HAITI
We have been able to keep in contact with many of our alumni through the social networking site, Facebook. We caught up with Steve Griffith, a 2005 graduate, and learned of his medical assistance during the recent earthquake in Haiti. Examples included:

1/20/2010  6:00 am
Crossing overland from Dominica Republic into Haiti since all commercial travel is suspended. I'll be in the second wave of medical volunteers as others rotate back out. Pray for Haiti.

1/20/2010  11:00 am
The outpouring of multinational assistance is heartwarming. This morning I was greeted by French Canadians, driven by a Serbian to meet a Syrian and a Jew with whom I am now bumping across the mountains in the back of a truck! We didn’t feel the 5.0 earthquake today on this side of the island, but will be near Port-A-Prince this afternoon to see what we can do to help.

1/21/2010 9:15pm
Stephen Griffith Today was intense and emotionally draining, yet rewarding. When an aftershock hit us and cracked the plaster walls while working in the OR, everyone scattered outside leaving me and the anesthesiologist with three patients on the table. We stayed with them and just prayed... looks like we'll be doing a lot of that.

WILDERNESS EXPO
A good number of folks pitched in to make the Wilderness Medicine Expo successful in early March. Stand-up lectures were given by Brian Springer, JR Pickett, Jackie Percy, Mike Hixson and Chris Calvert. Stations on the wilderness trail (building splints out of materials on hand, cold injury, water filtration, etc.) were run with the support of medical students Jake McKeegan, Heidi Abraham, Derek Broering and Casey McCluskey.
MATCH MIRACLE
We interviewed 77 civilian candidates for residency. Almost all of those who wished to see us did make it our way despite travel barriers inherent in our mid-west regions. As has been the case with our earliest departmental cave writings, we gathered in a darkly lit, symbolic confinement to create a rank list. This year on an early February eve the simulation classroom served as the purposeful space.

We filled the room to capacity and did not permit the artificial boundaries of the three walls to restrict the exchange of opinion. In fact, had someone been on the other side of our fourth barrier, the two-way mirror, they may have blushed from the crowd’s commentary.

Chris Kraft and JB brought a list before the group. The list was a scientific construction that based ranking on a large number of objective measures and a few subjective opinions. We discussed each candidate sequentially. Many in attendance from the resident or faculty contingent vociferously praised the attributes of a handful of specific candidates. Those folks rose to the top of our ultimate list. The converse was also true; those felt to possess less reverent characteristics were lowered on the list. Examples follow. The person who was thought to be a good mannequin for our simulation lab was deleted. The person who text messaged during the interview was flushed. The person who dropped the f-bomb during the interview was exploded. The person who called a faculty member “dude” and the person who incited another faculty member to want to tell the candidate to shut up and color were derailed. The person who told a chief that her impending fellowship pursuit was “retarded” didn’t win any brownie points.

Written commentary by the residents and actual comments by the residents in attendance were highly considered. We often had to interpret the disconnected opinion of Dr. Koncal throughout the exercise. Ultimately, at the end of three hours we reconstructed the scientific document and created a wish list. The top was heavy with a large group of people who we all would enjoy having with us. The submitted match list contained all individuals who had made it to our positive 3 am rule (a desire to share life in medicine with someone in the relative still of the night). Those individuals with whom we were lucky enough to have matched are announced in Dr. Brown’s note.

POST INTERVIEW SURVEY
Several dozen of those who had come our way responded to our post interview survey. Of late, we have avoided the delay and expense associated with the soon-to-be-defunct postal service and have distributed and collected the survey electronically. The survey questions have remained relatively constant as have been the responses. People have consistently praised us for being helpful, welcoming, informative, genuine, and insightful. They praised us for being highly considerable of the applicants and have wished us to do two things: the interviewees wished to meet with more residents and they would like us to sponsor a dinner the night before the interviews to have a chance to interact with more of the residents in a laid back atmosphere. The latter we debated the risk/benefit times cost factors several years ago. It may be worth discussing hosting a few trial events in our next cycle of greetings.

GREETINGS FROM THOSE WHO WE HAVE KNOWN
December and January brings us news of those who often keep in touch. The following are excerpts from cards and letters:

APPROACHING WOMANHOOD/ MANHOOD
Zachary Dayton, born to Lucy and Tracy Weiner 13 years or so ago was recently Bar Mitzvah in Florida. We shared the joy of their family and friends as he approached manhood.

