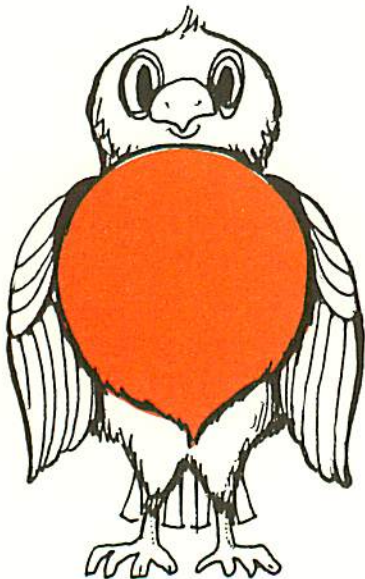
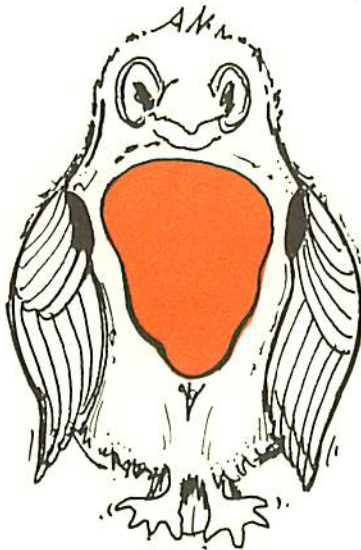
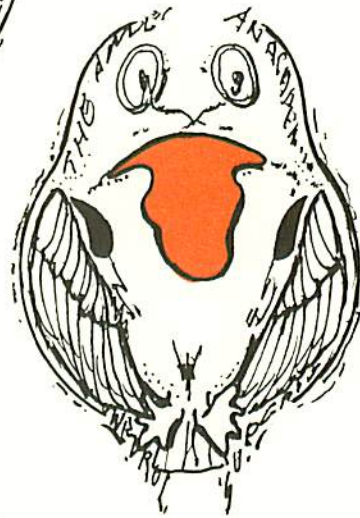


THE NEUROSURGEON



THE ROUND ROBIN LETTER
OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY



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VOLUME 43 NO.2

OCTOBER, 1983

New Members, Listed by Year Elected - American Academy of Neurological Surgery

1970

James Atkinson
Gale Clark
Kemp Clark
Pete Donaghy
William Hunt
Phanor Perot
Richard Schneider
Bennett Stein

1971

John Garner
Wolff Kirsch
Thomas Langfitt
Russel Patterson
Jim Robertson
Thor Sundt
Ronald Tasker
Lowell White

1972

David Kline
Steve Mahaley
Jim Story
David Yashon
Nicholas Zervas

1973

Edward Connolly
Henry Garretson
Leonard Malis
Hugo Rizzoli
John Tew
Robert Wilkins
Frank Wrenn

1974

Shelley Chou

1975

Stewart Dunsker
Julian Hoff
David Kelly
George Ojemann
Burt Onofrio
James Simmons
Clark Watts

1976

Richard Fraser
Edgar Housepian
Alred Lussenhop
Theodore Roberts

1977

Jerald Brodkey
Glenn Kindt
Sidney Peerless

1978

James Ausman
Alan Hudson
William Kelly
Ellis Keener
Richard Kramer

1979

Eugene Flamm

1980

William Bucheit
Griff Harsk, III
John Van Gilder

1981

Fred Simeone
Martin Weiss

1982

Harold Hoffman
Charlie Hodge
John Jane

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 19 83

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	<u>Sidney Goldring</u>
President-Elect	<u>Russell Patterson</u>
Vice President	<u>Hugo Rizzolli</u>
Secretary	<u>John Garner</u>
Treasurer	<u>James Robertson</u>
Immediate Past President	<u>Byron Pevehouse</u>
Member-at-Large (appointed annually by President)	<u>David Kelly</u>

HISTORIAN:

(elected each year by membership)

George Ehni

PRESIDENT OF WOMEN'S AUXILLIARY
(appointed annually by President)

Deborah Weiss

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Chairman	<u>Nick Zervas</u>
Member	<u>Thor Sundt</u>
Member	<u>Stephen Mahaley, Jr.</u>

(President appoints one new member annually, each serves three years, the final year as Chairman)

MEMBERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Chairman (2nd Past President)	<u>Byron Pevehouse</u>
1st Past President	<u>Joseph Ransohoff</u>
Current President	<u>Sidney Goldring</u>
Secretary	<u>John Garner</u>
Treasurer	<u>James Robertson</u>
Member-at-Large	<u>Phanor Perot</u>
Member-at-Large	<u>Shelley Chou</u>

