

Mayo  
**Anesthesiology Alumni**  
Newsletter

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*Peter A. Southorn, M.D., Editor*

*Mary M. Schrandt, Associate Editor; Marie S. Fuller, Assistant Editor*

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## Introduction

**Mark Warner, M.D.**

Hello from all of us. Today you are reading the first edition of a rejuvenated Mayo Department of Anesthesiology alumni newsletter. Our newsletters have a speckled history – coming and going for short periods. Rest assured that the newsletter is now here to stay. The ideas, suggestions, and support that you provide are very important to us. We plan to use the newsletter to keep in touch, tell you about the current department, update you on fellow alumni and faculty, and bring back good memories with fond recollections and stories.

You can count on receiving several newsletters each year. All editions will include updates on alumni, current departmental news, and interesting photographs. Each edition also will have unique information. For example, this edition includes news about the upcoming ASA Annual Meeting and its Saturday evening alumni event. In the subsequent edition, we will recap alumni and department news from the annual meeting. The Spring edition that we are planning for next year will provide information on our graduating residents and fellows, as well as highlights from the academic year.

I must thank Peter Southorn, M.D., for his generous offer to edit the newsletter. It is a labor of love, and he deserves a round of applause for this first edition. Also, Mary Schrandt and Marie Fuller have ably managed the production of this first edition and developed a process that will sustain it over the long haul. Thanks to all of them.

We hope you enjoy the newsletters. They should bring back good memories and, hopefully, stimulate you to contact former classmates or faculty members. We belong to a very select group of Mayo alumni, and we can be very proud of the accomplishments of our Department of Anesthesiology and the physicians who trained in it.



## Editor's Note

**Peter Southorn, M.D.**

Believe it or not, the Alumni Association lists more than 500 anesthesiologists. Considering this number, I was absolutely delighted when Mark Warner, M.D., our department chair, suggested we initiate a newsletter to hopefully strengthen ties that we all have to each other and the Mayo Clinic. I hope that you will find the contents of this newsletter interesting and that it will serve to provide you with a progress report of what is happening in the department. At this stage, as we attempt to get the newsletter off the ground, nothing is fixed in stone, and we very much want to hear your ideas about what you would like to see and read in it. We will certainly try to reprint any newsworthy item about alumni forwarded to us, and we would be very interested in printing any pictures of alumni. (The latter will be promptly returned after we have obtained a copy for the newsletter.)

## Our Friend Rungson

**Scott Atchison, M.D.**

In this first issue, Scott Atchison, M.D., from Sioux Falls, SD, has written an account of the actions and deeds of Rungson Sittipong, M.D., a wonderful man known by so many of you. To bring you up to date with what is happening in Rochester, there follows a description of some of the things occurring in our residency program, research programs and clinical practice. Finally, there is a description of how Sonja Dawson, wife of another much revered colleague, Brian Dawson, M.D., became responsible for designing the prototype of the triple shield of WFMC.

Please write, and send me your photographs to make this magazine a valuable resource to all of us. I can be contacted at the department or by e-mail at [southorn.peter@mayo.edu](mailto:southorn.peter@mayo.edu). With your help, I look forward to getting this worthy project off the ground.



*Dr. Rungson Sittipong (right) was too modest to be photographed alone but agreed to have his picture taken with Dr. Peter Southorn (left).*

Like a fine Thai emerald, our friend Rungson Sittipong, M.D., has many facets.

*One is his intellect.* He is one of the brightest mathematical and pulmonary physiology minds I have ever encountered. (His background is with giants in pulmonary physiology such as Hyatt, Fowler, Black and Rehder.) However his knowledge is not limited to science, and his appreciation for the arts is remarkable. Leisure time spent with Rungson is a chance to learn much about classical music, especially his favorite, opera. The contradiction is that such a mind could actually seek revenge from "the slot machine that steal all my money last night!"

*Commitment to teach.* As evidenced by his multiple Mayo Graduate School of Medicine "Teacher of the Year" awards, Rungson is a great mentor and friend. His prodigious memory about people's names,

birthdays, etc., and his generosity to others is remarkable. Hundreds of residents have learned techniques and clinical pearls from him. I, for one, am sure that to this day I would not understand the difference between static and dynamic pulmonary compliance if he had not explained it to me so perfectly. (I can still see in my mind his well-worn copy of Comroe's Pulmonary Physiology.)

*Clinical expertise.* Rungson is one of the most capable clinical practitioners I have ever observed. He is as comfortable with a bronchoscope as with a needle. No one could demonstrate knee block technique better than Dave Byer, Duane Rorie, Lee Nauss and Rungson.

