Promoting Pediatric History

I. About the Archives.

1. The Pediatric History Center. 2 - 3
2. Pediatric Artifacts. 4
3. Other Pediatric Societies. 5

II. Oral History.

1. Oral History Project. 6
2. Oral History Interviews. 7
3. Oral History Bibliography. 8

III. Archival Resources.

1. Chapter and Local History Guidelines. 9
2. Chapter Archives. 10 - 11
3. Writing Your Memoirs. 12
The Pediatric History Center

“...diphtheria, dysentery, measles, and scarlet fever, (along with) smallpox, influenza, and tuberculosis should certainly be included in the list of common diseases of colonial children. A surprisingly large proportion of them had worms. Deaths from falls, burns, and poisonings were frequent. It seems a little surprising that any of them survived.”

Ernest Caulfield, Pediatric Historian
writing on children in colonial American

Between America’s colonial era and the beginning of the 21st century, the care of children has advanced dramatically.

Old challenges persist and new threats arise, but most US children today are born healthy and remain healthy.

The story of this advancement in caring for children and meeting their special needs is the history of pediatrics.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is documenting that history in its Pediatric History Center. Oral histories, archival documents, artifacts, and historical publications and papers are being collected and preserved.

With its membership of more than 55,000 pediatricians and as a leader in advancing children’s health and well-being for more than 7 decades, the Academy is especially suited to house the Pediatric History Center. Located within the Drs. Harry and Ruth Bakwin Library at AAP headquarters, the center provides an important resource for both AAP members and scholars from other disciplines.

Collections:

The Pediatric History Center’s Holdings chronicle the development of pediatrics in North America while also preserving the history of the Academy itself. Most materials are available for on-site use only and are not available for loan since they are both fragile and irreplaceable. Copying sometimes can be arranged by contacting the archivist.

Oral History Project:

Interviews with selected pediatricians and other leaders in the advancement of children’s health are being conducted and preserved as part of the center’s oral history project. Recordings and transcripts of interviews provide narrative accounts of important development in the care of children and augment the written, recorded, and photographic records of pediatric history. Printed transcripts of these interviews are available for purchase.

This project is supported by donations from individuals, organizations, and corporation. An individual oral history interview can be underwritten for $4,000. For further information about this and other giving and naming opportunities, please contact the archivist.

Archives:

The Pediatric History Center houses the historic and official records of the Academy. Publications, policy statements, selected documents, photographs, and books on AAP history are being preserved as a lasting record and resource on the Academy’s leading
role in advancing child health. In addition, the center also maintains the archival records of the American Pediatric Society and the Society for Adolescent Medicine.

**Pediatric Artifacts:**
A selection of pediatric artifacts is included in the center. The collection consists of more than 600 feeding utensils and infantalia, primarily from the 19th and 20th centuries, with some dating back to the time of the Roman Empire. The collection provides a fascinating insight into the changes in infant care and feeding over the centuries, including the increasing awareness of the importance of hygiene. The Pediatric History Center lends materials from this collection to qualified institutions for public display.

**Historic Collections:**
Books and papers disclose important insights into the history and development of children’s health care. The Pediatric History Center collects books on medical history and the social history childhood, historically important pediatric texts and rare books, photographs and videotapes, and manuscripts and personal papers of selected individuals who have worked to enrich the lives of children and improve their health.

**Pediatric History Center Mission:**
The AAP Pediatric History Center is dedicated to preserving and cataloguing historical and contemporary documents and artifacts pertaining to the health care of children. It also serves as the repository of the archives of the American Academy of Pediatrics. This center provides a resource for AAP members, child health care professionals, scholars, and others interested in child health issues and pediatric medicine.

**Contributions:**
The Academy welcomes contributions to the Pediatric History Center. Donors are encouraged to make financial gifts in support of the general operations of the center or to contribute to areas of special interest within the collection. Since space in the center is limited, a collection policy has been established, and all historic documents and artifacts to the center will be reviewed by the AAP archivist before being accepted.

