed measures directed at getting things out monthly. My role is to edit the pediatric emergency medicine surgical abdomen section. I am one of their almost 500 editors and along with **Matt Tews**, we had authored two chapters. We therefore can be counted among their 4,500 authors. If by chance you are not a subscriber now, I would recommend their Emergency Medicine offering.

DEPARTURES AND ARRIVALS

Many of those who had gone or arrived in the later half of June will be the focus of our next *Update*. Suffice to say at this point we have warmly welcomed the incoming class of 2014. We sent off the graduates of 2011. The following provides you their next location. We will tell you of their most unusual graduation in the next issue.

Congratulations Graduates

Emergency Medicine

Jill Aston, M.D.

Mercy Hospital, Ohio

Benjamin Barlow, M.D.

Langley AFB, Virginia

Christopher Beechy, M.D.

Grant, Riverside, & Dublin Methodist Hospitals, Ohio

James Bence, D.O.

Community Hospital South, Indiana

Megan Dines, M.D.

Miami Valley Hospital, Ohio

John Dorsch, D.O.

Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina

Courtney Florenzano, M.D.

Anmed Health Medical Center, South Carolina

Roderick Fontenette, M.D.

IU Health Methodist Hospital, Critical Care Fellowship, Indiana

Tony Kim, M.D.

Osan Air Base, Korea

Gregory Kohls, M.D.

Miami Valley Hospital, Ohio

Clifford Lightfoot, D.O.

Pullman Regional Hospital, Washington

Thomas Masters, M.D.

Premier Health Care Services, Nebraska

Jennifer Pease, M.D.

Wilford Hall Medical Center, Texas

Aaron Rubin, M.D.

Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina

Mark Shepherd, M.D.

Elmendorf AFB, Alaska

Sports Medicine Fellowship

Adam Kinninger, D.O.

McDowell Hospital, North Carolina

Roy Lemaster, M.D.

Immediate Health Associates, Ohio

Faculty Development Fellowship

Stacey Poznanski, D.O.

WSU Emergency Medicine, Ohio

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Mike and Janeen Mack welcomed Ozias Matthew Mack on April 27, 2011 at 6:37 pm. He weighed 9 lbs. 1.3 oz. and was 21.6 inches long.



Jennifer and Jay Pease welcomed James Paul Pease on June 27, 2011 at 4:33 pm. He was 8 lb 10.9 oz. and 20.7 inches long.

Megan Dines and husband **Scott Koncal** welcomed Gavin Marshall on June 29, 2011 at 6:05 pm. He weighed 6 lbs. and was 20 inches long.



TOP TEN CLINICAL FACULTY

We are happy to announce this year's Top Ten Clinical Faculty Educators in Emergency Medicine. This is the 16th year that we have recognized those who worked hard to instruct our residents. This year's honorees are:

Michael Ballester (Miami Valley Hospital)

Dana Drazner (Children's Medical Center)

Dale Evans (Children's Medical Center)

Andrew Hawk (Miami Valley Hospital)

Susan Henry (Children's Medical Center)

William Matre (Children's Medical Center)

Randy Marriott (Miami Valley Hospital)

Roger Pacholka (Miami Valley Hospital)

Norm Schneiderman (Miami Valley Hospital)

Thomas Susec (Miami Valley Hospital)



Research Results

- Jim Olson, Ph.D.



JIM LEASURE



Jim Leasure will be retiring. We will soon be missing him and his valuable technical research support. Jim has been at Wright State for 35 years and has worked in our department since the late 1980s. In fact, Jim worked at Cox Institute before the time it was associated with the university. Time is not a reasonable measure of the contributions Jim has made with students, residents, and faculty. Jim co-authored several manuscripts with me and other faculty members and, with his considerable experience, has consistently offered advice on how to get things done in the best and most accurate manner. As Jim takes some well deserved vacation time prior to his final official day, we are already feeling the great weight of the work he has been doing for us. While we wish Jim the best for the future, he will be sorely missed in the lab every day.