Miriya Rasmussen, oldest of Jennifer and Tom has acquired a learner’s permit. This accomplishment may be more difficult than facing Torah readings.
NOEL’S
Greetings had come from Chubby and Jen Garnet; Shay, Candie and the Richardson gang, and the Mike and Rebekah Davis family. Best wishes came from the Todd Davis family, the Kevin Kulows, the Sean Bryants (now with children taller than the Christmas tree), Melissa Williams and family. Season’s greetings came from the Laura Gottrons, Greenwoods, Kims, Brombergs, Pok-Todds and Schlichers.

RECENT MOVES
Rochester, with its abundance of meaningful friendships and proximity to extended family is the locus of memory now for the Russi family. Chris has found a great fit at Mayo.

Robert Young, Katrina and the kids did something I thought only my father had done - moved up the road. They have absorbed the abundant joy of being in perpetual motion with their clan.

GOD BLESS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED BY HALF THE EARTH
Herman Ellemberger learned Dari/Pashtu, about Afghan culture while Sierra, Sedona and Brooks sprouted in Alaska.

Jon Riggs had a 9 month go-of-it in the army’s sandbox.

Rob Delorenzo did Bangor, ME, Leipzig, Germany before a gig in Kuwait and Al Asad.

Jim Walter, now out more than a decade from residency has had international experiences few of us have had. I learned firsthand of some of his harrowing exposures when Jim showed up unexpectedly on a Friday afternoon as he was in town on a brief military mission.

Matt Wolf had been hitch hiking between Germany and the Middle East while the Alaskan family had been blanketeted by snow.
GUESS WHAT? WE ELOPED!
Sara Elizabeth Howell and **Gregory Keith Rogers** tied the knot the 12th of November 2009.

**BIRTHS**
Grandparents Monica and **Gary Gaddis** are proud grandparents of Brie, a yellow lab of daughter, Andrea. The Gaddis’ have now been empty nesters for two years.

Jim Leasure is the proud grandpa of Kevin Kenneth James Leasure. Kevin was born on Feb. 1st at 11:50 am. He weighed 5lbs. 13oz. and was 19 inches long.

**John** and Monica **Dorsh** welcomed Madeline Renee and Mackenzie Grace on November 13th. They were 7lbs. 4oz. and 6lbs. 5oz. respectively.

**Aaron** and Laura **Rubin** welcomed Margaret on Nov. 29th. She was 8lbs. 6 oz. and was 19 inches long. Margaret’s older sister, Elizabeth, is holding her in the photo.

**Ryan** and Aubrey **Bence** welcomed Hudson James on Dec. 7th at 1:42pm. He was 7lbs. 13oz. and was 21 inches long.

**Tasha Feaster** and her husband welcomed Carson Trenton Feaster on Dec 22, 2009 at 9:06 am. He weighed 7 lbs. 13 oz. and was 19.5 inches long.

**Mark** and Donabelle **Shepherd** welcomed Skylar Marie on Jan. 11th at 10:01 am. She weighed 9 lbs. and 12.2 oz. and was 21.3 inches long.

**Deron** and Naoko **Warren** welcomed Monica Ann on Jan. 30th at 11:37 am. She weighed 8lbs. 9oz. and was 21 inches long.

And now a word from the rest of the gang...
SNOW DEPLOYMENT
As briefly mentioned in the last Update, winter proved to be a challenge to our deployment plans for the mobile simulation facility in support of this year’s CAP lab, but we deployed it none-the-less. In the midst of two very cold, snowy, and windy days in mid-December we conducted dual pediatric resuscitation simulations for nearly 200 CAP lab attendees. With the help of Dr. Heitz, the simulation lab staff and faculty successfully conducted over 20 dual simulation sessions. The feedback from the students was very positive despite the required trudging through the parking lot to reach the mobile lab. It was an important first for the department because the success of the lab showed that we could train large numbers of students and use both rooms simultaneously. This capability will be very important as Calamityville initiates operations with a requirement to train large groups of students on a regular basis.