To learn more about the Pediatric History Center and its collections, please contact us by either of the following:
call: 847/434-7093
e-mail: history@aap.org
Pediatric Artifacts

In 1973 Dr. Robert D. Gauchat donated his valuable collection of pediatric artifacts to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The collection consists of more than 600 feeding utensils and infantalia, primarily from the 19th and 20th centuries, with some dating back to the time of the Roman Empire.

The Gauchat collection has been augmented over the years by additional donations of more recent artifacts from Dr. Morris Price and the purchase of the collection of Dr. Larrie Sarff. The collection has grown to include over 1,200 artifacts of pediatric history.

Focus of the collection is on the historical role of pediatric objects in daily life with a significant importance placed on the aspect of feeding. The largest portion of the artifacts comes from the 19th and 20th centuries. The collection contains numerous nursing bottles, nipples, pap boats, invalid feeders, feeding spoons, infant formula, and food containers.

Some objects of note include:

- Ancient Greek and Roman Empire Pottery and Glass Infant Feeders
- Colonial English and American Pewter Nursing Bottles
- Coral and Silver Infant Rattles
- Glass Breast Pumps
- Ceramic Submarine Feeders

The collection contains a number of objects that relate to 19th century medical history which help to provide a fascinating insight into the changes in infant care and feeding. One noteworthy theme illustrated by the collection was peoples’ increasing awareness of the importance of hygiene, as demonstrated by the artifacts and their development and changes over time.

The collection is a part of the AAP Pediatric History Center (PHC), which seeks to preserve the history of the health care of children in the United States. Portions of the collection are currently on display on the ground floor of the AAP building in Elk Grove Village and in the AAP Washington Office. The PHC also makes portion of this collection available for loan to qualified institutions.

Pediatric artifacts are collected by the PHC as part of its mission; to preserve the history of the health care of children in the United States. This includes the instruments and tools that have been used in the health care of children.

The PHC continues to actively seek additions to its collection and welcomes donations. If you would like to know more about the archives or would like to contribute towards it please contact us by either of the following:

- call: 847/434-7093
- email: history@aap.org
**Pediatric Society Collections**

In keeping with its mission to document and preserve the history of child health care, the Pediatric History Center (PHC) is currently maintaining the archives of the American Pediatric Society and the Society for Adolescent Medicine.

**American Pediatric Society**

The American Pediatric Society (APS) was founded in 1888 to provide a forum for discussion of pediatric care and clinical issues. Job Lewis Smith, MD, was instrumental in conceptualizing and organizing the APS and served as its second president, after Abraham Jacobi, MD.

At the time of its founding, national pediatric associations were nearly non-existent. Over the years, the APS has grown in membership and diversity. Its annual scientific meetings afford a unique opportunity for pediatricians to exchange information about research and clinical issues.

As one of the oldest pediatric organizations still active in the United States, the history of the APS is an important part of the history of the health care of children. For more information about its archives, the following book is recommended:


**Society for Adolescent Medicine**

Established in 1968 by representatives of adolescent clinics throughout the United States and Canada, the goals of the Society for Adolescent Medicine (SAM) were to improve the quality of adolescent health care through the encouragement of research, creation of medical services, and improved training of adolescent health care providers.

During its relatively brief history, SAM has accomplished much. Advocacy efforts have been directed toward a variety of issues related to adolescent health. In the late 1970s, the *Journal of Adolescent Health* was initiated. A great deal of effort was devoted to the issue of subspecialty certification, culminating in the board examination for adolescent medicine.

Though it is still a “young” organization, SAM recognizes the importance of preserving its institutional history and that of its specialization. The article cited below provides another source of information about the history of SAM:


To learn more about the Pediatric History Center and its collections, please contact us by either of the following:

- call: 847/434-7093
- email: history@aap.org
Promoting Pediatric History

Oral History Project

The American Academy of Pediatrics Pediatric History Center is working to preserve and document the rich heritage of the profession of pediatrics. Established through a generous grant from the late Harry A. Towsley, MD, FAAP, the center is located within the Drs. Harry and Ruth Bakwin Library at AAP headquarters. Guided by the Historical Archives Advisory Committee (HAAC), the center is engaged in collecting documents and memorabilia related to the history and development of the profession of pediatric and child health care, maintaining the AAP archives, and producing oral histories of leaders in the advancement of children's health care. Funding obtained through donations from individuals, groups, or corporations supports the production of the oral histories that help to preserve the contributions of individuals and their roles in important topics and developments in the health care of children.