STUDENTS

As we come to the end of the first half of this year, we are saying “goodbye” and “hello” to some of the students in the lab. Megan Woods will complete her year experience in the Grad/Prep program at the end of June. With us, she helped design and carry out research to evaluate the role that purinergic signaling plays for regulation of brain cell volume. The results from her work were presented at a national meeting (see below). She will begin her research and scholarly training for a Ph.D. at the end of summer at Hofstra University.

In early June, Michelle Durant joined the lab. Michelle will be a senior in Biology at WSU next year, but for the summer is participating in the STREAMS program headed by Dr. Marianna Morris (WSU Pharmacology and Toxicology). Michelle is a good fit for our lab as she plans on attending medical school. She has particular interests in Emergency Medicine and Obstetrics. I will be sure to arrange some time for Michelle to shadow faculty and residents in the ED during her time with us and so we will have a chance to make sure she makes the right decision for her specialty when the time comes. In the lab, Michelle will evaluate injury resulting from persistent brain cell swelling, taking off where Brianna Liberio (Clemson University) left off last summer.

Research Presentations

Students and faculty made several presentations at scientific meetings in recent months. Megan Woods represented our lab with her poster presentation describing her research at the Experimental Biology Meetings held in Washington, D.C. Megan also presented her poster at the WSU Central Research Forum. There she was joined by Amanda Freeman

(WSU M.D./Ph.D. student) who displayed the poster she previously had presented at the ACEP Research Forum. Finally, our lab was well represented at the WSU Neuroscience Day. This is the yearly scientific meeting of the Ohio/Miami Valley Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience and is attended by over one hundred neuroscientists in south west Ohio. Robert Spokane, Mike Kent (Research Associates) and I (along with others) presented the poster we previously had submitted to the 2010 Annual Society for Neuroscience meeting, I put up my poster describing public education of neuroscience through the Science Olympiad program, Megan Woods presented her Experimental Biology poster, and Amanda Freeman updated her ACEP poster for her presentation. The highlight of the day was when Amanda won the prize for the “Best Poster Presentation;” a well deserved honor.

New Research Incentive Funding

A new research project was funded in our lab by the Ohio Third Frontier Research Incentive program. This particular program supports collaborative projects between Ohio university faculty and private companies. Underscoring the importance of networking, the project was initiated by a casual comment to me by Dr. Saxe during the Miami Valley Hospital Trauma Research Meeting. He suggested I contact Dr. Ronald Riechers of Spectral Energetics regarding our mutual research interests. With Spectral Energetics’ expertise in novel applications for low power microwave devices and my interest in methods for determining brain swelling, we applied for funding to develop a method to continuously evaluate brain edema with a non-invasive probe. The goal is to demonstrate the feasibility of using this device for a point of care determination of brain injury in TBI, stroke, or other disorders. This research also has basic science applications and will help fund the project of a masters student in the Neuroscience, Cell Biology and Physiology graduate program.



Springer's Stuff

- Brian Springer,

ECHOING SINGER'S WEATHER COMMENTS

Greetings all! I hope this edition of the *Update* finds you all well. I am happy to report that springtime actually arrived in the Midwest, following months of cold and nastiness. Of course, it arrived suddenly with temperatures in the 90s, causing us all to wither in the swelter.

LECTURE TOURING

I have been busy on the lecture circuit of late. The OPOTA Range Safety Class has been a big hit at both the London and Richfield campuses. A repeat is scheduled for Richfield, Hocking College, and plans are in the works for a Dayton-area class. I was in Salt Lake City in May, lecturing on spine injury for the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, and a week later was lecturing in Dayton on mass participation events for the Ohio Athletic Trainers Association. Yes, I love to hear myself talk, but this is getting ridiculous.



Working hard and playing hard at Ohio Tactical Officers Association Meeting



*Cliff Lightfoot
SWAT mission-ready*

TACTICAL REPORT

On the tactical side of things, SWAT training and missions continue to keep us sharp. In May, the city of Hamilton hosted the Ohio Tactical Officers Association Annual Meeting. The two-day TEMS-track was run by me, Cleveland Metro's young TEMS-wiz Bren Hawthorne, and well-known ACEP tactical guru Glenn Bollard. Our residents made a great showing, serving as instructors. Kudos to **John Dorsch**, **Aaron Rubin**, **Cliff Lightfoot**, **Rod Fontenette**, **Pablo Medina**, **Mark Shepherd** (a formidable opponent in force-on-force scenarios) and **Brian Pennington** (who was felt-up by all students while acting as a simulated casualty.) My sincerest thanks to you all!



