New “VP” Takes Office

Kalman J. Fortoloczki, 43, former Administrator of University Hospital, State University of New York, Stoneybrook, Long Island, has joined the staff of The Allentown Hospital as Vice President for Administration. Fortoloczki assumed his duties Monday, June 26.

The appointment of Fortoloczki completes the restructuring of the top echelons of management at The Allentown Hospital. In May the Board of Directors approved the creation of two vice presidential posts. Lee W. Hawk, former controller, was named Vice President for Finance and General Services. Fortoloczki takes the title of Vice President for Administration and assumes responsibility for the hospital in the absence of William D. Locke, President and Chief Executive Officer.

Locke, former Administrator for the Burlington Memorial Hospital, Burlington, N.J., assumed the presidency in December 1977 upon the retirement of Orlando M. Bowen, administrator since 1954.

A graduate of St. Peters College, Jersey City, N.J., and the University of Pittsburgh where he received his Master degree in Hospital Administration, Fortoloczki comes to The Allentown Hospital with extensive experience in hospital management. Before becoming Administrator at University Hospital, he was Associate Executive Director at Staten Island Hospital from 1970 to 1977. He has also held administrative positions at Catholic Medical Center of Brooklyn and Queens where he was Associate Administrator; Lutheran Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., where he was Vice President for Administration; St. Joseph Medical Center, Burbank, Calif., where he was Associate Administrator; and at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center, Youngstown, Ohio, where he was Assistant Administrator.

A native of Carteret, N.J., Fortoloczki lives in North Branch, N.J., with his wife Perina and three children, Kalman, Jr., 15, Maria, 13, and Peter, 12.

Micro Lab Isolates Legionnaires’ Bacteria

Physicians and medical technologists at The Allentown Hospital have diagnosed a sporadic case of Legionnaires’ Disease, and isolated the bacterium from a trans-tracheal aspirate, (secretions) from the throat of a Legionnaires’ Disease victim, possibly for the first time.

According to Dr. Gary Lattimer, Chief of the Infectious Disease section at The Allentown Hospital, the use of aspirate to isolate the “bug” should speed the diagnosis of Legionnaires’ Disease and allow for early specific treatment.

Previously physicians had to perform delicate lung surgery to obtain a lung biopsy. The lung tissue was then cultured in an effort to isolate the Legionnaires’ Disease bacterium.

The aspirate is drawn from the trachea by a thin catheter inserted into the trachea through a fine needle and immediately stained and cultured.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was with great pleasure that I delivered my first annual report at the Allentown Hospital Association annual meeting June 21. I reviewed some of the more important activities of the year at the meeting and I would like to share them now with you, the employees.

This year’s annual report would not be complete without mentioning the retirement of Orlando M. Bowen, administrator of this institution for 24 years. His retirement ended an era of substantial growth and development for the hospital.

Modernization of the hospital was foremost on the minds of employees. As you know, we withdrew our application for the hospital’s renovation which went before the HSC last winter. The Board of Directors decided to restudy our plans and to resubmit them. We have elected to use the services of the Hospital Building and Equipment Co. of St. Louis to develop an effective design solution at the lowest cost.

In the meantime we are moving ahead to correct Life Safety Code violations, including the installation of fire doors and wall, fire alarms and replacement of certain glass areas.

Other physical changes in the hospital include the development of a new Heart Station in old section A and the acquisition of a new echocardiography unit with the help of a $50,000 donation from the Auxiliary.

T-5 was designated a renal area and we are moving ahead with plans to create a Neo-Natal Center at The Allentown Hospital.

To achieve a more effective management system for the hospital we created two vice presidential positions. Lee Hawk became Vice President for Finance and General Services and Kalman Fortoloczki is Vice President for Administration.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Board of Directors, the Medical Staff, the Ladies Auxiliary, the Junior Aides, the Volunteers, and, last but not least, the employees of the hospital for their support, patience, and understanding during the past seven months.

Liaison Committee Formed

The Department of Pathology has established a liaison committee for department technologists and nurses.

According to Dr. Alexander Nedwich, chief of the department, the committee has been established to create a dialogue to discuss problems of mutual interest.