Interviews with selected pediatricians and other leaders in the advancement of children's health care are conducted and preserved as part of the center's oral history project. Recordings and transcripts of interviews provide narrative accounts of important developments in the care of children and augment the center's written, recorded, and photographic records of pediatric history.

Selection Process:

Subjects for oral histories are selected by the HAAC based on recommendations from individual fellows as well as committee, section, chapter, and district leadership. Individuals who have been prominent in the advancement of children’s health may be recommended as oral history candidates by any person or organization. Candidates are prioritized in relation to urgency and importance by the HAAC. Individuals, groups, and/or corporations funding an oral history may select a particular person to be interviewed but will require final approval from the HAAC.

Interviews:

Interviews are completed by volunteers who have been trained in the oral history process. They may vary in length up to 10 hours and upon completion will include a verbatim transcript of the interview. The transcripts are made available in the Academy's Pediatric History Center along with the original recordings. Printed transcripts are also available for loan to fellows and for sale to fellows and other researchers. Interview transcripts are made available through the AAP Members Center with permission of the interviewee.

To learn more about the Pediatric History Center and its collections, please contact us by either of the following:

call: 847/434-7093
email: history@aap.org
Promoting Pediatric History

Oral History Interviews

Published:
Milton Arnold, MD
Mary Ellen Avery, MD
Katherine Bain, MD
Barbara Barlow, MD
Lewis Barness, MD
Henry L. Barnett, MD
Robert Bartlett, MD
Harvey Beardmore, MD
T. Berry Brazelton, MD
Audrey Brown, MD
Joseph Butterfield, MD
Thomas E. Cone, Jr., MD
Robert E. Cooke, MD
Joseph Dancis, MD
Leila Denmark, MD
Murdina M Desmond, MD
Eugene Diamond, MD
Frank A. Disney, MD
Patricia Donahoe, MD
Stanley Dudrick, MD
Antoinette Eaton, MD
Eric Fonkalsrud, MD
Dale Garell, MD
Louis Gluck, MD
Morris Green, MD
Jay Grosfeld, MD
Moses Grossman, MD
Robert Haggerty, MD
J. Alex Haller, Jr., MD
Daniel Hays, MD
W. Hardy Hendren, MD
Thomas Holder, MD
Melvin Jenkins, MD
Edwin L. Kendig, MD
C. Everett Koop, MD
Jerold Lucey, MD
John Manning, MD
Milton Markowitz, MD
Lester Martin, MD
R. James McKay, MD
Grant Morrow, III, MD
Donna O’Hare, MD
James A. O’Neill, Jr., MD
Judson Randolph, MD
Julius Richmond, MD
Marc I. Rowe, MD
Abraham Rudolph, MD
Robert S. Sanders, MD
Gerold L. Schieber, MD
Thomas Shaffer, MD
Calvin Sia, MD
Thomas Starzl, MD
F. Douglas Stephens, MD
Orvar Swenson, MD
Morris Wessel, MD
Clark D. West, MD
George Wheatley, MD
John Emmett Hall, MD
Gilbert Handal, MD
Joan Hodgman, MD
Doris Howell, MD
Joe Jacobs, MD
Dale Johnson, MD
Samuel Katz, MD
Marshall Klaus, MD
Hilda Knobloch, MD
Betty Lowe, MD
Lula Lubchenco, MD
Nicholas Nelson, MD
Jackie Noyes
William Nyhan, MD
Byron Oberst, MD
William Oh, MD
Eileen Ouellette, MD, JD
Dewey Sehring
William Silverman, MD
Martin Smith, MD
Mildred Stahlman, MD
Philip Sunshine, MD
Natalia Tanner, MD
Robert Usher, MD
Doris Wethers, MD

