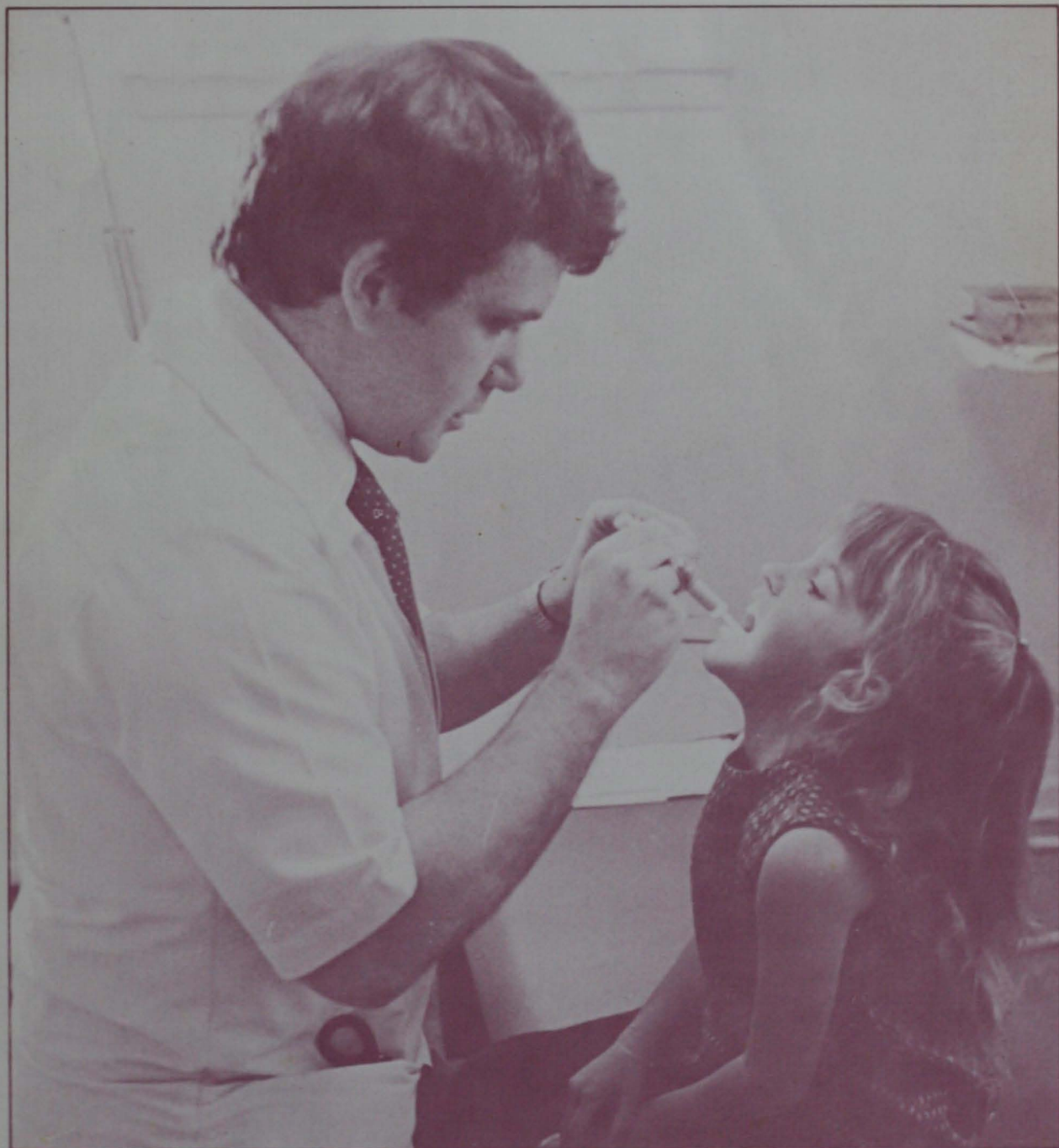




TCOM NEWS

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On the Cover: When TCOM opened the Justin clinic in October, 1976, the small world community of Justin had been 6 years without a full time physician. The college's first rural clinic, the Justin clinic, has proved to be very popular with both student-doctors and the community. Dr. Larry Walsh examines Sherri Tidwell during her first visit to the clinic. Photograph by *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* photographer Gene Gordon.