(The 2 Members-at-Large shall serve for 2 years, one appointment being

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDING MEMBERSHIP:

Chairman	Arthur A. Ward
Member	Russell Patterson
Member	Phanor Perot

(Committee consists of at least 3 members, all appointed by President, no length of term specified, at least one member shall also be a member of the Membership Advisory Committee)

ACADEMY AWARD COMMITTEE:

Chairman	Richard Kramer
Member	John Tew
Member	William Collins

(No specified number of members, usually 3, all appointed by President, one appointed each year to serve 3 years, the final year as Chairman)

ROUND ROBIN COMMITTEE:

Chairman	Eben Alexander
Member	Robert Wilkins
Member	S.J. Peerless
Member	Clark Watts

(4 members, all appointed by the President. Chairman is selected from previous committee members and serves an indefinite term. The terms of the 3 members are 6 years, one new appointment being made each 2 years)

REPRESENTATIVE TO AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY:

6 year term	Byron Pevehouse
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REPRESENTATIVE TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AANS:

3 year term	Shelley Chou
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The American Academy of Neurological Surgery
Officers and Committee Appointments for 19__
Page Three

DELEGATES TO WORLD FEDERATION OF
NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETIES:
(4 year term)

Russell Patterson

Phanor Perot

REPRESENTATIVE TO COUNCIL OF THE
NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH:
(indefinite term)

John F. Mullan

REPRESENTATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL COM-
MITTEE ON NEUROSURGICAL IMPLANTS:
(indefinite term)

David Kline

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE INTER-AGENCY
COMMITTEE ON IRREVERSIBLE COMA AND
BRAIN DEATH:
(indefinite term)

A. Earl Walker

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

BOWMAN GRAY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



300 South Hawthorne Road • Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103

Department of Surgery
Section of Neurosurgery

11 October 1983

Dear Academician:

I am dictating this letter just two weeks before the meeting at Carmel to fill out a "Round Robin" letter (The Neurosurgeon) which I will take with me to the meeting of the American Academy of Neurological Surgery and distribute to all the people who attend there. I will mail a copy to all others who are not at the meeting.

Through considerable effort in the last letter, we have gotten six or seven letters from our members but this has included my personal writing of a number of letters, telephoning and personal entreaties.

I am still enthusiastic about the "Round Robin" letter but the Academy itself will have to make the decision as to whether it will be continued, and if so, whether on an annual basis, bi-annual or how it might be best to utilize.

I am continuing to work in our Department of Neurological Surgery under David Kelly who is doing a superb job of running a training program.

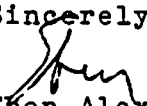
One of the most impressive things at this very moment is the high caliber of resident applicants coming through almost on a daily basis. For the one appointee we make each year, we probably see 30 or 35 people. They are American graduates who are really most encouraging in their accomplishments and in their dedication to the field.

I have decided to stop operating the first of July, 1984, and the Administration and Dave Kelly have agreed to permit me to work here still seeing patients, participating in conferences, and hopefully being much more productive in writing papers than I have ever been able to do before.

I still have three years to go on the Council on Medical Education for the AMA and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, both of which are time consuming jobs and require a good deal of travel. They are interesting and I am hopeful that Neurosurgery will use me in those jobs as much as they can since there are not many neurosurgeons in those positions.

Our work is going well, a lot of interesting cases all the time, and it is fun to get up every morning and work with the Staff and Residents we have.

Sincerely,


Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.

Benjamin B. Whitcomb, M.D.P.C.
50 Union Street
Ellsworth, Maine 04605
667-5956

19 April 1983

Dear Eben,

Thanks for your letter. If you do publish the lecture, please send me a copy.

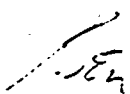
You sound quite depressed over the Round Robin - don't! We may have to return to once a year but it is needed more than ever to tie the group together. The obvious troubles:

1. The original group (war time boys) are now seniors and their interests often have turned from Neurosurgery to golf, etc. This was a close knit group and pretty much of the same age. Their letters are becoming more personal and extracurricular and of interest principally to this senior group.
2. The younger more active members, who are now in the driver's seats, send communications which are more academic (when they send them at all). Unfortunately these men and their wives, particularly at the extremes don't know each other very well (i.e. extremes of age). For this reason I believe the Round Robin is important to the Academy.

Perhaps a big needle to all members could get out at least one letter before the annual meeting. You have done a great job - an Alexander job. I know it's discouraging but don't throw in the sponge!

This life in Maine is great. Warmer than Hartford in winter and cooler in summer. And the people - well, they are like Carolina people. They are hard to beat.