Penetrating neck trauma, courtesy of Dr. Harover

LEISURE PURSUITS

I did manage to squeeze in a bit of recreation. Kim and I just returned from a visit to New York to see my parents, brother and sister-in-law, and our niece. We had a great time, and I look forward to the day when Uncle Brian can give young Maya her Fisher-Price "My First Glock." I also attended a 3-day active shooter/killer response class at Tactical Defense Institute. During one of many role-playing scenarios, I played the role of the active shooter. No more than 1 minute after being told "no close-up shots", WSU alum **Rich Harover** popped me in the back of the neck with an AirSoft pistol from 2 feet away. His response (while I bled) was "oops, I got a bit excited." Indeed.

Until the next edition...



Kim and Maya

New Heitz

- Corey Heitz, M.D.



TRANSITIONS

As is common in the life of a young physician, another transition is occurring. After leaving home for college, college for medical school, medical school for residency, and then residency for my first real job as faculty with Wright State, I now bid farewell to Dayton for my next transition. As many of you know, my wife and I took positions with Carilion Clinic and Virginia Tech-Carilion School of Medicine, where we will both be involved with our respective medical student clerkships (EM and Peds) and also in the development of new residencies (EM welcomes it's first class this year).

During my time as a fellow and faculty at Wright State, with clinical work at Miami Valley, I have been the beneficiary of excellent mentorship and a wealth of knowledge and experience. I have watched an entire class of residents come in as interns and leave as fully trained ED physicians, ready to work independently. Through my position as clerkship director, I have helped almost 200 4th year medical students learn the basics of emergency medicine. While technically my position is one of teacher and supervisor, I constantly learn from those with whom I work, only adding to my rewarding time with this program.

I move on to use the skills I've gained to help develop a new medical school and residency, and I can't think of a better place to serve as a launching pad for this next step. With Wright State's focus on faculty development and medical education, I've learned how to design curricula, provide adequate feedback and assessments, and how to develop my own goals and objectives...and can hopefully serve as a "faculty developer" for some of my new colleagues!

I hand over my clerkship duties to Stacey Poznanski, and have ultimate faith that through her leadership, the clerkship will continue the improvements initiated by Drs. **Ten Eyck** and **Ballester** several years ago.

I thank you all for the mentorship and leadership, and will miss Dayton and Wright State...

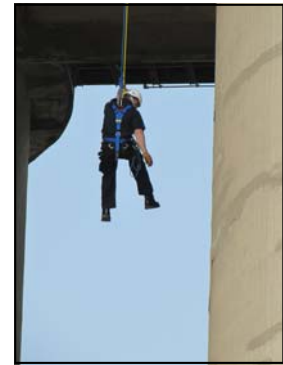
“MASCAL-APALOOZA - 2011”

- John Dorsch

On the 11th of May, the WSU/WPMC EM program executed the second annual joint civilian-military mass casualty exercise under the direction of chief resident, Maj **John Dorsch**, DO, and incumbent chief, Capt **Pablo Medina**, MD. The exercise once again brought together several regional military assets alongside local EMS personnel in response to a notional large scale natural disaster centered at NCMR's Calamityville. Participating residents established a flight-line Level II field hospital at WPAFB along with a Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility (CASF) in order to support the scenario's on-going Humanitarian Relief Operations. They had the opportunity to work closely with EMS personnel from two fire departments, WPAFB and Fairborn, as well as aeromedical evacuation and aeromedical staging and treatment teams from the Air Force Reserve (AFRC) in responding to the overall scenario: a category 5 hurricane which had decimated the Gulf Coast. They were assisted by the Civil Air Patrol, which conducted a ground-based search for the incident site, and an Army UH-60 helicopter, which provided casualty evacuation from Calamityville.

