

SERLE M. EPSTEIN, M.D., F.A.C.P.

He opened his private practice of Internal Medicine in Madison, Connecticut in October 1983. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine of the Yale University School of Medicine. He sees patients in his office, he attends at Yale New Haven Hospital and he performs periodic home and skilled nursing facility visits for his clients.

In addition to private practice he is active in organized medicine as a member of several committees of the Connecticut State Medical Society Individual Practice Association. He has served on the Volunteerism Subcommittee of the American College of Physicians. One Saturday each month, he is a preceptor for a student run health center for the uninsured predominantly immigrant population of the New Haven area, the Haven Free Clinic. On occasion he has supervised migrant farm worker clinics for the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine. Medical students regularly rotate through his office. He has been awarded the Annual Ambulatory Teaching of Medical Students Award of the Yale Department of Internal Medicine in recognition of his many years of mentoring of young physicians.

His role in helping to establish and sustain the remote **Clínica Misional “Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe”** www.guadalupe-ec.org in the province of Zamora-Chinchipe, Ecuador has been acknowledged by the people of town of Guadalupe by acclaiming him an honorary citizen. He helped to establish a 501C3 foundation to assist the Indigenous peoples of the Oriente region “**The Friends of the Mission Clinic of Our Lady of Guadalupe**”. This can be accessed on the Internet at <http://guadalupe-ec.org/CLINIC/donations.html> .

A certificate of appreciation was issued by the Vatican in the name of Pope John Paul II to honor his service. His medical work has been presented at the American College of Physicians annual national meeting. He has received the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Physicians award for Volunteerism and Community Service, and the Community Service Award of the New Haven County Medical Association.

His interest in photography has spanned several decades. Photographs from many international locations grace his office, but the most prominent pertain to his volunteer activities.

Only recently his printed images have been displayed to the public. Auctions of his photographs were the centerpieces of four separate fundraising events for the Clínica Misional “Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe”. Dr. Epstein’s images were featured in Connecticut **Ink Magazine** in September 2010, and have been accompanying pictures for articles in **Connecticut Medicine**, **Consultant Magazine**, and **Consultant for Pediatrics Magazine**.

As is true of many photographers Dr. Epstein considers the visual arts an effective way to teach. He wishes through his images to evoke emotions and create moods and he is striving for sense immediacy in his work as he is learning the trade.

When in the South American Amazonia the ability with a digital camera to show los ciudadanos de los pueblos an image just after it is taken creates a magical moment. For the children it is as if the stranger has just become the pied piper of the town. The adults may take pride, but for some of the Indigenous persons the taken image is a window to the soul and therefore not permitted. In our western culture it is both at once and neither leading to our fascination with this instant record. We are transported to a place and time.

Dr. Epstein wishes to acknowledge the encouragement that he has received from his friend, the acclaimed photographer Jody Dole, and from his daughter Allison Heather Epstein.

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