



Committee news **Sick Bay**
Condolences **Have you heard?**
Baby news
Member announcements **New assignments/promotions**
Retirements

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**Committee news**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

Open meeting

When:    Tuesday – February 17, 2004, 2-4 p.m.

Where:   Corporate Square, Building 8, Room 6B.

Call In: Toll free #: 866-732-9603, Passcode 873632

***Committee chairs for 2004***

Awards - Jim Rifenberg

Communications - Bill Boyd

Community Service - Angela Banks & Lauren Lambert, co-chairs

Events - soon to be announced

Family Support - Kathryn Koski

Membership - Larry Franklin & Fred Martich

Professional Development - Stacy Harper

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TREASURER'S NOTE - Dues is due by [February 27, 2004](#)

Dear Watsonian Member:

It's time again for renewing dues. There are lots of changes this year, including a slight increase (well worth it as you know!) and Lifetime Membership option. This past year has been especially difficult in tracking down members who did not pay their dues, so please take a moment to write a check. If you cannot remember whether you need to pay dues, just let me know and I can check for you (Valerie Kokor-vak1@cdc.gov).

For Public Health Advisors (in good standing and associates) , the following are the costs:

PHAs

\$15 for one year (active and retired)

\$40 for three years (active and retired)

ASSOCIATES

\$6 for one year (associate members)

\$15 for three years (associate members)

New this year, we have added a Lifetime **Membership option** with eligibility as follows:

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Members in good standing during the previous five (5) dues paying periods (years.)
2. Member meets the minimum age requirement, at least 52 years of age as of January 1 CY.
3. Lifetime membership application is submitted during the first quarter of each calendar year, (January-March)
4. Lifetime membership application includes payment in full.
5. Member will have 15 days after application and payment is submitted to rescind their decision and obtain a full refund.

Lifetime Membership Options:

Option A:

Members who are 52-59 years of age as of January 1, may exercise the Lifetime Membership Option with a one-time payment of \$225.00.

Option B:

Members who are 60-69 years of age as of January 1, may exercise the Lifetime Membership Option with a one-time payment of \$150.00 .

Option C:

Members who are 70+ years of age as of January 1, may exercise the Lifetime Membership Option with a one-time payment of \$75.00

For those of you recruiting *new members*, the initiation cost is \$10 for first-time members and \$5 for associate members, *plus* the appropriate annual dues.

For those who have fallen behind in paying dues, there is a \$5 reinstatement fee.

Please remit your 2004 Watsonian Society dues payment to the following address BY NO LATER THAN February 27, 2004:

**The Watsonian Society
P.O. Box 95032
Atlanta, GA 30347-0032**

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in submitting your dues in a timely fashion. If you have questions, please email me [Valerie Kokor-vak1@cdc.gov]
Valerie

EVENTS

The National Immunization Program has a meeting in ATLANTA--
It's a chance to meet w/ friends!

WHAT: **Watsonian Society for a social hour**

WHEN: **Wednesday, February 11 from 5:30 - 8:00 PM**

WHERE: **Bucket Shop Cafe**, 3475 Lenox Road NE, at Lenox and Kingsboro Rd.
(near Lenox Square Mall) 404-261-9244.

Tickets : \$10 may be purchased at PHA/Program Managers Meeting or at
the door

RSVP: Please RSVP Heather Hastings, [hhh8@cdc.gov] via email, by COB
Thursday, February 5 so that we can get a head count.

P.S. The National Immunization Program PHAs will use this opportunity to honor Walt
Orenstein, M.D. who has departed his position as Director after many years

Sick Bay

Bridget Norman, PHA Birmingham, Alabama, is on the mend after suffering a stroke in
December. She is recovering at home now and is expected back at work in mid-
February. Cards may be sent in care of the Birmingham STD Program, P.O. Box 2648,
Birmingham, Alabama 35202.

WHO: BRIDGET NORMAN

REASON: Medical Emergency

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD: DECEMBER 8, 2003 through JANUARY 28, 2004

DONATION PERIOD: (Leave will be accepted through FEBRUARY 28, 2004)

HOW: Submit an approved OPM-71 to your timekeeper and latest earning and leave
statement. Indicate name of recipient and the number of annual leave hours you
wish to donate.

Have your timekeeper send them to the payroll office, MS K-19, so that a record
of donated hours can be maintained.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT: PAT FULBRIGHT (404) 639-8066

NOTE The decision to donate annual leave is solely voluntary.
Thank you in advance for your participation.

