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FATHER, DAUGHTER UNITE AT ALUMNI WEEKEND 2000

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Soaring Into the 21st Century

Pharmacy Alumni Well-Prepared for Future Challenges

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

anuary 1, 2000 came and went ... and everyone survived the "Y2K crisis." Pharmacy has been a survivor throughout the years and it appears that our services will be in even greater demand as we soar into the 21st century. Pharmacists continue to be viewed by the public as the some of the most trusted professionals and have a major impact as essential members of the health care team.

Pitt's Pharmacy Alumni Society in particular has done a spectacular job of supporting the interests of both students and alumni and promoting the profession of pharmacy. Enhancing the quality of education and the status of the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy is a major goal of the society. Alumni continue to make Pitt proud every time they win an award, recommend the school to a potential student, or serve as a student preceptor.

Another of the society's goals is to develop a strong network of Pitt pharmacy alumni. Already we've made strides. Just recently, the pharmacy web site was enhanced to allow more interactivity for alumni users. In addition, we had a great turn out for our annual Alumni Weekend held in June at Seven Springs. The society has worked hard to encourage alumni from many different fields to become involved in activities such as Alumni Day, CE lectures, and the Annual Career Roundtable; interested alumni can also make a difference by serving as a board member.

Whatever activities you have taken part in or whatever volunteer roles you have filled,



Nikki Hudak speaks at Pharmacy Alumni Weekend.

I wish to thank all alumni for their hard work, dedication, and support of the School of Pharmacy over the past year. I am confident that we will continue to grow on the strong foundation that previous alumni have laid for us. The 21st century will continue to bring challenges to Pitt pharmacists. There is no doubt in my mind that our pharmacy alumni will successfully meet these challenges and continue to be leaders within the profession.

Nikki Hudak '95 President, Pharmacy Alumni Society

On the cover: Albert J. Mertz, '50 and his daughter Patricia Mertz Lizak '75 celebrate their 50th and 25th pharmacy class reunions.

Good as Gold

SNAPSHOT FROM PHARMACY'S PAST

The Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum offers School of Pharmacy students, faculty, and alumni a chance to step back to a bygone era in pharmacy. "Snapshot from Pharmacy's Past" provides alumni who cannot visit the museum (located on the fourth floor of Salk Hall) an opportunity to see some of the valuable items on display there. Alumni and friends can also view the museum online: http://www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/museum

he most prestigious award the American Pharmaceutical Association offers is the Joseph Price Remington Honor Medal, established in honor of the association's past CEO and author of the definitive tome, "Remington's Practice of Pharmacy." Historical copies of this text can be viewed at the University of Pittsburgh's Elmer S. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum. At the museum, visitors can also view two Remington Honor Medals. The gold medals, embossed in bas and high relief with the portrait and name of Joseph P. Remington (1847-1918), are on display at the museum.

They were awarded in 1941 and 1985, respectively, to George Denton Beal, PhD, PhC '06, PharmD '07, Scio College of Pharmacy, Ohio; and to William Leonard Blockstein, BS '50, MS '53, PhD '59, University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy.

George Denton Beal, a distinguished scientist who was director of research at Pittsburgh's Mellon Institute for 32 years, had a remarkable career in chemical research, pharmaceutical investigation and education, and research management. In many ways, Beal walked in the footsteps of his father, another Remington Medal winner. James Hartley Beal (1861-1945) was dean of Scio College-which merged into the University of Pittsburgh's School of Pharmacy in 1908. In addition to successive major contributions to their fields, both Beals performed a lifetime of service for United States Pharmacopeia, as members of the USP Convention, Committee on Revision, and Board of Trustees. George Denton Beal also spearheaded the establishment of USP's Reference Standards Program and the development of a cumulative index of the Pharmacopeia.



George Denton Beal, PhD, PhC '06, PharmD '07



William Leonard Blockstein, BS '50, MS '53, PhD '59

Recognized by scientific colleagues and academics alike as a perceptive thinker, communicator, and practitioner, Beal received honorary degrees from Mount Union College and Rutgers University and advanced degrees from Columbia University. He was also awarded the Ebert Prize and the Pittsburgh Award of the American Chemical Society, and served offices in the American Chemical Society, American Pharmaceutical Association, and American Council on Pharmaceutical Education. The Beal medal was graciously

The School of Pharmacy thanks the following alumni and friends who have recently (since January 1, 2000) donated items to the Elmer H. **Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum:**

Roger Beal

Dale E. Biever

David E. Blockstein

Fred Gaunt '50

Jacob L. Grimm '50

Joanne Kowiatek '77

Maurice D. Levenson '35

Pauline Malisher Oakes '50

Charles B. Oellig

Thomas Tritinger

donated to the School of Pharmacy by George Denton Beal's grandson, Roger Beal of Lawrenceville, Georgia.

The Remington Medal honoring William L. Blockstein came to the Pharmacy School from Blockstein's son, David E. Blockstein of Maryland. William Blockstein, who died in 1995, had a monumental impact on the field of pharmacy. Beginning with his study and early teaching career at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, Blockstein's influence in the field continued as he taught at the University of Wisconsin as the Edward Kremers Professor of Pharmacy and a clinical professor of preventative medicine. For 12 years, Blockstein also directed the university's Health Science Advisory Council.

Appointed by President Jimmy Carter to the National Advisory Council on Continuing Education, Blockstein also served many Wisconsin political organizations related to health policy. As Chairman of the American Pharmaceutical Association Public Relations Committee and chair of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Task Force on Public Relations, he championed the role of public relations in the profession. An editor and writer, Blockstein wrote extensively for pharmacy and health professions publications. His recent work included coediting "The Remington Lectures: A Century in American Pharmacy," which presents the lectures and biographies of the Remington Honor Medal winners-including his own.

2000 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

William Gatti



William Gatti '66 is honored with the 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award.

