

Thor J. Jager, MD

Thor J. Jager, MD, Wichita's first pathologist, was the original internal medicine consultant west of Kansas City. He is considered to be largely responsible for establishing the very strong medical tradition that continues in Wichita today.

Born in Stockholm, Sweden, Jager first came to the city in 1907 to intern at St. Francis Hospital after graduating cum laude from the medical school at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. He was one of the "Fab's Boys," the bright young men encouraged to settle in Kansas by Dr. Andrew H. Fabrique, a pioneer Wichita physician.

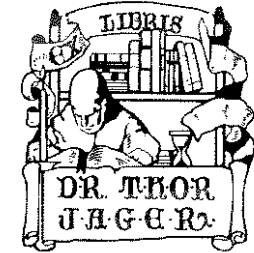
Following his internship, Jager returned to Chicago and served as an instructor in the Department of Pathology at Northwestern University. He also traveled to Germany to engage in research at university clinics in Berlin and Tubingen. He returned to Wichita in 1911 to supervise the laboratory at St. Francis Hospital and practice internal medicine.

In 1936, Jager transferred both his laboratory and clinical practice to Wesley Hospital, where he served until 1949. He continued to practice medicine as a consultant in pathology, neurology, and internal medicine until his retirement in 1970. He died in 1975.

Dr. Jager is remembered as a patient bedside teacher, a brilliant diagnostician, a gentleman with a genteel "old world" manner, and the last word on any diagnostic problem.



<http://wichita.kumc.edu/education/school-of-medicine/student-life/student-organizations/jager-club.html>



THE JAGER CLUB

**Dinner and
Lecture Series**

**2016-2017
Academic Year**

Thor J. Jager, MD

Thor J. Jager, MD, the dean of Wichita internists, pursued a keen interest in medical history and acquired a notable library of books and manuscripts throughout his long career. His remarkable collection was given to the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, and remains intact in The Clendening History of Medicine Library. A true bibliophile, his interests in the history of medicine were second only to his dedication to the profession and its practice.

The Jager Club was formed by Wichita internists to honor Dr. Jager's preeminent position and to provide a focus for discussions focused on medical history. While Dr. Jager has since passed away, his widow, Gwendolyn attends regular meetings.

The dinner meetings are open to all interested Wichita-area physicians, students, residents, and spouses or guests. To be included on the invitation list or RSVP, please call 316-293-2603. Annual dues of \$50 are encouraged to defray mailing expenses and provide modest honoraria to the lecturers.

Jager Club Dinner Meetings

Wichita Marriott
9100 Corporate Hills Drive
Wichita, Kansas

RSVP 316-293-2603

Cost: \$28 per person

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

(Joint meeting with the MSSC)

“Persuading Students to become Small-town Practitioners: The History of the KUMC Rural Preceptorship”

Jennifer Gunn, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota

The Kansas Rural Health Program adopted by the state legislature in 1949 consisted of a three-part plan: to increase the production of physicians and nurses by expanding KUMC; to help rural communities create medical facilities to attract young physicians; and to prevent isolation and keep rural practitioners current. Thus, the rural preceptorship was born. The preceptorship was shaped by competing agendas among the students, community physicians, and the medical school. Yet, the Kansas rural preceptorship endured and has been replicated throughout the nation.

6 p.m.	Social
6:45	Dinner
7:15	Presentation

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 9, 2016

“Over the Shoulder of Walter Dandy: Medical Illustrations Re-Discovered”

Paul Camarata, MD
Chairman of Neurosurgery
University of Kansas Medical Center

Dr. Camarata will discuss the provenance of over 50 charcoal illustrations and a nearly 100 year old notebook found in his former medical office at the University of Kansas School of Medicine, what they represent, and the unusual life story behind the medical illustrator artist.

6 p.m.	Social
6:30	Presentation
7:30	Dinner

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017

“Cherokee Medicine, Colonial Germs: An Indigenous Nation’s Fight against Smallpox, 1518-1824”

Paul Kelton, Ph.D.
Professor of History
University of Kansas

How smallpox, or *Variola*, caused widespread devastation during the European colonization of the Americas is a well-known story. But as historian Paul Kelton informs us, that’s precisely what it is: a convenient *story*. In *Cherokee Medicine, Colonial Germs* Kelton challenges the “virgin soil thesis,” or the widely held belief that Natives’ lack of immunities and their inept healers were responsible for their downfall.

6 p.m.	Social
6:30	Presentation
7:30	Dinner

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017

“Percivall Pott and Surgical Instruction in Eighteenth-Century London”

Lynda Payne, Ph.D., RN, FLS
Professor of History
University of Missouri Kansas City

The prevailing view of surgery and surgeons before the development of general anesthesia in the mid-nineteenth century is one of screaming patients and unfeeling operators. This presentation challenges this view through an examination of the life of Percivall Pott, whose contemporaries considered the best surgeon in England. Professor Payne concludes that Pott exemplifies the emerging notion of a professional and humane surgeon in the eighteenth century.

6 p.m.	Social
6:30	Presentation
7:30	Dinner