

TECH'S TALK

No. 36

Editor: Verna Rausch

March 1982

Lucy: "Don't talk to me. I'm counting snowflakes."

Linus: "You're wasting your time."

Lucy: "Why?"

Linus: "I've already counted them!"

Lucy: "Do you mean to tell me that you've counted all the snowflakes that have fallen today?"

Linus: "I said so, didn't I?"

Lucy: "How many did you get?"

Linus: "Let's see. I wrote it down on a little slip of paper. Here it is. Thirteen billion, four thousand and three."

Lucy: "Really? That's the same figure I got!"

Here it is! Your annual communique from your alma mater to let you know that we have survived thirteen billion, four thousand and three snowflakes, budget cuts, retrenchment, rising costs, and things that go bump in the night! The snowfalls that we had in January were record-breakers. The University closed its doors at noon on a Friday for only the second time in its history. We trust that you can visualize the sight of all those students, staff, and faculty trying to leave the campus at one time! The public transportation service did a humongous job of providing extra buses but even so there were some interesting tales of struggles to arrive at destinations safely. And just think, we still have the usual State Basketball Tournament Blizzard to survive.

We thank our friends from "Peanuts", Charles Schulz and the United Features Syndicate, Inc. for assisting us in bringing this news to you.

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(edited slightly)

Sally: "I've decided something. I've decided to become a medical technologist when I grow up!"

Charlie: "How did you happen to decide that?"

Sally: "I like white shoes."

It has not been our practice to give special mention to individual medical technologists regarding milestones in their lives and careers. Our reason is simple; we do not have the world-wide system for collecting such information and, therefore, are bound to omit some notable occasions. However, three stalwarts of the profession and strong supporters of the University program are retiring in 1981-82 and we would like to extend our congratulations and thank-yous to

Frances V. Anderson

Grace Mary Ederer

Mildred E. Olson

Enjoy, friends, enjoy! Just think -- no more white shoes to polish!

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Schroeder: "Guess what? My grandfather is fifty-eight years old today. Isn't that great?"

Lucy: "What's so great about that?"

Schroeder: "He outlived Beethoven!"

One of our honored classes, the class of 1932, has certainly surpassed Beethoven in longevity. The other, the class of 1957, has a few years to go but we thought that one cartoon would suffice for both. Besides, when were you last honored along with Beethoven?

Class of 1932

Beatrice Currier Siemon
Bessie Hawk Dewell
Sister Maria Laufer**
Maxine Leininger*
Miriam Lipser Friedell
Helen Luick McNulty
Ruth Morgan*
Libbie Sagel Gilbert
Margaret Skoglund Polga

Bernice Shalett Cohen
Goldie Sherberg*
Alma Skerik Sowers
Gladys Smith Phares*
Janet Smith Hoeft
Natalie Tankenoff Gerstein*
Alice Thomas Griffith
Margaret Tufty Refsdahl
Lucretia Wilder**

Class of 1957

Janice Beck Brethorst
Sharon Gemmill Koster
Barbara Goldberg Melemed
Jane Heidelberger Froemming
Loretta Hendrickson Roe
Alice Hellberg Krause*
Beverly Jarmuth*
Sally Kiehne Kelby
Janet Milbrandt Pierce

Maija Praulins Stumbris
Marilyn Reinke Torgrimson
Lia Rozenfelds Ozols
Joanne Samuleson
Joyce Stefan Ells
Nancy Thorpe Elstad
Joanne Torvick Mercil
Regina Williams*
Joan Zittleman Yasmineh

* Address unknown

**Deceased

Now isn't that a coincidence? Both of these classes had 18 members and we have the addresses of 68 and 83% respectively! Could it be that the older we get, the more stable we get?

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Linus: "When I get big, I want to be a great philanthropist!"

Charlie: "You have to have a lot of money to be a great philanthropist."

Linus: "I want to be a great philanthropist with someone else's money!"

We have been able to be philanthropic with someone else's money -- the money that you wonderful people have donated in response to the University Foundation's phonathon and mail campaigns. We informed you last year of the new equipment that we were able to purchase for the student laboratories. Under the impetus of the fund-raising, a faculty member contributed a new gas chromatograph and recorder, purchased from revenue generated by selling a product developed in the laboratory, and another alum donated equipment which was no longer useful in the individual's laboratory.

We thank you again most sincerely and trust that you will be able to continue to support the educational needs of the program. Contributions can be sent to

The University of Minnesota Foundation
Medical Technology Fund
120 Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

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Patty: " 'In driving from town A to town D you pass first through town B and then through town C. It is 10 miles farther from A to B than from B to C and 10 miles farther from B to C than from C to D. If it is 390 miles from A to D, how far it is from A to B?'

Well, I knew it would happen sooner or later."

Roy: "What's the matter?"

Patty: "My education has ground to a halt!"

Your education need not grind to a halt. Two opportunities are available to you.