A second generation University of Pittsburgh Pharmacy graduate, Gatti's career in pharmacy and his success have always been intertwined with his family.

hen William J. Gatti '66 received the Pharmacy Alumni Society's Distinguished Alumni Award on June 3 at Seven Springs resort in Champion, Pennsylvania, a sizeable contingent of Gattis were in attendance. But that's not unusual for Gatti, who is president of Gatti Medical Supply, Inc., in Indiana, Pennsylvania, and a second generation University of Pittsburgh Pharmacy graduate. His career in pharmacy and his success have always been intertwined with family.

As his wife of 36 years, Mary Jane, his son Billy, daughter Laurie, son T.R., and daughters-in-law Judi and Nancy listened, Gatti told the audience of Pharmacy School alumni and friends about the interconnectedness and remarkable history of his hard-working western Pennsylvania family. His grandfather William, a coal miner, and grandmother Theresa, who could barely speak a word of English when she came to America, had carved out a path so that their sons and daughters could all become educated, preferably to become doctors or pharmacists, says Gatti. Their work ethic and hopes for the future were passed to the next generation: Gatti's aunt, Lena Gatti Raymond '30, and father, Louis Gatti '30, graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in the midst of the Great Depression.

Louis Gatti went on to open a drugstore in Indiana, Pennsylvania. Through hard work and customer service, the pharmacy prospered and became a fixture in the community. "I worked as a soda fountain boy in my father's pharmacy," says Gatti. "The locals used to come and hang out. I remember serving sodas to Jimmy Stewart's father, who had a hardware

store on our street." Despite Gatti's early exposure to the pharmacy profession, he preferred business when it came time for a career. But it was his father and his family's expectation that at least one of the children would follow in the pharmacy field. "If not for that," says Gatti, "I might not have become a pharmacist."

David M. Smith '76, who introduced Gatti to the audience at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, witnessed a time of great transition for Gatti's business. Having worked eight years with Gatti, the two forged a business in long-term care pharmacy services.

"Bill had an idea," says Smith. "And he stuck with that idea, although initially it was not easy. When I joined him, he didn't know exactly what we needed to do to achieve this idea, but he had a willingness and trust in me to go and learn about it. He enabled me to grow and gain skill and bring that back into the business. From an early idea, he went on to become a leader of his peers in nursing home care."

Gatti, in the determined and enterprising style of his family before him, found a perfect mix of business and pharmacy in his medical supply business. He did operate his father's pharmacy in Indiana after graduation from the Pharmacy School in 1966, but ended up expanding into medical supply and long-term care pharmacy services. The long-term care business flourished and was eventually bought by Omnicare Corp. But, the building of Gatti's businesses through the '70s and '80s and up to today, have been a testament to the family spirit that Gatti describes as, "taking what you have and making it work."

2000 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Gary Stoehr

ary P. Stoehr '73, PharmD, was overwhelmed when he found out he had been designated by the Pharmacy Alumni Society as a Distinguished Alumni Award winner for 2000. "I was really tickled to receive the award," says Stoehr. Stoehr, who is associate dean for Student and Academic Affairs at the School of Pharmacy and associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received his award at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, June 3, during Alumni Weekend 2000 at Seven Springs resort.

One might think that Stoehr would be an old hand at receiving awards of the "Distinguished" kind. He received the University of Pittsburgh Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1999 for his role in revising the pharmacy curriculum towards studentcentered learning and inquiry-based courses. But, it was a research project from one of those very courses that gave Stoehr reason to feel especially in awe of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

"One of my students, Rebecca Foley '99, compiled biographies of some of the Distinguished Alumni Award winners as an undergraduate research project," Stoehr explained. "So, I've had cause to do some recent readingup on past winners and there are some really interesting people in there. Some really amazing careers. I felt very honored to be placed among this group."

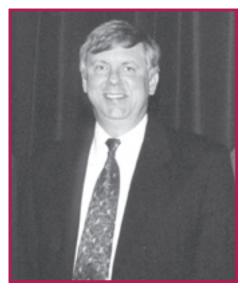
Stoehr's peers who nominated him for the award had complete confidence in Stoehr's own rather amazing qualifications. With the award, fellow alumni recognized Stoehr's 30year career in clinical pharmacy and pharmacy

education, and his impressive sum of research and publications, notably on subjects in his areas of special interest: drug prescribing for the elderly and the scholarship of teaching. But, perhaps most of all, the award recognized Stoehr's innovative work in developing active learning curricula for pharmacy education, and his dedicated efforts to guide students along a path of self-discovery.

"The Profession of Pharmacy course I teach is a lot different than a standard pharmacy course," says Stoehr. "Students deal with issues such as what it means to be a professional person, where pharmacy fits into the medical professions, how to work with peers, how to manage themselves professionally and personally. They do the learning themselves, I'm just the coach."

Stoehr had his share of coaching and mentoring along a career that began with his Pitt Pharmacy degree in 1973. After graduating, Stoehr earned a PharmD from Duquesne University in 1978 and completed his residency at Duke University Medical Center, where he then spent four years as a staff and clinical pharmacist. He returned to Pittsburgh as an assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy in 1979, working as a clinical pharmacist at Magee-Women's Hospital, part-time staff pharmacist at Montifiore Hospital, and from 1981 to 1993, as a clinical pharmacy specialist for the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. His Pitt academic career progressed from associate professor to assistant dean to associate dean in 1994.

Through his career Stoehr had the benefit of mentors-including his professors and his



Gary Stoehr '73, recipient of a 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award.

pharmacist father, the late Carl Stoehr '43 and pharmacist brother William Stoehr '72. "I felt very lucky to have mentors," says Stoehr. "People who taught me to have confidence, to not be afraid to make a mistake." Stoehr also stressed how supportive and encouraging his mother, the late Virginia Stoehr, and his entire family, including his wife Nancy, have been to his career.

Stoehr's award was presented by his lifelong friend, colleague, classmate, and college roommate, Russel R. Allinson '73, who was returning a favor to Stoehr. "Russ is one of those amazing people I was talking about," says Stoehr. Allinson received the Pharmacy School's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1995. His presenter: Gary Stoehr.