*Sense of humor and command of the English language.* No one at the Mayo Clinic can express himself as efficiently and with more fun than Rungson. My personal favorites include: "operation over, open eye!" "block spotty like leopard." "I meet you for lunch at fifteen minute after ten-thirty." "You not like Manhattan I fix for you or are you just unfriendly?" "This donut no better than

the first three I eat." And no day would be complete without his signature "what going on?"

I have many, many great stories about Rungson. Almost all of them are funny and demonstrate his humanity. I love the way his pants start to fall down whenever he gets all gloved up and sterile for a spinal block. "Ooie, my pant, my pant!" The driver, born and raised in the tropics, behind the wheel of his International Scout, as we slide through an intersection on the ice against a red light. "Four-wheel drive not work today." And finally, as we are all in the conference room of the cafeteria at Rochester Methodist Hospital one morning awaiting the arrival of the tardy presenting resident. Dr. Sessler: "Who is supposed to present this morning?" Dr. Gould: "The schedule says XX XXX." Rungson: "Oh, oh, I think he not make it because he still asleep on my couch this morning after poker game last night."

We all have great memories of working with and learning from "The Great Sittipong".

## Resident Education Update

**Steven Rose, M.D.**

We were extremely pleased with the results of the 2002 NRMP "match". Sixteen outstanding candidates for residency training matched with our program. The visiting medical student program appeared to be an effective tool in helping recruit high-quality medical students again this year. As always, we appreciate the help of our alumni in this process!

This year we welcome 18 new residents in Clinical Anesthesiology. They and the medical school from which they graduated are as follows: **Margaret (Peggy) Allen** – Mayo Medical School, Rochester, MN; **James Borowiec** – University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA; **Stephanie Carroll** – Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI; **Thomas Comfere** – Heinrich-Heine-Universitat Dusseldorf, Germany; **Timothy Curry** – State University of New York at Buffalo School of

Medicine, Buffalo, NY; **Daniel Diedrich** – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; **Christopher Duncan** – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; **James Dyer** – UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Camden, NJ; **Maria Eaton** – University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE; **Michael Ebbert** – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; **Del Kirkpatrick** – University of California San Francisco School of Medicine, San Francisco, CA; **Daryl (DJ) Kor** – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; **Kenyon Kruse** – University of North Dakota School of Medicine, Grand Forks, ND; **Eric Nygren** – Mayo Medical School, Rochester, MN; **Matthew Offerdahl** – University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; **Anita Pai** – Texas A & M University College of Medicine, College Station, TX; **Matthew Ritter** – St. Louis University Health Science Center, St. Louis, MO; and **Susan Scott** – University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.



Our fellowship programs continue to enroll strong candidates who seek subspecialty training. Fellows will participate in programs in critical care medicine (seven positions), pain management (three positions), cardiovascular and thoracic anesthesia (four positions), and neuroanesthesia (two positions). Four Mayo Foundation Scholars will join our faculty after completion of their fellowship programs. These people are: **Kirstin Erickson**, neuroanesthesia; **Jeff Pasternak**, neuroanesthesia; **Nicole Webel**, pediatric anesthesia at Seattle, WA; and **W. David Mauck**, pain management.

Twenty-two residents successfully completed the requirements for graduation this year. Vocational opportunities were plentiful, and we are certain this group will represent the department and training program well. They are **Marc Brower** – U.S. Air Force, Lakenheath, England; **Brian Chamblee** – Anesthesia Associates of Colorado Springs, CO; **Eric Church** – Metro Anesthesiology Consultants, Phoenix, AZ; **Scott Clarke** – Headache and Pain Center, Leawood, KS; **Michael Contreras** – Rockford Memorial Hospital, Rockford, IL; **Annie Cote** – Cardiac Anesthesia Fellowship,

Heart Institute, Montreal, Canada; **Matthew Doust** – Pain Management Fellowship, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; **John Eisenach** – Staff, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; **Terry Ellis** – Associated Anesthesiologists of Reno, NV; **Kirstin Erickson** – Mayo Foundation Scholar, Neuroanesthesiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; **Michael Johnson** – Anesthesia Physicians Ltd., Sioux Falls, SD; **Daniel Kim** – McLean County Anesthesia, Bloomington, IL; **Brian Kuipers** – Northern Colorado Anesthesia Professional Consultants, Ft. Collins, CO; **H. Rick Lam** – Texan Anesthesia, Dallas, TX; **Joshua Martini** – Midwest Anesthesia Practice Associates, Plymouth, MN; **W. David Mauck** – Mayo Foundation Scholar, Pain Management, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; **Jeffrey Pasternak** – Mayo Foundation Scholar, Neuroanesthesiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; **Karl-Heinz Spittler** – Pain Fellowship, Massachusetts General, Boston, MA; **Karrin Stoehr** – Twin Cities Anesthesia Associates, Minneapolis, MN; **Michael Tax** – DePage Valley Anesthesiologists, Naperville, IL; **Nicole Webel** – Mayo Foundation Scholar, Pediatric Anesthesiology, Children's Hospital of Seattle, WA; and **Aaron West** – Private Practice, Jacksonville, FL.



