



MEDICAL FACULTY ASSOCIATION

MILLER
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Celebrating 51 years of service

Volume 51 Number 4

February, 2005

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope all of you had a great holiday season and you are all well. I must admit I did not get much MFA work done because of family commitments but we had a great time at the Holiday Luncheon at Susana Raji's home (who prepared the lunch by herself) and the Chinese Auction raised a goodly amount of money for the MFA coffers. You can read all about it in the newsletter.



We were sorry to hear of the passing of Dr. James Goodman, husband to Janice Goodman on December 3rd after a long history of cardiac problems. I recently met Janice and her daughter Ann and enjoyed our time together.

We were also sorry to hear of the passing of James Ofengand, husband to Sigrud Ofengand. He passed away at the at the University of Miami during the renaming ceremony for the Miller School of Miami. He will be missed in their family.

Be sure to read the article on the donations to the Margaret Whelan Graduate Student fund on behalf of Si Halbert. There is an article inside speaking to that subject and I am sure all will be interested.

It is February now and some days I forget how cold it can be down here in Miami. My hands don't want to work with wet clay so I have been able to do a lot of work on behalf of our organization. The Dinner at the Ritz planning committee is working hard to arrange an evening we will all enjoy on April 1st (no fooling) and the next committee meeting will be at the home of Linda Fitzpatrick on February 11th at 9:30. If you wish to help with the evening events, call Linda or Kristin Podack to sign up to volunteer.

Mary Frances Irvin is beginning to plan for the Installation luncheon which will also be at the Ritz this year. I feel confident that she has every thing under control and all we have to do is enjoy the day and learn who the new officers for 2005-2006 will be.

Speaking of new officers, it is that time of year for nominations. Patricia Livingstone is the Chair of the Nominating committee this year and I am sure the committee will come up with a good slate of contenders. MFA will be able to vote on the new officers at the next general meeting on April 27, 2005 which is being held at the home of Valerie Ricordi. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend so you can cast your vote.

I have 18 peacocks and peahens in my yard right now. They are the funniest birds I have ever had the pleasure to watch. Lots of fighting and carrying on. Oh to be a bird!!!

Yours in the MFA — Nadia



Medical School News

There have been important changes to the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami School of Medicine. The announcement in Dec. of the \$100 million gift to the School by the family of the late land developer Leonard Miller brings a new sense of promise and possibility for the School. On February 8, John Clarkson announced he would be stepping down from his position of Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine in 2006. Dr. Clarkson first came to the University as a student in 1964, and then joined faculty of Bascom Palmer where he rose to become its Director. He has been Dean since 1995. Not only has Dean Clarkson has been a fine leader of the School and he has always been a great advocate of the MFA. We are so grateful to Dean Clarkson and his wife, Diana both for their support and friendship, which we hope will continue for many more years.

Endowment named in honor of MFA Member

Dr. William J. Whelan, chairman and professor of biochemistry, was honored by friends and colleagues on his 80th birthday with the announcement of a new endowment fund in his name, The William J. Whelan Fund for Research and Education.

Dr. Whelan joined the University in 1967 as chairman of the Biochemistry Department. His late wife Margaret was a devoted member and Past President of MFA, and Dr. Whelan continues membership today.

Dr. Whelan was instrumental in establishing the UMMSM program which made it possible for Ph.D.s to obtain their M.D. degree in

MFA SPRING PARTY SET FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2005

Submitted by Linda Fitzpatrick and Kristin Podack

Friday, April 1 is the date for the annual Medical Faculty Association Spring Party. We have crafted an evening to share in each other's company while enjoying fine food and vying for a few carefully selected auction items.

All money raised at the event will be used to fund our medical, graduate and nursing students and we need your to make the event a success. Please plan to attend and help us continue our mission of financially assisting the students at the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami.

The price of the dinner is \$125 per person with Benefactor, Patron and Grand Patron categories at \$500, \$750 and \$1000 for two. In addition, if you or one of your contacts would like to contribute to this event by underwriting a portion of the expenses (flowers, music, invitations) it would be very much appreciated. Simply contact any member of the committee: Isabelle Andrews, Marisa Burke, Diana Clarkson, Nancy Elsas, Linda Eton, Linda Fitzpatrick, Sharon Goodwin, Martha Halbert, Eileen Hoffman, Mary Frances Irvin, Maria Maribona, Nadia Maudsley, Kristin Podack, Chris Quencer, Valerie Ricordi, Patty Scerpella.

If you are planning to contribute an item for the silent auction, the item should have a value of at least \$100. Please contact Kristin Podack for an auction form. Nadia Maudsley is collecting the auction items. You can call her for pickup at 305-854-2527.

If you would like to have an invitation sent to someone not on our MFA mailing list, please contact either Linda Fitzpatrick or Kristin Podack with the name and address of the individual/individuals you would like invited. The invitations are already "in the works."

We look forward to celebrating our 51 years of fellowship with "Dinner at the Ritz."



MFA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND CHINESE AUCTION

On December 8th, MFA members gathered at the Coconut Grove garden home of Drs. Leopoldo and Susana Raij for the annual MFA Holiday Lunch and Chinese Auction. We were all treated a delicious Argentinean brunch of homemade empanadas, spinach pie, 'matambre de pollo', salad, fresh fruit and a special cake of meringue and tres leches called 'matambre'. Isabella Andrews and Nancy Elsas auctioned off the festive packages. In all, the day raised over \$2,500. It was a fun way to get into the spirit of the season and many thanks to Susana Raij for her great hospitality.



2005 CALENDAR

Board Meeting February 23, 2005

Home of Dr. David and Isabelle Andrews

10:00 a.m.

Dinner at the Ritz April 1, 2005

Ritz Carlton, Coconut Grove

7:00 p.m.

General Meeting April 27, 2005

Home of Dr. Camillo and Valerie Ricordi

10:00 a.m.

Installation Luncheon May 25, 2005

Ritz Carlton, Coconut Grove

11:30 a.m.

Please join us for
Dinner at the Ritz

Friday, April 1, 7 pm
Ritz Carlton Coconut Grove
7:30 P.M. Cocktails
8:30 P.M. Dinner
Silent Auction to benefit
Medical Scholarships
at the University of Miami



In Memoriam

Deepest sympathies are extended to the families of two MFA members, Janice Goodman and Sigrid Ofengand, who lost their husbands in December.

James J. Goodman died of heart disease on December 3. He was an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science and served as Associate Director of Residency Training and Director of Psychiatry Observership Program at the Miami Veterans Administration Medical Center, where he had worked since 1964. Over his 30 year career there he contributed to the careers of many young physicians. He was also an outstanding clinician and was awarded the "Practitioner of the Year" Award by the South Florida Psychiatric Society in 1996 after serving as its President in 1992, and in 2001, the Dade County Medical Association name him their "Practitioner of the Year." Jim and Janice were married 53 years, and had one daughter, Ann .

Jim Ofengand died suddenly at work on December 6. He had been a Research Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology since 1996. Throughout his long and greatly respected career, he made many important contributions to various areas in the RNA field, publishing over 150 papers, and serving on many scientific advisory committees and study sections as well as on the editorial boards of *Biochemistry*, *Analytical Biochemistry*. He was one of the founding associate editor of *RNA*. Prior to joining the University, he was with the Roche Institute of Molecular Biology in Nutley, New Jersey from 1969 to 1996. Deepest condolences are extended to Sigrid and their three children.

Si Halbert Fund

A total of \$2,100 has been donated to the Medical Faculty Association in memory of Si Halbert, beloved husband of Martha Halbert.