A Loan Generously Repaid

Levenson Scholarship to aid aspiring pharmacy students

n 1931, when Maurice D. Levenson '35 graduated from Pittsburgh's Peabody High School, it was a common sight to see people selling apples on street corners for a living or standing in long bread lines. At the height of the Depression, Levenson remembers, Father Cox gathered produce that fell off the trucks in the Strip District to make soup for the destitute residents of the Strip District's shantytown.

Levenson had \$50, saved through Union Bank's savings program. He approached the dean of the Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, C. Leonard O'Connell, PharmD, and said, "I only have \$50 but I want to go to pharmacy school. If you'll take a chance on me, I'll pay you back." O'Connell agreed.

Levenson worked nights and weekends in a drug store to pay \$5 a week towards his education. He remembers well the Monday mornings when the Dean's secretary, Thelma Carr, arrived in class and called off a list of students' names. "We'd march down to the Dean's office and pay our \$5," says Levenson. "It was kind of 'pay as you go,' an unusually generous act for them in a time when people were losing their jobs and out on the street begging," he said. "If they had not done that, I might have been out on the corner selling apples too."

Instead, Levenson graduated and went to work for Walgreen Drug Company and then for Central Drug in New Kensington, Pennsylvania. He became assistant manager of the McKeesport branch of Central Drug, where he worked until he opened Morry's Drug Store in Clairton in 1945. As the steel industry declined in Pittsburgh, Levenson moved his family to California. In California he passed the California State Board of Pharmacy exam and went to work for Payless Drug and for Save-On. He then went on to be a principal in Taft Pharmacy in Woodland Hills, California. Later, he sold his interest in Taft Pharmacy and

devoted his time to other financial interests. Levenson now lives in Tarzana, California.

After many years of giving to the University of Pittsburgh on an annual basis, he was struck by the story of Osceola McCarty, a woman who after a lifetime working as a laundress, gave \$150,000 of her life savings to the University of Southern Mississippi for scholarships. Says Levenson, "I thought to myself, if she can do it, then I can do it."

He decided it was time to make a lasting commitment to the Pharmacy School. The result? The Maurice David Levenson Scholarship Fund, given in recognition of the assistance he received as a student in pharmacy school. The fund acknowledges C. Leonard O'Connell, PharmD, dean of the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy (now the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy) and the outstanding faculty at that time. Among this faculty were professors Albert F. Judd, David

E. Levin, Edward C. Reif (dean, 1945-1958), Louis Saalbach, and John H. Wurdak.

"I wanted to repay the trust they gave me and to acknowledge the great influence that the dean and faculty had on my personal and professional development," says Levenson.

The endowed scholarship fund will provide partial scholarships for students enrolled in the School of Pharmacy. Preference will be given to students whose permanent residence is Clairton, McKeesport, or Glassport, Pennsylvania, or the boroughs or municipalities of East McKeesport, Liberty Borough, Port Vue, Versailles Township, or White Oak, Pennsylvania—communities that his pharmacy served many years ago.

"The people in these communities are important to me," says Levenson. "And, I also wanted to give something back to the University that took a chance on me."



Maurice Levenson in front of his drug store in Clairton.

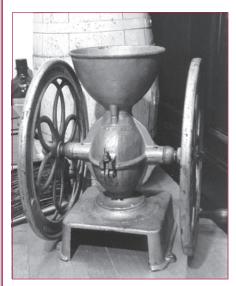
From Coffee to **Pharmaceuticals:**

The Levensons' Enterprise Drug Mill

On display in the Elmer H. Grimm Sr. Pharmacy Museum is an antique Enterprise Drug Mill, donated in 1932 to the School of Pharmacy by the parents of Maurice D. Levenson '35.

The metal drug mill, patented in 1873 by the Enterprise Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia, stands approximately 18 inches tall with two large hand-crank wheels used to operate the grinding mechanism in the center. Medicinal roots, barks, seeds, nuts, and leaves were placed in the bowl on top, rendered into a powder, and reclaimed from the sliding drawer at the bottom. The mill was mounted on a table or shelf and used in community pharmacies from 1873 until the early- to mid-1900's, to grind crude drugs into dispensable pharmaceuticals.

Or, as in the case of the Levensons' mill. it might have been put to use in a grocery, to grind up grains or coffee beans. "When I started pharmacy school in the thirties, I was surprised to see a picture of the mill in the pharmacy text book," says Levenson. But there it was, on page 166 of Remington's Practice of Pharmacy. Up until then, Levenson had only seen such a mill employed to grind coffee beans in his parents' Pittsburgh grocery. Levenson urged his parents to donate the mill to the School of Pharmacy, where, barring a brief hiatus in a professor's office, the mill has held a place of honor in the pharmacy museum.



The Enterprise Drug Mill.

JVOLVED!

You can become an alumni society board member.

The Pharmacy Alumni Society is governed by a Board of Directors that consists of officers and 15 At-Large Directors (alumni members). Each year, five new At-Large Directors will be elected or appointed for a term of three years. (For a list of current board members, refer to the back cover of this newsletter. William Crossey '76 chairs the Nominations Committee.)

All School of Pharmacy alumni are eligible for board membership and may nominate others for the board. If you would like to nominate yourself or another alum, fill out the form below and submit to:

Laraine Kuchma Administrative Assistant School of Pharmacy 1104 Salk Hall Pittsburgh, PA 15261

You can also e-mail your nomination to kuchmalm@msx.upmc.edu

Nomination deadline is November 30, 2000.

