



GEORGIA OSTEOPATHIC  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
— 1902 —

**GOMA News & Updates**  
Volume 44, October 2023



**Fred Katz DO's**

# Photography Documents Holocaust Memorials

## *Truncated article by Robyn Spizman Gerson*

Fred N. Katz, DO is well-known to many for his decades of volunteerism in the Jewish community in Atlanta as well as his teaching of radiology. Over the last decade, he has spent thousands of hours documenting a personal mission and has completed an important contribution to preserving the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust, as he photographed more than 100 Holocaust memorials around the world.

“I have loved photography since I was a kid,” Dr. Katz shared, “I remember, as a child, taking over the bathroom of our apartment, to develop rolls of film. Eventually, we moved to a home with a basement, and I could use an enlarger to develop my own prints. After I retired from an active radiology practice, I spent three months at the Rocky Mountain School of Photography honing my skills.”

During his retirement, Dr. Katz had the time and the means to do a lot of traveling, which enabled him to write this book. He retired in 1998 and then taught half-time at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Suwanee, GA. He and his late wife, Doris, traveled the United States in a motorhome in addition to many trips abroad. He added, “There is a saying that ‘when one door closes, another one opens. That was what happened to me during COVID. For over an entire year, my wife Marcy, and I stayed home in Florida, where I spent thousands of hours on my computer sorting through images and writing this book.”

He added, “I have been profoundly moved by many of the memorials I have visited. Of course, Yad Vashem, in Israel, is in a category by itself, as the ultimate memorial to the Holocaust. The concentration camp that affected me most was the Mauthausen Concentration Camp memorial in Austria. I believe the Miami Holocaust memorials and the Liberator Memorial on Liberty Island

in New Jersey are the most impressive monuments in the United States.”

He said, “One of the most inspirational moments during my journey was when I met an elderly woman at the Treblinka Concentration Camp Memorial. She was standing behind a large stone, with the words, ‘Never Again,’ engraved on it. She appeared to be praying. I approached her to ask if she minded that I photographed her. She told me that she was her visiting Treblinka, with a group of German Christians, praying for forgiveness for the murder of six million Jewish people. I learned from that experience and others, that we cannot blame all Germans, or all Poles, for the Holocaust, but only the perpetrators. But we cannot ever forget!”

Dr. Katz said, “ I hope that the readers will be interested enough to actually go and visit some of these very important and poignant memorials, to pay homage to the millions of people that were murdered during the Holocaust, and to realize that antisemitism and racism can lead to catastrophic results.”

Fred Katz, DO was President of GOMA in 1976.

Meet Dr. Fred Katz, at 11 AM , Sunday October 22 at The Breman Museum where he will be presenting his photographs, telling stories, and signing his book, *My Road to Remember*, as part of the ongoing “Bagels and Books at The Bremen” series. Museum members are free, non-members \$12, this includes all exhibitions. Seating is limited; preregistration at [TheBreman.org](http://TheBreman.org). Read the full article and see the multiple pictures from Dr. Katz’s book [here](#).



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**Continuing Medical Education**

**2023 GOMA Virtual Fall CME Conference**

**October 20-21, 2023**

**Topics Include**

**Wound Care**

**Physician Burnout**

**Culinary Medicine**

**Climate Change and its Effect on Health**

**Breast Cancer**

**Psychiatric Illnesses in Kids**

***Livestream on 10/20-21***

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**Karen Vega, DO Celebrates  
Hispanic Heritage Month**



Although 19% of people in the U.S. are Latino or Hispanic, that share drops to 6% or so among doctors. This disparity is especially pronounced for Latinas, who make up just 2% of America's physicians. But it's not only Latinas who suffer as a result of being underrepresented in medicine. Research shows that physicians of Latino or Hispanic origin are more likely to practice in underserved areas and speak Spanish. As the U.S. commemorates Hispanic Heritage Month (9/15 to 10/15 each year) for the 35th year, we meet one of PCOM Georgia's newest faculty members.

