

CLASS NOTES

1951 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

1952

Harold E. Hunter, of Lansdale, PA, retired as chief of anesthesiology at Hilton Head Hospital, SC, 27 years ago. He and Nancy have lived in a retirement community, Brittany Pointe Estates, for the past 15 years. Their two daughters and families still live in the Syracuse area.

1955 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

1956 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

1957

Marvin A. Leder, of New York, NY, recently retired after practicing diabetes and endocrinology for 60 years. He started when he was in the service and continued on with his return to civilian life. "I will miss the patient relationships. My wife and I will continue to live in Manhattan and Westhampton Beach. I still play doubles tennis and am taking online art courses," he writes.

1960 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Julian M. Aroesty, of Lexington, MA, writes, "I am still very busy, attending teaching conferences three to four times per week, writing for the cardiology section of UpToDate and continuing to be the MD defense cardiac consultant for the Harvard insurer and for Coverys, a national malpractice insurer. I am trying

to teach my grandchildren Spanish to pass the ancient Spanish Jewish Ladino language and culture to the next generation. I am cycling about 500 miles per month, hoping to beat last year's record of 2,100 miles during my winter sojourn on Longboat Key, FL. I plan on attending reunion in September as long as my health permits."

Leonard R. Friedman, of Middleton, MA, would like to note the success of former roommate **Jerome Glazer**, whose family won the Superbowl as the owners of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. "In medical school, he worked hard both in the Rochester family business and schooling. The Glazer family originally bought Manchester United of the English Premier Football (soccer) league. The team has won many championships in this century. The family, through the Glazer Vision Foundation, plays an important part in the life of Tampa Bay. I would suggest that Dr. Glazer, although not noted in the organizational structure of these teams, is an elder looked to for his business

and community wisdom and medical knowledge by the family. I find his success story a continuation of the Class of '60 and its accomplishments."

1961 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

1965 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Daniel H. Whiteley, of Gallipolis, OH, is happy to report that he's been married to his childhood sweetheart, Edna, for 59 years. The couple has three daughters and nine grandchildren. "Along the road to the present, I practiced general, vascular, and thoracic surgery until retirement in 1998. I've been Gallia County Coroner since 1994 and a few years ago assumed that role in a neighboring county, as well. Also, I'm medical director of the Gallia County Emergency Medical Service," he writes. For 40 years, he and Edna have enjoyed collecting and selling antiques, which led to an interest in restoring toy trucks of the 1950s. Close to retirement, they acquired a 1931 Model A Ford and drove hundreds of miles participating in Model A Restorer's Club events, and eventually

Ronald H. Spiro '55 sends "Greetings from Jerusalem, where the senior Spiros just completed their vaccinations. We added three great-grandchildren, two girls and one boy, to bring our number to an even dozen. We have two newly engaged grandchildren. Wishing you all a peaceful and healthy 2021!"



Julian M. Aroesty '60



Daniel H. Whiteley '65 facing front left and his "Homer," front right

acquired a second. "Edna hands me the parts and tools, and we drive them both. We feel very fortunate to be as active as we are, and particularly during this pandemic, to still be able to serve our community in the ways we do."

1966 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Michael S. Kreitzer, of Delray Beach, FL, has been appointed chairman of the board/treasurer of Donor Outreach for Veterans (DOVE). The nonprofit was founded by his daughter Sharyn with a goal to assist veterans, active duty military, and first responders who are being treated for end-stage renal disease requiring kidney transplant, by helping to secure a living kidney donor.

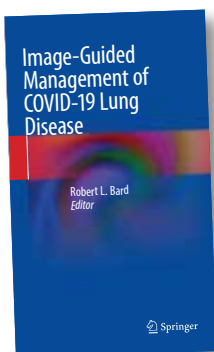
Austin M. Pattner, of Englewood, NJ, is in his 47th year in active practice. "Trying to get it right," he writes. "I am looking forward to the 55th. We just had our third grandchild, a boy."