Photo Credits: Gene Gordon, Gene Autry, Duncan Engler, David Eckberge

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On Campus

Official ceremonies mark inauguration of a new era

Official ceremonies marked a Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine milestone when the ground was broken Nov. 15 for TCOM's first major construction, the \$12.4 million, eight-story, 230,000-square-foot Medical Education Building I in Fort Worth.

Representing the state, the city, the college, the university and the people of Texas were Gov. Dolph Briscoe, Fort Worth Mayor Clif Overcash, TCOM Dean Ralph Willard, D.O., members of the North Texas State University Board of Regents, NTSU-TCOM President C.C. Nolen and the

Rev. and Mrs. Rae Thompson of Justin, with son Tyler, representing Texans who will benefit from the health care to be provided by TCOM graduates.

"This is a great day for Fort Worth, a great day for Texas and a great day for North Texas State University," Gov. Briscoe told a crowd of some 250 people, including TCOM students and their families, and several state legislators who came with obvious enthusiasm despite bitter cold weather.



Gov. Dolph Briscoe, right, lends his support to the official groundbreaking ceremony for Medical Education Building I. Assisting Gov. Briscoe with the groundbreaking are, from left, the Rev. and Mrs. Rae Thompson of Justin and their six-year-old son Tyler. Seated on the podium watching the events are, from left, Harry Werst of the Dean's Advisory Council and Dr. Ralph L. Willard, vice-president and dean.



Despite the bitter cold and snow covered ground, over 200 persons gathered at the site of Medical Education Building I to view the groundbreaking for TCOM's first new building. Both buildings to the left and right of the platform have been demolished to make room for the new clinical science building.

"Because of institutions like TCOM, people in Texas in the years ahead will have better health care in the metropolitan areas and in the rural areas of this state."

Dr. Willard, thanking the Texas Legislature and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), for their help in funding the construction, called their assistance "a tangible acknowledgement of our needs . . . and we accept the challenge to produce primary care physicians," he said.

He said the promise of the new education facility has attracted many highly qualified individuals to the faculty of TCOM. "Now we will have the physical plant to match the faculty that is already being developed," he added.

TCOM Student Council President Ron Jackson, speaking on behalf of TCOM students, said, "Medical Education Building I is only the beginning of what we think will be the best school of osteopathic medicine in the country."

Construction, projected to be completed July 1979, is being funded by a \$4.8 million HEW grant and by state legislative appropriations.

The building will be the first major construction since TCOM was made a state institution by an act of the legislature in 1975. At that time the NTSU Board of Regents was made the governing board of TCOM.

The school has been operating out of refurbished buildings since it first began classes in 1970.

Medical Education Building I, offering an auditorium, student center, administrative offices, outpatient clinic, library, media center and classrooms, will provide modern facilities for the clinical science program.

Gov. Briscoe, with his wife Janey by his side, broke the ground with a specially designated shovel which is being preserved for future TCOM groundbreakings. Assisting the governor in the groundbreaking were six-year-old Tyler and his parents. The Thompsons, as members of the com-

munity of Justin which is benefiting from the Justin Clinic which TCOM opened Oct. 1, represented families throughout the United States whose primary health care is provided by osteopathic physicians.

Mayor Overcash lent TCOM the city's support when he told the crowd,

be a great asset and benefit to the City of Fort Worth. Before this is over, the City of Fort Worth will have a great investment in this institution as well (as federal and state supporters)."



Third-year student Mike Cole, left, visits with Gov. Dolph Briscoe following the groundbreaking ceremony for Medical Education Building I.