Pharmacy Alumni Society Board Member Nomination Form

Name of nominee
Class Year
Address
Phone
Home
Work
E-mail address
Reasons nominee would make an excellent board member

Mentoring at its Best

Pharmacy preceptor Marvin Sheffler provides students with real-life skills and experience.

arvin Sheffler '88 remembers well the community pharmacy internship he completed as a student. "There's some anxiety the first time you step through that door," says Sheffler. As a student in the late '80s at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, Sheffler had an internship at a Medicine Shoppe pharmacy in the Turtle Creek neighborhood of Pittsburgh. "My preceptor, George Doperak, who owned and operated the pharmacy, helped me get a good education for practicing in the field," says Sheffler. "I learned a great deal working in his store."

Perhaps Doperak '69 and his influence came into play when Sheffler graduated in 1988 and became owner and operator of another Medicine Shoppe pharmacy, which serves the Shadyside/East Liberty area of the city. Doperak's influence can certainly be seen in the dedicated manner in which Sheffler now attends to the pharmacy students who come into his store each semester for their internships. A current preceptor for the Pharmacy School, Sheffler supervises the rotations of many students with various levels of education.

His contributions to students' learning is exemplary, according to Scott Drab, Director of Experiential Learning at the School of Pharmacy. "Marvin is very willing to take on and train students," says Drab. "As a community pharmacist, a successful businessman, and pillar of his community, he's a good role model for students."

Sheffler thinks about his role quite simply. "I try to put myself in students' shoes. To think back to what I learned and how that helped me. We try to give students a well-rounded education by exposing them to everything that goes on in the pharmacy."

A student's education while at Sheffler's Medicine Shoppe includes working with computers and computerized databases,



Marvin Sheffler '88

learning the array of drugs in the pharmacy, assisting the pharmacist in filling prescriptions, fielding phone calls, dealing with patients' insurance plans, keeping up to date on new prescription or over-the-counter medications and therapies, and last, but certainly not least, patient counseling. "We're real big on counseling," says Sheffler. "We try to expose students to helping patients select over-thecounter medications. Often, this requires learning about the patient's condition and going over what medications they're currently taking and in what dosages."

Sheffler's pharmacy carries only healthrelated products and specializes in prescriptions, and carries a full line of herbal medications and treatments. "We introduce more advanced students to the herbal remedies and which should not be taken with other medications," says Sheffler. The pharmacy also specializes in diabetes management, in which the pharmacist's role has expanded greatly in recent years.

"We'll have students assist patients with a new blood glucose monitor, or review with newly diagnosed patients how to keep a log

book of their blood glucose readings, making sure that they test it two to three times a day," says Sheffler.

In many ways, Sheffler allows students up-front exposure to how pharmacy practice involves varying aspects of customer service, some as practical, yet appreciated, as the pharmacy filing Medicare claims for patients over age 65. Sometimes students will understand their future role in terms of patient advocacy when confusion results over an insurance company's denying a prescribed drug, says Sheffler. "Advanced students will sit in on cases in which a patient has presented their prescription and their insurance card to the pharmacist and the insurance company does not cover it. You're on the phone with the insurance company and on the phone with the patient's doctor to try to find a solution for the patient," says Sheffler.

Students learn the particulars of cases they're exposed to and the pharmacist's role in such cases, but they're also learning a range of real life pharmacy skills that revolve around a simple principle: "You try to do your best for the patient," says Sheffler. But often difficult questions arise out of this simple principle, and Sheffler has fielded some from students. "I try to answer all the students' questions," he says.

Sheffler does not mind going the extra mile for his students. "I had a great preceptor when I was in school," he says. "And I enjoy working with the students. If you can help shape somebody's life in some way, that's satisfying."

For information on becoming a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, please contact: Scott Drab RPh, CDE Director of Experiential Learning University of Pittsburgh School of **Pharmacy** (412) 383-7340 drabsr@msx.upmc.edu

Philanthropy for Pharmacy

Generous gifts from alumni and friends support the school and its students.

The Pharmaceutical Science Graduate Student Excellence

The University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy has established an endowed fund to assist students enrolled in the School of Pharmacy Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate program. The fund was made possible by a generous unrestricted gift of \$20,000 from Zola P. Horovitz '55 MS '58, PhD '60. The Pharmaceutical Science Graduate Student Excellence Award will assist a student(s) in presenting his or her research at scientific meetings or will provide a financial award for books, lab fees, or other educational expenses.

Although Dr. Horovitz' gift is unrestricted, he and Dean Randy Juhl came to the decision to use the gift to benefit graduate students. "We agreed that there are a lot of funds available for undergraduate students but not as many for graduate students," said Dr. Horovitz. "My own experience in graduate programs at the school was a great benefit for my career and I'm happy to give back to the school to enable newer graduate students to do their work."

Dr. Horovitz, a Pittsburgh native who grew up in the North Side and Squirrel Hill neighborhoods of the city, worked as vice president of licensing and commercial development at Bristol-Myers Squibb until his retirement in 1994. Now chairman of Magainin Pharmaceutical in Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, Dr. Horovitz also serves on the board of directors of 12 different biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

Rich Kruzynski Pharmacy Award

Richard J. Kruzynski '77 has given over \$10,000 to the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy to create an endowed fund that will help students enrolled in the PharmD program.

The annual Rich Kruzynski Pharmacy Award is designed for PharmD students who wish to attend a professional meeting or take part in a unique or out-of-state clerkship. The award may also provide assistance with other educational expenses.

"The award can help students explore traditional roles pharmacists have assumed in community and clinical pharmacy, but also

may help them to become exposed to a full range of career paths available to themincluding working for a pharmacy company, in industry, or for a pharmacy professional organization," says Kruzynski, who is vice president and general manager at Baxter Healthcare Corporation COMPASS, I.V. Systems Division in Round Lake, Illinois.

