

I am a Pharmacy Professional and I... am Part of a Pharmacy Family

March/April 2021
Theme: I am a Pharmacy Professional and a... Vaccinator!

Email your response to mgrant@pswi.org by February 1.

Responses should be <100 words and include a photo.

Cole Seckel, PharmD
Pharmacy Supervisor
Chartwell Midwest Wisconsin, Madison

I was inspired to become a pharmacist by my grandfather, Bill Seckel. He graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy and practiced community pharmacy in the St. Louis area his entire career. I don't have many pharmacy specific memories of him, as he retired when I was very young; however, I do remember going to visit him down at the "drugstore" when I was a kid and he was still working. His compassion for others and his forever positive attitude made me strive to want to follow the same career path he did. To this day, I still wish I could pull off the pocket protector as well as he was able to. Although I have taken a different pharmacy path, I'm certain he'd be proud of what I've accomplished along the way.



Marisa Goninen, PharmD, BCACP
Pharmacy Coordinator, Population Health
Advocate Aurora Health, Milwaukee

When I started my pharmacy journey almost a decade ago, I couldn't have anticipated the joy of sharing it with my two younger siblings—Meredith Frey and Tanner Frey. They soon followed in my footsteps and we now have a pharmacy family! From being able to coat each of them at their White Coat Ceremonies, to giving advice and witnessing their accomplishments, I am not only extremely proud of them, but also deeply inspired and motivated by them. Here we are at Meredith's graduation from UW-Madison in 2019; you might spy that Tanner is a Hawkeye, he's in his second year at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. And if you're wondering—no, neither of our parents are pharmacists! A few words from my siblings:

"I've always looked up to Marisa and followed in her path, and learning about her experiences affirmed my interest and passion in the profession. Her advice

has helped me immensely in identifying my career interests and goals. I have had the joy of spending more time with Tanner as I complete my residency at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and even had the opportunity to teach during some of his courses." – Meredith Frey

"I am thankful to be able to refer to both of my sisters as remarkable role models and mentors for my progression thus far into pharmacy. They both display hard work and passion for the profession, and this is something that I hope to emulate." – Tanner Frey

Janet Fritsch, RPh

Owner

Baraboo Corner Drug Hometown Pharmacy, Baraboo

My daughter, Karissa Fritsch, and my nephew, Nate Menninga, have brought something new to my pharmacy experience. While they were in pharmacy school, I enjoyed meeting their friends and precepting their fellow classmates. It has been a pleasure to introduce them to pharmacy colleagues at PSW events and to watch them interact with other pharmacists and grow in those relationships. We have spent many hours in conversations about professors, classes, exams, and jobs. The shared experiences of pharmacy school and now our careers have developed a special bond. Pharmacy is another connection I have with them now. I love my profession in pharmacy, and it has been an unexpected joy to share that with Karissa and Nate.



Becky Klipstine, RPh

Clinical Pharmacist

GHC Pharmacy-Capitol Clinic, Madison

The Moioffer Pharmacy Family dynasty started with Mike Moioffer, the first Moioffer Pharmacist. Mike purchased the Augustine drug in Crandon WI in 1972. He spent the next 30 years opening community pharmacies in Rhinelander, Merrill, Antigo, Amery and Crandon. He was a wonderful pharmacist, boss and volunteered many hours to the communities. Mike was PSW president in 1989 and his claim to PSW fame is that he was on the committee that hired the late Chris Decker.

Michelle Moioffer Muga, Mike's Niece, is the second Moioffer pharmacist. Michelle started her college career at UW Milwaukee as premed. But after talking with Uncle Mike at a family picnic, she realized that pharmacy was a better fit and transferred to Madison to start Pharmacy School. Pharmacy offered flexibility and allowed her to be a professional and a mom simultaneously. So, she followed in her uncle's footsteps. Michelle currently works part time for Walgreens in the Sheboygan area.

Next came Mark Moioffer, Mike's son. He is the third Moioffer pharmacist. Mark went into pharmacy ready to take over the family business. He worked in Des Moines IA for a few years. But he loved the idea of owning land and living in the country, so Mark moved to Balsam Lake and worked for his dad at Snyder Drug of Amery WI. He eventually transitioned over to hospital pharmacy and currently works at Amery Regional Medical Center in Amery, WI.

Becky Moioffer Klipstine, Mike's eldest daughter, is the fourth Moioffer pharmacist. She too wanted to go into the health field but could not tolerate the sight of blood so medical school was out and pharmacy school was in! Becky worked for her dad at the Snyder Drug in Amery from 1994 to 2000. She and her brother even worked together for some of those years! She is currently working as the Pharmacy Operations Manager for GHC SCW in Madison.

Molly Moioffer Mieska, Mike's youngest daughter, is the fifth Moioffer pharmacist. Molly started college in the engineering track. She quickly decided this was not for her. Again, the flexibility that pharmacy offered as a career to provide a good work/life balance was integral in her decision. Molly currently works at Froedtert Hospital Specialty Pharmacy in Milwaukee WI.

If Mike is the patriarch of the Moioffer Pharmacy family, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the matriarch of the Moioffer Pharmacy family. Karen Moioffer, is not a pharmacist but she is a nurse and she has been the driving force behind the success of the pharmacies and our pharmacy careers. Her endless energy, support, and encouragement of "when the going gets tough, the tough get going!" were keys to the success of each of us.

Pharmacy has been good to the Moioffer family! There is no doubt about it. It has been a wonderful career which has enriched our lives both professionally and personally. Our family members would agree....for the most part. If you ask any of them, they will tell you that "Pharmacy Talk" is forbidden at family get togethers.