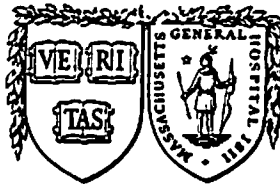
Sincerely,



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

WILLIAM H. SWEET, M.D., D.Sc.
Neurological Surgery



Please reply to:
*Ambulatory Care Center 312
Massachusetts General Hospital
15 Parkman Street
Boston, MA 02114
Phone: (617) 726-3547*

June 27, 1983

Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Dear Eben,

After receiving your letter as Chairman of the "Round Robin" Committee (The Neurosurgeon), I am filled with chagrin at my failure to come through with a letter because I really enjoy finding out what my Academy colleagues are doing. I think the present inexpensive format of The Neurosurgeon is excellent and accomplishes the objective of the publication.

In the event that the Academy decides to continue this activity, herewith a letter to be included.

Elizabeth and I had an instructive, interesting and somewhat frightening trip to India in December of 1982. A neurosurgeon born in the Calcutta area but trained in Britain, Mr. Robin Sengupta, is now a consultant neurosurgeon in Newcastle-on-Tyne. He organizes annually a trip to India in which four colleagues join him, each paying his round trip fare to India to give a series of four one-hour lectures over a five-day period at one city (this past year it was Bombay) to a group of neurosurgeons from all over India. Once in India we were all regally entertained and housed at the expense of others.

A small group of Indian physicians earn giant incomes, but the majority work in a sustained intensive fashion for what we regard as a pittance. Professor Tandon and his group at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in new Delhi are doing especially good work. He and Ramamurthi have edited a two volume textbook of neurosurgery published in 1980 by the National Book Trust of India. Its thirty-one authors, with the exception of Robin Sengupta, all work in India. All the articles are in English, which is not only the language of science and culture in general there, but is in fact the only language known by the great majority of Indians. (The denominations on all of the paper money currency notes are printed in the fifteen commoner languages of India -- in as many different alphabets!) The chapters on infections and parasitic infestations of the brain which we rarely see are especially worth consulting.

Letter to
Dr. Eben Alexander

6/27/83
Page 2

The primitive conditions of life for enormous numbers of people in India are so distressing as to be frightening. A single statistic given me by an Indian architect is revealing. He is charged with designing a city for 10 million people to adjoin Bombay's present circa 9 million inhabitants. The statistic is about one-third of the human excrement in Bombay travels via the sewers. Efforts to deal with the fundamental problem of overpopulation are pathetically inadequate, contrasting sharply with the effective determination of the Japanese and both the Taiwan and mainland Chinese to solve this problem. In mainland China for example the encouraged number of children is one. Couples having a second child have their incomes automatically cut to about two thirds what they were receiving for a one-child family.

We have our problems in this country, but it is a pleasure to come back here and try to help solve them.

Sincerely,



William H. Sweet, M.D., D.Sc.

WHS 1b

Duke University Medical Center

DURHAM NORTH CAROLINA 27710

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
DIVISION OF NEUROSURGERY

July 14, 1983

TELEPHONE (919) 684-2549

Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
300 South Hawthorne Road
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103

Dear Dr. Alexander:

I have always enjoyed reading The Neurosurgeon, but obviously there is more and more reluctance on the part of the members of the Academy to contribute to it. In my opinion, this reflects the gradual change of the organization from a small and intimate group of individuals of similar age and associations to a less personal and more formal organization of larger size and diversity, including a diversity of ages and interests. This is an unfortunate, but natural, progress of evolution of any organization. The Neurosurgeon seems to have become like so many things in life that we enjoy but are reluctant to contribute to. It is hardly fair to expect you to continue to put such an extraordinary amount of time and effort into this undertaking without a better response. I think that the idea of a personal publication for the members of the American Academy of Neurological Surgery ought to be put on the back burner for a few years to see if enough interest develops spontaneously to justify starting it up again.

I'm sorry if the above comes across as being very negative, but I don't think anyone can change human nature including the natural sloth and indolence of us all.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Robert H. Wilkins, M.D.
Professor and Chief
Division of Neurosurgery

RHW/jw

GREENWOOD

1839 Kirby Drive, Houston, Texas 77019

21 July 1983

Dear Eben,

May I put in a word to you for the continuing of the "Round Robin"? It has been such a fantastic medium for "reaching out and touching" other members of the Academy and their families.

Why not invite the wives to contribute the little "honey" items their husbands are too busy to write? Through the years this has been a wonderful organization, spreading scientific achievements but also bringing people up to date with the personal private lives of the members, as well.

