



FAMILY AFFAIR—New physician's associate Clara Vanderbuilt had her own cheering section—her two children—when she received her PA diploma recently. (photo by Henny van Dijk)



HAPPY DAY—Barry Cassidy, left, receives his PA certificate from Dr. E. Harvey Estes, chairman of the Department of Community Health Sciences at Duke. (photo by Henny van Dijk)

First Scheele Award Highlights 1971 PA Graduation

Presentation of the first annual Richard John Scheele Award climaxed graduation ceremonies for 26 new physician's associates earlier this month in the Hospital Amphitheater.

The award was given to Douglas Huber of Spokane, Wash., for outstanding scholarship. Mr. Huber has now begun work with a group of physicians in Lehigh Acres, Fla.

The Scheele Award was established in memory of one of the first three graduates of what was then, in 1967, called the Physician's Assistant Program. Mr. Scheele died of a heart attack a year ago.

At the graduation exercises, the new PA's heard an address from Dr. August (Gus) Swanson, director of academic affairs for the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Swanson emphasized that physician's associates, because of their medical knowledge, share the responsibility for competent judgement with the physicians for whom they work. "It is a responsibility," he said, "which cannot be abdicated to others than those with such knowledge."

The Duke course, known as the Physician's Assistant Program until earlier this year, was the country's pioneering project to train persons for a role of relieving the physician of many of his duties that do not require the expertise of

a doctor. The physician, then, is able to spend more time with patients who do require his specialized knowledge.

The two-year program at Duke has generated the development of numerous similar programs at other medical centers throughout the country, and a number of Duke graduates have gone on to help develop these new programs.

The 26 graduates are working with physicians in 13 different states and the District of Columbia.

Three remain in Durham. They are Leslie Gale, who has taken a post with the Durham Rehabilitation Center; James Key, who is at the VA Hospital; and Steve Pulliam, who is now associated with Duke's Faculty Health Clinic.

Two others are staying in North Carolina. Larry King joined a doctor in private practice in Asheville and Charles Lewis is going back to graduate school.

Two other new PA's, Harvey Colley and Dennis Franklin, are undecided.

A list of the other graduates, followed by the city and state where they'll work, is as follows:

James Asher and Gil Nelmes, Coshocton, Ohio; James Bartow and Henry Colson, Flint, Mich.; Mike Bray and George Downs, Sparta, Ga.; Barry Cassidy, Waukegan, Ill.; Hugh Cedarquist, Trenton, Fla.; Robert Cronk, Portland, Ore.; Robert Freeman, Minneapolis, Minn.; Amos H. Graber, Mount Vernon, Wash.

Robert Malone, Augusta, Ga.; Patsy Mitchell, Tulsa, Okla.; Corbin Peterson, Wyoming; Gary Phelps and Clara Vanderbuilt, Bronx, N.Y.; Jerry Wise, Washington, D.C.; and Jim Souers, Chicago.



SCHEELE AWARD—Douglas Huber of Spokane, Wash., received the annual Scheele Award for outstanding scholarship. (photo by Henny van Dijk)

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