The dynamic mass casualty event included a downed aircraft, a structural collapse, and a flight-line fuel truck explosion. Residents gained valuable experience with medical contingency planning, incident management, field expedient triage, point of injury care, and medical evacuation. Approximately 100 people participated in the exercise with the support of 40 casualty volunteers, which included area ROTC Cadets along with active duty Air Force and civilian volunteers. Integral to the success of the training were approximately 10 support staff, which included academic faculty, simulation technicians, and other ancillary personnel who committed their time and efforts on a hot, sunny day. Col/Dr. Kathy Platoni, an Army Reserve clinical psychologist, volunteered her time





to bring critical incident stress management elements to the overall event. The large scale training event served as a culmination experience bringing to a close the year's burgeoning Military Unique Curriculum (MUC), which has become a model for military GME.

Participants included the 88th Medical Group, Base Fire Department, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AFRC), and the 89th Airlift Squadron (AFRC) from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base; NCMR and CIMER from WSU Department of Emergency Medicine; the Army National Guard's 1-137th Aviation Regiment; City of Fairborn Fire Department; Civil Air Patrol; and Miami Valley Hospital Careflight.

Know-Nothing

John Wightman, Education Director

REROOT

It has been awhile since I've contributed to *The Update*. I had the pleasure and privilege of spending the late fall and winter in a military trauma center in Afghanistan. Although I don't see major trauma in my day-to-day job back here in the States, the fundamentals of trauma care that I learned in residency over 20 years ago, and the intermittent but multiple opportunities I've had to develop and refine my skills during deployments, allowed me to spin up quickly to save some lives, relieve some suffering, and facilitate a team approach to some very seriously injured troops and civilians.

The characters that represent the fundamentals of something are *jīng* and *yāo*. The left portion of the *jīng* character is found in many pictographs signifying a basis, foundation, root, *etc.*; but the overall character means excellence, perfection, or proficiency. *Yāo* is a verb for asking or demanding. I believe that learning the fundamentals of emergency medicine is akin to asking oneself for excellence.

RETOOL

The R3s who just graduated successfully learned the fundamentals of the specialty, and have set forth to build on the foundations that the academic and clinical faculty helped them acquire. The R1s who started in July and the other residents in the program should demand of themselves the acquisition of the fundamentals during their training. The faculty will continue to refine the curriculum as necessary to ensure the residents have access to all the information they need to achieve this goal.

REFINED

In other news, and especially related to trauma care, we had Jay Johannigman speak as a visiting specialist. Dr Johannigman is the Chief of Trauma and Critical Care at the University of Cincinnati. His topic was damage-control resuscitation. He is an excellent educator, and his presentation was an outstanding evidence-based discussion on how we in the ED can help prevent the triad of death: acidemia, hypothermia, and coagulopathy. I was deployed with Colonel Johannigman, and he helped me get back to the proficiency I wanted to have in the minimum amount of time.

REASSIGNED

The schedule for the R1 orientation month hasn't changed much this year. We're just trying to continue our quality program with less faculty due to such a high turnover this summer. **Rick Dagrosa**, **Corey Heitz**, **Mark Gebhart**, and **Travis Taylor** all moved on to other opportunities this year. We will be gaining three residency graduates and one fellowship graduate to replace them. They are **Glenn Burns**, **Ryan Mihata**, **JR Pickett**, and **Stacey Poznanski**. Leslie Vojta, currently clinical faculty at Wright-Patt, will also be joining the academic faculty this year as well. I've already sent them the lecture sign-up sheet for this year.

RELEASE

Since **Travis Taylor** PCSed in April, I have been filling in as the Interim Military Program Director, so look for my "Military Maneuvers" column as well. Additionally, since **Rick Dagrosa** is PCSing this summer, I will be taking over as the Ultrasound Director. In this issue's column, renamed "The Acoustic Window," I have a great example of how bedside ultrasound can increase efficiency in the ED.

REPEAT

New resident duty hours will also create some changes this year, but the faculty is committed to maintaining and improving the great training program we have always had.