1967

Daniel C. Nijadlik, of Boca Raton, FL, met **Marty Cohen** for lunch in Delray during the holidays. The snowbirds tried to catch up on the last 53 years, sharing great memories and career stories. "Seemed like 1967 was just a few years ago. We agreed life has been a great ride to date. Contact or join us next season if you are in the area," he writes.

1968

Robert L. Bard, of New York, NY, is editor of *Image-Guided Management of COVID-19 Lung Disease* scheduled for release in May 2021, with authors worldwide.



1970 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Frederic S. Auerbach, of Portland, OR, writes, "There's a home Syracuse University football game scheduled at the Dome for September 24. Who knows if anything will happen, be it Upstate's plans for reunion, the game, or anything else. But if both occur, hopefully logistics regarding hotels and such can smoothly accommodate pent-up demand. I and others will forever miss Hinerwadel's, a storied venue for so many in past times."

Stephen D. Brenner, of New Haven, CT, retired from his internal medicine practice in New Haven in November 2018. "Looking back, I'm relieved that I didn't have to deal with COVID and telemedicine. My family is well. We have seven amazing grandchildren, two grand-dogs and a grand-ferret. The oldest grandchild, our son's daughter Lucy, is now in the Columbia University class of 2024. She is definitely looking forward to the end of virtual education. Cindy and I still live in New Haven. I wish all my classmates well."

1971 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Richard A. Goldman, of San Antonio, TX, and his wife Barbara were looking forward to celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2020 in Sullivan County, NY, where they were married. "But alas, COVID-19 hit and we were forced to postpone. We are now planning to hold our 50-plus-1 celebration at the same location in August 2021. We are waiting to see how the pandemic evolves and how the mass vaccination programs proceed. Our fingers are crossed."

Daniel Rutrick, of West Newton, MA, continues as medical director of Adams Clinical of Watertown, MA. He works with his son who is the CEO. Adams Clinical is a clinical research site specializing in major depressive disorder.

1973

Beverly Khnie Philip, of Chestnut Hill, MA, is founding director of the Day Surgery Unit at Brigham and Women's Hospital and professor of anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School in Boston. On October 7, 2020, she was named president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), the nation's largest organization of physician anesthesiologists. Dr. Philip assumed office at the Anesthesiology 2020 annual meeting and will serve for one year.



Beverly Khnie Philip '73

CLASS NOTES

1974



J. Peter Gregoire '74 and his wife Patricia

J. Peter Gregoire, of Romulus, NY, writes, "I started at Upstate in 1970 with three children when I was 28 years old. A graduate of Geneseo, my wife and I had served as teachers in Tanzania as members of the Peace Corps under President Kennedy from 1963-66. Our four adult children are doing well and we are blessed with five grandchildren, the oldest of whom recently graduated from Georgetown Law and passed his bar exam. We are filled with hope as a new president takes office and the COVID-19 vaccine becomes widely available. Such extraordinary times! Pat and I think of our struggles during medical school with a bittersweet fondness. I retired from family medicine and emergency medicine in 2020. We would love to hear from classmates and we are especially thankful for our classmates and faculty who were so supportive of this 'older' student with a family. We thank you all."

Maria M. Shevchuk Chaban, of New York, NY, recently retired from Weill Cornell Medical College, where she was the expert in urological pathology. She also chaired the In Vivo Microscopy Committee of the College of American Pathologists, which seeks to develop and study technology that would enable physicians to render histologic diagnoses "in vivo," without biopsies, or immediately "ex vivo," without processing the biopsied tissue and render histologic diagnoses intraprocedurally. "The year 2020 was significant to my family because two of my three children were married with only the nearest family members in attendance. And we were planning to party!"



Maria M. Shevchuk Chaban '74

1975 Reunion

September 24-25, 2021

Jonathan Lowell, of Shelburne, VT, retired from solo practice as a family practitioner in April 2015. He and his wife moved to Shelburne to be near their three daughters and seven grandkids and remain close

friends with **Molly '74** and **Brent Hastings '74**.