Destruction . . .

The sounds made by the bulldozers as they ate away at the brick and cement structures on the TCOM campus are indescribable on paper. The noise level was at times almost unbearable. But, as each wall fell, students, faculty, staff and citizens of Fort Worth saw the first visible sign of things to come for the state's only college of osteopathic medicine.

The demolition of a former doctor's clinic, apartment complex and student center began in December 1976 and was the first step toward completion of TCOM's first new building, Medical Education Building I. Projected completion date for the eight-story clinical science building is July 1979.

After the debris of the demolished buildings was cleared away, more trucks and heavy machinery arrived to begin excavation at the construction site. As load after load of dirt and rock were hauled away, the TCOM and Fort Worth communities began to know that Medical Education Building I will soon be a reality.



. . . leads to construction



Justin Clinic: TCOM takes new approach in providing rural health care

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article was written by *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Contributing Editor Jon McConal and is reprinted with the permission of the *Star-Telegram*.

There's an analogy about medical practice. It says that 98 per cent of the diseases treated are horses. That means they are the most common. The other two per cent are zebras. That means they are not very common.

For two years, nobody was taking care of either the horses or zebras in Justin. They didn't have a doctor.

But, now the horses are being corraled. It's due to a program launched recently by the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth. Under an agreement with the Justin Medical Clinic Corp., TCOM operates a clinic from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The staff is composed of TCOM students who are supervised by a licensed physician from TCOM's faculty.

The arrangement, which began Oct. 1, has closed the gate on a lot of fears and anxieties in Justin's citizens.

"I'll tell you, I used to go to bed worrying about what I would do if I had a medical emergency," said Mrs. Evelyn Smith, a retired elementary school principal and resident of Justin 26 years.

What she did in that event was drive to Denton (30 miles) or to Fort Worth (45 miles). And those miles passed slowly if the reason for going to a doctor was an emergency.

Mrs. Smith knows about the emergency possibility.

"My husband has a heart condition and diabetes. And when you have those and don't have any local medical care, it can be difficult," she said.

It can. Just as it can be difficult for a small community like Justin (population 741, according to its city limit sign) to find a doctor. The tiny hamlet on the periphery of the Fort Worth-Dallas metroplex is not by itself.



Justin had a special guest on hand for the opening of TCOM's rural clinic there last October. Cutting the gauze to officially open the clinic, which is staffed by TCOM faculty and students, was Dr. George Luibel of Fort Worth, president of the American Osteopathic Association and one of the founders of TCOM.

Recent figures indicate there are 18 Texas counties without a doctor. And, as Justin found out, once you lose your town doctor, it's mighty hard to find another.

"No, I didn't think we'd ever get another doctor, particularly when the last one left. After all, Justin is a small town, and well, many people just wouldn't want to come here," said Mrs. Deanne Hatfield, who has lived in the area since the sixth grade.

But TCOM wanted to find a small town for several reasons. Dr. Ralph L. Willard, TCOM dean, said he felt one of the most, if not the most, critical issues facing today's health care field is

finding more physicians who will practice in rural areas.

"We are rapidly approaching the point to where we don't have a shortage of doctors in growth number, but we still have a distribution problem. We are working at that problem with this clinic," he said.

Dr. Willard, who served on the staff at the Kirksville, Mo., College of Osteopathic Medicine, said a program was started there in 1949 whereby rural clinics were established and then staffed by licensed D.O.s and medical students.

"You can argue philosophically about how you can solve this problem

(distribution), but I know in Kirksville, in running the rural clinics, we had a higher percentage of doctors going into rural practice than in most medical schools," he said.

That point brings up one of the goals and benefits of the Justin Clinic.

"In a rural clinic like this, students can see the type of care they can deliver. They can also see the challenge and opportunities out there. Every student who has this experience may not go into rural practice, but I genuinely think that a substantial percentage will. They might not have even considered it if they had not had this experience," said Dr. Willard.