SDOT
We initiated the first in a series of changes for the emergency medicine resident simulation curriculum by incorporating the emergency medicine standardized direct observation tool (SDOT) to enhance the debriefing sessions. We created a SDOT for each case which included modifications to the generic form highlighting the key learning objectives for each scenario. In addition, outlines of recent review articles discussing the subject disease processes in select cases were used to facilitate more comprehensive debriefings.

CURRICULUM ENTRY
In February we completed the second offering of the MS-2 simulation lab as a clinical application exercise in support of the Mechanical and Traumatic Respiratory Disorders’ module of the second year respiratory curriculum. Dr. Brown, Dr. Janz, and Dr. Heitz along with Dr. Markus from the Department of Internal Medicine assisted the simulation staff and faculty in a full-day of 20 simulation cases which provided the whole second-year medical school class with a hands-on experience in the care of seriously ill respiratory patients. We presented a poster session on last year’s offering of this lab at the annual International Simulation in Healthcare Conference held in Phoenix in January. The feedback from the students was extremely positive again this year and we plan to present this format to other first-biennium course directors so they can assess whether simulation would be a useful tool to support their curriculum.
PLAY BALL

So, what has happened in the world of resident education since the Adverse Condition Journal Club last December? First, the March Journal Club was not. On a very Spring-like evening, Brian Springer secured us a new venue at Fifth Third Field where Laura Nolting led an excellent discussion regarding the question: “Can plain radiography adequately exclude clinically significant cervical-spine injury?” As with many clinical questions, it depends on your method of risk stratification.

BEYOND INTUITION

On a related note, we just finished a Topics in Emergency Medicine series on clinical prediction rules. This was a new TEM for our three-year curriculum. A list of topics can be found by clicking the appropriate title about halfway down the curriculum web page at http://www.med.wright.edu/em/res/model_links.html. Clinical prediction rules are tools that attempt to quantify the various contributions of clinical history, physical examination, and adjunctive studies to help assess the likelihood of a specific diagnosis beyond intuition based on reading or experience. Emphasis was placed on the levels of evidence as a rule progresses from derivation to validation to implementation.

BATTING PRACTICE

Throughout the last quarter, Joey Mauro completed the ABEM Inservice Examination Review at the end of each Friday conference plus many extra sessions outside of regular conference hours. Residents who commented thought it was very useful. The big test was on 24 February, but we won’t know if it helped for a few months.

HUMAN ERROR

Emily Maupin and Laura Nolting have also taken a good idea of combining M&M and QI with related topics based on a case presentation by one of the faculty or residents. They took a good idea initiated by Adam Bromberg and JR Pickett two classes ago, refined by Bill Brady and Rod Morrison over the last academic year, and made it into an excellent method of discussing human error and patient safety. Topics so far this year have included abnormal vital signs, expanded differential diagnoses for rare disorders, return visits, handling disagreements about courses of action, next-day radiology over-reads, medication errors, and not ignoring your spidey sense.

I’ve been reading a lot about human factors lately. The concept of “safety” is embodied in the phrase ān quán, which can be literally translated as entirely calm, content, or at peace. Add the word wǎng for “safety net.” Indeed, EDs remain the safety nets of the country’s healthcare system. This fact alone is why learning from others’ mistakes is so important in possibly preventing our own. It’s all about life-long learning.
SMALL GRANT PROJECT
While one NIH application was being reviewed at the National Institutes of Health and another by the Merck/UNCF program, Dr. Olson and his colleagues at University of Dayton Research Institute submitted yet another application to NIH to fund their project using nanoparticles. Their proposed studies should show the feasibility of detecting multiple sclerosis lesions in the very early phases of the disease using the MRI contrast agent contained nanoparticles. This would permit initiation of treatment before damaging relapses can occur. Some of the feasibility studies performed for this grant application were gathered by Ahmed Obeidat, a WSU Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. student doing a rotation in the lab this quarter (see photograph below). A similar grant application was submitted last year to the NIH Research Challenge program funded by ARRA money. Although that application received an outstanding score, the low level of funding precluded our receiving the award.

In the next few months Dr. Olson and his students and colleagues have plans to submit applications to the NIH and the American Diabetics Association to fund their research examining the development of brain injury during edema cause by diabetic ketoacidosis. One of these applications will request pre-doctoral fellowship support for Amanda Freeman, a Wright State University Biomedical Science M.D./Ph.D. student currently working in the lab. With the slow cycle of application and review, we won’t hear final word on these proposals until late summer.

