

Dr. Harvey J. Howard

Biography used with permission from Acacia Fraternity. "Centennial Moments: Lives of the Founding Fathers of Acacia, Brother Harvey J. Howard." Acacia Fraternity.

http://www.acacia.org/mnt_founders.htm (accessed April 3, 2008).

Dr. Harvey J. Howard's contributions to America and China have revolved around Ophthalmology. He was once the physician of the Chinese Boy Emperor Pu Yi (1921-25) — the subject of the 1987 film *The Last Emperor*. He also devised the critical depth perception test for the selection of flying personnel in the Army, Navy and the Department of Commerce before it was adapted worldwide. He was also quite fond of recalling his capture, ransom and near death at the hands of Chinese bandits, from which he wrote a book in 1926 — *Ten Weeks With Chinese Bandits* — that went into eight printings and was translated into seven languages. He is listed in a dozen or more national and international biographical dictionaries, including *International Who's Who*, *Who's Who in America*, *American Men of Science* and *Who's Who in American Medicine*.

- Born at Churchville, NY on January 30, 1880
- Family is directly descended from the Duke of Norfolk line (the Howard family of England can trace its lineage to the 9th century, farther back than any other family in Europe)
- Earned his A.B. from the University of Michigan in 1904; his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1908; his A.M. from Harvard in 1917; and his Oph.D from the University of Colorado in 1918
- Author of approximately 100 clinical and scientific contributions to ophthalmology
- Married Maude Irene Strobel on June 25, 1910 in Philadelphia, and had three children: Margaret Howard Jackson, James Howell Howard and Martha Howard Blake (after the death of his first wife in 1948, he married Alice Tilson Eastes)
- Resident physician, Bryn Mawr Hospital (1908)
- Resident ophthalmic surgeon, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary (1909-10)
- Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Medical School, Canton, China (1910-13)
- Ophthalmologist, Canton Christian College (1912-16)
- Fellow, *China Medical Board of Rockefeller Foundation* at Harvard University (1916-18)
- Fellow, the University of Vienna (1923-24)
- Ophthalmic assistant, Harvard Post-Graduate Medical School and Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary (1917-18)
- Professor and head of Department of Ophthalmology, Peking Union Medical College (1917-27)
- Professor, Head of Department of Ophthalmology and Executive Directory of the Oscar Johnson Institute of Research in Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, Washington University (1927-33)
- Entered private practice in 1933
- Medical Director for the *Missouri Commission for the Blind* (1931-1948)
- Captain, Medical Corps, United States Army at Hazelhurst Field, Mineola, NY (September 1918 to June 1919)
- Lieutenant-Colonel Medical Reserve Corps (1921-41)
- Awarded "Tiger" Fifth Class by the Chinese government (1926)
- Commissioned a Colonel in the Medical reserve Corps (1941)
- Fellow, the *American Medical Association* and the *American College of Surgeons*
- Member, the *American Ophthalmological Society*

- Member, the *American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology*
- Member, the *Southern Medical Association*
- Member, the *Pinellas County, Florida Medical Society*
- Member, the *Florida Medical Association*
- Member, the *St. Louis Writers Guild* (President, 1937)
- Member, the *Society of St. Louis Authors* (President, 1942-45)
- Member, the *St. Louis Kiwanis Club* (President, 1935)
- Member, the *American Legion* and *American War Dads*
- Member, Air Board of the *St. Louis Chamber of Commerce*
- Board of Directors, Washington University Branch of the Y.M.C.A
- Chairman, St. Louis Chapter of the *William Allen White Committee* (1940-41)
- Chairman, St. Louis Chapter of the *United China Relief* (1938-42)
- Died in Clearwater, FL on November 6, 1956