

NEWSLE

Volume 34 Number 1

Spring, 1998

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

JACK L. BEAL 1923 - 1998

Jack L. Beal, Ph.D., died on February 24, 1998. He was born July 7, 1923 in Harper, Kansas. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees (1948 and 1950 respectively) in pharmacy from the University of Kansas, and his Ph.D. from the Ohio State University in 1952. Upon graduation with his Ph.D., Jack joined the faculty at Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and served the College for the next 34 years. During his tenure

at Ohio State, Dr. Beal excelled in the area of pharmacognosy and attained national

Jack L. Beal In Memoriam by Varro E. Tyler

Any listing of the names of individuals who have made major contributions to the successful development of the American

Society of Pharmacognosy would prominently feature that of Jack L. Beal. I first met this soft-spoken Kansan with the always gentlemanly manner about the time he joined the Ohio State Pharmacy faculty in 1952, shortly after receiving his Ph.D.

stature. Jack was one of the first pharmacognosy researchers to use isolation and identification of plant constituents and look at their potential pharmacological usefulness. This research brought him international recognition in the natural products chemistry arena.

At the time of his retirement from Ohio State in 1986, Dr. Beal was Associate Dean for Graduate and Research Studies. He also co-developed

> a professional alumni organization for over

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How do I begin to write, in the space of a few words, a tribute to a man who so profoundly influenced my life, and the lives of so

many other individuals? It is an overwhelming task. The statistics of Jack Beal's life would fill up many pages, and somehow, I can't quite get myself to reiterate his degrees, publications, grants, multiple officerships in societies, honors, and on, and on. I don't think



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that he would want that either; rather, I think that he would want to know that the impact he had on so many people, including undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctorals, fellow faculty and research scientists, was good and enduring.

I first met this humble man from Harper, Kansas in the initial Pharmacy course that I attended at the College of Pharmacy at The Ohio State University. As was his custom, it was an 8 o'clock class, and right from the very beginning, I had a really good feeling about pharmacognosy in particular, and the College of Pharmacy, as a whole. It took only one year of study with him to so attract me to pharmacognosy, that I felt that it could be a lifetime's occupation. I was fortunate to work the following summer in his laboratory, busily extracting plants and preparing concentrates for submission for testing by the NCI. It was a great experience, working in that laboratory beside graduate students and postdoctorals from all over the world. The laboratory was crowded, without air-conditioning, and filled with enough potent solvents and fumes that it would be used today in the training of OSHA inspectors. Apparently, we all had pretty good hepatic microsomal enzymes, because some 30-35 years later, the fellows who I knew that were in that laboratory are still relatively healthy, albeit crotchety men. I learned from the very beginning, as well as in graduate school, that Jack was not the type of graduate advisor who looked over your shoulder all of the time. He gave you some advice, and then stepped away, allowing you to make your own way along the path taking two steps forward, only to fall back one step, stumble, and begin again. That was part of the process and we knew it. Joe Knapp and I occasionally recall one of these "learning" experiences that we observed with one of Jack's graduate students when we were undergraduates. Jack has asked this student to dry his plant material in the oven, prior to extraction with ethanol. The only trouble was that this student had first extracted the ground plant material with ether, but had not so informed Jack. After but a brief time in the oven, there was a muffled roar, followed by the expulsion of several kg of flaming plant material plus

the oven door. The door barely missed the head of a Canadian postdoctoral who, we believe, still has nightmares about the incident. Jack never found out about this, as far as we knew, because no one dared to tell him. I think that the uncharged plant material was subsequently extracted with ethanol, and the graduate student continued with his doctoral work. On yet another occasion, I recall Jack either encouraging or requiring a certain graduate student from the University of Pittsburgh to attend a Billy Graham Crusade. The outcome of this effort is reputed to still be hanging "in the balance".

All of Jack's students soon came to know and love his wife, Earlene. We would observe her quietly watch him, mostly smiling in approval, but occasionally giving him one of those "wifely looks" that all married men have experienced. We knew what a devoted husband and father that he was, and this engendered an even greater respect from his student "family".