Interviewed/Not Yet Published:
R. Peter Altman, MD
David Annunziato, MD
Gorham Babson, MD
Frederick Battaglia, MD
Earl Brewer, MD
Barton Childs, MD
Arnold G. Coran, MD
Charles William
Daeschner, MD
Catherine DeAngelis, MD
Joycelyn Elders, MD
Avroy Fanaroff, MD
Laurence Finberg, MD
Margaret (Pef) Giannini, MD

To learn more about the Pediatric History Center and its collections, please contact us by either of the following:
call: 847/434-7093
e-mail: history@aap.org
Oral History Bibliography

The Pediatric History Center recommends the following resources to those interested in learning more about oral history.

Dunaway DK, Baum WK. *Oral History: An Interdisciplinary Anthology*. 2nd ed. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 1996.


The PHC also has additional resources available to those interested in volunteering with the American Academy of Pediatric to conduct interviews for its oral history project. If you would like more information about this project or are interested in volunteering please contact us by either of the following:

call: 847/434-7093  
email: history@aap.org
Chapter and Local History Guide

The history of pediatrics would be incomplete without a record of how it was and is practiced in the local community. To encourage chapters and individuals to preserve this history, the Pediatric History Center has prepared the following suggestions to guide individuals and groups in composing and capturing their past.

- **Founding:** Identify the founders of pediatrics in the community. Who were the first pediatricians in the area? Who else was prominent and why?

- **Growth and Development:** Discuss when and how pediatrics gained acceptance in the area. When and how did pediatricians start to organize into local groups or a chapter of the Academy? Try to include lists of officers and members of committees of these organizations.

- **Unique Aspects:** Describe the challenges faced by pediatricians in your area over time. Most pediatricians will share some experiences, but differences will exist. For example, pediatricians serving rural populations have faced different challenges from those serving large urban populations.

- **Cooperation:** How did local pediatricians work with each other, their chapters, the Academy, and with other specialties, other health care providers, hospitals, schools, local government officials, and community groups to resolve such problems?

- **Relationship with the Academy:** Discuss how the chapter's relationship with the Academy and other organizations and institutions has changed over time.

- **Accomplishments:** Describe the chapter's accomplishments, major and minor (e.g., a hospital built a new program for delivery of health care to children, etc.). Were there any projects that did not work as planned? Lessons can be learned from failures, partial successes, and significant achievements.

- **Evolution of Profession:** Describe how the practice of pediatrics has changed over time from the house calls of the 1940's to the managed care organizations of today.

For assistance in writing and research, it is suggested that the chapter recruit a history graduate student.

Remember all of these points are interrelated and that the issues involved are interrelated. You may want to organize your writing partly by time period and partly by subject, depending on what works best.

The PHC has example histories that you are welcome to preview. Please contact us for assistance by either of the following:

call: 847/434-7093
email: history@aap.org
Chapter Archive

The Pediatric History Center encourages Chapters to create their own archives in order to preserve the records of their activities for the future. These collections can be a valuable resource for the understanding of the profession of pediatrics and can provide researches with important resources about the history of child health care.

In order to help address questions of what to keep and how best to preserve their records, the Pediatric History Center has prepared the following guidelines for chapter administrators charged with the responsibility of creating or maintaining an archives.

**Records Retention:**

The following types of materials should be collected for your archives and permanently retained. They are valuable resources for preserving the history of an organization:

- Minutes and agenda books
- Newsletters
- Significant correspondence and emails documenting Chapter decision-making process
- General financial records
- Meeting programs/brochures
- Chapter reports
- Chapter publications
- Testimony by Chapter representatives before governmental organizations
- Articles about Chapter activities
- Posters and other artifacts
- Rosters of officers, committees, subcommittees, task forces, etc.
- Membership lists
- Lists of award winners, who won it and when and why.
- Records of Chapter educational programs
- Brochures and other announcements
- Member biographical information
- Photos, audio recordings, and video recordings (in all formats)

While it may be tempting to keep all records and you may find it difficult to weed your collection it is important to be able to recognize records of enduring value vs. those that you can destroy. Some types of records that should be retained only for the period required by law or business need include:

- Routine correspondence
- Routine financial records such as bills, invoices, cancelled checks
- Routine documents pertaining to meetings such as hotel brochures, etc.
- Personnel records
- Personal financial records such as credit card receipts

**Preservation:**

*Paper:* Store in acid-free folders in metal cabinets or in archival quality boxes on appropriate shelving. Use stock archival board and flat storage boxes for posters and other large documents. Newspaper articles should be photocopied on acid free paper or sprayed with a special preservative for preservation. It is important to try and keep your documents separated to prevent the spread of acid.