Dr. Fister Named Alumnus of the Year

Fred D. Fister, M.D., was honored as “Alumnus of the Year” and 34 physicians received certificates for completing Residency Programs when the annual Appreciation Dinner of the Allentown Affiliated Hospitals was held June 23 at the Holiday Inn East.

Dr. Fister, retired Director of Medical Education at Allentown Hospital, was presented with the award which is given annually to the outstanding graduate of the Allentown Affiliated Hospitals’ Residency Program. Dr. Fister was an intern at Allentown Hospital in 1936-1937.

Physicians receiving certificates were: Roberto Braglia, M.D., and Mahendra Matta, M.D., Colon and Rectal Surgery; Mark Eisner, D.M.D., Mark Minetola, D.M.D., and Mark Sebastian, D.M.D., Dentistry; Stephen Goldman, M.D., James McGeary, M.D., Frank Penater, M.D., and Ira Ungar, M.D., Family Practice; Stephen Olex, D.O., Fellow in Cardiovascular Diseases; David Carney, M.D., and Robert Oriel, M.D., Fellows in General Internal Medicine; Jeffrey Kremen, M.D., Fellow in Vascular Surgery, Jay Calesnick, M.D., Alice Ann Coblentz, M.D., and Stanton Kremsky, M.D., Flexible Medicine; Carlos Budding, M.D., Joseph D’Amico, M.D., Luis Juarez, M.D., Eileen Montross, M.D., Mohan Nair, M.D., Gary Petrusaski, M.D., and Mark Tsuang, M.D., General Surgery; John Benner, M.D., Sam Bub, M.D., David Carney, M.D., Lorri Glassberg, M.D., Judith Hoffman, M.D., Deborah Meadows, M.D., Robert Oriel, M.D., John Rule, M.D., and Frederick Steckel, M.D., Medicine; Tirumilayi Gopal, M.D., and Mario Candal, M.D., Obstetrics and Gynecology; Clarence Freed, M.D., Plastic Surgery; and Kam Shieh, M.D., Radiology.

The evening also included a presentation of “Teacher of the Year” certificates that were awarded to the following members of the Medical Staff at the Allentown Affiliated Hospitals: Howard Seldon, D.D.S., in Dentistry; Headley S. White, Jr., M.D., in Family Practice; Paul Bosanac, M.D., in Medicine; Joseph Miller, M.D., in Obstetrics and Gynecology; John S. Wheeler, M.D., in Pediatrics; Michael Geller, M.D., in Radiology; and John Stasik, M.D., in Surgery.
NEW EQUIPMENT — Frank Lowell, director of the hospital’s heart station chats with Mrs. Elmer Bausch, President of The Allentown Hospital Auxiliary. The Auxiliary donated $50,000 for the new Echostat machine, above, which projects a two-dimensional image of the heart on a screen. In tests the heart action is visible as in photo, right, which shows the left ventricle, pericardium, endocardium and the mitral valve.

WIN DEGREES — Four members of the X-ray Dept. received their Associate Degrees in Science, from Hahnemann College of Allied Sciences. They are from left to right, Martha Fenstermaker, Audrey Ciocco, Renae Barndt, and Joe Gnall. This brings the total number of Assoc. Degrees in that department to seven.
Bio Chemist Hired

Dr. William A. Koontz, Ph.D., 31, of Reading, has joined the staff of The Allentown Hospital as head of the hospital's chemistry labs.

Dr. Koontz, a bio chemist, will be responsible for supervision of the chemistry lab, as well as the development and implementation of new tests.

Formerly chief of the chemistry department at Reading Hospital, Dr. Koontz received his BS degree in Chemistry from Penn State University in 1969 and his PhD in Biological Chemistry from the Hershey Medical Center of the Penn State University.

A native of Bedford, Pa., Dr. Koontz is presently a resident of Reading.

Bowlers End Season

The Allentown Hospital Bowling League completed its 1977-78 season, May 22. The championship roll-off was won by team 10 whose members were: Walter Orcutt, Mary Ellen Smar and Doug Sterner (captain).

