



*Newsletter of*

# The Cleveland Medical Library Association



*Ditrick Museum acquires a collection of iron lung photographs and ephemera*



## From the Director

**Ginger Saha, M.S.L.S.**

*Trends and Realities  
at the Cleveland  
Health Sciences Library*

*Doing more with less* is becoming an increasingly necessary way of doing business. A Google™ search yields over 400,000 hits! But this strikes closer to home at the library as we initiate new services with fewer people and fewer dollars. Two librarians retired this summer: Karen Burt, Associate Director, who had been at the Health Center Library for over a quarter of a century, retired on June 30. Her scope of responsibilities included (but was not limited to) computers, cataloging, database maintenance, circulation, building maintenance issues, personnel, and running the library when I was on vacation or at a conference. She is greatly missed!! Jill Sterling, reference librarian at the Allen, retired on July 5. Jill worked closely with the CMLA institutional and personal members, drawing on her medical library experience, her nursing background, and her stint working for a law firm, to meet their information needs. Although other staff have stepped in, Jill's regular patrons undoubtedly miss her, as does the staff. In the current budgetary environment, neither position will be filled for the foreseeable future. Thus, we have suffered a 26% cut in our librarian workforce – from 6.8 to 5. We now have only 15 staff members serving both the Allen and Health Center Libraries, ranking us 95<sup>th</sup> out of 112 health sciences libraries nationally!

Meanwhile, we have greatly expanded the level of support for library training through customized orientation sessions for the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Dental Medicine. Moreover, University Hospitals and MetroHealth residents now have Case Western Reserve University staff status, and need training on how to access to the library's print and electronic collections. Both the School of Medicine, and the School of Dental Medicine, launched entirely new curricula this summer, and library staff have been deeply involved in working with faculty and students in the new small group, learner-centered processes that require students to find information to solve case-based problems from day one. The School of Medicine's new WR2 [Western Reserve 2] curriculum has been especially challenging – and rewarding! – as we enrich session descriptions with links to electronic journals, books, and related websites. Medical informatics was a component of the first block of the WR2 curriculum, and we expect that discipline to grow in importance in the next few years. New partnerships are developing between library staff and faculty, and the library is seen

more than ever as a vital player in the education programs of the schools, as well as in support of the research activities.

The fiscal woes of the campus have been widely reported, and the Library has not escaped the pain. The projected FY07 budget allocation is expected to be some \$63,000 *less* than FY06. Although we will realize salary savings with the retirements noted above, other expenses will quickly eat up the savings. The FY07 fringe benefits rate for remaining staff rose 5% (to 29%), print and electronic materials costs continue to rise well above inflation rates, and new resources are needed to support the WR2 curriculum and the new research centers on the health sciences campus. We continue to evaluate the use of the collections, and make decisions to invest in print or electronic versions based on those usage patterns. Not surprisingly, the electronic versions are the more popular!

In a move to anticipate and control the inevitable changes the library will undergo, the library staff has been meeting over the spring and summer to choose which services and resources should be strengthened, which ones should be discontinued, and what new ones need to be added. It has been a positive and exciting experience to realize that we can, indeed, harness the excitement and energy change can produce, and move the library forward even in this difficult time. *We can do more with less.*



*Health Center Library reference desk, Kathleen Meneely*



## From the Dittrick Medical History Center

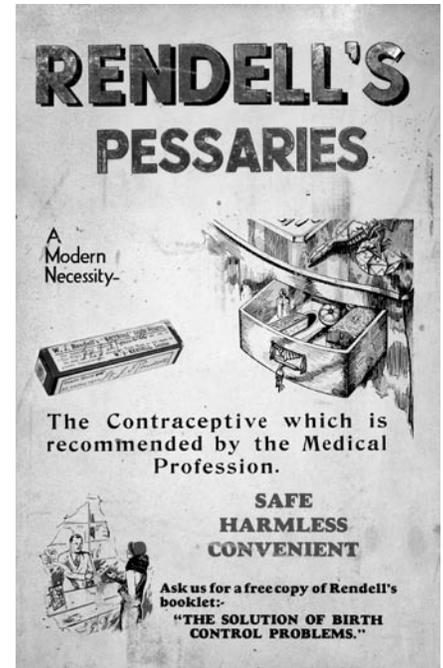
**James M. Edmonson, Ph.D.**  
Chief Curator