No tribute to Jack would be complete without the mention of his years as Editor of the Journal of Natural Products (Lloydia) from 1977 until 1984. Unknown to many, he toiled countless hours at home in his basement on editorial work after the conclusion of his regular College duties. This was because he did not undertake any Journal work during the daylight hours at the College of Pharmacy. I am certain that Earlene helped him in these efforts, and I remember serving as "Editor" for some of Jack's own manuscripts that he wanted to publish in the Journal during those years. I can't think of any other individual in the ASP who would have undertaken this mammoth responsibility with the limitations that were placed on him. It was a prime example of the selfless nature of this man.

Another good example of his unselfish character was the sharing of his graduate students with Ray Doskotch, when Ray came to Ohio State in 1963. Jack openly encouraged several

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of us who were at the Master of Science degree level to study with Ray for our doctoral degrees. He did this because he know that Ray had a background in various aspects of natural products chemistry that he himself lacked, but that we would need. Many other individuals in Jack's place could never have had the courage and generosity to make such a recommendation. It was another example of the truth that was in this man's character.

It was always difficult for me to call Jack by his first name, not because I was steeped in formality, but because of the degree of respect that I accorded him. I was twice blessed by being in a position to honor him with my words. The first occasion was when he received his Honorary Membership in the ASP in 1984 at Austin, Texas. I was the outgoing President at that time, and I was able to make some remarks that meant a lot to me, and I believe, to him. The second time was at the Jack L. Beal Symposium at the College of Pharmacy at The Ohio State University in December, 1994. This symposium was in celebration of the first 50 years of graduate and research studies of

the College, and Dean Cassady asked me to be a speaker to represent Jack's graduate students. After a good deal of thought, I put together a tribute to him that consisted of my five year trek (1962-1967) through graduate school, complete with all of the individuals and incidents of those years. I gave Jack a copy of that talk, and I believe that he enjoyed it. It is a just and fitting tribute to Jack that the College of Pharmacy established the Jack L. Beal Chair in Pharmacognosy and Natural Products Chemistry at that Symposium in 1994. The individuals who will occupy that Chair in future years can never know or fully understand the goodness of the man for whom the Chair was named. That is

likely the way that Jack would want it.

Simply put, Jack was the finest man (along with my Dad) that I ever knew. If there was one word that defined his life, it would be "integrity" — integrity in family, church, profession, and life. No one came close to his standard of integrity. He had a way of looking at you, and looking right through you, and if, for any reason, you were off course, he made you "feel it" without saying a word. His honesty was pierc-

ing, yet he was a man capable of deep understanding and compassion. I do not ever remember him "striking back" at anyone, though there were numerous times that he would have been justified in doing so. I remember a particularly nasty incident that involved a scientist at another University who had done something extremely unethical to Jack, but Jack never once spoke ill of this person, though he was very hurt and offended, and by all the standards of today's world, would have been justified in exacting some form or revenge.

Jack had an absolutely wonderful smile. When he cracked that grin, the whole world lit up. He was truly like a father to me and to his

other students, and one of the thing that was solidly ingrained in me since the first days of my study with him was the strong desire to uphold his tradition, so that others could say of me, "He was one of Jack's students." I desperately wanted him to be proud of me, and the manner in which I conducted myself, because I learned so much from him and I loved him so. I have never been a truly accomplished research scientist like so many others in our Society, but I have always tried to do the simple things with a degree of quality and thoroughness that would reflect well on my academic upbringing. I have also tried to give to my students just a fraction



Paul L. Schiff, Jr., (r) presents ASP Honorary Membership to Jack L. Beal at the 1984 Annual Meeting in Austin, TX

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of what Jack gave me, so that when it's all over, perhaps, just perhaps, I will have succeeded in perpetuating a little bit of him through me.

It has been said that in life's closing moments, there are only three things that really count: first, who you have loved; second, who has loved you; and third, whether you have left life any richer for having been there. I know that Jack Beal has left me, and many, many others incredibly richer for his having been here. Well done, dear teacher, mentor, and closest friend. I have been privileged to have been touched by your life.

"...Hast thou forgotten how soon we must severHast thou forgotten this day we must part,It may be for years, and it may be forever..."

Cards of condolence and letters can be sent to: Mrs. Earlene Beal, 5544 Rockwood Road, Columbus, OH 43229

Gifts in memory of Dr. Jack Beal can be made to "The Jack L. Beal Fellowship in Pharmacognosy and Natural Products Chemistry -- Fund #520386" at the Ohio State University College of Pharmacy, 500 W. 12th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1291.