*Photographic Materials:* Store in mylar or polypropylene sleeves, NOT vinyl sleeves. Nitrate film should be isolated immediately and kept in a cool dark place. Professional recommendations should be sought.

Section III. 2: September 2010
Audiovisual: VHS and other magnetic tapes will disintegrate and should be migrated to another format as soon as possible. Old films may need to be professionally preserved, especially if a vinegar odor is noticeable.

Electronic Media: Floppy disks, CDs, DVDs and other electronic records must be migrated when there is a software or hardware change. All electronic media are subject to deterioration and technological obsolescence. Migration is not a single time end issue but is a process that must be considered as technology continues to evolve.

Supplies:

Popular vendors of archival quality supplies include:

- University Products: The Archival Company
- Gaylord Library Supplies
- Hollinger Metal Edge
- Conservation Resources International LLC.

Facilities:

Keep records in a fairly dry environment with moderate humidity. Ideal storage temperatures should be somewhat on the cool side and receive little exposure to light. CDs, DVDs and other electronic media need to be stored on edge in a stable cool environment that is not subject to wide temperature swings.

Assistance:

This guide has provided only the very basics for getting your archives started and for its preservation. For the best results you should consult a professional archivist. A local archivist may be available on a consulting basis. There are archivists all over the country, in colleges and universities, state historical societies, corporations, associations, hospitals, and other institutions. The Society of American Archivists (SAA) has members all over the country and there are also regional archival organizations. Contact the SAA at 312/606-0722.

The Pediatric History Center is also available to address your questions and to assist you in the development of your archives. Please contact us by either of the following:

call: 847/434-7093
email: history@aap.org
Writing your Memoirs

The Pediatric History Center encourages pediatricians to compose their memoirs in order to provide a record of their activities for the future. These personal accounts are a valuable resource for the understanding of the profession of pediatrics that provide researches with important resources about the experience of practicing pediatrics and presents a unique perspective to the history of child health care.

To encourage individuals to document their own experiences in the practice of pediatrics, the Pediatric History Center has prepared the following suggestions for composing a memoir.

- **Background:** Describe your family background, ancestry, ethnic or religious background, etc.

- **Experience:** Discuss your life experiences, childhood, early education, and what led you to decide to become a physician

- **Education:** Describe your medical education, including your internship and residency. Where did you go to school? What were your experiences? When and why did you choose pediatrics as your area of specialization? Did you encounter any difficulties because of race, gender, or origin?

- **Practice:** Describe your experiences in the practice of pediatrics? Did you practice alone or with other pediatricians? What sort of challenges did you face (e.g., epidemics, common injuries, substance abuse, violence, etc.). Do include the funnier incidents as well as the grimmer ones.

- **Experience outside of the practice:** Did you serve in the military? Did you teach or conduct research? Describe these experiences.

- **Serving the Medical Profession:** When did you join the Academy? Describe your experiences within the Academy as well as with other medical organizations.

- **Reflections:** Reflect on your career as a whole. What aspect of your career has been most rewarding? Most challenging? Most disheartening?

- **Evolution of the Child Health Care:** Describe how the practice of pediatrics has changed. Do you think that children today are better off than they were 50 years ago? What do you predict for the future?

For assistance in writing your memoirs consider asking a younger family member to assist you in this project. Students in relatable fields, such as graduate students in English or history, may also be good candidates for support especially those with a writing, editing, teaching, or library background.

Remember the PHC when you have completed your work or during and please contact us for assistance, or to donate, by either of the following:

- call: 847/434-7093
- email: history@aap.org