### *Work with Skuy Collection continues*

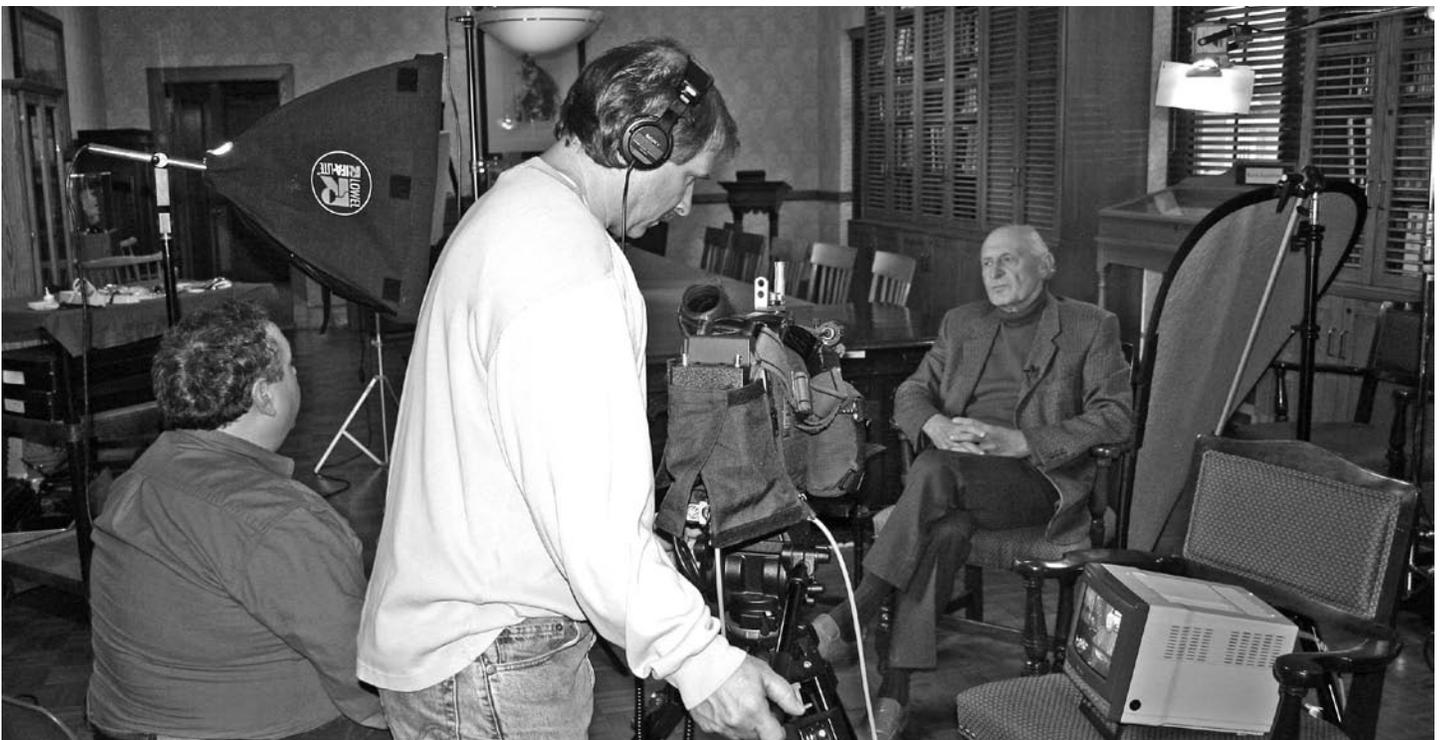
Percy captured (digitally)! When Percy Skuy starts talking about his collection, now at the Dittrick, he speaks with infectious enthusiasm. Regrettably, most museum visitors do not get the chance to hear him in person discussing the collection in animated fashion. Now, however, everyone will be able to see and hear Percy sharing his unique perspective on the collection via the wonders of digital technology. This past Spring we got him to sit down for a few hours and talk about the collection, sharing his insights and understanding. With the help of videographer and producer Dave Narosny, we captured the result digitally. This will be used in future exhibits and in web-based presentations, and we feel that it really makes the collection come alive. For a preliminary sampling, see a new webpage devoted to the Skuy Collection that features a short clip of Percy talking about the collection: <http://www.case.edu/affil/skuyhistcontraception/index.html>. Enjoy getting to know Percy better!

*Meyer develops exhibit plan* : Guest curator Jimmy Meyer has been busy crafting an outline of the new exhibit plan, to serve as a working document for subsequent exhibit gallery design. This work has taken Jimmy on the road to Toronto, to see the product advertising collection at Janssen-Ortho, in the company of Percy Skuy. Additional research trips are scheduled for New York and Washington, D.C. (American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology,

and the Division of Medicine and Science, National Museum of American History). Jimmy's research work is being ably assisted by a summer intern, Amy Wadsworth. Amy, a Shaker High grad and a senior at the College of Wooster, is helping Jimmy track down images of contraceptives in early publications. She's also



*Contraceptive advertising placard acquired for the collection this summer through research by Amy Wadsworth]*



*Percy Skuy being videotaped at the Dittrick*

compiling a thesaurus of terms and euphemisms used in reference to contraceptive devices and practices. She says it's challenging but fun and gives her a better sense of the historian's craft.

