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Year In Review 2018

...to enhance the well-being of the community through education and the promotion of public health.

Delaware Journal of Public Health

ORAL HEALTH For Life

DELAWARE ACADEMY of MEDICINE

DPHA
DELaware PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Delaware Journal of Public Health

Maternal and Child Health

Delaware Journal of Public Health

Creating Healthy Communities – The Intersection of Planning and Public Health

Delaware Journal of Public Health

Community Engaged Research
This successes and advances of the last year have been based, more than ever, on the power of our relationships with a variety of individuals and entities. Our engaged Board of Directors, Investment Advisory Committee, and DPHA Advisory Council form the backbone of our decision making and deliberative processes. Our staff, contractors, and interns carry out the business of the Academy/DPHA with a high level of efficiency and make us a high performing, efficient organization.

Our partner relationships we tap into additional expertise for speaker engagements, for continuing medical education accreditation, policy decision making, and leadership from nationally recognized entities (including the National Academy of Medicine and the American Public Health Association).

This year, we make special note of our appreciation of both the Medical Society of Delaware and the New Jersey and Delaware Academies of Family Physicians for their support of our professional education programming.

From the medical, dental, academic, and research committees, we continue to be astonished by the quantity and quality of content submitted for publication to the Delaware Journal of Public Health. We reflect that in 2015, when the Journal published its inaugural issue, we worried whether there would be enough content. Today, we are planning issues 16 months in the future.

Our relationship with the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health is as strong as ever, and we are honored to continue the work of the Immunization Coalition of Delaware – especially during times when outbreaks of mumps and measles have captured the headlines. New this year was our work in partnership with the University of Delaware on the Delaware State Health Improvement Program, as well as our new role with the distribution of the County Health Rankings, performed in partnership with the Public Health Management Corporation.

To Christiana Care Health System, we give special thanks for our partnership over past year. Their direct support of the Delaware Journal of Public Health and our Archives & History program empowered us to do amazing things for the community we serve. Our partnership with the Mini Medical School program was a great success in consumer education, and especially encouraging younger learners to consider the health sciences as a career option. This fits perfectly with our collaboration with the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, furthering their mission of improved health sciences education and workforce opportunities for all Delawareans.

We appreciate and honor each and every partnership and individual who made the successes of the past year a reality.

Thank you!

Omar A. Khan, M.D., M.H.S., FAAFP
President of the Board

Timothy E. Gibbs, M.P.H.
Executive Director

On the cover:

Members of the Hoopes Family at the annual Frank M. and Robert R. Hoopes Medical-Dental Lecture; Omar Khan, M.D., M.H.S., President of the Academy/DPHA with Basha Silverman, CEO, Jewish Family Services of Delaware; Richard Killingsworth, M.P.H. and some of his students at the 88th Annual Meeting; covers from the five issues of the Delaware Journal of Public Health published in 2018.
The Delaware Journal of Public Health is the official journal of the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association. We have been in continuous publication since 2015 and on a bimonthly basis, publish 6 issues a year. Notable themes over the last year have been:

- Oral Health
- Creating Healthy Communities—the Intersection of Planning and Public Health
- Maternal and Child Health
- Global Health
- Community Engaged Research
- Data to Decision Making

We follow a model which facilitates the best of Delaware-based, regional, national and international material to be included in the Journal. Each issue is led by the core leadership (see below), with a Guest Editor who selects content most appropriate to that particular theme issue. In the last 12 months, Guest Editors have included:

- Daniel J. Meara, M.D., D.M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.
- William Swiatek, A.I.C.P. and David Edgell, A.I.C.P.
- David Paul, M.D.
- Heather Bittner Fagan, M.D., M.P.H., FAAFP
- Claudine Jurkovitz, M.D., M.P.H.
- Professor Rita Landgraf

All issues of the Journal feature a particular theme, and also other general content which has been submitted. We are proud of our partnership with Delaware’s health systems, who provided us material of general interest to the public, which we are pleased to disseminate. We leverage our national partnerships with the National Academy of Medicine and the NIH’s Fogarty International Center, and host (with permission) content from their publications as well. To our knowledge, we are the only journal to have this unique feature for the benefit of our readership.