Meet Karen Vega, DO, an assistant professor of osteopathic medicine at PCOM Georgia. She graduated from Hunter College of the City University of New York and the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, Middletown, New York. Dr. Vega completed a residency in osteopathic neuromusculoskeletal medicine in 2023 in the Bronx, her hometown.

For her, celebrating her Hispanic heritage is a daily affirmation. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, she shares, "It reinforces my pride in my Puerto Rican heritage and fuels my desire to delve deeper into my cultural roots." Read more about Dr. Vega [here](#).

**Medicaid Revalidation Deadline Pushed Back to  
October 31st (no, it's not a trick)**



The Georgia Medicaid program under the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) has identified a large number facility, physician, and provider locations that were past due for revalidation.

**Good News!** Due to the advocacy of the Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association and others in our primary care coalition, **the revalidation deadline for these locations has been moved back to *October 31, 2023***. After that date the location/physician/facility will be suspended.

**Please spend time validating your Medicaid eligibility. [Here is a list of doctors that need to revalidate \(as of September 5th\)](#).**

*Effective November 1, 2023, DCH will suspend the enrollment of providers who have failed to revalidate their enrollment.*

**Suspended providers will not be able to participate in the Georgia Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids programs. Suspension will result in no payment of services provided at that location.**

*Further, after 30 days, a new Medicaid provider enrollment application must be completed for that location to continue in the Medicaid program.*

Medicaid just released a tutorial on how to revalidate. Click [here](#) to view.

## The AOA Wants you to be Available for Media Interviews



The AOA's Social Media Specialist, Mr. Cole Pierce, is wanting to connect DOs with media opportunities. As the AOA Public Relations team continues to receive an increasing number of requests from media outlets seeking DOs to contribute to health articles, they are eager to further expand their network of healthcare experts who are willing to engage with the media. If you are an osteopathic physician who is interested in sharing your expertise through media outlets, write to Mr. Cole Pierce at [cpierce@osteopathic.org](mailto:cpierce@osteopathic.org)

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## Pizzeria Reunion of Doctors' Hospital



Back row (left to right): David Conaway, DO; Michael Baron, DO; Ken Masden (friend of Sherrie Deal); Neil Nickelsen, DO; Chris Geltz, DO; Fred Katz, DO; Dianna Glessner, DO; Terry Schwartz, DO; Jim Hogue, DO, Bill McCutcheon, DO  
Front row: Sherrie Deal, RN; Vivian Nickelsen; Marcy Katz; Patty Geltz; Garnett Fisher, DO; Jan Apple; Harvey Apple, DO; Mary McCutcheon.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, at Dunwoody's Village Pizzeria, there was a small but lively group that made up the annual Doctor's Hospital Reunion. It harks back to the years that a hospital instead of a middle school was located on Idlewood Road in Tucker, Georgia. Doctors' Hospital was mostly staffed by osteopathic physicians, and many of the DOs in the state did training there at one time or another. This year, Bill McCutcheon, DO (now living in Mississippi) started off the formal presentations by asking that each one of the attendees describe what they are doing in life these days. What followed were stories of inspiration, tears, laughs as well as memories of the old hospital days. There were a few reports that were emailed to organizer Patty Geltz that reported on recuperation from surgery and battles with cancer and caring for family members. Everyone agreed that this year's reunion was great!

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## Recognizing National Physician Suicide Awareness Day





## **National Physician Suicide Awareness Day**

In September 2021, legislators brought forward bills in the House and Senate to recognize Sept. 17 as “National Physician Suicide Awareness Day.” The bills were a bipartisan effort to highlight the importance of destigmatizing physicians who seek mental health care and recognize the ongoing, devastating number of physicians lost each year to suicide.

Although recent strains on health care systems nationwide have prompted greater awareness of this crisis outside of medicine, physician burnout and suicide have often been a silent problem in the profession for decades. The United States loses approximately 300 - 400 doctors to suicide annually. These deaths are a tragedy by any measure, and doubly so when preventive measures can be taken legislatively, institutionally and personally.

Many of us have friends or peers who have completed suicide, and some may even have personal experiences with suicidal thoughts. Physicians may perceive themselves as alone with these struggles, not knowing that they are relatively common in the profession.