Actually, it was that (the fact that doctors would not stay in Justin) that brought about the construction of the Justin Clinic in the first place. That was in 1956. Newton Knox, president of Justin State Bank, talked about that.

"Well, we had a need for a doctor in our community. We figured that if we had a clinic, it might attract a doctor. So what we did was go out and sell stock to the community in order to finance the clinic. It was strictly to get a doctor. It wasn't an investment for anyone to buy the stock. I mean to make money," said Knox.

It worked. Soon after the clinic was completed, Dr. R.W. Gochnoor located in the town. But when he died several years ago, no doctor could be found to take over the practice.

Then, finally, a doctor was located who would practice part-time. But, his practice increased so much in another town that he gave up the practice in Justin. The same thing happened with another doctor.

So Justin, a small town with large quiet streets and houses shaded by towering oak and pecan trees, held its breath, thinking surely someday, somebody would come by who liked its slowed-down style of living.

"We knew what the potential was. But it's hard to find a doctor to come here and practice. We'd been to Austin several times and had written several letters. But, we hadn't found anyone interested," said Louis Tate, owner of Justin Drug Store.

Actually, it was his daughter who solved the problem. She worked at TCOM. One day she mentioned the

need to a staff member. That person mentioned it to Dr. Willard.

"We looked at Justin and it seemed ideal," he said. "We were looking for a place for our rural clinic and they were looking for a physician."

Dr. Russ McDonald, a senior medical student from LaMarque, was looking for a way to learn about rural practice.

"This is just fantastic," he said. "I mean, here you get a chance to find out the areas in which you are weak. Like, you may have made an A in something, but you get out in the field and realize you need to do some more reading on the subject."

He's a strongly built young man who once considered playing professional football. He also once considered going into obstetrics and gynecology.

"But, you know it dawned on me that 98 per cent of the diseases are horses and two per cent are zebras. I just decided that I'd rather spend my time taking care of the horses," said Dr. McDonald.

Dr. James McLaughlin of Grand Prairie was in the clinic's conference room. He is the physician in charge and a TCOM instructor of general and family practice.

"Our philosophy (osteopathic) says that we are to treat the whole person. That is something that is constantly, constantly ingrained into us from the time we enter medical school. That is what we are trying to do here — take care of the whole person," he said.

He said the medical students serve 12 weeks at the clinic during the clinical clerkship portion of their training.

"Once a student makes the diagnosis, we always come in here and talk about the problem and go over it," he said. He smiled. "There used to be a doctor's desk in here. But, we threw that out and put in a conference table."

Dr. Larry Walsh, a senior medical student, stepped inside the room to drink a cup of coffee.

"I like to see the whole gamut of medicine. That's why I like this so much. Here you are seeing exactly the same things you are going to see in general practice when you go out," he said.



"I love the idea of the challenge of rural medicine as opposed to city medicine. Here you get this tremendous feedback. People depend on you and they respect you," Dr. McDonald said while eating lunch in a downtown cafe.

He was in the middle of a hamburger. A woman walked up. She spoke to him about a malady for which



Top: The many pickups and vans lining the Justin streets remind residents and visitors that the center of activity in rural Texas is the main street of the community.

Bottom: Dr. Russ McDonald takes time during a lunch break to visit with Mrs. Joe West, his waitress and also patient from the clinic.

in. She has two children. Both are bothered by allergies. She had to take them to Fort Worth or Denton before the clinic opened. Now they get their shots and medication here.

"Yes, and right before it opened, my daughter got hit by a car while she was riding a motorcycle. So I had to load her into my car and take her all the way to Denton. That kind of thing can get to you," she said.

Her eyes were lively as she talked.

"Tell you something else they've done at this clinic," she said. "They've saved my daddy. He has high blood pressure. Heart problems and other problems too. Before they came, he had just given up hope. He had decided that he wasn't going to live."