The Journal is led by:

- Editor in Chief: Omar Khan, M.D., M.H.S., FAAFP
- Publisher: Tim Gibbs, M.P.H.
- Managing Editor: Elizabeth Healy, M.P.H.
- Copy Editor: Kate Smith, M.D., M.P.H.

**DJPH by the Numbers:**

The DJPH is direct distributed to email addresses in our database representing healthcare, public health, state, philanthropy, and the general public. A link to the Journal is also posted on the following locations:

- Our website: www.delamed.org
- Our facebook page: www.facebook.com/delamed1
- The State of Delaware library listserv
- Various intranets

Of our readers, 70% view the Journal on their desktop computer, 5% on their tablet, and 25% on their mobile device.

Each issue has an average of 1,250 reads, and since inception, over 440 “link-outs” have occurred from within the publication to other references, resources, or agencies.

All issues are provided on an open-access basis with no publication or subscription charges.
January 2018

According to www.healthypeople.gov oral health is essential to overall health. Good oral health improves a person’s ability to speak, smile, smell, taste, chew, swallow, and make facial expressions to show feelings and emotions. However, oral diseases, from cavities to oral cancer, cause significant pain and disability for many Americans.

March 2018

Across the U.S., local governments are beginning to include goals and objectives that promote public health into their comprehensive plans. These long-term plans impact how people make choices of where to live and how to get around, their ability to access healthy foods and opportunities for physical activity, and affect broader issues of social equity, clean air and water, and more.
May 2018

Maternal and child health is important to APHA and its Delaware affiliate DPHA, because we have the opportunity to end preventable deaths among all women, children, and adolescents; and greatly improve their health and well-being. Far too many women, infants, and children worldwide still have little or no access to essential, quality health services and education, clean air and water, or adequate sanitation and nutrition.

July 2018

Global Health is about worldwide health improvement and surveillance, and the understanding that problems and disease may transcend national borders. Often, global health interventions and research leverage the power of collaboration and collective action.
November 2018

The cover image symbolizes the interconnections patients and other healthcare stakeholders have as equitable partners—as opposed to research subjects—who leverage their lived experience and expertise to influence research to be more patient centered, relevant, and useful. Their early and continued involvement throughout a study can lead to greater use and uptake of research results by patients and stakeholders within the healthcare community. This is the foundation of Community Engaged Research.

Coming in 2019 – our new “Proceedings” publications

The leadership of the Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association is pleased to partner with several educational events held in Delaware. Particular ones of exceptional scholarly quality were offered the opportunity to publish Proceedings of their conference in the Delaware Journal of Public Health [http://djph.delamed.org]. We are exploring this model in 2019-20, and anticipate publishing the proceedings of symposia on infectious disease, diabetes, and others. This model allows the best of regional and national presentations to be captured in an enduring format. This is fully in keeping with the Academy/DPHA mission of serving education for the health sciences.

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Realizing Collective Impact for Community Health: A Wilmington Case Study
Allison Karpyn, Ph.D., Henry Wolgast, and Tara Tracy

Firearm Violence in Wilmington
David Chen, M.D., M.P.H.

Assessing Delaware Parents’ Knowledge, Attitudes and Preferences About Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives for Teens Using Participatory Action Research
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Addressing the Sexual Health of Delaware Teens through Evidence-Based and Promising Education
Christopher C. Moore, B.A., LSSGB and Nicole A. Fournakis, B.S.

Global Health Matters Fogarty International Center

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A Stroke Reduction Health Plan for Older Adults in Rural Sussex County, Delaware
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Screening Wilmington Communities through the Blood Pressure Ambassador Program
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Community Engaged Research: Lexicon of Terms

Community Engaged Research: Resources

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Delaware Mini-Medical School

www.delawareminimed.org

Delaware Mini-Medical School continues our mission of educating the public by sharing the expertise of local professionals in medicine and health. Designed for individuals who want to gain a deeper understanding of the world of medicine, Mini-Medical School is a free, six-week series of lectures for adults of all ages and high school students co-sponsored with the Christiana Care Health System. Attendees learn about important trends in diagnosing and treating illness and general health topics. Faculty provide in-depth lectures and allow time for questions to enhance the experience. There are no tests or grades. No previous medical training is required. Participants who attend all six sessions receive a Certificate of Achievement. There is no cost to attend this series.