Robert M. Goldberg, of Somers Point, NJ, is happy to remain in solo private practice of medical oncology-hematology in Somers Point and passed 40 years of practice on July 1, 2020. "Looking forward to reunion when the situation is safer. Awaiting the COVID-19 vaccine. My younger daughter **Jackie Mandell '10** is a medical retina specialist in San Diego."

1976 Reunion

September 24-25, 2021

1977

Barton L. Sachs, of Mount Pleasant, SC, retired from the Medical University of South Carolina last summer as professor of orthopaedics and rehabilitation medicine and adjunct professor of engineering at Clemson University. In retirement from direct patient care and surgery, he accepted a full-time position as a medical officer at the FDA's Centers for Device and Radiological

Health. "What a change in lifestyle this presents with many video conferences, lots of reading and literature searches, and many written reports," he writes. "This is stimulating, educational, and meaningful work that allows me to provide value in promoting innovations and assuring patient safety. In some ways, this makes me feel as though I am back in college or medical school. I send regards to all my classmates. Please all stay safe and remain well!"

1978

James A. Shaw, of Cabin John, MD, recently published another short book through Amazon titled, *1860-1865: What Else Happened During the American Civil War*. "If interested in history, check it out on Amazon.com," he writes.

1979

James P. Corsones, of Locust Grove, VA, retired on July 6 after 38 years in internal medicine, the first

Marc Rothman '76, of Cherry Hill, NJ, and his wife Phyllis became grandparents on New Year's Day. "I continue in practice of general and geriatric psychiatry," he writes. "Looking forward to our 45th class reunion!"

28 in primary care and the last 10 as a hospitalist. He and Linda moved to Virginia to be closer to their two children and four grandchildren. They have seen them more since moving in July than they did in the two previous years. "Happily adjusting to life below the Mason Dixon line and playing golf in January," he writes.

Richard M. Goldberg, of Morgantown, WV, recently received the Ruesch Center for the Cure of Gastrointestinal Cancers 2020 Luminary Award in gastrointestinal cancers for his decades-long commitment to improving the lives of patients with gastrointestinal cancer. As part of the award, he presented the Schafer Memorial Lecture at Georgetown University. He is professor emeritus at West Virginia University, where he previously directed the WVU Cancer Institute. He is now self-employed as a consultant to industry and academic centers and continues to engage in research, mentoring, and editorial volunteer work.

1980 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Robert L. Levine, of South Miami, FL, shares that he and wife Melanie relocated after a lifetime in Houston, at Baylor and University of Texas, to Miami, where he helped start an Emergency Medicine Residency Program at University of Miami. He has since moved



Maxwell Dankovich Levine, grandson of Robert L. Levine '80

to Florida International University as the founding chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine and Critical Care. "Along the way I served as a program director of an internal medicine residency (one of my boards), chief of critical care (2nd), and now chair of EM (3rd). I've been the associate dean of Graduate Medical Education for a few years and loving the challenge. Melanie and I have met so many amazing people and can't believe the fantastic trip we've been on starting with Upstate. Our oldest daughter (many of you will remember her) was born at St. Joe's and is now a dermatology physician assistant in New York City. Our youngest is a writer at the University of Colorado. Finally, our first grandchild, Maxwell Dankovich Levine, was born at St. Joe's in Syracuse (closing the loop) and is now nine months old and living in Boston where he's 'working' at his mom and dad's bio-technology company. Please come visit; we miss you all and have plenty of room for anyone trying to get out of the cold."

1981 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

Steven M. Connolly, writes, "Although we never thought retirement would arrive or that we would relocate to Florida, both have happened for me and my wife Debra. We built a new house in West Villages near Venice. We are remaining active walking, biking, and hopefully once COVID-19 is controlled, back to music and theater and traveling, especially to visit both of our sons and their new wives and the grand puppies. It's nice to see the sun almost every day."

Gerard R. Martin, of Chevy Chase, MD, received the American College of Cardiology 2021 Distinguished Award, Master of the ACC. The distinguished awardees represent a diverse group of individuals from around the globe who are tangibly helping to transform cardiovascular care and improve the heart health of patients worldwide. The College will formally recognize and honor the awardees during Convocation at the hybrid Annual Scientific Session and Expo in May.