For those of us who are "senior", and not able financially to attend all of the meetings which are often held in exotic but darned expensive places, the Round Robin is a delightful means of keeping in touch with the dozens of friends made in the past, but no longer able to see very often.

The younger men, who feel no attachment for this fine, friendly little publication, are missing something, for it was you and your cohorts who developed Neurosurgery to its fine place in Medicine, and they could learn quite a bit from not only the medical aspect, but from the human side of the earlier members.

Please hang on a bit longer.

Very best wishes,

Mary Greenwood

Mary Greenwood

**BARROW
NEUROLOGICAL
INSTITUTE**



ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER • 350 West Thomas Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85013 • (602) 241-3000

August 8, 1983

Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.
Editor, The Neurosurgeon
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27103

Re: The Neurosurgeon

Dear Eben:

I would like to comment on the importance of supporting one of the traditions that has made the Academy unique among all of the neurosurgical societies of the world, i.e. our round robin letter, The Neurosurgeon. During my thirty years of membership I have thoroughly enjoyed each issue because of its information about neurosurgical friends, their concerns, institutions and families. It has and will in the future provide a historical record of importance to all of us. Thank you and the Round Robin Committee for continuing The Neurosurgeon.

At the moment, Georgia and I are enjoying our condominium in Pinetop, Arizona for a long week-end. We come here as often as we can during the warm months of Phoenix. The village of Pinetop is at an elevation of 7200 feet in the pine forests of the White Mountains in eastern Arizona. In the immediate vicinity are lakes and streams for trout and bass fishing as well as clubs for golf and tennis. My week-end project has been to put together the operative statistics of the Division of Neurological Surgery of the Barrow Neurological Surgery of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center for the past year (July 1, 1982-1983):

<u>Tumors</u>	Brain (123)	Spinal (20)	143
<u>Vascular</u>	Aneurysms, AVMs (58)	Carotid (34)	
	Bypass (11)		103
<u>Trauma</u>	Hematoma (120), Fracture (28),		
	Gunshot (22)		170
<u>Hydrocephalus</u>	V-P shunts, revisions (158), other		
	shunts (13)		171
<u>Spinal</u>	Cervical, anterior (70), posterior		
	(27), lumbar (244), congenital (30),		
	chymopapain (23)		394

Barrow Neurological Institute
350 West Thomas Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85013
(602) 241-3000

<u>Functional Neurosurgery</u>	Pain, Hemifacial spasm, neuro-otologic, epilepsy, sympathectomy	80
<u>Peripheral Nerve</u>		24
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		56
		<u>1141</u>

Our neurosurgical staff consists of sixteen neurosurgeons and eight residents. Three of us are Institute-based and do nearly 50% of the procedures. Andy Shetter, who is very active in his laboratory and teaching is #1 in operating—mainly in his specialty of functional neurosurgery. He was Academy Award winner in 1975 and I sincerely hope that he will be elected, if proposed by the Membership Committee, at the 1983 meeting. Incidentally, I have dropped to #3 in procedures and anticipate a gradual decrease in my few remaining years as an operating neurosurgeon. This brings me to some bad news and some good news. When Bob Crowell left M.G.H. to join us in September, 1980 to succeed me as Chairman of the Division and Director of the Residency Program, it was our understanding that he would also succeed me as Director of the Institute on January 1, 1983. However, after he left to become Professor and Head of the Department of Neurosurgery at Illinois on June 1, 1982, I was obliged to return to administering Neurosurgery and to continue as Director of the Institute. Dr. Crowell was still undecided about leaving in late Spring of 1982 when we invited Eben Alexander and Frank Mayfield to spend nearly a week in Phoenix to advise us regarding changes in our organization that would be both academically desirable and essential to Dr. Crowell. Frank could not come because of Queenie's health, but Eben was great! We were all, including Eben, surprised that Dr. Crowell made his decision later that month to go to Chicago.

During the last half of 1982, we interviewed 8 of 16 applicants for the position in Neurosurgery. Our Institution, St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, was designated a Trauma I center in our community and the only Neuro-Trauma I center in the state. The Medical Center was awarded the Arizona Crippled Children's Hospital patients and contract by the State with the closing of this Hospital July 1, 1983. The J.N. Harber Foundation provided us with one million dollars for research endowment for a Chair for the Division of Neurological Surgery. Dr. Robert F. Spetzler, Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland was our first choice for our position and accepted after successfully

negotiating, with my help, many of the recommendations made by Eben. Perhaps foremost was the creation of an eight-man group of neurosurgeons, Neurosurgical Associates, Ltd., to be full time and based in an office section that is now under construction near the front entrance of the Institute. Seven of these neurosurgeons currently do 76% of the clinical work, 95% of the teaching and 100% of the research. Robert Spetzler's laboratories are under construction in an area that will adjoin the Neuropathology laboratories on one side and the Neurobiology laboratories on the other plus facilities for six baboons. All of the eight neurosurgeons will start at the same salary level, with appropriate fringe benefits and bonuses. We are already subspecializing partially and believe that our new group will enhance subspecialization.