Contributions to the ASP Foundation in memory of Jack Beal can made to the "Founders Fund". Contact: Bob Kreiger, Ph.D., Treasurer, ASP Foundation, Ferris State College, School of Pharmacy, Big Rapids, MI 49307.

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4,000 Ohio State University College of Pharmacy graduates. Together with alumna, Josephine S. Failer (1939, OSU), Jack established the College of Pharmacy Alumni Association in 1981.

Some of Jack Beal's many honors include: a designation as a Fulbright Fellow, visiting scientist at the University of Baghdad, visiting professor at the University of Munich, honorary membership in the Egyptian Pharmaceutical Society, The Ohio State University Centennial Service Award, The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award, APhA Research Achievement Award in Natural Products Chemistry, Outstanding Educator of America, Honorary Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy and the Society for Economic Botany's Distinguished Economic Botanist Award. In 1990 The Ohio State University recognized Dr. Beal with a University Distinguished Service Award.

In 1994, The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy announced the establishment of the Jack L. Beal Chair in Pharmacognosy and Natural Products Chemistry.

Hundreds of professional and graduate pharmacy students have benefited over the years from Dr. Beal's skills as an educator, mentor, and friend. His former students now occupy distinguished positions across the world in the profession of pharmacy as researchers, educators, professional pharmacists, and corporate executives.

"The A's and B's one earns in school aren't all-important. It is what one does with his or her life that counts. One should have a worthwhile goal in life and never be satisfied with the status quo."

— Jack L. Beal

NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Nominations for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy are now being accepted by the Honorary Membership Committee. If you would like to nominate a member for this distinguished honor, please forward your nomination and supporting biographical data as well as two letters of recommendation from experts in the field to: David P. Carew, Ph.D., 8 West View Acres, Iowa City, Iowa 52240. Phone: (319)354-3622

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The American Society of Pharmacognosy offers a placement service to aid our members in seeking positions or employees. This service is available only to ASP members and is free to both the applicant and the prospective employer. Once an application is submitted, it will remain on file for one (1) year, at which time it will be destroyed. The applicant should realize that this is not a resume service and that the application will be submitted to the prospective employer exactly as submitted (i.e. the submitted form will be photocopied, then sent to the prospective employer). All information submitted will be held in the strictest confidentiality.

Forms and further information may be obtained from:

Joseph M. Betz, Ph.D., Division of Natural Products, Food and Drug Administration (HFS-347), 200 'C' Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20204-0002 U.S.A Fax: (202) 205-4422; Phone: (202) 205-4060 E-mail: jbetz@bangate.fda.gov

TELLER'S COMMITTEE REPORT

The Teller's Committee wishes to report the following results of the 1997 election:

Vice President (1998-1999):

James B. Gloer

Executive Committee Member (1998-2001):

Guy T. Carter

Constitution and By-Laws Amendment Proposal:

Passed

This change provides for two changes:

- 1. Ballots are to be sent to members no later than eight months after the Annual Meeting rather than no later than four months after the Annual Meeting.
- 2. The "Honorary Membership Review Committee" has been changed to the "Honorary Membership Committee."

A total of 964 ballots (563 USA and 401 non-USA) were mailed in late January 1998. Of this total, 396 ballots (292 USA and 104 non-USA) were returned and counted. Therefore 41% of the qualified voting members of the ASP participated in this election.



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degree there. But I never got to know him well until 1959, the year when the 36th annual meeting of the Plant Science Seminar became the 1st annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy.

From that time forward Jack, who was a charter member, served the ASP faithfully and well. As vice-president, he acted as scientific program chairman for the 1962 meeting in Morgantown, West Virginia, where he was elected the third president of the Society. He subsequently served the ASP in almost every capacity possible, including editing the *Journal of Natural Products* (*Lloydia*) from 1977-84.