1. The Minnesota Society for Medical Technology and the University of Minnesota have formed a Coalition for Continuing Education of Laboratorians in Minnesota. The two organizations are co-sponsoring continuing education programs. These programs are designed to build upon previously acquired entry-level knowledge and skills. The process includes a progression of contemporary, flexible, and challenging learning experiences that make use of a wide variety of professional, academic, and community resources.

The Coalition plans to provide 10 new continuing education programs each year for the next 3 years. Twelve offerings have been tentatively scheduled for 1982 in seven different communities. Once a workshop has been developed and presented under the auspices of the Coalition, the same workshop can be presented elsewhere "on demand" if a sufficient audience can be guaranteed. For further information contact:

Ms. Karen Karni
Director, Continuing Education in Medical Technology
Box 198 Mayo
420 Delaware St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 373-9670 (mornings)
(612) 373-9679 (afternoons)

2. In response to laboratory managers who anticipate a shortage of clinical laboratory personnel in the future, the University of Minnesota has started a refresher/retraining program for credentialled laboratory scientists (medical technologists). In this program, individuals may refresh in one or more areas of laboratory work by enrolling in the appropriate junior year courses of the current curriculum. Subsequent clinical assignments will be dependent on availability of space. Depending on the area(s) selected for refreshing, the time and the credits and associated costs will vary.

Applicants will be asked to write a short essay, regarding education, work history, career goals and professional objectives. Registration will be as adult special students in medical technology. Present tuition is \$39.90 per credit hour (subject to change). For further information contact:

Ms. Maureen Lally
Box 198 Mayo
420 Delaware St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455
(612) 373-9670

Incidentally, the answer to Patty's problem is 140 miles. See what a college education can do?

Snoopy: "I love looking at house plans! Building a new home is enough to drive you crazy! Bank loans, architect's plans, insurance, building permits, plumbing, heating, and electrical contracts. But it's worth it when you hear that big truck coming and you can stand here watch them pour the concrete!"

Yes, we know that we used this caption before in March 1980. We just wanted to see if you were paying attention. Besides, this time it's true!

At long last, the plans have been accepted and workmen are really doing their things on the 15th floor of the Phillips-Wangensteen Building to complete office facilities for the Division of Medical Technology. Next year we should be able to report that we are ensconced in the new space. After all those moves from 4th floor to 6th floor to 5th floor to 2nd floor to Powell Hall to our present temporary location in Jackson Hall (anatomy), we shall finally have a permanent (ha!) place to call our own.

Not only will we have offices for the faculty but also a conference room (to be shared with others on the 15th floor) and office space for graduate students and teaching specialists. Although the budget is limited, we will have carpeting. When we are all settled in, we'll invite you to come up and see us sometime!

Our temporary quarters in Jackson are adequate with two to three people sharing offices and others located in communal carrels. It isn't so bad if one doesn't mind being surrounded by old autopsy and surgical records that have a tendency to fall on one's head.

The move from Powell was beneficial because it forced us to clean out old files. Never fear -- we still have all the student records from back to 1923!

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Charley: "As a watchdog, you're getting more useless every day! I feed you well, and you have a nice house. I don't know what more you expect."

Snoopy: "How about adding a little to the ol' pension fund?"

No, we are not seeking support for a pension fund but we again ask for contributions to the William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund.

Yes, we appreciate that the economy is difficult and we are all experiencing financial restraints in our lives. However, as a result of decreased State support, it has been necessary for the University to raise tuition. This year, tuition per quarter for a resident is \$477; a raise will undoubtedly be forthcoming for next year but the exact increase has not been decided. Students do work to help support their education but any additional assistance is appreciated.

If you can contribute, make your tax deductible donation to

William A. O'Brien Scholarship Fund

and send to

Ruth Hovde
Box 198 Mayo
420 Delaware St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Scholarships were awarded for 1981-82 to Susan Adlis and Todd Jensen.

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Lucy: "Why don't you be a good little brother and go make me a jelly-bread sandwich? If you don't, I'm going to leap on you, and pound you right through the floor! So why don't you make me that jelly-bread sandwich, huh? Please, dear brother?"

Linus: "When someone asks you that nicely, how can you refuse?"

How can you refuse when we invite you nicely without threats to attend the annual dinner of the Medical Technology Alumni Association?

When: Wednesday, April 28, 1982

Social hour (cash bar): 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Top sirloin (no jelly-bread sandwiches for us!)

Where: Woman's Club of Minneapolis

410 Oak Grove

Minneapolis, MN 55403 (free parking)

Cost: \$16.50 (includes gratuity)

Program: Greetings and visiting with friends.

Those of us who attended last year enjoyed the atmosphere, food, and service of the Woman's Club.

Special recognition will be given to the 25th anniversary class of 1957 and the 50th anniversary class of 1932.

Deadline for reservations: April 20, 1982.