The Acoustic Window

John Wightman, Ultrasound Director

SOUND FOUNDATION

With **Rick Dagrosa** PCSing this summer, I will be taking over his role in ultrasound education for the residents.

Dr Dagrosa put together a terrific program that included a full day of bedside ultrasound skills during the R1 orientation month and a two-week rotation for R2s. He dovetailed this with the didactic curriculum on how to employ both bedside and ultrasonographer-performed studies for ED decision-making. I am not planning any major changes to either one.

Ultrasound was just being recognized for its bedside applications when I was in residency. We had one introductory lecture in the whole three years. However, the year after I arrived for my first assignment at Wright-Patt in 1991, **Ray Ten Eyck**, then the ED Director at WPMC, took inputs from the staff and helped us create a training and credentialing program. I have been using it as a tool in my practice ever since then.

Most of the good literature has focused on the decision-making when ectopic pregnancy must be considered in first-trimester pelvic pain and vaginal bleeding.

EXAMPLE OF BENEFIT

However, I thought I'd present a case where I made the diagnosis of deep venous thrombosis (DVT) in the time it took me to do an H&P, walked out of the room to get the machine, and spent 5 minutes performing a limited study. The images can be seen at the right. Although venous incompressibility is the criterion for a positive study, clot was actually seen in the popliteal vein. Contraindications for anticoagulation were explored, enoxaparin injections explained to the patient, and he was discharged less than 1 hour after registration on a busy shift just before midnight. Cool!

After doing about 50 of these, I have gained enough confidence performing this examination that with a negative limited bedside study in a patient with low-to-moderate pretest probability, I feel comfortable sending these patients home with no follow-up if low risk, and an outpatient ultrasound in 1-2 days if moderate risk. I haven't seen many studies on this specific approach, but it works for me in my system.



We are teaching our residents to perform this limited bedside ultrasonographic examination. Every healthcare system is different, so the bedside study may not be the final study, but it is a tool that every emergency physician can easily add to their skill set.

Military Maneuvers

John Wightman, Associate Program Director

MINUS FIVE, PLUS THREE

Well, this makes the third time that I have been the Military APD, but I only have to do it for about 3 months this time. **Travis Taylor** PCSed in April, but no new APD had been named until just before this issue of *The Update* was going to press. **Roy Johnson**, who has been on the academic faculty since his return from Iraq last year, will be the new APD.

The biggest news at this time of year is always the personnel turnover. The new military R1s were announced previously. However, the R3 assignments and faculty comings and goings have yet to be communicated in this forum.

Ben Barlow has been assigned to Langley AFB, Virginia. **Rod Fontennete** will be following in **Ryan Mihata**'s footsteps as he starts a critical-care fellowship in Indianapolis, Indiana. **Tony Kim** has taken a multiyear accompanied assignment to Osan AB, Republic of Korea. **Jennifer Pease** is heading back to Texas and the San Antonio Military Medical Center. As you might have guessed, **John Dorsch** and **Aaron Rubin** have returned to the special-operations community. **Mark Shepherd** started late due to a deployment, so he will be graduating at the end of September, then he will join **Travis Taylor** at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

In addition to **Travis Taylor**, **Rick Dagrosa** is PCSing to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center under an Army command in Germany. **Adrian Stull** is separating to work in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. PCSing in to take on academic roles will be two WSU graduates, **Glenn Burns** and **Ryan Mihata**. To round out the military faculty for this year, Leslie Vojta will be transitioning roles from clinical to academic status this year. She is a USU grad who trained at SAUSHEC.

As for the clinical faculty, **Paco Ramirez** left for a special-operations job over the winter, but he was replaced by Augusta Czysz. **Greg Kennebeck** is taking on a new job as the Critical Care Air Transport Team (CCATT) Course Director at the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine, which is now based here at Wright-Patt. **Robert Sarlay** is entering a residency in aerospace medicine at the same institution. To replace them, Nora Gerson will be returning from Korea.

THE MATH

So in case you weren't counting, not including the Czysz/Ramirez trade with AFSOC, that totals up to being down one authorized position already then losing five and gaining three—and, of course, we lose the five before we gain the three. Such is summer life in military emergency medicine.

