Evolution of UB Orthopaedics

Eugene R. Mindell, M.D.
6-7-02
Bernard Bartow, M.D. (1849 – 1920)

Courtesy History of Medicine Collection, University at Buffalo
Bernard Bartow, M.D. (1849 – 1920)

- Considered to be the founder of orthopaedic surgery in western New York and the UB medical school
- Began the long history of a dedicated, unpaid orthopaedic faculty, which remained completely voluntary for more than 80 years
- Including
  - William Ward Plummer, M.D.
  - Frank Potts, M.D.
  - Ben Obletz, M.D.
  - Joseph Godfrey, M.D.
  - James P. Cole, M.D.
William Ward Plummer, M.D. (1877 – 1953)
Frank N. Potts, M.D. (1890 – 1961)
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- Continued and expanded orthopaedic residency during and after WW II
- Director of the Residency Program 1942 – 1961
Benjamin E. Obletz, M.D. (1907 - )
Benjamin E. Obletz, M.D. (1907 - )

• Received his orthopaedic education at the University of Iowa
• Director of orthopaedic program at Buffalo General Hospital for many years

• University at Buffalo M.D. – 1931
• General medical practice in south Buffalo
• Preceptor of John Royal Moore of Philadelphia, part time for many years
• Buffalo Bills team physician for many years
• Helped develop the sub-specialty of Sports Medicine
• Moved to USN at Bethesda, Maryland in 1980
James P. Cole (1906 – 2002)

Director of the residency program at the E.J. Meyer Memorial Hospital from the 1950’s to 1964
Full Time Orthopaedic Faculty

- Began in 1964 with myself, and in 1966 Ted Papademetriou, M.D.
- Based at E.J. Meyer Memorial Hospital
- Developed the residency program, which had been started by James P. Cole, M.D.
• The two ABOS approved residency programs (one at BGH, BCH, and VA; the other at the County Hospital) were consolidated into one program in 1967 under the aegis of the University at Buffalo School of Medicine.

• This consolidation broadened educational opportunities, facilitated clinical research, and improved opportunities to recruit academic faculty.
Evolution of UB's Clinical Facilities
The original building of the Buffalo General Hospital, 1858

Courtesy Buffalo General Hospital Archives, Buffalo General Hospital

- Skilled, wise, academic pediatric orthopaedic surgeon
- Recruited to BCH in 1985 from the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto
- Became UB Orthopaedic chairman in 1988
- Expanded full-time faculty and developed University Sports Medicine
• Volunteer Faculty
  – Bernard Bartow – 1884
  – Completely volunteer for over 80 years
• Full Time Faculty
  – ER Mindell 1964, Ted Papademetriou 1966
  – Robert Gillespie beginning in 1989, recruited many of our current faculty
• Volunteer Faculty Today
  – Valuable contributions to resident education
Fracture Care at
UB School of Medicine
Frank Hastings Hamilton, M.D. (1813 – 1886)
reproduced from his book
A Practical Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations

Courtesy History of Medicine Collection, University at Buffalo
Frontispiece from Dr. Hamilton’s book

*A Practical Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations*

Published in 1860

*Courtesy History of Medicine Collection, University at Buffalo*
Hip fracture, reproduced from
A Practical Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations

Courtesy History of Medicine Collection, University at Buffalo
William Ward Plummer (1877 – 1953)

Firsts in Buffalo

– Smith Petersen nailing for 35 femoral neck fractures 1937 at Buffalo General Hospital (JBJS-1937)
– Cup arthroplasty 1937 for a patient with osteonecrosis
– Bankhart repair for recurrent shoulder dislocations
– Removed only the displaced portion of meniscus
– Post polio paralysis – surgical treatment
  • heavy silk sutures for joint stabilization
– 1939 President AOA – met in Buffalo, Statler Hotel
William Ward Plummer

*UB Chairman 1917 - 1942*

- UB Orthopaedic Residency began in 1939
- 1 resident based at BGH
  - Ed Eschner, went into radiology
- 1941 Orthopaedic service BGH
  - 671 inpatients
  - 1725 outpatients
- Monthly stipend $25
  - Surely included room & board
Dr. William Ward Plummer,
holding the cassette for a lateral x-ray of the pelvis
X-ray of a successfully nailed femoral neck
Theodore Papademetriou, M.D. (1929 – 2001)

*Introduced AO Swiss methods for stable fracture fixation to western New York*

NIH funded basic and clinical research, established that early mobilization of the poly-trauma patient, saved lives and lessened morbidity
Lawrence B. Bone, M.D.
Lawrence B. Bone, M.D.

- Unique orthopaedic traumatologist and university chairman
- Established comprehensive Level I Trauma Center at ECMC with collaboration by general trauma surgeons John Border, M.D. in the past, and now Roger Seibel, M.D.
Spine Surgery
E. H. Simmons, M.D.
Pediatric Orthopaedics
The Children’s Hospital of Buffalo, 1892

Courtesy The Children’s Hospital of Buffalo Foundation
Joint Reconstruction
Kenneth A. Krackow, M.D.
Sidney Farber, M.D.

• UB undergraduate degree 1923
• Introduced chemotherapy for cancer treatment
• Pathologist at Boston Children’s Hospital
• Lab in hospital basement
  – without staff or much equipment
• Successfully treated 16 leukemia children with aminopterin (related to methotrexate) NEJM 1948
• Farber Hall is now part of the UB School of Medicine complex
Accomplishments of some other UB Orthopaedic Graduates

Al Humphries, MD - 1950
- Vascular surgeon Cleveland Clinic
- Developed the first aortic allograft bank in the US

Gene Hanavan, MD - 1950 & John Giardino, MD
- Past presidents of the Erie County Medical Society
Harold Frost, MD - 1950

– *Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit*

– *Discovered intimate relationships between bone resorption and bone formation studying undecalcified bone*

– *Numerous publications on osteoporosis*

– *Currently investigating the validity of human bone mineral studies*
Accomplishments of some other UB Orthopaedic Graduates

William J. Rogers III, MD - 1951

– First President NY State Orthopaedic Society

John Repicci, MD – 1969

– Developed techniques and instrumentation for minimally invasive mini knee joint arthroplasty
Accomplishments of some other UB Orthopaedic Graduates

Alan Depew, MD – 1974
  – Longtime member AAOS Board of Councilors

Thomas Lombardo, MD – 1979
  – Recent President NY State Orthopaedic Society

Joseph Failla, MD – 1987
  – Designed our Department's elegant Buffalo and crooked tree logo
Evolving Musculoskeletal Education for Medical Students
Your Surgeon is Certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery
Educational Legacy
C. Howard Hatcher, M.D.

*University of Chicago*
These comments highlighting our past may set the course for an even brighter future for UB Orthopaedics
Thank You