## Joshua Will, DO Published "Gestational Diabetes" Article

Approximately 1 in 10 physicians admit to past suicidal thoughts or actions, and physicians are twice as likely to complete suicide as the general population. Physicians are less likely to seek help, and 25% of suffering physicians present with suicidal thoughts. These personal experiences and stories—why are so many bright, talented physicians helping others suffering in silence?

Read the [rest of the article](#) by Joshua Will, DO, an adjunct assistant professor of Health & Science at the Uniformed Services University in *DO M*



Joshua S. Will, DO, FAAFP is trained in family medicine obstetrics. He is deputy commander for clinical services and teaches in the Family Medicine Residency at Martin Army Community Hospital, Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), Georgia. He is designated as an assistant professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. He co-authored an article on “Gestational Diabetes Mellitus: Update on Screening, Diagnosis, and Management” with Holly Crellin, MD that was published in *American Family Physician* September 2023.

## READY. SET. INTERNSHIP.

Annually, *JAMA* has an appendix to a fall issue that gives statistics about graduate medical education. It is obvious that osteopathic physicians are occupying more residency slots now than they did six years ago. Nationwide, there are 12,930 programs (up from 10,909) and 154,231 residents (up from 130,545) of which 36,041 are PGY-1 residents without prior GME (up from 29,427). Currently, DOs make up 26,985 of the residents equaling 17.5% (up from 12.2%) compared to US trained MDs equaling 59.7% and internationally trained MDs equaling 22.7%. The osteopathic physicians dominate the Osteopathic neuromuscular medicine residencies with 97.6% (one US MD & one International MD). Not surprisingly, nationwide DOs mostly gravitate towards primary care specialties (percentage of residents of that specialty trainees that are DOs): Family Medicine 34.2%; Emergency

Medicine 28.4%; Psychiatry 18.7%; Pediatrics 17.9%; Obstetrics and Gynecology 16.4%; and some specialties Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation 37.4%; Transitional Year 25.4%; Hospice & Palliative Medicine 19.6%; Anesthesiology 18.4%.

Georgia does not have as many residency programs or resident physicians compared most other states. In fact, Georgia ranks ahead of only twelve other states in number of resident physicians per 100,000 population with 29/100,000. Total number of Georgia programs is 253 residency programs and training 3204 resident physicians. Annually, we use a few monthly issues to welcome the newest DOs who are doing their residencies in Georgia. Last year, there were 143 osteopathic physicians doing their internship in Georgia. We start with a list of interns located in the metro Atlanta hospitals:

Woodly Terry Dominique, DO	Trans	NE Georgia	PCOM South GA
Miles Patrick McCabe, DO	Trans	NE Georgia	PCOM South GA
Han Sol, DO	Trans	NE Georgia	PCOM - Philly
Pavan Patel, DO	Trans	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Angelo Changas, DO	Trans	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Gopal Amin, DO	Psych	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Sankhya Amaravadi, DO	Psych	NE Georgia	A.T. Still Kirksville
Hayley Silverstein, DO	Psych	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Samantha Beauchamp, DO	EM	NE Georgia	Kansas City COM
Rebecca Cranston, DO	EM	NE Georgia	VCOM – Carolinas
Omolayo Dada, DO	EM	NE Georgia	?Morehouse
Kris Fox, DO	EM	NE Georgia	Kansas City
COM			
Erin Jackson, DO	EM	NE Georgia	Oklahoma State
Univ COM			
Pallov Joshi, DO	EM	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Nikhil Y. Patel, DO	EM	NE Georgia	PCOM South GA
Brady Chen, DO	IM	NE Georgia	Alabama COM
Aarushi Kalra, DO	IM	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Yashna Lamsal, DO	IM	NE Georgia	Lincoln Mem –
DeBusk COM			
Darrin Lowe, DO	IM	NE Georgia	Alabama COM
Austin Priaulx, DO	IM	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Christopher Staley, DO	GenSurg	NE Georgia	PCOM-GA
Brea Echard, DO	Path	Emory	PCOM-GA
Luke McGrory, DO	EM	Emory	Rowan Univ SOM
(NJ)			
Melissa Valletti, DO	OBG	Emory	VCOM – Virginia
Shiori Ucheya, DO	FP	Emory	PCOM-GA
Zaka Jabarkheel, DO	FP	Emory	NOVA SECOM
Jean Lee, DO	Trans/Radio	Emory	GA-PCOM