NEW STUDENT
Sergei Robinson will begin working in the lab during spring quarter. Mr. Robinson is currently in the Masters Program in the Department of Neuroscience, Cell Biology, and Physiology. For his thesis work, Sergei will examine the distribution of water channels in the cells that regulate the blood brain barrier. The studies will primarily utilize histopathology and will be performed in collaboration with faculty at Wright State University’s Comprehensive Neuroscience Center.

RESEARCH PAPER
Dr. Olson and Brian Tucker submitted a manuscript describing the regulation of brain cell volume regulation during oxidative stress. These studies were presented at the 17th Annual International Taurine Research Meeting held aboard the Navigator of the Seas cruise ship last December. Brian has completed his thesis research work and is now attending medical school. However, he plans to return to the Dayton area in May to finish his research and defend his thesis in the coming summer.

AT THE HEART OF RESEARCH
In order to provide more eye catching appeal to this UPDATE column, I include the attached photograph of a hematoxylin-stained brain surface vessel and associated Virchov-Robin space captured during one of our experiments by BMS student, Ahmed Obeidat, on Valentine’s Day. We love research!
New Heitz

TEST TAKING
The last couple of months have seen some changes from the perspective of the medical students. We have moved to computer-based testing, with the goal of “improving the testing experience.” I’m not sure how many students find any “testing experience” to be all that wonderful! The medical school has been using, for years, a computer-based testing program into which the questions are uploaded. The major benefit will be the ability to add media to the questions...high-quality images, videos, etc. The students so far feel that it doesn’t change the testing day very much (they drive to the medical school instead of Cox) and are generally supportive of the idea.

CORD
I’ve been busy the past month! A little about personal life soon...but I have just returned from the CORD Academic Assembly in sunny (but not very warm!) Orlando, Florida, where I participated in two presentations. Along with Ray Ten Eyck, Mike Fitch of Wake Forest, and Mike Smith of MetroHealth/Case Western, I was part of a panel discussion about “Bringing Simulation to your Medical Students.” It was well-received, and sparked a great question and answer session. In addition, JB and I tag-teamed a "Faculty Development for the Program Director" talk. This being my first experience on the national stage, I thought it went pretty well! I was nervous, but pushed through and didn’t say "um" too many times!

MUD, BUT NO QUAKES
In more personal news, Erica and I took our big “Taste of South America” tour at the end of January. We careened through Buenos Aires, on to Iguazu Falls on the border of Brazil and Argentina, and then jetted over to Santiago, Chile (pre-earthquake), from where we took an overnight bus to Villarica, in the shadow of a beautiful volcano. From Villarica, we returned to Santiago for some sightseeing and wine-tasting, and then it was on to Peru. We ended up spending a total of 5 days in Cuzco, Peru, and should have visited Machu Picchu...but we were thwarted by nature! The weeks prior to arrival had been exceedingly wet, and there were mudslides the day before we landed which cut off Aguas Calientes and Machu Picchu from the rest of the world for almost a week! Needless to say, we’ll go back!
OVERUSE SYNDROME
I did the entire trip in my cool blue web-laced splint (like Spiderman!) that I received after a fall down the stairs from which I sustained a small scaphoid fracture. No cool story behind it...I was just stupid and stepped OVER the dog/baby-gate instead of OPENING it! I got out of the splint for good a few weeks ago.

Gebhart’s Runs
- Mark Gebhart, M.D.

THE ACADEMY
Grand Lake EMS Academy, known as GLEA now has an official office and presence at the WSU Lake Campus, located along the shores of Grand Lake St. Mary’s. Leslie Mangas, EMT-P, EMSI is leading this program. NCMR has established her satellite office at the Lake Campus in order to facilitate the accreditation process and final review. We anticipate the Ohio Department of Public Safety completing this evaluation and presenting the program for formal approval to the State of Ohio EMS Board no later that May 2010. Once this approval is obtained, plans are to seat our first cohort of paramedic students for the fall quarter beginning in September 2010. This program will fill a vital gap in the west central Ohio emergency medical system and will augment efforts of the local medical and public health leaders. Students will be drawn from Ohio and Indiana counties running primarily along the western and central border of Ohio and the eastern Indiana counties. Other programs will also be planned at GLEA including first responder, basic level and specialty and advanced practice programs for emergency medical technicians.

