

Dear Doctor Bansal,

I would like to send you my appreciation after I noticed in the ASN Kidney News about your work in Nephrology. I also saw that your research is supported by the **Art Stach Foundation**.

I had been a fellow in the Division of Nephrology with Dr. Belding Scribner at the University of Washington in the early 1970s before going into private practice as a nephrologist in Everett, WA. I started in solo practice, and at that time was the only nephrologist between Seattle and Vancouver, BC. Art Stach was one of my first patients approaching ESRD. After I was able to establish a dialysis center in Everett he became one of my first home dialysis patients. He eventually suffered from a chronic disease unrelated to his renal failure and was discussing with me what to do with his farm when his death appeared to be inevitable. I suggested possibly to pass his possessions on to the UW for kidney research. We contacted the UW and that was the last time I heard about his donation until Dr. Scribner contacted me somewhat distraught that the money had gone into another fund other than what had been intended and planned for dialysis research. Ever since then I felt a little bit of guilt that I had let down that great researcher and friend by not watching more closely to support the original plan.

Now I saw with big satisfaction that Art's farm is going to support kidney research. I could see Art Stach beaming that his life's work found a meaningful Happy End and "Scrib" would have been very happy too.

I wish you all the best,
Christian J. Schmitt, M.D.