1982

Alan T. Lefor, of Utsunomiya, Japan, continues to conduct research and teach at a number of hospitals in greater Tokyo, in addition to serving as professor of surgery at Jichi

Medical University and trying to finish his PhD in engineering. He recently revived ham radio as a hobby and is licensed in Japan as JJ1HXR. "I look forward to being able to travel again someday. Our granddaughter, Mikoto, just turned two and we are fortunate to see her often. My son, Maarten, 29, is in Los Angeles and is working and doing well in the Internet world. Hoping there will be a 'live' reunion in 2022."



Photo of Fjallabak Nature Reserve by Mark A. Rothschild '82

Mark A. Rothschild, of Lady Lake, FL, continues working at Citrus Cardiology in The Villages, Florida. The pandemic severely curtailed his travel plans. However, he has been vaccinated, and plans to go to the Scottish Highlands on a photography trip in October. He did make it to Iceland before COVID-19.

CLASS NOTES

1984

Michael A. DeVito, of Albany, NY, became an employee of the Albany Medical College department of otolaryngology as of September 1, 2020. He has remained in his previous private practice offices. "Some institutional changes to digest but enjoy the transfer of administrative responsibilities," he writes.

1985 Reunion

September 24-25, 2021

Stephen F. Cocco, of Setauket, NY, recently joined the EmPRO Insurance Board of Directors. EmPRO is the third largest medical malpractice insurer in New York State. His middle son, Joseph, was married in 2019 and his firstborn son, Stephen, was married in 2020. His youngest son James is a student at University of Miami.

Vito J. Losito, of Fayetteville, NY, is in his 33rd year of practice in pediatrics in Syracuse, and now sees the children of children he took care of decades ago. "My own daughter, **Elisabeth M. Losito '14**, along with her husband **Rahul Gupta '14**, was two-months old when I completed my residency. This past year, she completed a fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY, and accepted a position as an attending there. She also earned a master of healthcare administration

from the Simons School of Business during her fellowship. Rahul also chose the road of service to our nation's most precious treasure and is practicing primary care pediatrics in Geneva, NY. Even more important, they will be welcoming my first grandchild into the world in May. Happiness knows no bounds as that which a grandchild brings into one's life, just ask **Joe A. '85**, or **Mike R. '85** or so many others of you who have been blessed with the gift. See you all at the reunion this fall. Remember to bring your toga! P.S., a shout out to **Gary Sauer '85** and his wife Trish for showing up for the reunion in September 2020, even though it was canceled. We did have a great time at dinner together."

Simon D. Spivack, of Sleepy Hollow, NY, writes, "The pandemic means popularity as a pulmonologist. I am still running a research lab in lung biology at Einstein. Hunkering down with Ingrid and Zack in Westchester."



Simon D. Spivack '85 and Robert C. Berlin '85 at Red Rocks, Utah, in fall 2020

1986 Reunion

September 24-25, 2021

Shelley R. Berson, of Nyack, NY, published a new paper in August 2020, "House Dust Mite Related Allergic Rhinitis and REM Sleep Disturbances," and is proud to say her classmate **Elizabeth Prezio** contributed. She also started a second job at the VA in Wappingers Falls, NY.

Donna E. Roth, of Lexington, KY, writes, "Hope to make it to the reunion this year, pandemic willing!"



Heather North '86 and Donna E. Roth '86

Brian K. Smith, of Syracuse, has been in practice nearly 32 years with his good friend and classmate **John G. O'Brien**. "The good in 2020 was that my wife and I welcomed our first grandchild!"

1987

Gail Gazelle, of Brookline, MA, recently released her new book, *Everyday Resilience: A Practical Guide to Build Inner Strength and Weather Life's Challenges*. "This is a short and practical read that is particularly relevant during the pandemic," she says.

