

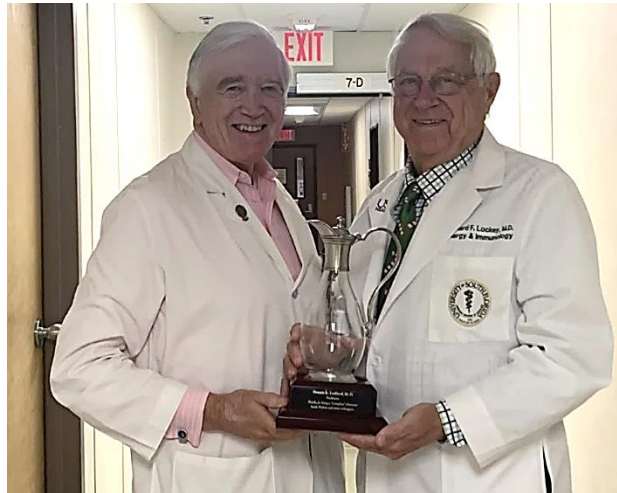
36th WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

USF INTERNAL MEDICINE & PEDIATRIC DIVISIONS OF ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

The one and only, Dr. Dennis K. Ledford, MD!! Everybody knows him and he requires no introduction. We dedicate this newsletter to Dr. Dennis K. Ledford, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine.



*Dennis K. Ledford, MD
Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics
Mabel & Ellsworth Simmons Professor
of Allergy/Immunology*



*Dr. Ledford with Dr. Lockey holding award from
Division for service and teaching in clinical practice*



*Drs. Joe Diaz (prior fellow), Sean
McKnight (prior fellow), a winded
Dennis Ledford and Bill Busse
(AAAAI Foundation Chair and Past
president of the AAAAI) following
AAAAI Foundation 5K Run/Walk.*



*Definitely the year of COVID!
Dr. Ledford in his clinic*



On the floor (L to R): Tucker (dog), Isaiah, Kathryn

On couch (L to R): Ethan, Andrew, Ian, Grant, Annika, Kaila, Miles (sitting on arm)

Standing (L to R): Madelyn, Keith, Natascha, Dennis, Dorothy, Jennifer, Devany holding Parker, Robert (behind) and Michael on end



*The Ledford boys!
L to R: Michael, Keith, Robert*



*Dr. Ledford with 3 of his grandchildren
L to R: Miles, Dennis, Annika, Ian*



Mrs. Jennifer Ledford



Michael (son) with Grandma Ledford



*Four Ledford grandchildren
L to R: Miles, Ethan, Annika, Kaila*

From Dr. Dennis K. Ledford, MD:

This has been a tumultuous year, full of change and challenges. Personally, this is a year of transition as well. Change does not come naturally to me, but change is an opportunity for growth and meeting challenges. I made the difficult decision, in consultation with the other faculty, to transition to full time VA status as of December 7, 2020. This was a difficult decision and bittersweet. I regret leaving the interaction with patients, fellows, residents and faculty in the Lockey, Fox, Ledford, Glaum practice, particularly the Monday clinic with the All Children's fellows. My intent is not to retire or 'cut back' but to transition. My plans are to continue oversight of the VA allergy/immunology program, sustain or grow VA support for our section, remain active in fellow education particularly with respect to rhinoscopy, continue the VA drug allergy initiatives, complete course work being offered by USF through the Data Science Certificate and work more closely with Juan Carlos Cardet, MD on 'data mining' of the CPRS resource focused on allergic and immunologic conditions, and teach medical student history and physical examination skills. The latter requires my serving as an attending physician on the in-patient service approximately 5 months of the year. It could be a scary thought for an old allergist/immunologist to be your internal medicine attending physician, both for the house staff and the patients, but I intend to pull it off.

No physician is an island. I am grateful, more so than I can express, for the opportunities initially provided by Drs. Lockey and Fox. The privilege of interacting with the future of our specialty, our fellows, is a particular delight. My career is more of a reflection of those around me than myself. My family, particularly Jennifer, faculty members from Dr. Bukantz to Dr. Pepper, Dona and Peggy and the fantastic staff who have worked with them, the incredible volunteer faculty at the VA, the CRU team and family, the USF faculty and VA administration, the All Children's Hospital and Drs. Good, Sher, Day, Sleasman and Walter among others, and the scientists in our Division and USF in general. I am not a natural leader but have relished in the opportunity to serve in leadership at USF MCOM, Florida Allergy Asthma and Immunology Society and the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology. The American College of Allergy Asthma and Immunology nominated me to the Joint Task Force for Practice Parameters for Allergy/Immunology in 2020, and I am diving into this new long-term commitment with excitement.

Finally, I am appreciative of 'my' patients and their patience with me as I learned from them. I am grateful to God for receiving more than I give and more than I deserve. I look forward to many more years with all of you.

Dennis

From Dr. Richard F. Lockey, MD

Dennis, helped train him into the complete physician. my single "greatest" achievements. He is a dear friend, a brother, a tremendous colleague, always to be counted on. Cannot and will not be replaced. Dennis, please stay with us for years to come. WE need you and are counting on it. Glad you are still with us 100 percent; I miss you in the practice. Love to you and your wife, Jennifer, and wonderful family.

Dick

With warm regards,

Richard F. Lockey, MD
Distinguished University Health Professor
Joy McCann Culverhouse Chair in Allergy
and Immunology
Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics & Public Health
Director, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Department of Internal Medicine

Jolan Walter, MD, PhD
Robert A. Good Endowed Chair in Immunology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
Chief, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Department of Pediatrics