This latter task, which he carried out so diligently with the able assistance of his wife Earlene, was undertaken by him at my urging in spite of his heavy teaching and research load at Ohio State University. I was totally unaware, until Jack approached me in 1983 seeking relief from this burden, that the dean of the college of pharmacy there would not permit him to conduct any Journal activities during school hours in his office at the University. Consequently, all of the editorial tasks had to be carried out in his home in the evening (and late nights) after regular working hours. This unwillingness to support such prestigious journal activity by a university administrator, who was himself a natural product chemist, came as a great shock to me. When I learned of it, no time was lost in finding a replacement editor. Jack's silence about this extraordinary labor for the ASP over a period of many years can be taken as a measure of a truly dedicated man willing to make a substantial sacrifice for the cause of pharmacognosy in which he was a true believer. As a partial compensation for his editorial efforts, Jack was subsequently made an honorary member of our Society.

In spite of our similar Midwestern upbringing (he in Kansas; I in Nebraska), Jack Beal and I disagreed on some things, especially the institution of a universal Doctor of Pharmacy degree to which he was strongly opposed. (Actually, I

became less enthusiastic about it myself when I found that the implementation of it at many pharmacy schools involved a substantial reduction or elimination of the science and laboratory courses on which the sound professional practice of pharmacy has always been based.) But our disagreements were always cordial ones which did not interfere in any way with the deep friendship and respect in which we held one another.

Jack retired from his position at OSU in 1986, at which time he was not only a professor of pharmacognosy and natural products chemistry but also associate dean for graduate and research studies. He had by that time accumulated so many honors and recognitions that just to list them would take all the space available. That same year, I became executive vice president for academic affairs at Purdue. He called me on the telephone and, after extending congratulations, gently chided with me for my naiveté in accepting a position in which all the problems brought to my desk would be without solution. "After all", he said, "if a problem can't be solved by a faculty member, a department head, and a dean, how are you going to do it?" I never will forget that sage comment, which was basically true.

And now Jack, that industrious laborer in the vineyard of pharmacognosy, is no longer with us. We shall miss many things about him - his wise advice, his friendship, and his inspirational invocations at the annual banquets of our Society. And personally, I shall miss his thoughtfulness. He called me frequently during my current illness. He sent me the funniest get-well cards you can imagine. He encouraged me in every way. He was my true friend. He was Jack L. Beal - one in many, many millions.

"...stand with me here upon the terrace, for it may be the last quiet talk we shall ever have."

MEETINGS

Future ASP Meetings

1998 - July 19-24 - Orlando, Florida 1999 - July 26-31 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands. International meeting with the Phytochemical Society of Europe, the Gesellschaft fur Arzneipflanzenforschung, and the Association Francaise pour l'Enseignement et la Recherche en Pharmacognosie.

2000 - Seattle, Washington

Future AAPS Meetings - 1998

Contact Amy Miller, (703) 518-8417 email miller@aaps.org June 22 - Southeast Regional Meeting, Omni Chapel Hill Hotel, Chapel Hill, NC

November 15-19 - Annual Meeting, Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA

Other Meetings of Interest-1998

June 18-20, ACE '98, Advances in Chromatography and Electrophoresis, Szeged, Hungary. Contact: Dr. Huba Kalász, Chairman of the Symposium: Department of Pharmacology, Semmelweis University of Medicine, H-1445 Budapest, Nagyvárad tér 4, P.O. Box 370, Hungary, Phone: 36-1-210-2930/6258, Fax: 36-1-210-4412, email: Bpchr97@net.sote.hu

June 25-27, Lublin, Poland, 7th Conference on the Application of Chromatographic Methods in Phytochemical & Biomedical Analysis. Contact: Prof. Dr. Kazimierz Glowniak, Department of Pharmacognosy, University Medical Academy, 12 Peowiaków St. P-20-007 Lublin, Poland. Phone: +48 81 5323314, Fax: +48 81 5328903.