1988

Erick C. Bulawa, of Greeneville, TN, became certified by ADCES (The Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists) as a national DPP lifestyle coach in January 2020, and in November 2020, received board certification from the American Board of Lifestyle Medicine. "This fits in nicely with my previous board certifications in internal medicine, pediatrics, obesity medicine, clinical lipidology, and physician nutrition specialist to run the Metabolic, Weight Management and Lifestyle Center (an intensive therapeutic lifestyle change treatment program) as well as my general internal medicine practice in Greeneville," he writes.

WENDY WILCOX '94

Tackling Health Disparities

When it comes to breast cancer in New York City, there are still disparities in care for communities of color. Wendy Wilcox, MD '94, a clinical system lead for women's health and chair of obstetrics and gynecology for NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County, has practiced OB/GYN and women's health with a focus on achieving health equity and eliminating disparities across populations throughout her career.

After earning a bachelor's degree in biomedical ethics from Brown University, Dr. Wilcox attended SUNY Upstate Medical University and completed her residency at Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn.

"There were women's care counselors that were placed in the dorms to help students get to the right resources in case of date rape, or to help inform about public health topics like STIs, how to stay healthy, or how to identify eating disorders. I became intrigued, not thinking that this would inform what I do later," says Wilcox.

"In that rotation, I learned that I liked talking to my patients—you talk to the parents. I really enjoyed a lot of teaching and informing. As I was moving over to women's health, it's such a wide-open field—it just drew me in."

Wilcox became an attending at Montefiore Medical Center, which led to her being director of her medical group and assistant professor in OB/GYN at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Recently, she was named co-chair for Governor Cuomo's Taskforce on Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcomes, which recommended the newly formed New York State Maternal Mortality Review Committee.

In her experience, Wilcox notices that those who are coming for their annual check-ups and mammographies are generally already engaged in their health and tend to follow the recommended practices. The problem comes with those who aren't seeking treatment, particularly those who are African American or are of African descent, populations at a higher risk of dying from breast cancer.

"There is still a mistrust of the medical community for valid reasons," says Wilcox. "Historically, we can look back and see many, many examples of how African Americans and immigrants have been the victims of some really horrific medical experiments. African American women are much more likely to die of breast cancer than Caucasian women because they are generally diagnosed at a later stage and are more likely to have triple-negative breast

cancer. The gap is widening where there was a disparity before."

Triple negative breast cancer, which shows no estrogen receptors, progesterone receptors, and excess HER2 protein, accounts for 10 to 15 percent of breast cancer and has a low survival rate. It is common for African American women under the age of 40, or women with the BRCA1 mutation.

Multiple health organizations recommend that women start getting regular mammograms at the age of 40. In Wilcox's experience, she finds that many women aren't getting their mammograms because they think the procedure is more painful than it actually is.

While there are some genetic factors that can lead to the development of breast cancer, Wilcox says that maintaining overall health can help reduce risk factors for developing breast cancer. Quitting smoking, managing weight, and staying away from processed foods can help reduce the risk for women at any age, while women of reproductive age can breast-feed to reduce their risk.

"The healthier one is in general, the healthier one will be when looking at certain diseases," she says. "Eating healthy, eating correct amounts of fruits and vegetables, exercising, trying to avoid refined and processed foods and sugars, reducing alcohol intake" can all make a difference," she says.

Wilcox stresses that breast cancer is a lifetime risk. "We may not be as concerned about our nutritional intake, but the older one gets, the higher the chances of having breast cancer and it increases in menopause. Being thoughtful of maintaining overall health is good for your breasts."

—Emily Davenport

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Wendy Wilcox, MD '94, is chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County.

CLASS NOTES



Brian Harper '88

Brian Harper, of Westbury, NY, is currently chief medical officer and associate professor at New York Institute of Technology and has added the role of vice president for equity and inclusion to his current responsibilities. He joins the president's council, comprised of the university's administrative leaders.



Adam L. Seidner '88

Adam L. Seidner, of Old Lyme, CT, has been working on bending the curve of the opioid epidemic and helping employers address the issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. He is a recipient of the 2020 Comp Laude Award and

was honored in the category of Doctor/Physician Comp Laude. He was also named to the Comp Laude Honor Roll. He has worked on many public health issues over the years including indoor air quality, opioid epidemic, epidemics, pandemics, and catastrophic events. He has been responsible for medical policy development, quality assurance and improvement for a number of organizations and was involved in vaccine development and testing for 10 years. The Comp Laude award was for his work in improving worker health and safety in the workplace, in particular his contribution to the development of an IW centric perspective in medical care and case management as well as research on the RETAIN-CT, BRITE, and CPH-NEW grants.