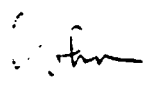
It is planned that Robert Spetzler's neurosurgical responsibilities will keep him totally occupied during the first two years and that he will also be my understudy to be the next Director of the Institute, commencing January 1, 1985. For myself, my plans are (1) to make sure that Dr. Spetzler is highly successful, (2) to continue my own career in practice, teaching, and writing, (3) to increase our endowment funds, and (4) to improve my golf—probably my only goal that may be impossible.

I was greatly saddened to hear that our dear friend Jack French is now at home because of Alzheimer's Disease. How very sad this is for this bright and talented neurosurgeon and neuroscientist—the co-founder of the UCLA Brain Research Institute. I was delighted to hear that John Raaf's Neurological Science Foundation of Portland has created The John Raaf Chair of Neurological Surgery at the University of Oregon.

Georgia's paintings are a great source of satisfaction for her and many people. She was recently commissioned to do the cover of Elite, an Arizona magazine that is similar to Town and Country. The editor did a nice biographical write-up about her. Our son Charles is back in school for a degree in computer science—one more year to go. Our daughter Gretchen is working on a horse ranch in Tucson and is teaching horsemanship to a number of her own pupils.

Georgia and I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting of the Academy.

With best personal regards,


John R. Green, M.D.
Director

JRG:GF

ERNEST W. MACK, M.D., F.A.C.S.

AMERICAN BOARD OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY

PROFESSOR OF NEUROSURGERY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA-RENO

505 SOUTH ARLINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 212
RENO, NEVADA 89509
Telephone 702-322-6979

August 9, 1983

Eben Alexander, Jr., M.D.
Bowman Gray School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27103

Dear Eben:

It seems timely that we sit down and put together a few remarks which might be of interest to our many friends in the Academy.

This coming Saturday night we will gather family and friends on a very happy occasion which will be to honor Bobbie on her 65th birthday. Earlier in the year we had a similar happy occasion which was the passage of yours truly into his 71st year. Something that wasn't always anticipated. On this score we both continue to enjoy reasonably good health and as a matter of fact are looking forward with great anticipation to the Academy meeting in Pebble Beach this fall.

I am still functioning as Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. I am happy to report that we must be doing something right, we had three very excellent graduates this year enter into a neurosurgical training programs, and we look forward to great accomplishments on their part. In our program we have each student for a week during his third year on a combined neurology-neurosurgery service at the Veterans Hospital, where we try to do a little introductory type of program to these students. Certain of them who become interested as a result of this have then come back to us in their fourth year for elective programs which extend over several weeks period. This pattern of teaching these students has been reasonably satisfactory in our hands.

Those of you who were present in Boston at last year's meeting will recall the very interesting presentation on the electrical responses of the fish cortex to certain wave lengths of light. I have now had an opportunity to test some of this information. While on our recent trip to Iceland, fly fishing for Atlantic salmon, I took occasion to tie up a number of flies which embodied the principles which were presented to us in Boston. I am happy to report that this venture was very successful, confirming the findings which had been previously reported. It will certainly influence my flytying in the future as regards selection of color and relationship of color patterns, as related to successful fly fishing.

Following the Senior meeting in Seattle which was great fun, a group of us proceeded to a very delightful resort near the Camel River on Vancouver Island. This particular resort is called April Point Lodge and is on a small island right off Camel River called Quadra Island. There, Dr's. Buchheit, Pool, Patterson, Perot and Mack proceeded to enjoy three days of salmon fishing

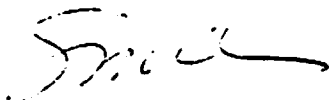
Page 2

Even Alexander, Jr., M.D.

which was most enjoyable. Salmon were not in great abundance however some excellent catches were made by us, and the stay at the Lodge was absolutely delightful. With the selection of the menus and wines in the able hands of Phanor Perot we enjoyed ourselves immensely. We were all delighted to see Dr. Pool retain his ability to handle the old double M's with great style at a time when most of us have a hard time to even handle one M.

We will look forward to seeing you all at Pebble Beach this fall.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ernest W. Mack".

ERNEST W. MACK, M.D./mw