MILITARY CHIEFS

Finally, **James Manley** and **Pablo Medina** are military officers who will be two of our new Chief Residents this year. Dr Medina will be assigned to WPMC. Dr Manley will be working M&M and QI with **Michelle Hosta**. **Ben Mack** will be doing board review this year.

ROYAL TEMPLES

On a personal note, I had the opportunity to teach at the Comprehensive Blast Injury Symposium in Bangkok in June. This was a Department of State and US Pacific Command outreach program for the military medical communities of Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and the Philippines. It was an excellent conference. Even though the days were long, a Thai colleague I knew from USU took me out to see the city for an afternoon. The picture is three royal temples on the Grand Palace grounds—an amazing place.



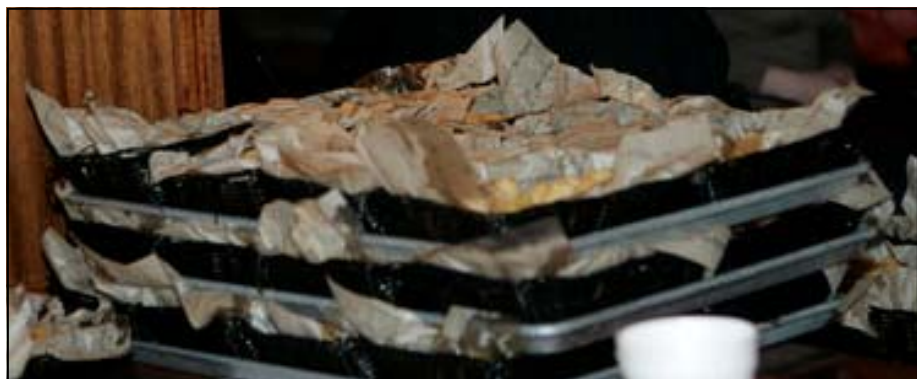
Cassie's Bulletin

- Cassie Browning



TATER TOTS

Some of our residents, **James Manley**, **Pablo Medina**, **Tom Masters** and alum **Scott Koncal** participated in a tater tot eating contest at Bar Louie's at the Greene. It was part of their annual "Rock the Tot" event. Unfortunately none of them won. It was won by a Centerville native, who has won the event the past three years. Even though none of them won, we are proud of their efforts.



SECOND LIFE

- Glenn Hamilton, M.D.



My apologies for missing the last edition of the *Update* due to a second hip replacement surgery. A few comments on that experience will conclude this edition.

TRANSITIONS AT NCMR

During the first week of March 2011, we closed the offices and MEMS storage facility at the Springfield Street office and moved into the new facilities at the Calamityville site on 506 E. Xenia Avenue in Fairborn. After that geographic transition, a change in leadership occurred with my assuming the role of Senior Director at NCMR-Calamityville and the departure of **Dr. Gebhart**. In the months that followed, we have brought about a number of managerial changes at NCMR that include but are certainly not limited to the following:

- Reorganization of staffing including changes and improvements in job descriptions.
 - Instituting regular weekly staff meetings and specific additional meetings tied to functional areas of NCMR.
 - Completing a well-organized marketing program which more closely integrates NCMR and Calamityville. Changes include new logos, new on-site signage, and new designs for the *NCMR Quick Read*. A new redesigned website will begin July 1st 2011. The program includes a variety of new approaches to our audiences and markets.
 - A clear definition of the audiences and markets for NCMR.
- A re-visiting and revitalization of the relationship between NCMR and the Department of Emergency Medicine and Boonshoft School of Medicine.
 - A new planned program with the Division of Tactical Emergency Medicine.
 - Clearly defined and prioritized initiatives for 2011 and 2012. These include our current 'big six':
 1. The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium funding and membership.
 2. Ohio National Guard and National Guard Bureau training opportunities.
 3. Alternative EOC planning and contracting with the Ohio EMA.
 4. Renew current and future contracts with the Ohio Department of Health for MEMS.
 5. Opening our doors as a potential secondary education site for USAF School of Aerospace Medicine.
 6. Defining the needs for a systems integrator to help us further our relationships with the AFRL.