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**Bill Nichols** (past Treasurer)

Bill Nichols is home following a brief hospital stay.  
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Ralph Yobp, is home recovering from recent surgery.
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**Charles Watkins** [retired PHA] had lower back surgery on January 12<sup>th</sup> at Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta. He was released 5 days latter and is fairly well. Keep improving, Charlie.

**Condolences**

**DEATH OF A FORMER CDC EMPLOYEE**

We are sad to announce the death of **Dr. Michael Patrick Kiley**, one of the pioneers of biosafety level 4 work at CDC, and a former employee of the Division of Viral Diseases and later of the Office of Health and Safety. Mike died January 24, 2004 in Olney, MD of a heart attack.

Born in 1942 in Saratoga Springs, NY, Michael obtained his PhD in Microbiology from the University of Virginia in 1972, then worked at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and became Assistant Professor of Microbiology in the School of Medical Sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno before joining the Special Pathogens Branch, Division of Viral Diseases, CDC in 1978. He was one of the first scientists to study Ebola virus using classical molecular techniques, together with Russell Regnery and Karl M Johnson, and became a pioneer of work at biosafety level 4. As such, he was closely involved in the design and construction of the laboratories in Building 15, and in 1988 he moved to become Chief of the Biological Safety Branch in the Office of Health and Safety, CDC.

In 1990 he moved to become Director of Research and Development at the Salk Institute, Government Services Division, Swiftwater, PA. From 1993 to 1995 he worked in the Division of Safety at the National Institutes of Health, then from 1995 to 1997 became a senior Research Associate in the School of Hygiene and Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Since May 1997 he had been Research Programs Safety Officer for the Agricultural Research Service, USDA in Beltsville, MD.

In addition to his wife, Nancy, Mike is survived by two daughters, five sons and six grandchildren. The funeral took place in Saratoga Springs on January 28th. No flowers by request, but memorial contributions may be sent to Saratoga Central Catholic High School, 247 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866.

For additional information, you may contact Brian Mahy at (404)639-2915.

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Katharine G. Lacher, mother of retired PHA **Tom Lacher**, passed away in January. Acknowledgement may be sent to Tom at 4479 Silver Peak Parkway, Suwanee, GA 30024. Charitable donations should be sent to: The Baltimore Museum of Art, 10 Art Museum Drive, Baltimore, MD. 21218

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**Gabe Palumbo's** father, Gabriel J. Palumbo Sr., died mid-January. He had been suffering of pancreatic cancer. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Riswell Park Cancer Institute, PO Box 631, Buffalo, NY 14240 or Hospice Buffalo, Inc 225 Comc Park Blvd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227.

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Jim Rabb's mother, Frances Rabb died recently. In lieu of flowers the family suggested donations be made to the Cancer society in her name.

Passing of friends known by many PHAs:

Clyde Edward Turner, Jr., of Decatur, GA, died at the age of 59 on Friday, October 17, 2003, as a result of an automobile accident. He was on duty at the time of the accident, carrying out his duties as an outreach worker. He was employed by the State of Georgia Health Department, where he worked with tuberculosis patients. In 1992 Ed began serving as an outreach worker with the TB program of the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness. He worked tirelessly and with compassion in providing contact tracing, DOT, and follow-up of lost or recalcitrant patients. Several years later he transferred to the DeKalb County Board of Health where he served as outreach worker and hospital liaison until his death.

Ed graduated with honors from Druid Hills High School and received a merit scholarship to Georgia Tech. Later he receive a masters degree from Emory University in Social Work. Ed Turner was an active member of the Religious Society of Friends in Decatur, Georgia. Ed was a man full of compassion and love for people and the patients in his care. He will be greatly missed.

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LA County suffers the loss of **Kirby Mellinger**. Kirby died on January 25, 2004. He had been hospitalized and was seriously ill with a respiratory infection.

He worked very long with us in the STD Program and in his more that 30 years in public health with Los Angeles County. A memorial service was held at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills.

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DIS-Supervisor Extraordinaire, **Bob Scott**, out of West Palm Beach, passed away December 21, 2003 after a very long illness with emphysema. He died quietly and peacefully at home with his wife by his side which were his wishes. He worked in the STD program for over 30 years.

Donations in Bob's name can be made to: Hospice By the Sea 1531 W Palmetto Park Rd Boca Raton, Fl

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**Another death of note:**

The funeral service for Mr. Ernest L. Hendon, the last survivor of the United States Public Health Service Study of Syphilis in the Negro Male at Tuskegee was held on Wednesday, January 21 at 1:00 P.M. at Sweet Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church in Union Springs, Alabama.