Each lecture attracted between 75 to 125 participants, some seeking guidance in career choices, others looking to make positive changes to improve their own health, and still others just wanting to learn more about advances in modern medicine. Middle and high school students, to retired adult learners (and everyone in between) attend.

In addition to improving the public’s understanding of medicine, the series is aimed at encouraging middle and high school students to learn about medicine and health as possible career options. We also seek to address health literacy: the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

This series is led and curated by executive director, Tim Gibbs, in partnership with the External Affairs Department of Christiana Care Health System.

The 2018 series covered the following topics:

March 1 – Treating Opioid Addiction
Erin Booker, L.C.P.

March 8 – The Benefits of Cardiac Rehabilitation
Janice Anderson, B.S.N., R.N.

March 15 – Epilepsy
John Pollard, M.D.

March 22 – Diabetes: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
Amy Wachter, M.D.

March 29 – Trauma
Kevin Bradley, M.D. and Sherry Sixta, M.D.

April 5 – What is Bariatric Surgery?
Caitlin Halbert, D.O.

Series Led by
Timothy E. Gibbs, M.P.H.
In September 2018, the Delaware Academy of Medicine welcomed Sharon Folkenroth-Hess on board as their Collections Manager and Archivist. Folkenroth-Hess received her Master's in History and Museum Studies from the University of Delaware and graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor's in History and Historical Archaeology from Millersville University. Prior to joining D.A.M., she worked for the York County History Center, Winterthur Museum, and the Delaware Historical Society in collections management.

After bringing on the new Collections Manager, the D.A.M. Archives prepared for another exciting change: the renovation of Suite L-10 at Christiana Hospital. Even though the Archives lost some storage space, it gave us an opportunity to evaluate and refine the collections and change storage procedures to further public engagement.

In October, the Delaware Academy of Medicine Archives began the project by updating the Collections Management Policy of the Archives. Non-profit collections are held in trust for the public and for the public’s benefit. Because of this, the stewards of historical artifacts must maintain the highest legal, ethical, and professional standards. A Collections Management Policy demonstrates and documents D.A.M.’s commitment to these standards. Along with outlining how we care for artifacts, the policy outlines our collecting scope and guidelines. The statement of scope is as follows:

The Delaware Academy of Medicine Archives has been established to document the history of Delaware medicine, as well as to collect and preserve older medical books and instruments for the study of Academy members and the public. It consists of items of medical interest, primarily acquired through donations from the state’s medical community since 1930. The Archive actively collects artifacts created by Delaware physicians, nurses, and dentists, in addition to preserving the history of the Academy itself... The Delaware Academy of Medicine Archives will acquire materials with a documented association to Delaware medical history with a strong preference for materials created prior 1965...

This collecting scope emphasizes the Academy’s collecting strengths and unique holdings while removing that which does not serve the Academy’s mission.

Beyond assessing the artifacts in the collection, the Archives wanted to give the public another point of interaction with these important historical objects. So in December 2018, we received eight new display cases in the Ammon Center. Four are in the first-floor lobby to display rotating exhibitions. The rest are in Suite L-10 for permanent storage of the artifact collection, along with the five other cases owned by D.A.M.

Artifacts are arranged in the display cases by medical specialty. As the process of identification, cataloging, and conservation continues, each artifact or group of objects will display an informational label.

The Archival Collection has a new home in the suite as well. Our archivist is working on rehousing manuscripts, rare books, and other archival materials acid-free folders and boxes to ensure their preservation for future generations.
Folkenroth-Hess is creating new finding aids and references for the website to help researchers locate these valuable collections. Work on this project will be ongoing.

Along with the rotating exhibitions in the Ammon Center, the Archives are preparing an exhibition of the Dr. Margaret Irving Handy Collection for installation in the new Women’s and Children’s building. This large collection contains examples of nursing bottles and artificial baby feeders from the last three centuries and beyond. The exhibition will celebrate the legacies of Handy and Dr. Katherine “Kitty” Esterly and their important contributions to pediatrics.
In the spring and fall semesters of each year we are honored to provide the “Medicine Lecture Series” at the Wilmington Campus of the University. Topics covered this calendar year included:

- The History of Genetic Testing – Louis Bartoshesky, M.D., M.P.H.
- Medical Information Technology – Randy Gaboriault, M.S.
- Constipation: More than Just a Lazy Gut – Sarina Pasricha, M.D.
- Health and E-Health Literacy – Alison Wessel, M.L.S.
- Social Determinants of Health 101 – Erin Knight, Ph.D., M.P.H.
- Creativity and Psychopathology – Cris Coconcea, M.D.
- Epidemiology 101 – Mia Papas, Ph.D.
- Behavioral Health – Scott Siegel, Ph.D.
- Dentistry – Victor Gregory, D.M.D.
- End of Polio? – Omar Khan, M.D., M.H.S.
- Joint Replacement in Older Adults – Steve Dellose, M.D.
- Our Microbiome – Chad Duffalo, M.D.
- Neurovascular Disease/Stroke – Lee Dresser, M.D.
- Muscular Dystrophy – Brian Little, M.D., Ph.D.
- Government Regulations and Mandates – Diana Lanham, R.N.
- Stories of Love and Hate – Anand Panwalker, M.D.
- Intersection of Health & Law – Andrew Wilson, ESQ.
- My Mammogram Report – Diana Dickson-Witmer, M.D.
- The Theories and Models of Public Health Practice – Tim Gibbs, M.P.H. and Kate Smith, M.D., M.P.H.
- Sleep – Jeff Guarino, M.D.
- Healthy Communities – Professor Rita Landgraf
- Personhood in the Movie – Lou Bartoshesky, M.D., M.P.H.
The Immunization Coalition of Delaware

www.immunizedelaware.org

The mission of the ICD is to bring together local, state, and community organizations and individuals to promote education about vaccine preventable diseases and new vaccines, with the goal of improving access and vaccination rates throughout the lifespan. The ICD works in partnership with its members and their organizations to advocate for policy issues related to childhood, adolescent, and adult immunizations; reduce disparities in adult access to immunizations; and to shape the healthcare process and outcomes for Delaware residents in relation to vaccine preventable disease.

In December 2018, along with the Medical Society of Delaware (MSD) and the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), the ICD and the Academy/DPHA facilitated the third annual Communicable Disease Summit at the John H. Ammon Education Center at Christiana Hospital. The summit included presentations on the overall health of Delaware, sexually transmitted diseases (given by the director of the CDC’s Division of STD Prevention, Dr. Gail Bolan), Clostridium difficile, the gut microbiome, a panel on the healthy human gut, nontuberculous infections, the eradication of polio, and hepatitis B.

In January, the ICD held an informational table at the annual Health and Wellness Expo at the Chase Center on the Riverfront. Throughout the year, an ICD representative has been asked to present Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine information to school health officials in Dover and elementary school parents in Kent County, and general vaccine information to an Introduction to Public Health at the University of Delaware and a Latinx community center in Wilmington.

Delaware Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment

www.delawaremost.org

The DMOST form is the end-product of communication between a patient and/or their authorized representative, and their medical practitioner. This communication ensures informed medical decision-making and the honoring of a patient’s preferences regarding life-sustaining medical procedures such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

The DMOST form went live on April 1, 2016, and since that time, a total of 1350 people have been trained on its use. Each healthcare institution (acute care hospital, hospice, emergency medical service, etc) is responsible for developing a DMOST policy that works best with their current standard of practice. These policies refer to EHRs, DMOST education and accountability, staff training, and the updating and integrating of DMOST forms.

The Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN), via a contract with VYNCA, has implemented an electronic DMOST registry and electronic version of the DMOST form. An online webinar was created to educate providers and practitioners on the form, the e-form, and how to use the online registry. A group of super-users was identified to promote this registry to their institutions, educate patients, and backload current paper DMOST forms.

The DMOST program was implemented by the Academy/DPHA in 2016. The program has transitioned to the Delaware Quality of Life Coalition (DQOLC) as of April 1, 2019. The DQOLC has ownership and control of the website, and all program matters, and will take the DMOST program to the next stage of its development.
County Health Rankings

Each year, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin, issues the United States’ County Health Rankings (CHR). The CHR highlight the health of our nation on a state-by-state basis, but also zero in on the health of individual counties, and show how county health relates to overall state health.

By ranking the health of nearly every county in the nation, the CHR help communities understand what influences how healthy residents are and how long they will live. These comparisons among counties provide context and demonstrate that where people live, and many other factors including race/ethnicity, can deeply impact a person’s ability to live a healthy life.