### *Compact storage for museum artifacts*



*CBG technicians Don Pultz and Stever Zayac installed the Spacesaver® compact storage system for the Dittrick.*

Last May we began an important upgrade of collection storage, adding significant capacity to the storage of our artifact collection. We achieved this by installing a Spacesaver® compact storage system in the basement of the Allen. Such essential upgrades don't come easily, but we were helped by the generous support of Tom Peterson and the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Medical Library Association. We also benefited from the cooperation and professionalism of the folks at Central Business Group (CBG), who designed and installed the Spacesaver® system. We want to thank in particular Greg Ramm, the CBG rep, and technicians, Steve Zayac and Don Pultz. In June we transferred artifacts from third floor storage in the museum gallery to the basement storeroom. We were greatly assisted in this task by the help of Case undergraduate history major, Jasper Collier. Jasper, under Jenny Nieves' supervision, completed the transfer in short order and with good cheer. We've designated the new storage area "P2," as it is the second storage renovation generously funded by Tom Peterson.

*Jasper Collier puts things in order in the new compact storage.*



### *Zverina lecture by Andrea Tone.*

On September 7, the Anton and Rose Zverina Lecture featured Andrea Tone, Ph.D., of McGill University. Andrea Tone is an historian who holds joint appointments in the Department of History (Faculty of Arts) and the Department of Social Studies of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine) at McGill University. Her work explores health, medical technology, sexuality, psychiatry, and industry in the United States.



*Andrea Tone*

She is the author of *The Business of Benevolence* (1997), editor of *Controlling Reproduction* (1997), and author of *Devices and Desires: A History of Contraceptives in America* (2001), which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and named one of the best books of the year by the *Washington Post*. This last work has played an important part in gaining an historical perspective upon the Skuy Collection, and for that reason Professor Tone was an especially appropriate choice for this year's lecture. She is currently writing a book on the history of tranquilizers, medicine, and society in Cold War America (forthcoming with Basic Books) and has co-edited with Elizabeth Watkins an interdisciplinary anthology entitled *Medicating Modern America: Prescription Drugs in History* (New York University Press, 2007). Her work has been featured on NPR, PBS, CBC, and in the *New York Times*. The title of Professor Tone's presentation was *Bodies of Evidence: Uncovering the Lost History of Contraceptives in America*.

## New Acquisition: Iron Lung Images

This past July we received a remarkable collection of items documenting the iron lung era of poliomyelitis patient care. Steve DeGenaro, photo collector, respiratory therapist, and long-time friend of the Dittrick, donated photographs, pamphlets, advertisements, and ephemera such as fundraising golf outing tickets, and March of Dime pins, all relating to the period before the widespread use of polio vaccines. We will be working with Steve to mount a temporary exhibition featuring this donation, along with complementary artifacts from the Dittrick collections. Tentatively, the exhibit will be entitled “The spectre of the machine: images of life in the iron lung.” While other exhibits have presented technical aspects of iron lung development (see esp. <http://historical.hsl.virginia.edu/ironlung/>). The DeGenaro collection permits a more in-depth look at the imagery surrounding this life saving and life-sustaining technology. Many of the images were evidently created for promotional purposes, to aid in campaigns funding this expensive technology. Still others are

accompanied by personal perspectives on the experience of being a polio patient in an iron lung. Taken together, these images and associated ephemera capture, in an arresting fashion, an intriguing era of medical technology.

### Cover image: Iron Lung:

*In the Harold Young film, Let Them Live (Universal, 1937), Dr. Paul Martin (John Howard) heroically stems an outbreak of infantile paralysis. Part of his arsenal in this struggle was the Drinker respirator, or iron lung, seen here. This, and other iron lung images and ephemera donated by Steven DeGenaro, will be featured in a coming exhibit at the Dittrick, “The Spectre of the Machine: Life in the Iron Lung.”*



*Dispatching an Iron Lung in Response to Emergency Call, 1949. Accompanying caption reads: “An iron lung being wheeled out of the storehouse of the General Hospital Supply Service, 258 West Sixty-ninth Street [New York City], yesterday for a rush shipment under police escort to Meadowbrook Hospital, at Hempstead, L.I.. It was one of two sent by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.”*



*Dawn Kemp, Director of Heritage, Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh*