Mr. Ernest L. Hendon was born on February 12, 1907 in Roba, Alabama. He attended the Macon County Training School where he excelled in agriculture. After completing his formal training, he worked on the family farm. Although, Mr. Hendon had no children, he assisted his mother in rearing his younger siblings following the death of his father. In 1941, Mr. Hendon relocated to Cleveland, Ohio in search of a better life. He was employed by General Chemical for three months before being drafted during World War

II. He served three years in the United States Army and was stationed in England, France and Germany. Following an honorable discharge, Mr. Hendon returned to Cleveland, Ohio and General Chemical where he worked for 29 years.

Mr. Hendon returned to his native Alabama following retirement in 1969. He loved the outdoors, and could often be found sitting on his front porch even during the winter months. His hobby was gardening. He lived a quiet, fruitful and humble life.

Mr. Hendon passed away on January 16, 2004 at the East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika, Alabama. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Willion Chambliss and her husband, Comer, of Union Springs, Alabama and two brothers, Mr. North R. Hendon and his wife, Shirley, and Mr. Williard Moore and his wife, Esther, of Cleveland, Ohio and a very devoted nephew, Mr. Earl Taylor, of Union Springs, Alabama.

On May 16, 1997, President Clinton formally apologized, on behalf of the United States government, to the men who participated in the study. Subsequent to the apology, the Department of Health and Human Services established the Tuskegee University National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care at Tuskegee University. The National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention funds and supports the Center, whose mission is to advance the study of bioethics in research and health care and strengthen bioethics training for underserved populations, particularly people of color.

### **HAVE YOU HEARD?**

I am pleased to announce that **Ms. Teresa Walker-Mason** has been selected as the new Ethics Program Manager for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

A native of North Carolina, Ms. Walker-Mason has resided in the Atlanta area since 1998. She graduated from North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1993, and became licensed to practice law in the State of North Carolina in 1995.

Ms. Walker-Mason is formerly the Supervisory Attorney of the Atlanta Regional Office of Hearings and Appeals, Social Security Administration (SSA). She served as an attorney for SSA for five years. During four of these five years, she was involved in administering the Ethics Program for the Atlanta Region. Prior to her federal service, she served as an Assistant District Attorney in North Carolina for a brief period and as a sole practitioner for nearly three years.

Ms. Walker-Mason and her staff are available to provide ethics counseling and advice on issues related to standards of conduct regulations, financial disclosures, outside and official duty activities, and a variety of other government ethics topics. The Ethics Program Activity office is located in Building 4 at Executive Park and can be reached at (404) 498-2856.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Teresa Walker-Mason to CDC and ATSDR and to her new position.

Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.

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Medical Scholarship Info

If you know of anybody who could use this information, pass it on.

MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP - Washington University in St. Louis, the Medical School, now ranked number 2 along with Baltimore's John's Hopkins University Medical School has scholarships to award to bright Black Americans.

The students that are chosen will be awarded full tuition for 4 yrs - \$30,000.00 per year plus \$2,500.00 stipend. For complete instructions and deadlines for applying, call the office of Undergraduate Admission at 800.638.0700 or 314.9356087.

To view the application and to obtain more information, visit [\[http://admissions.wustl.edu\]](http://admissions.wustl.edu). [Thanks to **Sharon Martin** for passing this information along]

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**BABY NEWS:**

Proud parents Dewey and **Brenda LaRochelle** and big sister Ashley welcomed their new baby: Courney Rose LaRochelle born November 21,2003 1:27pm 7lbs 8.1oz 19 inches

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Dan Burrows (NCEH) and Nilka Ríos Burrows (Epidemiologist - DDT) announce the addition of another member to the CDC family. Kiara Teresa Ríos-Burrows was born on 12-9-03 at 8:10 AM. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 ozs, was 19 inches long and she's growing by the day.

New assignments:

Mr. Louis Salinas has accepted DASH's offer to become Deputy Director effective February 8. He is currently with CDC's Epidemiology Program Office, serving as the Deputy Director for the Division of International Health. Prior to that Louis served as acting Deputy Division Director for the Division of Reproductive Health. Louis has extensive public health and management experience.