If you are interested in contributing to the endowed fund for The Pharmaceutical Science Graduate Student **Excellence Award, please** contact:

Renée M. Pekor Director of Development University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy 1104 Salk Hall Pittsburgh, PA 15261

(412) 383-7434

E-mail: pekorrm@msx.upmc.edu



Eckerd Corporation Foundation Presents Check to School of Pharmacy

Ralph Progar (left), pharmacy operations manager, Pittsburgh region, and Ray Smith (center), vice president of pharmacy relations, both of Eckerd Corporation, present a \$10,000 gift from Eckerd Corporation Foundation to Randy P. Juhl (right), dean of Pitt's School of Pharmacy. Allocated toward the Eckerd Seminar Room in the School of Pharmacy's Pharmaceutical Care Learning Center and for scholarships in Eckerd's name, this gift represents the company's on-going support for the school and its pharmacy students.

Alumni Gather for Weekend Celebration

Sixth Annual Pharmacy Alumni Weekend offers great opportunities for socializing, networking, and professional development.

t was quite a celebration for one School of Pharmacy father-daughter team, at the Sixth Annual Pharmacy Alumni Weekend. During the event, June 2-4, 2000, at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Pennsylvania, Albert J. Mertz '50 of Oil City, Pennsylvania, and Patricia Mertz Lizak '75 of Baden, Pennsylvania, marked 50th and 25th anniversaries of the year they earned their pharmacy school sheepskins.

Not that Lizak would have known this before Alumni Weekend. It seems that her father had never really mentioned the specific year he graduated and never noted they had graduated exactly 25 years apart—until he wanted to get her to go to Alumni Weekend with him.

Lizak, a full-time pharmacist with Heritage Valley Health System in Beaver, Pennsylvania, married and the mother of two teenage sons and a stepdaughter, has always wanted to go to Alumni Weekend but found her plate to be too full in past years. "But my dad got a call from Dick Lithgow asking him to come to his reunion and all of a sudden my dad started saying, 'Boy, I haven't seen these people in 50 years!' Wouldn't it be nice if we went this year, being that it's my 50th year reunion and your 25th," says Lizak.

"And I said, 'Dad, why didn't you ever say anything about this before?" Lizak laughs. "It is kind of neat. How many people have something like that happen in their families?" So the two attended the weekend, along with Mertz' wife Creta. While the two Mertz pharmacists enjoyed the weekend's social aspect, they were most impressed by the relevance of the continuing education credits, says Lizak. Mertz, who is 75, still works as a pharmacist although he supposedly "retired" 13 years ago, his daughter jokes. He'd been a hospital pharmacist at Oil City Hospital and previously managed a private community pharmacy. He is active in relief work in Tionesta, Pennsylvania.



A good showing for their 50th. The Class of 1950 had their largest-ever class reunion for Alumni Weekend.



Good times with good friends.



Dean Juhl reviews pharmacy history book with guests.

Seventh Annual Alumni Weekend: June 1-3, 2001

et out your calendars, block out the first weekend in June, and jumpstart your summer by attending the School of Pharmacy's Seventh Annual Alumni Weekend. Held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort in Champion, Pennsylvania, June 1-3, 2001, the Alumni Weekend will feature class reunions for the years ending in one and six, continuing education credits, networking events, golf, the 2001 Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner, and loads of fun. For more information about the weekend or to volunteer to help organize a class reunion, please contact:

Richard A. Lithgow '50 Special Assistant to the Dean for Alumni Affairs (412) 242-4525

E-mail: lithgow+@pitt.edu

And check out the School of Pharmacy Web page, www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/. On-line registration for 2001 Alumni Weekend will be available on the web site in future months and announcements regarding the weekend are soon to be posted. See you in June!

Father and daughter joined 136 attendees who hailed from as near as Pittsburgh or as far away as Kalamazoo, Michigan, in sharing memories, exchanging stories, networking, and catching up on lost time with former classmates and friends. Charles S. Tressler '75, MD, Chief of Ophthalmology for Pharmacia and Upjohn in Kalamazoo came to the reunion to meet classmates he hadn't seen for as much as

"As a member of the 25th Class Reunion committee, I had spoken with several former classmates. I was excited to see them," says Tressler.

25 years.

In the midst of the beautiful Allegheny Mountains, alumni and guests enjoyed reunion celebrations for class years ending in a zero or a five, participated in Saturday's series of continuing education seminars, hit the green for Friday's golf outing, or took the opportunity to unwind and socialize at Friday evening's barbecue party at the ski lodge. At the barbecue, golf prizes were awarded to winners J. Yourish, J. Nobers, J. Kozik, Darl Brown, and Jill Pfeufer '95. During a full Alumni Board meeting on Friday, members welcomed the new Alumni Board president, Nikki Hudak '95, and new board members.

A good time was had by all at the Pharmacy Alumni Society's Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner and class reunions. The formal dinner (surf and turf this year) was followed by the program honoring the Distinguished Alumni Award winners for 2000, William J. Gatti PHA '66, President of Gatti Medical Supply Inc., and Gary P. Stoehr, PHA '73, PharmD, Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the School of Pharmacy. David M. Smith PHA '76 presented Gatti with his award and Russel R. Allinson PHA '73 did the honors for Stoehr. And, Dean Randy P. Juhl regaled attendees with his annual "State of the School" address.

Continued on page 12



Class of 1975 celebrating their 25th reunion.

Alumni visit with Dean Emeritus Joseph Bianculli.

Alumni Weekend

Continued from page 11

Between events, guests had the opportunity to explore Pennsylvania's Laurel Highlands region, touring Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural masterpiece, Fallingwater, or spending an afternoon in the quaint historic town square of nearby Ligonier, Pennsylvania, home of Fort Ligonier. The Ligonier afternoon included a tour of the area's pharmacy museum developed and managed by Jacob L. Grimm '50.

The School of Pharmacy acknowledges that the success of the Sixth Annual Alumni Weekend was due in great part to the efforts of dedicated alumni, faculty, and staff who made the weekend so outstanding. In particular, the school recognizes class reunion alumni volunteers and an energetic group of current pharmacy school students who donated their time and enthusiasm to making this year's Alumni Weekend the best ever:

Volunteers

Class Reunion volunteers: Jacob L. Grimm '50, Richard A. Lithgow '50, Nathan Watzman'55, Myron Zimmerman '60, Gail Balent '65, James M. Kirkwood '65, Judith Rutkosky '65, Antonio O. DiFilippo '75, Charles S. Tressler '75, Susan Van Buren '75, Nikki Hudak '95, Jeff Fink '95, Monica Martyak '95, Jill Pfeufer '95.