1989

Donna Geiger-Blansfield, of Setauket, NY, retired from ophthalmology after 30 years spent between residency, private practice, and group practice. "My goal has always been to help patients achieve and retain their best vision, so I thought 20/20 would be the perfect year for me to retire," she writes. She will spend her time traveling with her husband, Scott, and visiting and hosting friends and family in New York and Florida, whenever it's safe to do so.



Stephen R. Weinman '89 with the FirstCare staff

Stephen R. Weinman, of New Paltz, NY, shares how COVID-19 impacted his medical practice. "My medical center, FirstCare, went from seeing 120 patients per day in February, to 40 patients per day in mid-March, to more than 220 patients per day in October. It's been a wild ride and trying to keep up with the demands of COVID-19 testing while keeping our staff safe has been the most challenging thing I have encountered in my 13 years at FirstCare. With the help of my wife, Mille, and our incredible team, we have managed to test up to 150 patients per day with outdoor testing and have installed negative pressure rooms in the office for patients that must be seen. I look forward to 2021

when we can beat this disease and get back to something like normal, as our 35th reunion is only three years away!"

1990 Reunion
September 24•25, 2021

1991 Reunion
September 24•25, 2021

1994
Sharon A. McFayden-Eyo, of Salisbury MD, writes, "Happy 2021! While the pandemic has remained a challenge, 2020 produced some exciting news for our family. Our medical school

MATTHEW DOUST '98

Combating Coronavirus

According to the *Washington Post*, one person in the United States died of the coronavirus every 28 seconds during the month of January. At the same time, scientists and physicians across the nation and world were working to bring additional vaccines to market to combat the virus.

The Hope Research Institute, based in Phoenix, Arizona, is doing its part, partnering with pharmaceutical companies engaged in vaccine development to conduct Phase 3 clinical trials for coronavirus vaccines. In August 2020, they began trials for Pfizer and Moderna, then partnered with Janssen and AstraZeneca, and now Novavax and Inovio. "It's been very easy to recruit subjects," says Matthew Doust, MD '98, a partner in the Institute. "People just want to move past this. In the first 48 hours after we went live to enroll patients on our website, we had several thousand people sign up."

Doust is an anesthesiologist who specializes in pain management and treats patients at the Pain Center in Phoenix. Seventeen years ago, he and some of his medical partners opened the Hope Research Institute, initially to conduct studies related to pain management. They have been involved in virtually all of the device trials for spinal cord stimulators over the past 10 years and served as the primary clinical site to test Nevro's high-frequency spinal-cord stimulator system.

But over time, that niche has expanded to include vaccine studies. When COVID-19 first hit the United States in early 2020, the institute was finishing up a clinical trial for Pfizer on a vaccine for *Clostridium Difficile*, a gastrointestinal infection, and had conducted a recent trial on a vaccine for dengue fever. "We also had previous involvement with Moderna, AstraZeneca, and Johnson & Johnson," says Doust. "We let them know we were interested in being involved with their trials and it took off from there."

Doust believes the speed with which these vaccines were developed and brought to market is a tremendous accomplishment. "You can't underestimate the importance of biotechnology," he says. "The fact that they were able to sequence virus, come up with genetic constructs, and design appropriate vaccines and bring them to market essentially seven to eight months later is really impressive. Some of the vaccine studies we've been involved with have gone on for a couple of years."

Doust says it's also unique that several vaccines to treat the same virus are being tested at once, especially

since pharmaceutical companies have taken different approaches in their vaccines to combat the virus. While the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines use mRNA technology, the Johnson & Johnson and AstraZeneca vaccines take a more traditional approach using adenovirus viral vectors, and the Novavax vaccine employs a new proprietary technology called a recombinant spike protein nanoparticle. "They're basically injecting a protein that looks exactly like the spike protein you see in coronavirus that creates an immune response," he explains.