TACTICAL LAB
The Calamityville Tactical Laboratory has nearly completed its master planning process. Led by executive director Glenn Hamilton, MD, the TL master plan is the exciting plan for what this nationally recognized facility will look like. Technology is a major part of this project and relates to elements ranging from advanced energy management (geothermal heating and cooling, high capacity energy storage) to information flow from a high speed and high capacity perspective. The TL team has taken into account the vast resources on this property including water and its stately population of estate trees. Recently, efforts have also started to focus upon the national guard and possible course offerings and work with a newly formed response team – known as the homeland response force or HRF. Preliminary information exists that the US Department of Defense and Homeland Security are exploring the placement of a number of these teams across the US. Our team is working very hard to showcase the TL as a “national training ground” for the guard.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Perhaps our most important update since the last edition is the naming of The National Center for Medical Readiness as a state center of excellence. Recently, Ohio Governor Ted Strickland named the center one of the first centers of excellence in our state. This designation is the culmination of countless hours of hard work on the part of WSU leaders, community supporters, elected officials and of course members of the center and DEM. This designation positions us to develop unique relationships across the state and to be first in line to assist in solving the complexities of medical readiness as it relates to state agencies and other key stakeholders in Ohio.
Taylor’s Two Cents

SIGN-OUT, SIGN-IN

Having returned from 6 months in beautiful Bagram, Afghanistan on 25 November (“Thanksgiving Eve”), I am happy to be back in Dayton. Dr. Dagrosa gave me an outstanding sign out as I have now taken over his responsibilities as the Associate Program Director, heading the military side of the program. He is now taking my place back in Bagram.

I must say, things are quite different here than downrange – to say the least. For one, the clinical acuity is quite a bit different (haven’t seen a single IED victim since getting home!) Also, it is nice to not work every day, and the food is much better. Most importantly, I am glad to be back with family and friends. I am enjoying reintegrating into the residency faculty and am looking forward to what the coming year has in store.

We welcome our incoming military interns. Here is some interesting info about each of them, in their own words:

FACTOIDs ON NEWBIE MILITARY FOLKS

Full Name: Katherine Helen Racicot, although I prefer to be called Katie
Where born: Pittsfield, Massachusetts, but my family moved up to Sanbornton, New Hampshire when I was two years old and I lived there until starting medical school.
Where do you reside: Bethesda, Maryland
Current job/school: Uniformed Services University
Favorite recent movie: 500 Days of Summer
Last book you read: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. It was a bit of a departure from what I usually read (chick lit and books meant for teenage girls) but definitely an enjoyable mystery/suspense novel.
Interesting Fact About Self: When I was a junior at Dartmouth College, I ran for New Hampshire State Representative. I ran my campaign from Peru and lost, but I still received more votes in Hanover, NH, than George Bush.

Full Name: Deann Marie Allbee
Where born: Santa Clara, CA
Where do you reside: New York City
Current job/school: New York Medical College
Favorite recent movie: Up!
Last book you read: The Life of Pi
Interesting Fact About Self: I went sky diving for my last birthday.

Full Name: Meaghan P. Keville
Where born: Syracuse, NY
Where do you reside: Silver Spring MD (just outside of Washington DC!)
Current job/school: Uniformed Services University
Favorite recent movie: Madagascar
Last book you read: “The Last Song” by Nicholas Sparks
Interesting Fact About Self: I am an adrenaline junky.

Full Name: Michael Dean Mack
Where born: Reno, NV
Where do you reside: Deployed, my wife is in the process of moving our house from Cannon AFB to Fairborn, OH
Current job/school: Special Operations Flight Surgeon
Favorite recent movie: Avatar was a good movie
Last book you read: Angels and Demons
Interesting Fact About Self: I survived a 50 foot fall off a cliff onto a highway.

Full Name: Brian Michael Pennington
Where born: Garfield Heights, OH
Where do you reside: Dayton, OH
Current job/school: Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Favorite recent movie: Avatar
Last book you read: Dan Brown’s The Lost Symbol
Interesting Fact About Self: I currently live in the area with my wife and two small dogs. We own a small home, which I am slowly trying to remodel when I am away from the hospitals. In my free time I enjoy woodworking and mountain biking.