OTHER INITIATIVES

Beyond these top priorities there are an additional 10-15 initiatives including relationships with a developing food consortium, improved relationships with the EMS community and Ohio Task Force One, and exploration of opportunities in the area of micro-aerial vehicles and hovercraft. While there is much in play, we are highly focused and have a major goal of securing funding for the near and long term future by the close of 2011.

- We established our first test bed opportunity with a unique product with the assistance of Lion Apparel. Although we are new to this area, it was clear that we have much to offer in terms of the range of exposure to a variety of audiences and the feedback available to the product developer.
- The financial structure has been reorganized and an improvement in transparency and accountability has occurred.
- We've completed a 'top ten' listing of property improvements on the Calamityville site, and all are underway.
- Funding has been identified and set-aside for prop development based on customer interest and planned course development.
- Specific projects including our Special Needs Assessment Program (SNAP) and Joint Command Operating Research Environment (JCORE) have progressed nicely and are receiving positive recognition at the state and soon to be national/international level.
- Behind all these events and activities is a small but highly dedicated team of individuals committed to the success of NCMR. We look forward to expanding this team in the near future.

2ND ANNUAL MASCAL EVENT

We were pleased to host at Calamityville on May 11th the combined military and civilian exercise developed by the residents in the emergency medicine training program. This year under the careful guidance of Major **John Dorsch** and Captain **Pablo Medina**, a number of new individuals were included, e.g. the Civil Air Patrol. There are more comments elsewhere in this newsletter. From the NCMR perspective, it was a well-run, successful event, and we look forward to enhancing the experience in 2012 with the addition of food for the participants and an expanded number of props.

SAEM MEETING IN BOSTON

I was pleased to attend the SAEM meeting with more than 2200 other academicians. We had a good representation with **Jim Olson**, **Corey Heitz**, and **Stacey Poznanski**. Dr. Brown was unable to attend due to his ankle injury and recovery. Boston offered some fine weather and there were a variety of interesting presentations and displays. I had the privilege of being recognized by the diversity interest group with their Marcus Martin Award given to an individual who had helped promote diversity in emergency medicine. As President of SAEM in 2005, I had a role in introducing the specialty to the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), a predominantly African-American group of medical students with a large attendance who had limited exposure to emergency medicine. We'd also used several focus groups nationally to assess why emergency medicine was not effectively recruiting under-represented minorities and found some interesting results. It was a kind and thoughtful gesture on a number of individuals and I especially thank Marcus Martin, MD (my former Chief Resident at the University of Cincinnati) for his wonderful work in this area and Kevin Ferguson, MD at the University of Florida for nominating me.

Lynda, Liz and I spent an additional week touring the Cape Cod area and overdosing on fried clams, lobster rolls and Pepperidge Farm cookies...three essential food groups.

MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATION

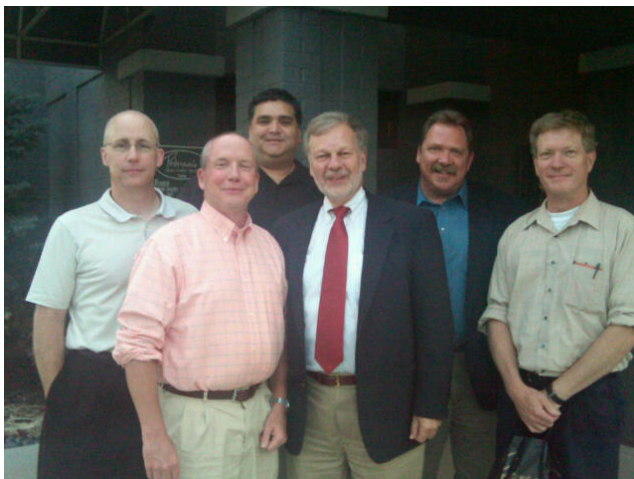
Although it was certainly not planned or desired, Dr. Brown's injury and recovery allowed me to spend my last medical school graduation up on the dais with the rest of the Chairs. This was the 30th time and I was especially gratified to learn the Department had renamed the medical student award in my honor. It was a wonderfully unique opportunity to present it to a very deserving medical student along with Corey Heitz, MD.