She said the clinic team stabilized his condition. He got to feeling better. They talked him into taking daily walks.

"He's decided that he's going to live now. And he walks every day. And he's healthy," said Mrs. Hathorn.

As healthy, almost, as a horse, she said.

he had treated her. She said her children were sick.

"Doctor . . . it gets rough . . . it hurts," she said, tears coming to her eyes.

He was on his feet, putting his huge arm around her shoulder.

"I know. I know. But, it's going to get better. It's going to be all right," he said.

Back at the clinic, Mrs. Jeanett Hathorn, who is a Justin native, came

Clinics cater to 'doctor-poor' communities

Since TCOM opened its first outpatient clinic in 1973, three more have been established — two since October 1976 — to provide medical services to "doctor-poor" communities.

Located on the east, west and north sides of Fort Worth and in the small rural community of Justin in Denton County, the outpatient clinics also provide the opportunity for senior student-doctors to experience general and family practice.

In addition to the four outpatient clinics, TCOM operates four community service clinics located throughout Fort Worth.

The outpatient clinics annually treat an estimated 13,000 individuals, many from low income families and various ethnic groups. The community service clinics treat some 7,500 patients annually, bringing the total number of people cared for to about 20,500.

The first clinic opened by TCOM, Rosedale Clinic, is located on the east side of Fort Worth and sees approximately 4,500 patients each year.

The Central Clinic, located on the TCOM campus sees another 7,000 patients annually.

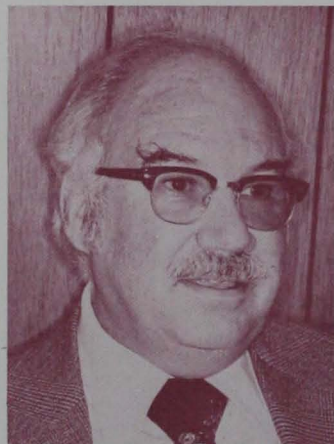
TCOM's newest clinic, the Northside Clinic, opened Jan. 3 and saw 40 patients the first week of operation. About 100 persons were seen during the first three weeks of operation.

The Justin Clinic, TCOM's rural effort, is located some 30 miles northeast of Fort Worth. Since it opened in October 1976, the staff has seen some 350 patients. During the first two months, the patient load increased from 6.9 daily to 8.5.

At the four community service clinics supported by the college, approximately 6,000 people are seen annually at the Rehabilitation Farm, 400 at the Head Start Children's Clinic, 300 at the County Well Baby Clinic and 700 at the Bethlehem Community Center.

Profiles

TCOM deans: Taking care of business



Dr. Ralph Willard

Dr. Ralph L. Willard, who joined TCOM in December 1975 as dean of the state's only college of osteopathic medicine, has received an additional title, acting vice president for medical affairs.

In addition to his new responsibilities, Dr. Willard will remain the chief operating officer for TCOM. As vice president for medical affairs he joins five other vice presidents at North Texas State University in comprising the NTSU President's Cabinet.

Before joining TCOM, Dr. Willard served as associate dean at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A 1949 graduate of Kirksville (Mo.) College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Willard served an internship and a residency in general surgery at Kirksville Osteopathic Hospital. He was named a diplomate of the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery in General Surgery in 1961.

During his military service, Dr. Willard served as a bomber pilot in both World War II and the Korean War. He was commissioned a colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve Medical Corps during the summer of 1975.



Dr. Charles Kline

When Dr. Charles A. Kline accepted the position of associate dean for clinical affairs and moved from Kirksville, Mo., to Texas, he was not a stranger to the Lone Star State. The new administrator served his internship at Fort Worth Osteopathic Hospital (FWOH) in 1960-61 and was in private practice as a consulting pediatrician at FWOH in 1963-64.