* not listed: Paul Butts, Meharry Medical College
CHAIR BROWN KNOWS

John-Adam Bonk worked as a medical technologist in the years between graduating from the University of Wisconsin and enrolling at Wake Forest University School of Medicine. John-Adam and his wife Melanie are the parents of three boys, 3 year old Emerson and 10 month old twins Finneus and Oliver. Hobbies include camping, backpacking and hiking. We matched John-Adam despite the fact that the night before his interview he had dinner with senior resident Chris Calvert, whose car was broken into during dinner.

Andre Castelbuono comes to Ohio from Loma Linda University School of Medicine. During medical school Andre traveled to Mexico and Tanzania on mission trips. Andre has played the violin since the age of six and also plays the guitar. He also enjoys all types of sports and loves to spend time outdoors hiking, biking and camping.

Susan Geiger is one of our four new Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine residents. Susan attended Vanderbilt University for her undergraduate degree in neuroscience. While attending Vanderbilt Susan spent time one summer in Peru excavating contact-era Incan skeletal remains. Susan’s interests include classical ballet, dancing and sewing.

Rachel Holt is very interested in clinical research and academic medicine. She is currently doing a fellowship in primary care at Ohio University where she enjoys teaching first and second year medical students. Outside of medicine Rachel enjoys distance running, watching movies, playing the piano and spending time with family and friends.

Zachary Holt (no relation to Rachel) brings yet another Xavier Musketeer to the fold. Zach has done several home improvement projects, including building a privacy fence, room partitions, installing wood laminate flooring and assisting in building a basement bathroom. Zach attends University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Eric Masters is a certified scuba diver and worked on a dive boat in the Virgin Islands. He has also managed a bar and worked as a professional cook. Like Zach, he enjoys home improvement projects and has completely gutted and remodeled his kitchen and bathroom. Eric comes to us from the alma mater of JB – the University of Louisville.

Marlea Miano was a registered nurse prior to attending Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine and is also a paramedic. In these capacities, Marlea has been able to be an instructor to first responders, physicians, nurses and medical students, including teaching BLS and ACLS. Marlea enjoys running.

Jeffrey Robinson rounds out the class of Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. Jeff grew up in Paraguay and is fluent in both Spanish and Portuguese. Among Jeff’s goals are teaching and mentoring EMS personnel and also serving in developing nations by helping train providers. Jeff’s other interests include the guitar, cooking and skiing.
ORTHO SPLINTING WORKSHOP

We received these photos from Courtney Florenzano. They were taken at a recent R2 YDC. Thanks Courtney!

PETER ROSEN AWARD

In the last issue, we mentioned that Gus Garmel, a 1991 graduate, was awarded the 2010 AAEM’s Peter Rosen Award. Below is a photo of Garmel with his R2 class at the AAEM shortly after receiving the award. The other people in the photo include Garmel’s former residents, mentees and faculty friends. Congratulations once again to Gus!
Kirk Hinkley, a 2007 graduate, sent us some photos from a recent trip to Cabo.
Greetings, all! I hope this edition of the Update finds you well. The last few months saw much activity as winter finally wound down. I covered my last high school wrestling tournaments, Sinclair Community College basketball games, and Gems hockey games of the year. In anticipation of spring sports to come, Laura Nolting and I hosted our journal club at 5/3 Field, home of the Dayton Dragons. We had a great turnout, blending lively discussion on cervical spine imaging with consumption of hamburgers, hot dogs, and beer.

I am an uncle! Maya Kate Springer was born February 25th. I had the chance to fly into New York for a weekend and meet her. Nothing quite like feeding a baby, burping her, and then handing her back to my brother and sister-in-law to change her diaper. My own little girl (Ripley the Bouvier des Flandres) is now 8 months old and 60 lbs. She participated in her first obedience rally (and did pretty well) and is getting ready to start on protection work. Kudos to Kim for putting up with those first months of whining puppy and smelly “accidents.”