Pharmacy School student volunteers:

Brian Bobby '04, Rochelle Polk '03, Alexander Pytlarz '01, Matthew Shannon '03, Gina Carbonara '02, Iny Marks '01, Jaime White '01.



Pharmacy graduates Nikki Hudak '95, newly installed as Alumni Board President, and her husband, Jeff Fink '95.



Thanks go out to School of Pharmacy students who helped in many ways during the weekend.

Charles Tressler '75, MD, Chief of Ophthalmology for Pharmacia and Upjohn, right, made the trip to Seven Springs all the way from Portage, Michigan, to hobnob with Pharmacy folks, including Rich Kruzynski '77, left, and Jacob Grimm '50, center.



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D \\(\(\text{\\circ{\(\text{\\circ{\(\text{\\ciringle\end{\(\text{\\circ{\(\text{\\circ{\(\text{\\circ{\(\text{\\circ{\exitin\	So Mo Lo XLo XXLo		\$40			
D. White Polo (100% cotton pique)						
E. Navy Sweatshirt (80% cotton)	Mo Lo XLo XXLo		\$40			



Honors and Awards

Mary M. Hess, PharmD, director of the UPMC-Presbyterian Drug Use and Disease State Management Program (DUDSM) and assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, and Susan J. Skledar, BS '88, MPH '91, assistant director of DUDSM and assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, were recently recognized. DUDSM was awarded the ASHP Best Practices in Health-System Pharmacy Management award for 2000. The program is one of six in the country recognized as national leaders in hospital pharmacy.

Randy P. Juhl, PhD, dean, was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in an award ceremony on October 6.

Joseph P. Knapp, PhD, professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was elected to a five-year term (2000-2005) on the United States Pharmacopeia Council of Experts. He will chair the Analytical Microbiology Committee and serve as a member of the Executive Committee of the General Policies and Requirements Division of the council.

Terry L. Schwinghammer, PharmD, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, is chair of the Section of Teachers of Pharmacy Practice, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. He was installed at the association's annual meeting in July.

Chuck Ward, PharmD, instructor in the Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, was awarded first place honors in the UPMC-Presbyterian Presidential Performance Improvement Award and first place for the UPMC Health System Performance Award for his project, "Optimizing Drug Use in the Transitional Care Unit."

Appointments

The School of Pharmacy welcomes its new faculty members.

Randall B. Smith, PhD, Associate Dean for Research and Professor

Robert Weber, MS, Chair, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, and Assistant Professor

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences:

Janet Amico, MD, Professor

Robert Bies, PhD, Assistant Professor

Sharon Connor, PharmD, Assistant Professor

Francis Vitale, MA, Director, Smoking Cessation Program and Senior Lecturer

CEDAR (Center for Education and Drug Abuse Research):

Marija Dunn, PhD '96, Research Assistant Professor

Judith Gavaler, PhD '86, Research Professor

Galina Kirillova, PhD, Research Assistant Professor

Levent Kirisci, PhD '90, Assistant Professor

Ada Mezzich, PhD, Associate Professor

Ralph Tarter, PhD, Professor

Michael Vanyukov, PhD, Assistant Professor

Center for Pharmacogenetics:

Soumitra Basu, PhD, Assistant Professor

Song Li, PhD, MD, Assistant Professor

Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics:

Sheel Patel, PharmD, Assistant Professor

Kristine Schonder, PharmD, Assistant Professor

Michael Shullo, PharmD '97, from Instructor to Assistant Professor

Drug Information and Pharmacoepidemiology Center:

Colleen Jordan, PharmD, Assistant Professor

Student

NEWS

Bernie Komoroski, PharmD '00, was awarded a Pfizer Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship in 1999 for research on the herbal medicine Silymarin, and was recognized by Pfizer in the May 26, 2000 issue of Science, along with the other 1999 awardees. Komoroski's project was entitled, "Is Silymarin Really Hepatoprotective? An In Vitro Evaluation in Primary Cultures of Human Hepatocytes." This research was conducted under the supervision of Professor Raman Venkataramanan in the School of Pharmacy.

In 2000, Bernie received a Rho Chi-Schering Plough-AFPE graduate scholarship and a cash award of \$7,500 and performed a summer research fellowship at Schering-Plough Pharmaceutical Research Institute.

Rho Chi Society Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On November 21, 1950, the University of Pittsburgh held the installation ceremony for the Alpha Omicron chapter of the Rho Chi Society. Only three days later, Pittsburgh experienced the heaviest snowfall ever recorded in the area—27.4 inches fell between November 24th and 25th.

"Had the installation been scheduled three or four days later, it never would have happened," notes Gary Stoehr, advisor for Rho Chi and School of Pharmacy associate dean for student and academic affairs.

But, luckily it did happen, and was cause for plenty of celebration in the spring of 2000 when the chapter commemorated its 50 successful years of existence. On March 29 the festivities began with the annual Julius A. Koch lecture in Scaife Hall. Victoria Roche, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical

sciences and associate dean for academic affairs at the Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions (she's also a past president of the Rho Chi Society), delivered her lecture, "Strange Bedfellows No More: The Marriage of Science and Practice for the Advancement of the Pharmacy Profession."

After the lecture, faculty, guests, parents, and the initiates adjourned to the Wyndham Hotel for a banquet. Two of the original charter members-Stanton Jonas '50 and Dean Emeritus Joseph A. Bianculli '35 were present to congratulate new members and reminisce.

Pitt's Beta Kappa Chapter Receives Accolades

Each year, the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity honors those regional chapters that have achieved excellence in their social, professional, and philanthropic activities. The University of Pittsburgh's Beta Kappa chapter of Kappa Psi was recently awarded two such awards. The Beta Kappa chapter at Pitt was not only recognized as the outstanding chapter in Province II, it was also ranked number two in the top 10 list of all chapters.