Doug Spaeth-Cook, DO	Radio	Emory	Ohio Univ COM
Andrew Na, DO	EM	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM-GA
Crystal Peirce, DO	EM	WellStar Kennestone	U of NE COM
Nathan Robinson, DO	EM	WellStar Kennestone	VCOM – Auburn
Holli Spikes, DO	EM	WellStar Kennestone	GA-PCOM
Paige Yeager, DO COM	EM	WellStar Kennestone	Touro Univ Nevada
Setu Dipak Patel, DO	FP	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM South GA
Quy Van, DO	FP	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM South GA
Micaela Alcala, DO	IM	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM-GA
Sahar Bhai, DO COM/Midwestern U	IM	WellStar Kennestone	Chicago
Do Young Kim, DO	IM	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM-GA
Hyuk Jin Lee, DO	IM	WellStar Kennestone	Kansas City COM
Kevin Nguyen, DO	IM	WellStar Kennestone	PCOM-GA
Radhika Patel, DO COM	IM	WellStar Kennestone	NOVA Southeastern
Sanisha Balsara, DO	FP	Wellstar Douglas	PCOM-GA
Jeane Khoo, DO DeBusk COM	FP	WellStar Douglas	Lincoln Univ
Lauren Cooper, DO	FP	Morehouse	VCOM – Auburn
Mariam Ahmed, DO	IM	Morehouse	PCOM- GA
Geethika Malla, DO	Peds	Morehouse	VCOM – Auburn
Kiyana Harris, DO	Psych	Morehouse	PCOM-GA
Fahad Marmarchi, DO	IM	Northside Gwinnett	PCOM-GA
Ishan Panchal, DO	IM	Northside Gwinnett	Alabama COM
Omama Rahmany, DO COM	IM	Northside Gwinnett	Lincoln Univ Debusk
Anuj Saluja, DO	IM	Northside Gwinnett	Alabama COM
Sidra Shakil, DO	IM	Northside Gwinnett	Alabama COM
Ashley Turek, DO	IM	Northside Gwinnett	PCOM-GA
Reema Patel, DO COM	IM	Northside Gwinnett	NOVA Southeastern
Michael Cowley, DO California COM	FP	Northside Gwinnett	Western Univ
Amanda Stallings, DO Campus	Derm	Goodman/PCOM-GA	Kirksville COM/Joplin

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**Emily Wilson, OMS-3 from PCOM South Georgia Honored with Surgery Award**



At the end of July, PCOM South Georgia student Emily Wilson (DO '24) was selected as the first recipient of the Bines Award for providing outstanding service in the field of surgery. Student doctor Wilson is from Waycross,, GA and anticipates starting a general surgery residency in the summer of 2024. South Georgia Medical Center in Waycross has become a major training site for the students at PCOM South Georgia and has just admitted its second class of internal medicine residents.

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## **PCOM Georgia Diversity Health Fair Helps Community Wellness**



Students from PCOM Georgia's Student National Medical Association (SNMA), as well as faculty members, recently represented at the African American Culture & Arts Festival held in Suwanee Town Center! Part of the PCOM President's Community Wellness Initiative (#PCOMCWI), students helped educate the community on illnesses that often affect minority groups in addition to providing blood pressure screenings.

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**PCOM South Georgia Recruitment Florida A&M 2023**



### In Other Words

*“Insanity is hereditary; you get it from your children.”*

– Sam Levenson, comedian

PCOM South Georgia Ambassadors had an amazing time visiting Florida A&M University in Tallahassee! They had an insightful Q&A session with pre-med students, discussing all things medical school and shedding light on our upcoming on-campus event exclusively for students from our partner undergraduate universities on Sept. 30