Sitting on the stage watching the 100+ graduates receive their medical degrees and begin their careers induced some considerable reflection on my part. It was reaffirming to recognize I'd made the right choices in selecting Emergency Medicine as a specialty and pursuing my career at Wright State University. Once again only fifteen percent of the graduating class stayed in the WSU residencies, but I was pleased to see that we had captured two of them for Emergency Medicine. Although a number were going to wonderful training programs throughout the country, we really need to retain 20-25% of our graduates in Dayton. It was fitting to listen to the invited speaker, the author of "The House of God", a book that humorously and rather cynically helped define the realities of medical training when my career was just beginning. The images he brought back with his readings were just as fresh that evening as they were when I began medical school in 1969.

A PERSONAL NOTE

When one enters the healthcare system it is important to recognize that the Dayton area has some wonderful talent and as I discovered especially in orthopedics. My first hip surgery was completed by a 'cutting edge' surgeon at Rush Medical Center in Chicago. It was essentially an outpatient experience, and although I was impressed by the process, the recovery had significant problems. This time I went to a masterful orthopedist, Kenneth Pohl, MD, who has been practicing in Dayton for many years. His attention and skills were superb, and the aftercare I received at Kettering Medical Center was excellent. I dictated a detailed letter to Roy Chew, CEO, KMC about my stay and was very happy to give them a solid "A", and that included the food! Having learned from the first surgery the disadvantages of returning to work too early, this time six weeks were set aside and the recovery was much smoother. I have always said "Yes, its fake and its pain-free fake," and that's a great improvement from where it had been over the last 15 years. My thanks to each of you who had written a note or expressed a concern via phone,

FIVE INDY-BASED GRADS OUT FOR DINNER. SUCH A NICE EVENING!



Left to right: **Al Solomito** (1994), **Steve Johantgen** (1984), **Joe Ezernack** (1994), **Glenn Hamilton**, **Richard Lucht** (1987), and **Bob Kreeger** (1986).

CHAIR BROWN KNOWS

- James Brown, M.D.



OOPS

So, for those who haven't heard it on the grapevine, I fell on April 29th at home with the resultant fracture dislocation of my L ankle (see attached films). I managed to make it to the car so that my wife could drive me to GSH and I wouldn't be boarded and collared by EMS! **Matt Freyhof** took excellent care of me, at least that's my memory after the Dilaudid, Fentanyl, and Propofol. I started out in an external fixator for nearly 3 weeks before ORIF. I am now finally allowed to partial weight bear (after 11 weeks). My sympathy for those with fractures has increased exponentially! It has also prevented me from working clinically for a while; I hope to be back in the action at Good Sam by 1 September.



TRANSITIONS

Faculty. Mark Gebhart left us in May after multiple years of service. He will be missed after 10 years on the faculty in some form or another. Mark is working clinically at Atrium Medical Center in Middletown. As we explained, Corey Heitz and his wife left to pursue academic opportunities in their home state of Virginia. Corey has made a significant impact during his three years here and will also be sorely missed. On the military front as Dr. Wightman reports, our two most recent military associate program directors - Rick Dagrosa and Travis Taylor have transferred out. Rick went to Germany and Travis to Alaska. We will miss their bright smiles and domes. Finally, Adrian Stull transferred to the civilian life where we hope he sees enough toxicology to keep him happy.

Faculty. Also in May, the Good Sam group (**Dick Garrison, Paul Zych, Denise Grove**, et al) notified the hospital that they were terminating their contract with Good Sam. It will be personally difficult for me, after nearly 18 years of working clinically with them, to not have them in the place. Discussions are currently ongoing on the group that will assume clinical care.

ACEP

If you're going to ACEP this year, or you live in the Bay area, Mark your calendars for Monday, October 17th for the annual Alumni/ Resident/ Faculty Dinner. The department dinner will be (as always) a place to gather, renew our conversations and down a few libations. Please see the flyer on the next page for all the details!