

Local Podiatrist Celebrates 25 Years in Westbury

Tucked away in a residential neighborhood, stands a sole professional building that has housed Texas Foot Consultant, of David S. Wolf, DPM for the past 25 years. Since moving back to his hometown in 1983, Dr. Wolf has made coming to his office a unique experience for his patients. While easy access and free parking are pluses, the large yellow sign in front of his office with a different quotation each month, it's obvious that this not the average doctor's office

As Dr. Wolf says, "Nobody cares how much you know until they know how much you care." That in a nutshell these words sum up his philosophy about the practice of medicine. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of his practice is fitting to take a brief "virtual tour" of one of Houston's most unusual offices, located at 11515 Chimney Rock (across from Home Depot where the old Westbury Square used to stand) just south of Bellfort.

As patients wait to be seen, they find themselves in an entertaining, museum-like atmosphere filled with antiques and memorabilia collected by Dr. and Mrs. Wolf over the years. Starting in the corner of the warm reception room, there is an authentic French Dental cabinet filled with antique medical instruments, an antique 120 year old

wheelchair which was used at the Wheeler Opera House in Leadville, Colorado sits in one corner of his warm reception room, a framed Life Magazine ad from 1948 featuring a doctor smoking Camel cigarettes that touts, "More doctors smoke Camels" entertain patients while they wait to be seen. In another corner is a framed display of his memorabilia: his hospital bill from Herman Hospital (1944) where his mother paid \$6.50 per day for her maternity care, his first semesters tuition at the University of Texas (1962) for \$120 and his paycheck stub from Gordon's Jewelry Store, where he worked after classes at Bellaire High School. He has memorabilia on the wall of his tour of duty at the Air Force Academy where he served as a Captain, and podiatry officer after his surgical residency.

When asked why he went to such great lengths to create this comfortable and homey atmosphere, Wolf replied, "I want my patients to feel at ease and one way of accomplishing this is to make my reception room warm and inviting. He went on to explain, "Managed care has created a crisis, that has made doctors no longer caregivers, but providers which makes patients feel like an impersonal social security number. I



Dr. David Wolf and his staff: front row-Debbie Harader, Marian Baragas, Marisela Lopez; back row-Jennifer Harader, Alberta Robinson, Alex Reyes, Steve Harader.

wanted to maintain some old-fashioned humanity in my practice." What a concept, huh?.

A seven member staff helps Dr. Wolf sees 40-50 patients a day in a way that appears seamless. All systems necessary for an effective practice are employed under one roof from EMR (Electronic Medical Records) to digital X-ray and diagnostic Ultrasound which enhances foot care treatment and efficiency, in a one "stop shop".

His warm office staff is one happy family. Alberta Robertson, was formerly his chair side assistant, now schedules appointments has been with him over 20 years, Debbie Harader, is his office manager and has been with the office

for more than 16 years. She and Alberta still meet and greet each patient as they arrive at the office. Alex Reyes and Marisela Lopez are his (right hand) podiatric assistants. Jenny Harader and Steven Harader, do all of the paperwork behind the scenes and Marianne Barajas is the surgical scheduler and pre-certification specialist.

Dr. Wolf, Board Certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery, has trained podiatric medical residents since he opened his office. He was recently honored as Volunteer of the Year at the San Jose Clinic where he has volunteered for the last 20 years. He also does pro bono work for patients from the Depelchin Home, Casa

Maria and Wave Clinics.

This native Houstonian is proud of his growing family which consist of his wife of 28 years, an interior designer, his four daughters, two sons-in-law and three grandchildren. Having completed five 26.2 mile marathons, you can see him walking and sometimes running (albeit slowly) at Memorial Park or in his Bellaire neighborhood. He takes Friday's off and volunteers as a lay chaplain at the Darrington Unit in Richmond and as a volunteer docent at the Holocaust Museum Houston.

As seen in

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