July 20-25, Bend, Oregon, Plant Polyphenols: Chemistry and Biology. For details contact: Dr. R. W. Hemingway, Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, Pineville, LA 71360, U.S.A. FAX: +001-318-473-7246 or 318-442-2547. E-mail: dhemingway@popalex1.linknet.net

September 6-9, Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 29th International Symposium on Essential Oils (29th ISEO), For further information contact Prof. Dr. Armin Mosandl, Institut für Lebensmittelchemie, Marie-Curie-Str. 9, D-60439 Frankfurt am Main. Phone: +49 69 798 29202 or 29203, Fax: +49 69 798 29207, E-mail: Mosandl@em.uni-frankfurt.de

September 13-16, Oslo, Norway, Phytochemical Society of Europe Meeting on Biologically Active Polysaccharides. For details contact: Prof. B.S. Paulsen, Farmasoytisk, avd c, Postboks 1068 - Blindern, 0316 Oslo, Norway. Phone: +4722856572, Fax: +4722854402, E-mail: b.s.paulsen@farasi.uio.no

October 11-16, 21st IUPAC International Symposium on the Chemistry of Natural Products (ISCNP-21), Beijing, China. Contact: Prof. Xibai QIU, Secretariat of ISCNP-21, c/o Chinese Chemical Society, P.O. Box 2709, Beijing 100080, China. Tel.: 86-10-6256815, 62564020, Fax: 86-10-62568157, E-mail: qiuxb@infoc3.icas.ac.cn

October 18-21, Honolulu, Hawaii, International Spice Sympsoium. For further information contact Allured Publishing, 362 South Schmale Rd., Carol Stream, IL 60188-2787 USA. Fax: 630-653-2192, E-mail: CustomeService @allured.com

December 6-11, First European Ginseng Congress, Marburg, Germany. Contact: Prof. Dr. Hans Christian Weber, Morphologie und Systematik der Pflanzen, Fachbereich Biologie, Philipps-Universitat Marburg, 35032 Marburg, Germany. Tel.: ++49- (0) 6421 282091, Fax: ++49-(0)6421 282057, E-mail: weberh@mailer.uni-marburg.de, URL: http://www.unimarburg.de/stadt/

Other Meetings of Interest—1999

February 28-March 3, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Second International Symposium on the Chemistry, Biological and Pharmacological Properties of African Medicinal Plants. For further information contact: Professor K. Hostettmann, Chairman, IOCD Working Group on Plant Chemistry, Institute of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, University of Lausanne, B.E.P., CH-1015 Lausanne-Dorigny, Switzerland. Telephone: 41/21 692 45 61: FAX: 41/21 692 45 65; E-mail: kurt.hostettmann@ipp.unil.ch

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the American Society of Pharmacognosy is recognized in several categories:

Full Membership

Full membership is open to any scientist interested in the study of natural products. Dues are \$25.00 per year. In order to receive the *Journal of Natural Products* the subscription rates (print version) are as follows: United States: \$55.00; Canada and Mexico: \$65.00; Europe: \$76.00; All other countries: \$80.00. Internet version \$63.00.

Associate Membership

Associate membership is open to students of pharmacognosy and allied fields. These members are not accorded voting privileges, and dues are \$15.00 per year. In order to receive the *Journal of Natural Products* the subscription rates (print version) are as follows: United States: \$38.00; Canada and Mexico: \$48.00; Europe: \$59.00; All other countries: \$63.00. Internet version \$44.00.

Emeritus Membership

Emeritus membership is open to retired members of the Society who maintained membership in the Society for at least five years. Dues are \$5.00 per year. These members receive the ASP Newsletter. Emeritus members may subscribe to the Journal of Natural Products at the Full Member rates.

Honorary Membership

Honorary members are selected by the Executive Committee of the American Society of Pharmacognosy on the basis of meritorious service to pharmacognosy.

Present Honorary Members are:

Dr. Arnold Brossi, National Institute of Health, MD

Dr. David P. Carew, University of Iowa

Dr. Norman R. Farnsworth, University of Illinois

Dr. R. Hegnauer, Leiden, Netherlands

Dr. Albert Hofmann, Switzerland

Dr. S. William Pelletier, University of Georgia

Dr. James E. Robbers, Purdue University

Dr. Richard E. Schultes, Harvard Botanical Museum

Dr. Varro E. Tyler, Purdue University

Dr. Hildebert Wagner, University of Munich

Dr. Monroe E. Wall, Research Triangle Institute, NC

Dr. Heber W. Youngken, Jr., University of Rhode Island

*Additional information about memberships may be obtained by writing to the Treasurer of the Society:

David J. Slatkin, Ph.D., Treasurer

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ASP Newsletter

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Deadlines for submission of information are as follows:

Spring Issue - March 1st Summer Issue - June 1st Fall Issue - September 1st Winter Issue - December 1st

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