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**Brenda LaRochelle** has a new job -- a position with NCHS(National Center for Health Statistics), Office of Information Technology Services in Hyattsville, MD. She will be working with CDC's large CITS Contract and just completed Project Officer Training. Anyone out there working on CITS at other Centers wish to collaborate and assist in my orientation please contact me!?! It was hard to leave DSTDP and the fabulous RRT team, however, my new assignment will be more family friendly with less travel and give me lots of additional experience and opportunity!!

Brenda LaRochelle

**Tracy Ford**, LPHA has transferred to Richmond, Va with the RRT from the New Orleans STD Program. Her report date is Jan. 26th

**Maureen O'Rourke** (DTBE TN) was selected for the public health advisor (PHA) position in Harrisburg, PA. She will begin her new assignment on February 22nd.

**Marty Cicchinelli**, NCHSTP/DSTD/SDMB accepted a position at IRMO.

**MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

House for sale-

**Jerry Naehr** writes: I have just contracted with Buy Owner to sell, is house. We are not leaving Atlanta, but did purchase a property lot in Dahlonega and will begin building on that once we sell our home in Tucker. For anyone who might be interested, they can view the details on the [Buyowner.com](http://Buyowner.com) - my property code # is ATL23302. This will include a virtual tour which should be up by 2/5.

#### WEDDING BELLS SOON

**Cyndi Shaffer**, sends this news:

I'd like to share that I've become engaged! I will marry my long-time friend Gary "Tug" Rilling on March 6, 2004. Tug owns businesses in commercial plumbing and real estate. We live in Fayetteville, GA, way out in the country. (The commute is a little hectic.. but I am getting used to it!) We are avid outdoor enthusiasts, and hunt, fish and camp together. I have waited many years to find the right connection with someone, a connection begun through friendship, trust and openness. I must say, holding out for the right one is DEFINITELY worth it! I will also become a step-mother to his two sons, ages 8 and 13, so have a lot of excitement and adventure ahead!

#### RETIREMENTS

**Mr. John Narkunas** currently Exemplar of the WS\*,retired on January 2, 2004, from a long tenure of 40 years from the federal government. There will be a retirement celebration held in his honor on Friday, March 5, 2004 from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., Corporate Square, Bldg 8, Conference Rooms 1A & B. For those who wish to contribute for this event, please contact Tonica Gleaton, 4/639-6328 or Tomeca Jones, 4/639-6327.

\*EC is reviewing records to determine his successor

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Sarah Diamond is retiring after 48 years of federal service.

Sarah L. Diamond, Associate Director for Management and Operations (ADMO), Office of the Director (OD), Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS), Public Health Practice Program Office (PHPPO), retired from Federal service on January 2, 2004. Please join us for her celebration on Tuesday, February 10, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Koger Center, Williams Building, Room 1802-05. Personal cards, letters, or notes, as well as scanned or hard copy photos capturing memories for Sarah during her career are welcome. If possible, please include the date, event, name(s) of individuals or group, personal comments, or any caption you may desire.

Sarah will be missed throughout the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Her tireless hours and unparalleled devotion to the Agency's mission spans 48 years of service. After obtaining her degree in business administration, she joined CDC's Epidemiology Program in 1956, working with Dr. Alexander D. Langmuir and other staff of the Epidemic Intelligence Service, where she held a variety of increasingly responsible support and administrative positions. In 1968, she joined the Foreign Quarantine Program (FQP), and following the 1972 merger of FQP with the Bureau of Epidemiology (BOE), she became a Writer-Editor with BOE.

In 1974, Dr. David J. Sencer, Director, CDC, requested Sarah's assistance in moving the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) from Rockville, MD, to Atlanta to become a part of the newly formed Bureau of Health Education (BHE). Following the move of OSH to

Atlanta, she became Administrative Officer for BHE. In 1983, BHE was established as the Center for Health Promotion and Education, and in 1988 became the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, where Sarah served as Administrative Officer/Chief, Administrative Services Branch. In 1995, at the request of the Office of the Director, CDC, she served as Co-Chair of CDC's 50th Anniversary Celebration, where she played a critical role in its success. In 1996, she became the ADMO in PHPPO/DLS/OD.

Highlights of Sarah's accomplishments include serving on the SHARE Board of Directors for more than 17 years and the CDC Federal Credit Union Board of Directors for more than 8 years. As one of the original members, she served on the Partners in Education (PIE) Committee with Tilson Elementary School, and she is one of the original founders of the Association for Professional Women. She was instrumental in establishing the CDC Certified Public Health Administrator Intern Program and spearheaded the study for what became today's locality pay.