The Rankings provide a snapshot of a county’s health, and are used to drive conversations and action to address the health challenges and gaps highlighted in these findings.

This year, the Academy/DPHA was the lead entity for the distribution of Delaware’s CHR. The 2019 CHS were focused on the intersection of housing and health, and we worked closely with the Division of Public Health and the Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) to get the message out.

But, County Health Rankings are about more than a snapshot in time of data from various sources, this year there was a focus on the relationship between housing and health outcomes, and we hope that dialog will continue for years to come as it is a strong association which deserves our attention, and change.
State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

www.delawareshape.org

The SHIP is a long-term, systematic plan to address issues identified in the State Health Assessment (SHA), and is used by the community, stakeholders, and partners to set priorities, direct resources, and develop and implement projects, programs, and policies to better the community. The Delaware SHIP is on a three-year cycle – the steering committee for this phase includes colleagues from the University of Delaware, the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), and the Academy/DPHA. This year, the main goal of the Steering Committee is to monitor the six high impact groups identified by the SHIP and describe their progress in the SHIP impact areas of Chronic Disease, Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health, and Addiction.

The Academy/DPHA is responsible for reports and communications of the SHIP Steering Committee, and the creation of the SHIP website. In February 2019, the website (delawareshape.org) went live, and the Delaware Journal of Public Health (Data to Decision Making) issue highlighted the SHIP program, documents, and impact groups. The steering committee is planning the SHIP Annual Meeting for October 23, 2019.

Student Financial Aid

https://delamed.org/education/educational-series/financial-aid/

The Academy’s Student Financial Aid program was established in 1961 to help encourage Delaware students to study medicine and dentistry. To date, over 300 students have received close to $2 million in loans. While the Academy has funds to support both medical and dental students, we have only received applications from medical students for the past several years.

The program is self-sustaining in that the loans are given based on the amount of money collected annually from the students after they graduate. According to the American Medical Association, most medical/dental students come out of school an average of $170,000 in student loans. To relieve some of the debt burden, repayment doesn't begin until one year after they graduate and interest rates are kept lower than most government and private loans.

The Delaware Academy of Medicine approved $77,000 in loans for 7 Delaware students studying medicine in 2018. Of the 7 students, 4 are enrolled at Sidney Kimmel Medical College, 1 at the University of Pittsburgh, 1 at the University of Miami and 1 at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Our 2018 graduates enrolled in residencies at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA, Barnes Jewish Hospital in Melvin Blanchard, MD, Montefiore Medical Center in New York, NY, and New York Presbyterian/Columbia Medical Center in New York, NY. About 25% of our loan recipients return to practice medicine and dentistry in Delaware after residency.

To keep pace with the rising costs of medical school, the Academy raised the maximum amount of the loans to 11,000 a year. We also increased the repayment period to 10 or 15 years. Students select their repayment plan once they graduate from medical school.

Any student interested in applying for a loan can submit an application to the Academy by May 15th of each year. To be eligible, students must be Delaware residents enrolled in medicine or dentistry at an accredited graduate school.

Funds are made available through endowments established by doctors, dentists, and other benefactors. The Delaware Academy of Medicine has six separate funds specifically for the purpose of issuing student loans. Operations Manager, Liz Lenz, oversees the SFA loan program as well as the rest of the Academy/DPHA finances.
Student Internship

The Academy/DPHA is dedicated to its mission of educating the next generation of public health and health providers in Delaware while promoting a “health in all policies” approach to public health. To further this mission, we partner with educational institutions throughout the state; work with students of many different backgrounds and interests; and provide learners of all ages and backgrounds a unique and stimulating opportunity to discover how public health applies to them and their community.

During their internship, students research a topic of their choice, create a logic model for a potential solution to a gap or problem within that topic, and attempt to implement that solution. Previous interns have worked on projects about APHA policies, diabetes, stroke, chronic disease, and trauma informed care.

The Academy/DPHA has had four interns in the past twelve months.

**Inaya Wahid** is a public health major at University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and is working with both the Academy/DPHA and the University of Delaware on the SHIP program.

**Mike Retzius** was a neurosciences major at the University of Delaware, and worked with Dr. Lee Dresser on the Delaware Stroke Initiative. He created the delawarestrokeresources.org webpage, and updated stroke resources in Delaware.

