

BUMED Oral History Interview Project
Captain (retired) Joseph A. McBreen, MC, USN
Synopsis and Glossary

Date and Location of Interview: 7 April 2014, Telephonic
Interviewer: Mr. André B. Sobocinski, Historian, BUMED

A native of Estherville, IA, Captain McBreen first enlisted in the Navy in 1975 after already completing two-years at the University of Iowa. Following Boot Camp at Naval Training Station Great Lakes, McBreen attended Hospital Corps School in Great Lakes before serving at the Naval Hospital Corpus Christi, TX (1976-1977). In 1977, McBreen went to San Diego where he attended "C" School (Medical Laboratory Technique School) later serving at the Naval Hospital San Diego as a laboratory technician (1978-1982). Early in his career, McBreen received a lot of encouragement from leadership—nurses and medical officers included—to "go further" with his career. After reaching an impasse in his career, McBreen decided to return to school to complete his Bachelor's Degree (BA, Physiology, University of Minnesota) graduating in 1984 and then setting sail on a journey to become a physician.

CAPT McBreen attended the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD graduating as a lieutenant in the Navy Medical Corps in 1989. In 1989, he returned to San Diego to complete his internship and residency in pediatrics at the Naval Hospital. McBreen would go on to serve as a staff pediatrician at Naval Hospital Rota, Spain (1992-1995), and National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, MD (1998-2001). In 1995, McBreen did a fellowship in Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics at the University of Maryland.

From 2001 to 2006, McBreen would begin the first of two tenures at the Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, NC. At the hospital he would serve as Head, Pediatrics; Head, Educational and Developmental Intervention Service; Assistant Director for Primary Care; and Director for Branch clinics. After a tour of duty at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED), where he served as the Head, Clinical Practice (M3C21), McBreen returned to Camp Lejeune in 2009 where he worked as the Educational and Development Information Service (EDIS) medical Consultant, Visiting Developmental Pediatrician (Naval Hospital Beaufort, SC). McBreen retired from Navy service in 2013 after 36 years of military service.

At the time of this interview, McBreen was serving GS/GP Physician, Developmental Pediatrician, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune.

KEY ACRONYMS:

AHLTA—Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application

BUMED—Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
EDIS—Educational and Developmental Service
EEMP—Exceptional Family Member Program
FPPE—Focused Professional Practice Evaluation
NRP—Neonatal Resuscitation Program
OCS—Officer Candidate School
OPPE—Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation
PRT—Physical Readiness Test
USUHS—Uniformed Services University of Health Services

GLOSSARY:

ABA Therapy (Applied Behavior Analysis therapy, formerly behavioral modification) is the use of various techniques (e.g., positive reinforcement) to bring about meaningful change in behavior (source: <http://www.autismspeaks.org/>)

Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA)—the electronic medical records system used in U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) since its initial implementation in January 2004.

Behcet's Syndrome—A rare disorder that involves inflammation of the blood vessels and can cause the appearance of sores on the body and swelling of joints. (source: www.nlm.nih.gov).

Blue Water Lakes—Lakes that are supplied with water through underground springs or a source of fresh water rather than by the collection of rainwater and runoff. West Okoboji Lake, Lake Geneva (Switzerland) and Lake Louise (Canada) are the only true blue water lakes in the world.

Buick Skyhawk— A subcompact d-door hatchback originally produced by Buick from 1975 to 1980. It holds the distinction of being the smallest care ever produced by Buick up until that point. A second generation Skyhawk was produced by Buick from 1982 to 1989 in both 2-door coupe and 4-door sedan models.

"C" School—Navy advanced enlisted specialty school; e.g. Laboratory Technician

Estherville—A city in Iowa. It was laid out in the late 1850s, and incorporated in 1881. The city was named after Esther Ridley, one of the first white female settlers in the area.

Estherville Meteorite, The— On 10 May 1879, a 455 pound meteorite fell to earth in Emmet County a few miles north of Estherville, and has become known as the Estherville Meteorite. This is the largest Meteorite that has been known to have fallen in North America. When it struck it buried itself 15 feet in the ground. Portions of the meteorite are on display in the Estherville Public Library, the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna, Austria. (source: <http://estherville.org/estherville-meteorite.htm>)

Garlutz, Kathryn "Kay," LCDR (ret.), NC, USN—Garlutz was

commissioned in the Navy Nurse Corps in December 1957. After serving 21 years, including tours aboard the hospital ships USS *Haven* (1965-1967) and USS *Sanctuary* (1970), and Naval Hospitals Great Lakes, IL (1958-1960), Rota, Spain (1974-1976), Corpus Christi, TX (1976-1978), she retired (1978).

Joy, Robert JT, M.D., COL. (ret.), MC, USA, served as a professor of medical history at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) and was the founding chair of the Department of Military Medicine and later, the Department of Medical History.

Operation Bushmaster—A fourth-year USU medical student exercise held in October at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. It is a practical exam for unique courses in the USU Department of Military and Emergency Medicine and is designed to closely replicate combat conditions and to test the students' abilities to care for people in adverse environments and adverse situations. (source: www.usuhs.mil)

Physician Assistant's Program (PA Program)—The Army and Air Force began employing physician assistants in the early 1970s. In 1971, the Air Force started a Physician Assistant program at the School of Health Sciences, Sheppard Air Force Base. The Navy joined the program in 1972. Soon after, the program was accredited by the University of Nebraska Medical School. Students completing the school were awarded a bachelor's degree. By 1973, the Navy was also sending students to participate in the Physician Assistant program at George Washington University. Navy students were senior hospital corpsmen selected for program based on performance, aptitude, and academic preparation. Students were offered instruction in various subjects including anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and pharmacology.

Rosa's Law. On 5 October 2010, President Obama signed legislation requiring the federal government to replace the term "mental retardation" with "intellectual disability" in many areas of government. This measure strips the terms "mental retardation" and "mentally retarded" from federal health, education, and labor policy. "Intellectual disability" or "individual with an intellectual disability" are being inserted in place of these outdated terms. The rights of individuals with disabilities remain the same.

Sanford, Jay P., M.D., COL (ret.), MC, USAR (1928-1996)—founding dean and later president, 1975-1990, of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), Bethesda, MD. His final USAR assignment was with the 11th Special Forces Group, Fort Meade, MD.

Stratton, Mariann, RADM (ret.), NC, USN—Stratton served as the Director of the Navy Nurse Corps from 1991 to 1994.

USS *Merrimack* (AO-179) a *Cimmaron*-class fleet oiler in

commission from 1981 to 1998.

USUHS (Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences)—now called the Uniformed Services University (USU); Department of Defense medical school established by Act of Congress in 1972; the first class entered in 1976 and graduated in 1980.