Doust stresses that the speed in which the vaccines were developed should not make people question their safety. "There are certainly people who are hesitant about a vaccine without a long track record or that they don't understand," he says. "As physicians, we need to be leaders in this phase and help patients address their fears," he says.

That may require a discussion about the science of how mRNA works. "It's taken into the cell, but it's not taken into the nucleus so it's not going to be permanently implanted into your DNA. I think that's what a lot of people are concerned about, but when I sit down and have a conversation in simple terms with patients and staff, most of them are able to kind of get past that pretty quickly," he says.

Doust says Hope Research continues to follow patients in the trials as part of safety studies and patients who received placebo vaccines as part of Pfizer and Moderna trials have been brought back to receive the actual vaccine.

Doust had the Pfizer vaccine himself early this year with no complication but a sore arm. "I had to wait my turn like everyone else," he says.

It was a full-circle moment. "I've never been involved in a study and then gotten what we were studying," he says. "For me, that was very interesting."

—Renée Gearhart Levy



Matthew Doust, MD '98, with his wife and children in Phoenix.

CLASS NOTES



Alexis Keeley, daughter of Sharon A. McFayden-Eyo '94, above, and above right



baby, Alexis (1992) is now a second lieutenant in the Air Force, having graduated in March from Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL. If not enough, she finished 2020 by eloping in Las Vegas on December 31. Congrats to Mr. and Mrs. Keeley! Be well. Be safe."

1995 Reunion
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1996 Reunion
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1998

Matthew R. Kaufman, of Sleepy Hollow, NY, is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon (board certified in both plastic and reconstructive surgery and otolaryngology-head and neck surgery) who has pioneered phrenic nerve reconstruction to reverse diaphragm paralysis. In October 2020, Dr. Kaufman performed his 500th phrenic nerve surgery. He is among very

few surgeons in the world to perform this surgery and has the largest worldwide experience to date. He has been performing these surgeries since 2007 and has treated patients from every state in the U.S. and from virtually every continent—countries including Australia, Japan, Bolivia, Canada, Italy, Germany, South Africa, and Israel. He is in private practice in New Jersey and has also established a program for diaphragm paralysis treatment at the David Geffen UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA, where he is a voluntary clinical assistant professor of surgery. He is excited to share his phrenic nerve reconstruction program



Matthew R. Kaufman '98 (right) with his 500th phrenic nerve surgery patient

with his Upstate alumni colleagues at www.advancedreconstruction.com/phrenic-nerve-program/.

William A. Markoff, of Santa Rosa, CA, is celebrating 20 years in family medicine private practice in his hometown of Santa Rosa, and is joining a large medical group Providence/St. Joseph this spring. "I also received the second COVID-19 vaccine, and experienced no side effects with either!"



William A. Markoff '98

2000 Reunion
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Robert L. Smith of Penfield, NY, currently serves as chief of outpatient medicine for UPMC Thompson Health and has helped to oversee the transition to telemedicine services at FF Thompson Hospital. He has been involved in telemedicine for decades and is a co-founder of Updoo, which has moved to the forefront of telemedicine during the COVID-19 pandemic and was recently acquired by EverCommerce.

2001 Reunion
September 24-25, 2021

2003

Sajid A. Khan, of Easton, CT, has been appointed section chief of hepatopancreato-biliary (HPB) and mixed tumors in the division of surgical oncology, Department of Surgery. This new section brings together many years of program development in gastrointestinal cancer care at Yale. As of March 1, he became responsible for further developing patient access across the health system with partners at the Smilow Cancer Hospital, the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers, and Yale Cancer Center. He joined the Yale School of Medicine faculty in 2013 and has since established a busy clinical practice for his expertise in the management of melanoma, benign and malignant diseases of the liver, pancreas and biliary tree. His NIH-funded, clinical translational research studies variability in tumor biology



Sajid A. Khan '03

based on ethnicity and sex. In 2019, he was promoted to associate professor of surgery (oncology). He will continue in his role as co-director of team science at the Yale Center of Clinical Investigation.