Front row (L to R): Drs. David Mauck, Rick Lam, Terry Ellis, Nicole Webel, Annie Cote, Matt Doust, Brian Chamblee, Marc Brower; Back row: Drs. Mike Johnson, Jeff Pasternak, John Eisenach, Karrin Stoehr, Kirstin Erickson, Mike Tax, Karl Spittler.



Congratulations to **Dr. Daniel R. Brown**, who was selected Mayo Fellows Association 2001-2002 "Teacher of the Year" by our residents and to **Drs. Michael J. Brown** and **Daniel R. Brown** who were selected for the department's 2001-2002 Distinguished Educator awards. Dr. Daniel Brown has been named "Teacher of

the Year" during each of the past two academic years.

Residency education at Mayo is a bond we all share. We appreciate the efforts of our alumni in recruiting outstanding trainees and placing graduates of our program in desirable practices.

## Dr. Allan and Mrs. Marilyn Gould Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Dr. and Mrs. Gould, pictured here in 1991, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 14, 2002. Congratulations to a special couple.



## New Developments in Our Practice

**Mary Ellen Warner, M.D.**

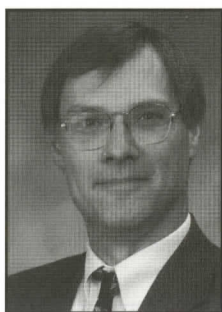


*Western exposure of the downtown Mayo complex. From left to right: Gonda and Mayo Buildings.*

The Rochester city skyline has undergone yet another transformation as Mayo continues building to support practice changes and patient needs. The most prominent new structure is the 20-story Gonda Building that links the Mayo Building to the Charlton Building of Rochester Methodist Hospital. The Gonda Building, named in honor of major donors Leslie and Susan Gonda, is the new "front door" of the Mayo Clinic. It is the central component of the Practice Integration Projects, a series of construction and renovation projects designed to not only meet space needs but to create integrated patient care programs in an innovative and flexible design space. In the future, this building could expand to 30 stories if the need exists.

The Department of Anesthesiology has had a vital role in the Phase One (Subway level through Floor 10) development of the Gonda





Dr. Bradly Narr

Building and will continue to maintain a very active role in the daily operations of several of these patient care areas. The first clinical area to open was the Gonda Subway in October 2001, which houses the Preoperative Evaluation (POE) Center, ECG, and Patient Services in one centralized space. The POE Center, the brainchild of Dr. Bradly Narr, allows for "one-stop-shopping" for our preoperative patients. All the necessary processes can now be completed in less than an hour in contrast to the former lengthy and multi-located system. We will be vital members of the team supporting Gonda 2, an Interventional Center combining interventional radiology and cardiology in one shared space. This floor will open for patient care on September 1, 2002. Our Department of Anesthesiology has designed and will direct the operations of the Outpatient Sedation Center (OPSC) located on Floor Seven of the Gonda Building. This Center, opening in the first quarter of 2003, was designed with the goals of ensuring a safe, efficient, user-friendly, and high-quality support area for clinicians performing procedures with the use of sedation or other levels of anesthesia in an

accredited facility. It features 20 private, pre- and post-procedure rooms to allow for privacy, confidentiality, and family access during the peri-procedure episode of care. Twelve procedure rooms including eight small rooms for minor procedures (e.g., wisdom teeth extractions, bone marrow biopsies), and four large, OR size procedure rooms for multipurpose ambulatory care needs (e.g., cataract surgery, minor urologic procedures) are also included. The Department of Anesthesiology will also help provide services to other practices in the Gonda facility where our level of expertise may be required (e.g., gastroenterology/colon rectal surgery on Gonda 9 and urology on Gonda 7). The OPSC will serve as the central hub for coordination of these various anesthesia services in the Gonda Center.

If you have not been to Rochester recently, please enjoy the beautiful Gonda Building on your next visit. We are most excited about our active involvement in this facility as it provides a unique opportunity for our department to demonstrate our crucial role outside the traditional OR environment.