Runner up in the competition was team 3 whose members were: Donna Nonnemacher, Jean Kuncz, Gerry Hawkey and Carl Gruver (captain).

Awards were presented at a banquet held June 16 where three members of team three won additional awards. Gerry Hawkey won the award for high single (men) and Jean Kuncz won the award for high single (women). Dona Nonnemacher won the award for most improved average for women.

Other awards went to Doug Sterner for high triple (men); Helen Mays, highest average (women); Judy Braun, high single (women); and George Reczkowski, most improved average (men).

Reczkowski Awarded Degree

Alex J. Reczkowski, R.N., a 1976 graduate of The Allentown Hospital School of Nursing, has received a B.S. degree in mental health technology from the College of allied Health Professions of Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Philadelphia.

Reczkowski, cousin of Charles J. Reczkowski, Jr., R.N., W2N, plans to work in Hahnemann's adolescent in-patient unit for emotionally disturbed patients.

Madonna Joins ER Staff

Dr. John J. Madonna, orthopedic surgeon, has joined the Department of Community Medicine as a staff physician in The Allentown Hospital Emergency Room.

Dr. Madonna replaces Dr. Lloyd Baron who entered private practice.

A 1947 graduate of Temple University Medical School, Dr. Madonna completed his residency at The Allentown Hospital in 1955 after a year as chief resident. He served in the Army during the Korean War with a M.A.S.H. unit near the front lines.

A native of Philadelphia, Dr. Madonna attended St. Joseph’s College before attending medical school.

HONORED GUEST — Catherine Moncman, medical staff secretary, beams following the House Staff Appreciation Dinner where she was given a standing ovation for her help to the residents and for her years of service for the hospital's staff. With Catherine is Dr. Joseph Miller, Chief, OB—GYN, who was also honored as "Teacher of the Year" in OB—GYN.
Cindy Guringo Makes History

Cindy Guringo, M.S., SM (ARM) supervisor of the hospital's microbiology lab, made history the last week in May. Cindy is one of the few people who have ever isolated the Legionnaires' Disease bacterium. She did it in the Allentown Hospital microbiology laboratory.

According to Dr. Gary Lattimer, Chief of the hospital's infectious disease section, the Legionnaires' Disease bacteria has only been isolated about 14 times. Cindy also has the distinction of being the only person in Pennsylvania to have ever isolated the bacterium. Cindy received a trans-tracheal aspirate specimen at 1 a.m. from the throat of a suspected Legionnaires' Disease victim, May 27. She immediately cultured the material and the seven to ten day incubation period began.

Isolating Legionnaires' Disease bacteria may be important, but it is only a small portion of Cindy's responsibilities. The 29-year old Microbiologist, with a Masters' from the Thomas Jefferson Medical College, oversees all the work performed in the microbiology lab on the second floor. That work is of vital importance to the hospital's doctors who make decisions regarding treatment from test results in the microbiology lab.

"We culture specimens (such as aspirate) for bacteria," Cindy states, "and we identify the bacteria. We test it to find out what antibiotics the bacteria are sensitive to."

Cindy notes that each bacterium is different. "It's not like you grow a bacterium and put it in a machine," she says. Each bacterium is subjected to a variety of tests, each one set up in the micro lab.

Microbiology encompasses more than the study of bacteria. The seven technologists in the lab are also involved in Mycology, the culturing of yeasts and fungus; Mycobacteriology, culturing for TB; and Parasitology, searching for parasites in fecal material.

"There are obvious hazards in microbiology as far as contracting infectious disease," Cindy notes, adding that the staff does a lot of hand washing. In some instances technologists work under a hood or with mask and gown when dealing with potentially dangerous microbes such as TB and certain molds.

Cindy has been interested in microbiology since high school in Harrisburg. She attended Elizabethtown College where she received a BS degree in medical technology. Following graduation Cindy went to work in the microbiology lab at Polyclinic Hospital, Harrisburg, where after three years she became (con't on page 6)

Micro Lab Isolates
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The novel finding at The Allentown Hospital stems from such an aspirate taken by Dr. John Galgon, Chief of the Pulmonary Disease section, from a patient admitted to the hospital in May. After the specimen was cultured and incubated for 10 days, the bacterium was identified bacteriologically and later by the use of a specific Fluorescent Antibody test as a Legionnaires' Disease bacterium. The findings were confirmed by the State Department of Health Laboratories.