Former chairman and professor of pediatrics at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and Kirksville Osteopathic Hospital (KCOM/KOH), Dr. Kline joined the administrative staff of TCOM on Aug. 15. In addition to his academic responsibilities at KCOM, he served as director of the Maternal Child and Health Program, medical director of the Kirksville Regional Diagnostic Clinic and clinic director of the Missouri Crippled Children's Service at KCOM/KOH.

A 1960 graduate of KCOM, Dr. Kline received an associate of arts degree from the University of Jacksonville (Fla.) in 1955 and attended the University of Florida.

A diplomate of the American Osteopathic Board of Pediatrics and a fellow in the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians, he served his residency in pediatrics at KOH from 1961 to 1963 and was a Mead-Johnson Fellow in pediatrics in 1964-65.



L.L. LaRue

As associate dean for administration, L.L. LaRue serves as the chief fiscal officer for TCOM and is responsible for the administration of fiscal affairs and all non-academic affairs.

LaRue, who joined TCOM Oct. 1, served as business manager of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa immediately prior to his present position.

Before joining UT-Permian Basin, he was vice president for fiscal affairs at Texas Woman's University in Denton, where he also served as chief accountant, auditor and comptroller.

The new associate dean received a bachelor of business administration degree from North Texas State University in 1947 and then did graduate work at The University of Texas at Austin.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1940 to 1945 and was in the European Theater of Operation. During his military service he received a Purple Heart and the Air Medal with one cluster.

LaRue holds membership in the Texas Association of State Senior College and University Business Officers and the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers.



Dr. C.G. Skinner

An academician, author, inventor and chemist — Dr. Charles Gordon Skinner is all of these.

The new assistant dean for basic health sciences, Dr. Skinner has been with North Texas State University since 1964 and joined the TCOM Department of Basic Health Science in 1973.

Prior to accepting his new position, Dr. Skinner served as chairman of the Chemistry Department and chairman of the division of biochemistry at NTSU. He also has taught chemistry at The University of Texas at Austin and Del Mar College. He has worked as a research chemist for the Celanese Corporation of America as a chemist for the UT-Austin Department of Engineering and as a research scientist for the Clayton Foundation.

As an inventor Dr. Skinner has eight patents on file with the U.S. Patent Office. He has authored over 100 articles in numerous professional publications.

A native of Dallas, Dr. Skinner received his doctor's degree from UT-Austin in 1953, a master of science degree from NTSU in 1947 and his bachelor of science degree from NTSU in 1943.

A fellow in both the Texas Academy of Science and the American Institute of Chemists, Dr. Skinner also holds membership in the American Federation of Biological Chemists, American Chemical Society, American Society of Plant Physiologists, Sigma Xi, Alpha Chi Sigma and Phi Lambda Upsilon.

Alumni Notes

All TCOM alumni are urged to support the Alumni Association with total participation and individual input to help strengthen the organization. That appeal came last fall from association president Dr. Shelley Howell of Temple during the first annual TCOM alumni luncheon held in conjunction with the American Osteopathic Association's convention.

Representatives from all three graduating classes attended the luncheon November 15 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco.

Dr. Paul Livingston of Comanche, president-elect of the organization, appealed to the 91 graduates to remain involved in making the alumni organization a viable instrument in the overall progress and growth of TCOM. He stressed the need for continued alumni impact.

Representing Dean Ralph Willard, who was in Fort Worth to participate in groundbreaking ceremonies for TCOM's Medical Education Building I, was Dr. Marion E. Coy, professor of osteopathic philosophy, principles and practice.

Alumni members attending the luncheon were Drs. Nelda Cuniff, Eugene Bond, Ron Daniels, Ronald Sherbert, David Wiman, Howell and Livingston, class of '74; Dr. George Elias, class of '75; and Dr. Bobby Jo Kennedy, class of '76.