2005 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021



Dodji Modjinou '09 receiving his award

2006 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

2008

Marissa and Michael Mincolla, of Baldwinsville, NY, along with big sister Mariella, welcomed a baby boy, Vincenzo Michael, on September 7, 2020.

September 15, 2020. They have a four-year-old son, Jackson, who is very excited to be a big brother.

Dodji Modjinou, of Las Vegas, NV, was humbled and honored to be listed among the Vegas Inc's 2020 Top Doctor Honoree List. He was included as one of the top five rheumatologists in Las Vegas.

2009

Lindsay W. and Christopher M. Jones, of Severna Park, MD, welcomed identical twin sons, Kaenon and Cruz, on

2010 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021

2011 Reunion

September 24•25, 2021



Kaenon and Cruz, identical twin sons of Lindsey W. Jones '09 and Christopher M. Jones '09



Dodji Modjinou '09 with daughter Elom and wife Leticia

2012

Brian D. Santacrose, of Santa Barbara, CA, and his wife, Diana, welcomed their daughter, Isabella Sophia, on December 15.



Brian D. Santacrose '12 with wife Diana and daughter Isabella Sophia

CLASS NOTES



Kaia, daughter of Nikolai V. Kolotiniuk '13 offers her impressions of 2020 (left) and 2021 (right).

2013

Nikolai V. Kolotiniuk, of Fresno, CA, writes, "Let's hope my little daughter is right!" (See photos above.)

2016

Kristy M. Semenza, of Clifton Park, NY, has accepted a job as division head of allergy and immunology at Bassett Health in Cooperstown. She will start in the summer of 2021, after the completion of her fellowship.

2017

Tara F. Brenner and Ian M. Kratzke, of Durham, NC, welcomed their first daughter, Mila Jordan Kratzke, into the world on December 14, 2020. "She has brought such warmth and joy to our lives during these challenging times," they share.



Tara F. Brenner '17 and Ian M. Kratzke '17 with daughter Mila Jordan



Joseph A. DeMari '17

Joseph A. DeMari, of Columbus, OH, has matched into a gynecologic oncology fellowship at Wake Forest for 2021, after graduating from obstetrics and gynecology residency at Ohio State.

2018

Peter J. Christiano, of Philadelphia, PA, matched at the West Virginia University primary care sports medicine fellowship.

2019

Eric I. Zabriskie, of Nashville, TN, and his wife, Melissa, celebrated the birth of their baby boy on February 9.

Residents

Jeffrey A. Greenberg, of Carmel, IN, was elected to the presidential line for the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. He is currently president elect and will serve as president beginning in September 2021. He will preside over the annual meeting in Boston in September 2022.

Jeffrey J. Kirshner, of Fayetteville, NY, was named a Fellow of American Society of Clinical Oncology and was the recipient of the 2020 Richard L. Schilsky Cancer and Leukemia Group B Achievement Award. The award acknowledges the significant contributions of an individual to cooperative group research. He is principal investigator of Hematology Oncology Associates of Central New York and director of research for the HOACNY community clinical oncology program in New York. He also serves as chair of the alliance data and safety monitoring board and is a member of the alliance breast committee, alliance symptom intervention committee, and alliance community oncology committee.

Stuart Trust, of Syracuse, marks half a century at Upstate this year, having arrived as a first-year resident in 1971. "Although I retired after 43 years in private practice as a pediatrician, I still volunteer teaching second-year medical students FRM2 (Foundations of Reasoning in Medicine) as an Emeritus Professor. My three-year-old project designed to encourage disadvantaged and minority students to consider a career in the health care field, with hospital tours and workshops, is temporarily on hold due to COVID-19, but will resume in the fall."

Stephanie E. Weiss, of Warminster, MA, is professor of radiation oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center and is chief of neurologic oncology and residency director. "Sara Grethlein is still my model physician," she writes.

MPH

Summer M. Barrows, of Syracuse, was recently promoted to infection preventionist for a local nursing home.