Dr. Lattimer states that the Legionnaires' Disease bacterium has been isolated only 14 times previously. This is the first time the bacterium has been identified through the use of trans-tracheal aspirate. He added that the identification at the Microbiology Section of the Pathology Laboratory of The Allentown Hospital demonstrates that community hospitals are capable of identifying the disease.

The process of identifying the Legionnaires' bacterium began at 1 a.m. Saturday May 27 when Dr. Galgon performed a trans-tracheal aspiration and ordered cultures for the Legionnaires' Disease bacterium. Cindy Guringo, supervisor of the microbiology laboratory, using guidelines established by the State Department of Health performed cultures on the specimen. Ms. Guringo said the bacterium does not grow on ordinary medium used for pathogenic bacteria and takes 7-10 days to grow. Ordinary bacteria grow in 24-48 hours.

Legionnaires' Disease bacteria grow on a media enriched with hemoglobin and, in contrast to ordinary bacteria, will not grow if streaked across the media surface. It must be "dropped" on the media.

"We can now make the diagnosis during the lifetime of the patient," Dr. Lattimer stated. He added that the use of aspirate to identify the bacterium should speed diagnosis and lead to earlier treatment of the disease.
Cindy Guringo

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supervisor. She spent a year at Thomas Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia for a Master Degree in Clinical Microbiology, returned to Polyclinic Hospital before becoming supervisor of Allentown Hospital under Dr. Halstead-McFarland, Phd. Director of the microbiology lab. Her day in The Allentown Hospital labs is busy, and Cindy must stay abreast of her field by constant reading. According to Cindy it's not unusual for a woman to be in charge of a hospital microbiology lab. But she believes that any woman with will and determination will succeed in whatever she chooses.

"I think that if a woman is aggressive enough in the so called man's world, which I do not believe in, she'll have no problems," Cindy says. "If a woman feels hempered it's her own problem. I'm not liberated. I'm equalized."

Cindy believes her success stems from high motivation. She has done well in whatever she set out to do. With her responsibilities in the lab she needs motivation. She supervises a staff of seven, must answer for all tests conducted in the lab and check all the written reports going out from the lab. She is also responsible for quality control, teaches classes for the medical technologists and serves on the infections control committee.

MARRIAGES
Carol Bennett, LPN, floater, married Roy Norman, June 10.

FOR SALE — Magnavox Entertainment Center, 25", color tv, stereo, AM-FM radio. Good condition. Asking $500. Purchase price was $1,100. Call 282-4166 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE — Two cemetery lots, together in Arlington. Call Mr. Oberacker, 433-5389 after 4:30 p.m.

FOR SALE — 1974 Honda 125, red and white, 2,600 miles, excellent condition. Phone 264-7816 or 452-5086 after 6 p.m.

FOR RENT — Two bedroom apartment, vicinity of 22nd and Allen Streets. $210 per month, heat included. Available Aug. 1. For further information call 433-8881.

CLASSES — Ceramic Classes: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday nights in my home 1241 N. Tacoma St., Allentown, Pa. 435-4369. Certified Duncan Teacher.

SINGING ANYONE? — Allentown chapter, Sweet Adelines is seeking new members. Interested? Contact Josephine Leiby, Payroll.

PLAYOFF BOUND? — With a record of 8 and 10 with 10 games to go Allentown Hospital's A's may have an outside chance at making the playoffs of the city's B Slo Pitch League. Two years ago the A's were the champs of their league but last year run production fell off. Maybe this year they'll do it again. From left to right, back row: Glen Krasley, Dale Jarvis, office manager, Barry Jarvis, David Pummer, housekeeping, Bill Zakos, outpatient billing coordinator, and John Del Villaggio, director, respiratory therapy. Front row, from left to right: Chad Bisbing, R.N., W-6, Dan Mickley, Danny Hall, engineering, and John Koshland, respiratory therapy.