## Mayo Anesthesia Research Still Going Strong

**David Warner, M.D.**

Research has always been an important component of the department's activities, a tradition that continues as more people than ever are involved in research activities. Nine consultants have major (R01 grants or equivalent) funding from the National Institutes of Health, with some having multiple grants. Others have significant support from industry or foundations. Several junior faculty members are well on the way toward developing new research programs, and interest among residents and fellows is growing. One measure of this interest and ability is the fact that at the most recent Midwestern Anesthesia Residents' Conference, Mayo residents walked away with by far the greatest number of awards for their presentations. We have an incredible diversity of research interests, ranging from very basic investigations of anesthetic effects

on subcellular function to more clinical projects directed toward goals that will make a direct impact on patient care, such as reducing the need for perioperative transfusions and improving the management of chronic pain. Our investigators are developing cutting-edge technologies, such as the use of gene therapy to treat cardiovascular disease in the perioperative period.

Over the next few newsletters we will introduce current research programs in the department (of both the old geezers and the rising stars) so that we can share with you our vision for Anesthesia research. As a group, we think that Mayo alumni provide the best anesthesia care in the world. Through our research, we want to help develop the knowledge and tools to keep it that way.

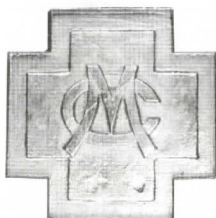
## Sonja Dawson and the Prototype Design of the Mayo Clinic Triple Shield Logo

**Peter Southorn, M.D.**



*A picture of Dr. Brian and Mrs. Sonja Dawson taken in the 1970s.*

*Mayo Logo 1914*



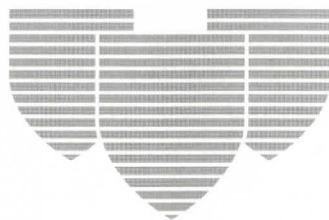
*Mayo Logo 1927*



*Mayo Logo - 1973*



*Mayo Logo - 1982*



*Mayo Logo 1986*



Many alumni remember Brian Dawson, M.D., with deep affection. He was an outstanding pediatric anesthesiologist, a superb and wonderful teacher, and a tireless advocate for the residents. Many of us can also recall being invited to the parties Brian and his wife, Sonja, had in their historic home opposite the Foundation House on Fourth Street going up to "Pill Hill". These parties were wonderful affairs and routinely attracted all of the major players running the Clinic. On one such occasion, in the mid 1970s, the head librarian of the Clinic, Mr. Thomas Keys, well-known for his contributions to the history of anesthesiology, was talking to Sonja while admiring the shield of Brian's British medical school which was proudly displayed on the dining room wall at their home. Sonja made the bold suggestion to Mr. Keys that Mayo should have a similar shield which could be reproduced on ties, scarves, and other memorabilia and perhaps even be used on Mayo Clinic correspondence. She then proceeded to draw on a table napkin her suggestion for the Mayo logo. It had three interlocking shields, the center one representing the father and the two on either side for his two sons, Will and Charles Mayo. Tom Keys thought that the design had merit and took Sonja's ideas for further consideration by the leadership of the organization. It was rapidly approved with the only one change. Instead of the three shields identifying the three founding Mayo family members, it was designated that each one of the shields would instead stand for an individual component of the Mayo Clinic's work, namely practice, education, and research. Although modified, the triple shield logo has been utilized ever since that time.



## More News About People

We mourn the deaths of several of our most distinguished alumni this year -- **Drs. Juan Nesi, Raymond Courtin, Virginia Hartridge, and Roger Ridley.** We extend our deepest sympathies to their families.

Congratulations are due to **Drs. Terese Horlocker and Juraj Sprung** for recently being made full professors in the Mayo Medical School.



We are also delighted that Dr. Kai Rehder was named the Distinguished Investigator of Mayo Foundation this spring. Finally, another bit of wonderful news is that Dr. Alan Sessler is going to be awarded the ASA Distinguished Service Award at the annual meeting in October 2002.



*Left: Dr. Terese Horlocker with Dr. Mark Warner.  
Above: Dr. Juraj Sprung with Dr. Mark Warner.*

## ASA-Mayo Reception

**Brian Hall, M.D.**

The Mayo Clinic Alumni Association and the Mayo Clinic Department of Anesthesiology will host a reception at the ASA Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. It will be held from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, October 12, in the

Signature 2 Room of the Rosen Centre Hotel. Please plan to attend this festivity if you are going to the ASA. It will give us a chance to honor Dr. Alan Sessler. We hope to see you there.

## A Final Word

That is all there is for this first reconstituted newsletter. We really hope you found it interesting. This is your newsletter. Help us to make it the best it can be. We look forward to receiving your suggestions and photos!



200 First Street SW  
Rochester, Minnesota 55905  
[www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org)

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