Sarah's many contributions were recognized by CDC Management in 2002 when she received the CDC Honor Award for Employee Humanitarian Service. Other awards include the prestigious Public Health Service Superior Service Award, CDC Honor Award for General Administration and CDC Group Honor Award for Administrative Services. She has been nominated for Special Awards including Federal Employee of the Year Award for Contributions to the Advancement of Women and the William C. Watson Medal of Excellence.

Sarah looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren, traveling, and performing part-time consultant services for CDC.

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Staff at the National Immunization Program (NIP) cordially invite you to join us for a reception honoring Dr. Walter Orenstein, who is retiring from CDC in March after 26 years of service.

**Reception Honoring Dr. Walter Orenstein**  
**Monday, February 23, 2004**  
**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Corporate Square Building 8**  
**First-floor conference rooms A – C**

For the past ten years, Dr. Orenstein has served as NIP's Director. Under Dr. Orenstein's leadership, vaccination rates among U.S. children reached all-time highs. Moreover, transmission of measles in the U.S. was eliminated, and the U.S. witnessed dramatic decreases in the incidence of other once-common childhood diseases such as meningitis from Haemophilus influenzae type b, rubella, varicella, and invasive pneumococcal disease. Dr. Orenstein also led efforts to develop strategies and implement programs to increase adult immunization and to ensure vaccine safety. Globally, Dr. Orenstein was a hands-on participant in smallpox eradication, and his leadership at NIP has contributed to the containment of wild polio virus to only 6 countries, with fewer than 700 cases in 2003, down from 350,000 as recently as 1988. Consequently, global polio eradication is now in sight.

Dr. Orenstein will join Emory University's School of Medicine as Associate Director of the Emory Vaccine Center and Associate Director of the Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats.

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Olga Maldonado will retire on January 30, 2004 with over 31 years of service with the Federal government to begin the next chapters of her life. A small reception was held January 30, 2004 at the Koger Center.

Olga began her career in the Federal government with the USDA Forest Service, Caribbean National Rain Forest "El Yunque", Puerto Rico in 1972. Olga was transferred to Atlanta and in 1980 she moved to Washington, D.C. to work with Farmers Home Administration. In 1991 she joined the Human Resources Management Office staff where she has serviced several CIO's. During this period she has been very active in diversity recruitment, particularly the recruitment of Hispanics with CDC/ATSDR.

In retirement, Olga plans to establish a business in heirloom sewing for children's clothes and she also plans to continue her classes in Flamenco dancing.

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After 27 years of service with the Federal government, **Connie Clayton** is retiring from CDC. She came to work in the Human Resources Management Office in 1982 and has served as a Human Resources Specialist for the past 12 years working with executive programs, including the Senior Executive Service, the Senior Biomedical Research Service, and Title 42 Distinguished Consultants. A reception was held on January 30, 2004.

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Georgia Malcolm retired from CDC on January 3rd, 2004, after 36 years of federal service. Georgia began her career at CDC in 1967 working in the Biological Products Division to develop improved products for isolating pathogenic bacteria and fungi. After 22 years in the Biological Products Division, she joined the Meningitis and Special Pathogens Branch where she worked to help identify the agent of Cat Scratch Fever. In 1993, she transferred to the Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch serving in the immunodiagnosics and Shigella Reference Laboratory.

Please join us at noon on Wednesday, February 25th, at the Emory Conference Center for a celebratory luncheon honoring Georgia. Cost: \$19.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity)

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**Dr. Leo Morris** retired on February 3, 2004, after 46 years of federal service. Leo began his CDC career as an EIS officer in 1959-62, and went on to work in polio and smallpox eradication, with a three-year field assignment in Brazil. He served as Assistant Chief of the Family Planning Evaluation Division from 1970 to 1978. After the establishment of the Division of Reproductive Health, Leo served as Chief of the Program Evaluation Branch and the Behavioral Epidemiology and Demographic Research Branch from 1978 to 2001, and as Senior Advisor to DRH from 2002 to 2004.

A retirement celebration will be held in his honor on Friday, February 20, 2004 from 1:00-3:00 p.m., Columbia Building, Conference Rooms 1064/65. Join us in

congratulating Leo on his long and productive career with CDC, and in wishing him all the best in his upcoming endeavors.

For those who wish to contribute for this event, please contact Florina Serbanescu (770)488-6226 or Rane Seither (770)488-6223. Please also share photographs, anecdotes, or words of congratulations to be included in a memory book for Leo.