Other TCOM representatives attending the luncheon were Dr. Larry Bunnell, chairman of the Department of General and Family Practice; Dr. Elizabeth Harris, chairman of the Department of Microbiology; Dr. John H. Harakal, chairman of the Department of Osteopathic Philosophy, Principles and Practice; Dr. T. Robert Sharp, clinical professor of general and family practice; J.B. Gilleland, fourth-year student-doctor representing Sigma Sigma Phi; Mrs. Terry Katz, Students' Spouses Auxiliary (formerly Students' Wives Auxiliary); and Dr. Margaret Dennis, coordinator of Health Sciences Related Programs at North Texas State University. Pat Patterson of Kansas City, Mo., vice president of Marion Laboratories, also was a guest at the luncheon.

Dr. Jesse Ramsey of El Paso was named the outstanding doctor during his internship at William Beaumont Hospital. Dr. Ramsey is currently completing a pediatric residency there.

Dr. and Mrs. John Williams of San Diego, Calif., announce the birth of Shannon McKenzie on July 13, 1976.

Dr. and Mrs. John Williams of San Diego, Calif., announce the birth of Shannon McKenzie on July 13, 1976.

Dr. Bob Holston has moved his family practice to Amarillo. Dr. and Mrs. Holston announce the birth of Jeremy Frank on Sept. 1, 1976.

Dr. and Mrs. Jobey Claborn of Phoenix, Ariz., announce the birth of Jason Doil on Oct. 3, 1976.

Dr. Arnold Wallace and Dr. Allan Kalich have established a practice in Mesquite.

Dr. Larry Farr has entered general practice with Dr. Robert L. Hamilton in Mabank.

Dr. Charles Vogler is serving a psychiatry residency at St. Louis University School of Medicine.

Dr. Ronald Sebold is the recipient of the National Osteopathic Foundation Mead-Johnson Fellowship. He is a resident in internal medicine at Chicago Osteopathic Hospital.

Dr. and Mrs. Ron Jones of Lorton, Va., announce the birth of twins, Kimberly Charmaine and Ryan Christopher, on Aug. 2, 1976. Dr. Jones is serving an internship at Dewitt Army Medical Center, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Strictly Speaking



By Ray Stokes
Director of Development and Alumni Affairs

Through the years fund raisers — particularly college fund raisers — have learned that the more a person gives the more likely he will continue to give.

This statement is true at TCOM.

Since its inception, TCOM has been the recipient of a myriad of gifts, with some 80 per cent of the donors giving in more than five separate fund raising campaigns.

The pattern is established. And the TCOM Sustainers deserve the credit.

In a recent poll, the Sustainers, those who have previously contributed at least \$1,000 each, voted by a majority to continue the organization, but with a different guideline for membership.

There will always remain a special group of donors known as the Sustainers. In addition, there will be an extra special group known as Annual Sustainers, those who contribute at least \$1,000 annually to TCOM.

Based on the current ratio, Annual sustainers will enhance the financial mechanism that will fund some \$150,000 annually for expenditures not covered by state support.

These earmarked funds will help support all areas of medical education that are necessary in an effort to attain a margin of excellence associated with the total curriculum.

TCOM's goals for the benevolent dollar remains:

- ☐ To acquire additional land for campus expansion
- ☐ To recruit more prospective D.O.s
- ☐ To strengthen scholarship programs
- ☐ To implement research projects
- ☐ To make Texas citizens more aware of their state-supported osteopathic medical college

Donors are encouraged to designate their gifts as investments in one of the above pursuits. All grants, bequests, cash donations and deferred giving proceeds are deposited in TCOM's account with the North Texas State University Educational Foundation. Three funds have been established within the College account. They are the Excellence Fund, Loyalty Fund and Memorial Fund.

Currently much emphasis is being placed on building the Excellence Fund for capital improvement, such as land acquisition. Loyalty Fund proceeds help augment operational expenses not covered by the tax dollar. A donor's wish is always honored.

Annual sustainers are those who give and give again.

TCOM Supporters

Our thanks to the following contributors who have provided memorials and other gifts to TCOM during the past quarters:

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