



THIS IS THE WAY—A camper touches speech therapist Gina Berini's face to help her understand how to make a particular speech sound. Some of the problems seen at the Speech and Hearing Camp are stuttering, language difficulty, articulation problems and hearing impairments. Judy Giles, therapy director, and Ann Harris, activities director, oversee the staff of 34, including certified supervisors, student therapists and counselors. The camp is under the supervision of Dr. LuVern Kunze, director of the Center for Speech and Hearing Disorders. (Photos by Jim Wallace)

Department Chairmen Appointed

(Continued from page 1)

Sheffield in 1950 and an M.D. from the same institution in 1963.

Before coming to Duke as an associate professor in 1964, he served on the faculty of the University of Sydney, Australia, where he was awarded the Peter Bancroft Prize for the best medical science research in 1960.

Johnson's scientific work has been directed toward a better understanding of how electrical activity is generated in the heart and how heart muscle functions.

He and his wife, Phyllis Glass, who is a second-year student in Duke Law School, have four children and two stepchildren.

Pharmacology

Kirshner, 53, was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and earned a B.S. degree from the University of Scranton in 1947. Pennsylvania State University awarded him M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in 1951 and 1952, respectively.

After three years as a research associate at the University of Rochester, Kirshner joined the Duke faculty in 1955 and was promoted to professor in 1970.

A member of the advisory boards of *Neuropharmacology*, *Molecular Pharmacology* and *Life Sciences*, professional publications, Kirshner has received several awards including a special research fellowship and a career development

award, both from the United States Public Health Service.

He has conducted extensive research on the synthesis, storage and secretion of adrenalin and noradrenalin, hormones that help to regulate the sympathetic nervous system, smooth muscle and other body tissues.

Kirshner and his wife Annette, who earned a Ph.D. at Duke and works as a research associate in biochemistry, have three children.

Central Processing Chief Ends Long Career

By Ina Fried

Gretchen Cheek's father didn't want her to be a nurse. A Winston-Salem attorney, he tried to steer his daughter toward a career as a court stenographer or in music.

Instead she graduated from the Duke School of Nursing in 1934 and later helped to establish Central Processing, now a division of the Pharmacy Department. She retired last Friday as chief of Central Processing, ending 45 years associated with the medical center.

She was honored at a retirement reception, July 21, and received a certificate of achievement and a framed drawing of the hospital's Woodhall Building from the medical center's professional and

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We would like to list lectures, symposia and other activities at the medical center in the Intercom Calendar. Notices can be accepted for the calendar no later than one week prior to publication. Notices may be sent to Box 3354, Hospital. If last minute scheduling makes it impossible to send a written notice in time, please call 684-4148.

Friday, August 5

1 p.m.

Network for Continuing Medical Education (NCME). Program on "Drugs and Menopause: A Television Workshop." View in Rms M-405, M-410, 2031 and Medical Student Lounge (Channel 7 or 9) at Duke and Rms A3002 (by appointment only), C9013, D3008, CCU and classrooms and media learning lab of Allied Health Bldg. at VA Hospital.

Saturday, August 6

8 a.m.

Night Owl Club annual bus trip to White Lake, returning 8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 9

8:30 a.m.

Car registration begins in medical center. See schedule in this issue.

Wednesday, August 10

9:30 a.m.

Annual U.S. Savings Bond Drive kickoff, Courtyard Cafeteria.

1 p.m.

NCME. Programs on "The Chronic Hemodialysis: Maximizing the Potentials," "Assessing the Child with Acute Abdominal Pain" and "The Undergrown Infant: An American Problem." See Fri., Aug. 5 for viewing areas.

AFTER A LONG CAREER—Gretchen Cheek retired last week as chief of Central Processing after 45 years associated with the medical center. She helped establish that department in 1949. (Photo by Ina Fried)



administrative staff. She also has received gifts from co-workers in Central Processing.

Her Philosophy

"The main thing I've always tried to think is how I would like someone to treat me and I've tried to deal with people that way," Cheek said.

One of her rules has been for each person to package and process material as if it were to be used on him or her, said William Dennis, associate chief. Describing Cheek as "just a magnificent person," he said her philosophy has been reflected in the high quality of work in the department.

When she first began nursing training, the students lived on East Campus and rode a bus back and forth. She was in the first group to move into Baker House about a year later.

Once they began to work on the wards, they spent eight hours on duty in addition to class time, she said. They had just one evening off a week.

Secret Marriage

"Shortly before graduation the dean asked if I was going to get married," Cheek said, "I said, 'I guess I will.'" In fact, she had married several months before but kept it a secret and continued to live in Baker House because marriage was against the rules for students and graduates.

Remaining in Durham after graduation, "I enjoyed patient care and doing private duty nursing," she said. "I met a lot of nice people."

She began working in the Operating Room in 1934, became head nurse and then worked in the OR supply room until Central Processing was established in 1949.

From 10 to 72

"When we first started we had 10 people," Cheek recalls. "There were two nurses including me. The rest were medical assemblers and sterilizer operators.

"Now with the Messenger Service, Equipment Room and Central Processing combined we have about 72 employees," she said.

"We used to set the trays up, sterilize syringes and sharpen and fix the needles," she said. "Now the majority of things are disposable and we order them already assembled."

When open heart surgery first came here about 1965, Cheek and Pearlene McJunkin, RN, worked to have the heart sets ready and to centralize the stock of cardiac pacemakers, Dennis said. McJunkin retired as assistant chief in December 1976 after 27 years in Central Processing.

What's New

A number of other new items have been introduced over the years. Among them are an ethylene oxide sterilizer for plastic and rubber goods that might melt or deteriorate in steam, dialysis machines and kidney transplant carts and Code 5 "crash carts" for emergency cardiac arrest cases.

Cheek said she has enjoyed her work but after she retires July 31, she plans "to lie down and if nobody hollers 'Fire' I'm not going to move."

She may travel with her former nursing school roommate Julia Suitt.

And she'll enjoy her four grandchildren. Now a widow, she has two sons, Clyde E. Cheek, Jr., assistant manager of auxiliary services in the Computation Center, and Douglas, a machinist.