Julius Koch Lecturer Victoria Roche (left) meets with officers of Rho Chi (left to right), pharmacy students James Coons, Mary Jodon, Natalie Ciliberto, Tanya Gordon, and Lindsay Pell.

Pharmacy Web Page Helps Alums Remember Pitt Stadium

In January 2000, when Pharmacy School webmaster Thomas Waters launched the "StadiumCam" on the school's web site, he clicked a lot of Pitt alumni's buttons! As the stadium was dismantled in order to prepare for the construction of the new events center, StadiumCam documented the stadium's last days in live, real-time coverage as seen through the eye of a camera perched atop Salk Hall. Alumni flooded the site with 20,000 hits in four months and many took the opportunity to sign the site's virtual Pitt Stadium Guest Book.

StadiumCam has since changed to "PeteCam," providing live views of the construction of the new John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center. However, alumni interest in the site still remains high. Waters plans to keep the site up-to-date and add new features, such as the new "Remembering Pitt Stadium" link—www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/petecam/ remember.html. Here, alumni can view the stadium guest book, add their comments, take a look at pictures from the demolition, link to other Pitt Stadium sites, view images in a memorial Pitt Stadium photo gallery, or add their own digital stadium photos to the gallery.

Alumni Transcripts

James Pschirer Becomes Director of Pharmacy Operations for **UPMC Shadyside**

James J. Pschirer '76, PharmD, is Director of Pharmacy Operations at UPMC Shadyside in Pittsburgh and Clinical Instructor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. Pschirer, who earned a BS at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Arkansas, had served as interim director for UPMC Shadyside Pharmacy Operations before being named director in July. Pschirer is best known for his work in the development of the adverse drug reaction monitoring and evaluation program for UPMC Shadyside. According to Robert J. Weber, executive director of pharmacy, UPMC-HS and chair, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, "Jim has proven himself through dedicated service to UPMC Shadyside. I am confident that he will help our department achieve its missions." Among Pschirer's responsibilities, he will direct Pharmacy & Therapeutics Services for UMPC Shadyside as part of a team effort with UPMC Presbyterian and Pitt's School of Pharmacy. Pschirer and his wife Carolyn live in Glenshaw, Pennsylvania.

Erin Conley Wins AMCP Best Poster Award

Erin Conley '99, PharmD, of St. Louis, Missouri, won the Best Resident/Fellow/ Student Poster Award at the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy's (AMCP) 12th Annual Meeting on April 8, 2000. Conley, who was the managed care specialty resident in the Disease Management Division at Stadtlanders Operating Company, L.L.C., presented the poster, "Financial Impact of Quantity Dispensed on Cost of Antiretroviral Therapy." Entries were judged on scientific merit, evidence that the research is innovative and practical, evidence that results match the

conclusions, and the knowledge of the subject matter demonstrated during the presentation.

"I appreciated the opportunity to share my residency work with other residents and colleagues," Conley says. "The poster session provided a great forum for meeting others and learning about their work as well."

Conley received an engraved plaque, \$1,000 cash award, one-year membership to AMCP, and complimentary registration to AMCP's 2000 Educational Conference in San Diego. Conley is now employed by Express Scripts in St. Louis, Missouri.

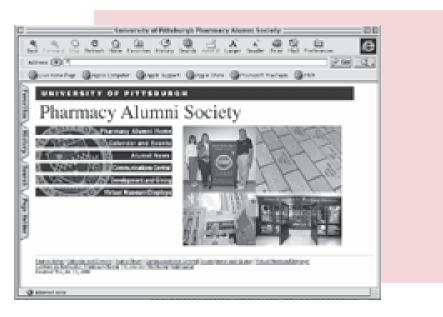
Log onto the Alumni Online Community

The University of Pittsburgh recently launched a new, interactive web site for alumni. At www.alumni.pitt.edu you can visit the Pitt Alumni Online Community. There you can look up old friends in the Alumni Directory, get exclusive discounts from the online shops in the marketplace, post your resume or a job

opening, create a free home page, post your product or a service on the alumni yellow pages, and more.

Those pharmacy alums particularly interested in school-based news can check out the School of Pharmacy alumni home page, www.pharmacy.pitt.edu/alumni. The "Communications Central" link on the pharmacy alumni page leads users to a special interactive area of the site with four links—E-mail Distribution List, Alumni Chat, Alumni Message Board, and Sign our Guestbook.

E-mail Distribution List adds your name to the database of alumni and friends, and once you've signed up, pharmacy school news and postings can be sent your way. Alumni Chat allows you to network and exchange ideas in real time. To leave a message for alumni or to post news, use the Alumni Message Board link. Or simply sign the Guestbook. It's a simple and easy way to check in with the pharmacy school and let fellow alumni know you're out there.



Pharmacy Grads Complete Residencies in 2000

The following graduates have completed ASHP-accredited residency programs in 2000.

Pharmacy Practice Residencies

Madeline Betancourt '99, PharmD, Medical University of South Carolina, College of Pharmacy, Charleston, South Carolina

Krista A. Coval '99, PharmD, Baptist Medical Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee

Anne C. Ferri '99, PharmD, University of Maryland Medical System, Baltimore, Maryland

Timothy J. Jancel '99, PharmD, University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, Washington

Christopher S. Lacev '99, PharmD, Hamot Medical Center, Erie, Pennsylvania

Douglas P. Mayer '99, PharmD, Shands Jacksonville, Jacksonille, Florida

Faith R. Sands '99, PharmD, Hayden Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona

Tracie J. Sannicandro '99, PharmD, Medical University of South Carolina, College of Pharmacy, Charleston, South Carolina

Patricia A. Targos '99, PharmD, Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, Richmond, Virginia

Erin R. Totleben '99, PharmD, at Shands at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Specialized Pharmacy Residency

Blair Capitano BS '91, PharmD '99, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Practice, Cleveland, Ohio

1950s

Nathan Watzman '55, MS '57, PhD '61 of Potomac, Maryland, was appointed senior scientist at United Information Systems. He administers peer review of biomedical research grant applications submitted to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command.