**Karina Heredia** is a public health major at Delaware State University, and is working with Dr. Smith and the ICD to further its goal of increasing vaccination rates on college campuses, especially pertaining to HPV.

**Modupe Opawumi** was a graduate of the University of Delaware, and a pharmaceutical technician in Wilmington interested in matriculating to a masters of public health program. She worked with the Diabetes Prevention Program at the Wilmington YWCA to create an education program for adolescents at risk of diabetes.
In Memoriam

LTG WILLIAM H. DUNCAN. M.D.

18 February 1930 - 19 December 2018

Author by Joseph Kestner M.D.; Past-President (2006-2008) and current Board member, Delaware Academy of Medicine/Delaware Public Health Association

Bill was a native Delawarean hailing from New Castle. He attended the William Penn High School and graduated from the PS DuPont High School in Wilmington.

After a year at the University of Delaware he entered the U.S. Military Academy by means of a competitive appointment as the son of a deceased veteran of WW II. Following graduation from West Point in 1952 and some training which included jump school he was sent to Korea as an infantry lieutenant. At the completion of his military obligation he entered Temple University Medical School graduating in 1959. An internship at the Delaware Hospital followed. Bill then opened a family medicine practice at Foulk and Silverside Roads in North Wilmington. Shortly thereafter Bill was appointed the part time supervisor of the Delaware Hospital ER. Following the merger of the Delaware, Memorial and Wilmington General Hospitals, Bill became the director of ambulatory and emergency services of the Wilmington Medical Center, a full time position. In 1975 Bill was appointed vice president for medical affairs at St. Francis Hospital.

This is when I first met Bill. He and I interacted on the credentials committee where applications to join the medical staff were reviewed and evaluated. On occasion there was controversy. Bill always valued the perspective of the committee members. Bill was also a source of advice on dealing with hospital administrators. If there was an adverse event or unexpected death (prior to review committees) Bill would be on the phone wanting to know the details. As an examiner for the FAA and air traffic controllers he would follow up on patients he referred. We worked together on nominating committees where he was transparent and open to advice and suggestions. Bill retired from St. Francis in 1993.

All during this time Bill was active in the PA and later the DE National Guard eventually as commanding officer of the 116th Surgical Hospital (Mobile Army) and later as commander of the 261st Signal Command. During his military career Bill served in three branches of the army: Infantry, Medical Corps and Signal Corps. He retired from the National Guard in 1987 receiving many recognitions and awards. Bill was appointed a charter member of the Army Historical Foundation. His lifelong interest in the military also continued with the Delaware National Guard Heritage Committee and the Delaware Military Museum.

Bill was the 19th president of the Delaware Academy of Medicine in 1976 and 77. He was chairman of the planning committee for the Academy’s 50th anniversary celebration in 1980. This three day event included cultural, educational and social activities. Some notable speakers included Isaac Asimov, Ph.D., Eli Ginsberg, Ph.D., and Edmond Pelligrino, M.D. Bill believed his most significant accomplishment while president of the Academy was to stabilize a precarious financial situation.

Bill was an author. His Founders of the Medical Society of Delaware, was published in 2017. He was working on a biography of James Tilton, M.D., a founder of the Medical Society of Delaware and its 1st president at the time of his death. He documented the service of Delaware Physician Veterans of WW II (1994) and the Korean War (2000) in the Delaware Medical Journal. His most recent effort, the Contemporary Veterans Project published in the Delaware Medical Journal in Nov-Dec 2018 was to recognize the service of those Delaware Physician Veterans post Korean War. This is where Bill and I reconnected. It was my honor to assist Bill in completing this project and identifying every possible Delaware physician veteran post Korean War. This collaboration was interesting, rewarding and fun – all because of Bill Duncan.

Bill was a leader. He was open, transparent, articulate and he listened. He had a vision of what was to be accomplished. He led infantry units, medical services, the St. Francis Hospital Medical Staff, Temple University Alumni, a U.S. Army Mobile Surgical Hospital and Signal Battalion, the Medical Society of Delaware and the Delaware Academy of Medicine. One thing to recognize is whatever Bill did – he did well.

He would on occasion speak of his Dad, a soldier and veteran of WW I and WW II who died when Bill was quite young. I can just imagine what Bill’s Dad might say if he was here today, “Well done, son. Mission accomplished.”

-Ted Kestner, M.D.