### ***Coming events and programs***

#### **Handerson Lecture to feature**

**Dawn Kemp:** Next Spring, the Handerson Lecture (date TBA; probably late March/early April) will feature Dawn Kemp, Director of Heritage of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. I have known Dawn for a few years, and we last met when she hosted the Dittrick tour group in Edinburgh. Ms. Kemp is a principal organizer of a new initiative entitled *Scotland and Medicine: Collections and*

*Connections* (<http://www.scotlandandmedicine.com/>), which promotes the discovery of the many contributions that Scotland has made to medicine and the fascinating connections to our everyday lives. One exciting product of this initiative is the exhibit *Anatomy Acts*, a “cutting edge” blend of history, imagination, and the senses that explores the social, cultural, and scientific significance of anatomy in Scotland over the past 500 years. *Anatomy Acts* is just finishing a display period in Edinburgh and will then move on to Dundee, St Andrews, Inverness, and Glasgow. During her visit to Cleveland, Ms. Kemp will discuss these and other programs at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

***Dittrick to host Case Alumni Travel Reception:*** The Case Alumni Travel Program will co-host a reception on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> with the Dittrick to unveil the 2007 alumni travel opportunities. This reception is open to Case alumni, Friends of the Dittrick, as well as to past and prospective Dittrick tour participants. The event will begin in the Herrick Room at 3:00, when Beverly Smith, head of Case Alumni Travel, will review tour offerings for 2007 and beyond. She will be joined by Jim Edmonson, who will discuss the Dittrick tours, and by representatives from travel agencies that offer tours through Case Alumni Travel. This presentation will be followed by a wine and cheese reception in the Powell Room, from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M., when you can share travel stories and hear tips for successful travel experiences. We will feature a slide show of Dittrick trips to London, Scotland, and Paris. For full schedule of events on Alumni Weekend, see the Case website: <http://www.case.edu/alumni/travel/index.html>



***Dittrick travel heads to Budapest and Vienna:*** The next Dittrick Medical Heritage Tour program heads east, to Austria and Hungary, 21-29 April 2007. This unique tour, led by Jim Edmonson and arranged through Kollander World Travel, will feature the intriguing medical heritage of Budapest and Vienna. In Budapest, we will be hosted by Dr. László Magyar, Director of the Semmelweis Museum and Library for the History of Medicine, who will be our guide for the duration of our visit to the Hungarian capitol. In Vienna we will be greeted by Dr. Manfred Skopec, director of the Museum of Medical History, located in the *Josephinum*, the 1785 military medical school founded by Emperor Joseph II. Collections there range from magnificent 18th Century wax anatomical models by Florentine artists Ferrini and Susini, to the world’s largest collection of endoscopic instruments, opened by Dr. Skopec in 1996. Medical sites of historic note near the Josephinum include the Museum of Forensic Medicine (*Museum des Departments für Gerichtliche Medizin*) and the *Narrenturm* (or “Fools’ Tower” featured in the film *Amadeus*), a 1784 circular lunatic asylum today housing the Federal Museum of Pathological Anatomy (*Pathologisch-anatomisches Bundesmuseum*); and the newly opened Museum of Contraception. Our trip to Vienna will also include a visit to the Klosterneuberg (winery tour and tasting) and to the Heuriger Martin Sepp (wine tavern) in Grinzing. The tour concludes with a free day for sightseeing or shopping on your own. Choose among distinguished museums on the Ringstrasse, the Hofburg imperial palaces and collections (my favorite is the *Rüstkammer*, or armor collection), or the beautiful Stephansdom cathedral, and the pedestrian-friendly city center. A brochure with registration form and daily itinerary will be posted on the Dittrick website when it becomes available (<http://www.case.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/news/travel/Vienna.html>). Hard copies of the brochure will also be sent to the CMLA/Dittrick mailing list.

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Health Center Library	368-4540
Dittrick Medical History Center	368-3648
Interlibrary Loan	368-6420
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Allen Library	368-3640
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**Hours**

For information, call either reference desk listed above  
or see "On the Web" below.

**On the Web**

Cleveland Health Sciences Library

<http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/homepage.htm>

**For hours see:** <http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/hc.htm>

Dittrick Medical History Center

<http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/>

**For hours see:** <http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/operations/>

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*Wax anatomical figures in the Josephinum, Vienna, Austria*

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## ***DATES TO REMEMBER***

**October 14:** Dittrick Medical Heritage Tour program and Case Alumni Travel co-host a reception on to highlight educational travel opportunities

**Handerson Lecture 2007** will feature Dawn Kemp Director of Heritage of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, date to be announced (late March or early April)

**April 21-29: 2007:** Dittrick Medical Heritage Tour program heads east, to Budapest and Vienna

If you missed the Zverina Lecture with speaker Andrea Tone you can hear the complete lecture online at: <http://www.case.edu/affil/skuyhistcontraception/Tone-lecture.html>