ON THE HOME FRONT

I am an uncle! Maya Kate Springer was born February 25th. I had the chance to fly into New York for a weekend and meet her. Nothing quite like feeding a baby, burping her, and then handing her back to my brother and sister-in-law to change her diaper. My own little girl (Ripley the Bouvier des Flandres) is now 8 months old and 60 lbs. She participated in her first obedience rally (and did pretty well) and is getting ready to start on protection work. Kudos to Kim for putting up with those first months of whining puppy and smelly “accidents.”

My best to you all! Until next month…

DTEM’S PROGRESSION

The Division of Tactical Medicine (DTEM) continues to evolve, keeping me and our TEMS-savvy residents and faculty busy. This winter saw us providing medical coverage for numerous training sessions, stand-offs, and warrant services. Athletic Trainers Woody Goffinett and Travis Snyder have been making more frequent appearances at SWAT training, tending to sore knees and shoulders and ensuring everyone stays hydrated. Travis and I just returned from Columbus, giving a lecture on care of the tactical athlete at the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation Safety Congress. Also on the educational front, the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy in London will be hosting two classes this summer provided by Tactical Medics International and co-sponsored by the DTEM. Tactical First Responder is a 2-day class for non-medical law enforcement personnel to learn the basics of self care and buddy care when the bullets start flying. The Tactical Emergency Medicine Support class is a 5-day butt-kicker designed for tactical medical providers. Tactical Medics International is run by DTEM clinical-affiliate faculty member Dr. Doug Kleiner; he and I will be among the instructors.

OUT WITH WINTER, IN WITH SPRING

Greetings, all! I hope this edition of the Update finds you well. The last few months saw much activity as winter finally wound down. I covered my last high school wrestling tournaments, Sinclair Community College basketball games, and Gems hockey games of the year. In anticipation of spring sports to come, Laura Nolting and I hosted our journal club at 5/3 Field, home of the Dayton Dragons. We had a great turnout, blending lively discussion on cervical spine imaging with consumption of hamburgers, hot dogs, and beer.

ADVENTURE SUMMIT

The 2010 Wright State University/Dayton Metroparks Adventure Summit was another success, with the Department of Emergency Medicine again providing lectures and demonstrations on wilderness medicine. Many thanks to Mike Hixson, Chris Calvert, Jackie Percy and a handful of WSU medical students for their time and effort; extra kudos to JR Pickett, who arrived post-night shift to lecture. (Question: does JR ever work a day shift?)
AS PROGRESS CONTINUES ON THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MEDICAL READINESS TACTICAL LABORATORY (CALAMITYVILLE)

Over the last few months, we have made substantial progress in several areas that will advance our ability to advance training activity at the Tactical Laboratory site.

#1 Wright State University has signed a lease agreement and a property agreement with the City of Fairborn. This means that we will have full access to the property as of May 1st. Currently, our first event on the property is planned for May 5th so we are just in time.

#2 The master plan process with our architecture and engineering firm is drawing to a close. We have a near final draft of how we hope the property will look when completed. This is available in the departmental offices at Alaine’s desk, and she would be pleased to show you our progress, as would I.

#3 We have a high potential of success with our first “anchor store” customer. The term anchor store reflects to the kind of long term customer one hopes to have when building a disaster mall. Although the discussions are early, we are hoping for a successful relationship with the National Guard at both the state and national levels. The areas in which they have an interest are an exact match for our strengths and we should be able to serve the mission of the guard in a most effective manner.

#4 We continued to look toward long-term future funding. The university has recently signed a new consulting/lobbyist group to assist us in seeking that short and long-term funding for developing phase 2 of the Tactical Laboratory site. With a group of individuals dedicated specifically to us, our chances of being successful have been greatly enhanced.

#5 We continue to cultivate a variety of commercial partners to assist us in developing the Tactical Laboratory site and move us toward the second part of our business plan, which is product testing and commercialization. We are in conversation with a commercialization company based in Cleveland about a specific product of our own which may have potential on the market. More to follow in that area.

PERSONAL
I managed to side step my planned hip surgery on March 2nd and now have to figure out a date in which to wedge this inconvenience in April. We’ll see what happens as time and opportunity is rapidly being constrained. In any case, I wanted to say thank you to the kind notes of concern and interest sent in mid-March but it was a false alarm. I guess it’s best to just “hold that thought…”.