Wayne C. Miller '56 of Columbus, Ohio, was installed in May as president of the Academy of Pharmacy of Central Ohio. He had served as president for the academy in 1979 as well. Miller was also elected chairman of the Public Health Council, which is part of the Ohio Health Department, after having served on the council since 1966.

Norman R. Farnsworth PhD '59, research professor of pharmacognosy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Pharmacy, was recently honored by the establishment of the Norman R. Farnsworth Endowed Chair in Pharmacognosy. He has also been selected by the National Nutritional Foods Association to receive the Burton Scientific Award, and received the distinction of being appointed by President Clinton to the Commission on Dietary Supplement Labels.

1980s

Therese Sage Clark '88, PharmD, BCPS, assistant clinical professor, Western University College of Pharmacy, has been appointed as student clinical coordinator at Sharp HealthCare in San Diego, California.

1990s

Maria Croyle '92 of Austin, Texas, is an assistant professor of pharmaceutics at the University of Texas at Austin, College of Pharmacy, where she will conduct research to develop novel methods of delivering recombinant DNA for gene therapy. She had been a research fellow for three years at the Institute for Gene Therapy at the University of Pennsylvania.

1970s

Richard Lucarotti Lauded in ASHP Journal

The ASHP Reports Practitioner Recognition Program profiled the career of **Richard L.** Lucarotti '71, PharmD, of Royal Oak, Michigan, in the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacists, June 2000 edition. Lucarotti, who received the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award in 1996, is director of Pharmaceutical Services for William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak and Adjunct Professor at Wayne State University's College of Pharmacy. The ASHP profile recognized Lucarotti's leadership role in developing the pharmacy services at Beaumont Hospital to a fully decentralized, integrated-practice model—one in which the staff practices at an advanced level in acute care and ambulatory care environments and student and resident education are incorporated in daily department practice.

Other accomplishments ASHP recognized were Lucarotti's service on Beaumont Hospital's Human Investigation Committee and Research Institute Board of Governors; his service for ASHP as a member of their Commission on Credentialing, including two years as chair; House of Delegates; and Council on Educational Affairs. A past president of the Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Southeastern Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Lucarotti has been a recipient of the Hospital Pharmacist of the Year Award in Michigan. He received his PharmD degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1976.

School of Pharmacy Brick Walkway: Caring Carved in Stone

ike many other aspects of the modern world, efforts in research, teaching, and clinical care at the School of Pharmacy advance and expand at a rapid pace. This pace is a necessity in the School's commitment to being a nationally recognized leader in the field, with an ultimate goal of improving the health and welfare of society.

However, the demands associated with our advancements can make this pace difficult to follow. Today's education methods require continuous transformation of facilities, adding state-of-the-art media and video equipment to more than one classroom, increasing computer access and capacity, and updating laboratories. In many cases, what's modern this year may be outdated in just two or three years. The most viable solution is to create a reserve for ongoing enhancements.

You can help with this solution, and permanently etch your name (or the name of a friend, family member, or former teacher) in the School of Pharmacy's history. In recognition of your \$400 contribution, a brick will be inscribed as you prefer and added to the Brick Walkway outside the School of Pharmacy entrance at Salk Hall. You also receive a certificate commemorating your gift.

Join the 300-plus individuals who have already taken their places in the Walkway. With your help, the School will remain in the vanguard of pharmacy education, and your name will become a permanent part of the School of Pharmacy, a visible and lasting demonstration of your commitment to the next century of University of Pittsburgh graduates.

Please note that your gift to the School of Pharmacy Brick Walkway is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Your donation can be made all at once or over two years, in which case periodic reminders will be sent for each installment.

Questions may be directed to:

Renée M. Pekor Director of Development School of Pharmacy (412) 383-7434

E-mail: pekorrm@msx.upmc.edu



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In Memoriam

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Louis C. Drach '36

Dominic W. Capozzi '38

Bernard J. Sherrin '38

Donald J. Kinter '58

Lawrence Johns Haggerty '61

Charles Emery Warrick PHA'48 of West Newton, Pennsylvania, owner of Goehring Drug pharmacy in West Newton for 35 years, died at age 75 of emphysema on May 12, 2000.

Warrick earned his pharmacy degree at the University of Pittsburgh in 1948 after returning from service in the Army during World War II. Warrick ran Goehring Drug from 1955-1986. He was known for his exactitude in practicing his profession and his compassion in customer service. According to family and friends, it was not unusual for Warrick to put in a full day's work at Goehring Drug only to return to the pharmacy in the evening or early morning hours to fill a prescription for a sick child.

Such concern for his customers once even prevented him from arriving on time to his daughter's wedding party. Patricia Warrick Duvall of Dayton, Tennessee, recalls, "He had closed the store but there was another sick kid." According to Mr. Warrick's brother-inlaw, Peters Township physician Joseph Schwerha, who had worked in the pharmacy at one time, "He helped everyone who came into the store."

In 1986, Warrick retired as a pharmacist and sold Goehring Drug to Rite Aid. He spent his time reading the daily newspaper, Civil War histories, mysteries, and paperbacks, and also enjoyed oil painting. Mr. Warrick and his wife, Anna Mae Schwerha of West Newton, had lost one son, James Charles Warrick, who died in 1982 at age 30 of a heart attack. In addition to his wife and daughter, Charles Emery Warrick is survived by one son, David Michael Warrick of Philadelphia, and three grandchildren.

lease send us information about your career advancements, papers presented, honors received, appointments, and further education. We'll include your news in the Alumni Transcripts section as space allows. Please indicate names, dates, and location. Photos are welcome. Please print clearly.

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Pharmacy Alumni News

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