

President's Page

This is the month in which people of the United States honor the veterans of our military services and, beginning in 1621, celebrate a bountiful harvest (Thanksgiving). Such remembrance, gratitude, and respect are offered around the world each year for the service and sacrifices so many have made for their respective countries to provide for their safety and health.

The beginnings of Aviation Medicine and its allied sciences were rooted in an effort to address not the political, but the physical and mental stresses expected of and acting upon those who "...slip the surly bonds of Earth...." In 1929, the Aero Medical Association was organized and the *Journal of Aviation Medicine* began publication in 1930. Our journal was dedicated to the study of aviation medicine and that field grew with the impact of space exploration into what we publish today. As other fields increased their scope to address safety and health of those involved in aerospace activities, the breadth of our organization evolved with it.

The Constituent Organization highlighted this month is the Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons (SUSNFS). The following review of this organization was contributed by Commander Walter "Lunar" Dalitsch, MC, USN, SUSNFS President 2013-2014.

The Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons was formed as a professional and fraternal organization by Captain Frank H. Austin, Jr., in 1976. Since that time the society has flourished. During its nearly 40-year existence, several generations of Flight Surgeons have trained, served, and retired, always carrying on and supporting the Naval Flight Surgeons motto, "Keep 'em flying!", or better yet, "Keep 'em flying safely!"

Our origins as Naval Flight Surgeons, however, date back much further. In 1922, our first five Flight Surgeons graduated from the Army's School of Aviation Medicine on Long Island, NY. Under the tutelage of such auspicious and notable characters as Louis H. Bauer, AsMA founder and first president, Edward C. Schneider of Schneider Index fame, and Raymond T. Longacre, who developed early personality inventories for pilot selection, these early aviation physicians gained knowledge and learned skills that would set them, and the Navy-Marine Corps flying team, up for great success for many years to come.

Through maximizing human performance, our Flight Surgeons have supported the operational mission of the Navy and Marine Corps aviation enterprises in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and, most recently, in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our Flight Surgeons have saved lives at the front line, flown in combat and in space as astronauts, risen to levels of the highest leader-



James T. Webb, Ph.D.

ship in Navy Medicine, and, most importantly, have safely delivered healthy Marines and Sailors to the tip of the spear to support our nation's strategies with an ultimate goal of peace.

Keeping with our society's original professional intent, we have been involved in many changes over the years. Flight Surgeons have been intimately involved in human factors, reducing mishap rates, cockpit and instrumentation design, aircrew training, development of survival gear, improved effectiveness of medical evacuation, selection of aircrew, the introduction and implementation of Remotely Piloted Systems (aerial and otherwise), ergonomics, the effects of altitude and the environment and subsequent protection, Human Systems Integration, and other areas of Human Performance.

On the fraternal side, the society has hosted a number of events for Student Flight Surgeons and brand new "nugget" Flight Surgeons, and recently donated the wings for all graduating Flight Surgeons. We have now hosted social events the Wednesday night of every AsMA meeting for 10 years, focusing on aviation, military, or medical history, and local cuisine and beverages. We have enjoyed venues that have included the world's largest collection of privately owned aircraft, the USS *Constitution*, the World War I Museum, Vietnam-era Huey rides, and the International Museum of Surgical Science. This coming year in San Diego at the AsMA Annual Scientific Meeting we are thrilled to join with our military brethren to host the first All Service Social aboard the USS *Midway* (CV 41) for a 1940s themed event. As our social has always been open to all, SUSNFS member or not, we hope you will consider joining us. We also invite you to visit our website, www.susnfs.org, and stop by our "gedunk" table in May.

Association News

New Membership Dues Structure

The Executive Committee of AsMA has approved an increase in dues for the first time since 2009. Corporate dues have not been increased since 1998. The new fees will take effect beginning in January 2014, so if you renew now, you can lock in the old rate for another year!

1-Year Active Member: \$280.00
3-Year Member: \$780.00
Member/Spouse: \$500.00 (one journal)
Life Member: \$5,000.00
Technician: \$130.00
Resident: \$165.00
Student: \$50.00 (online journal only;
paper journal \$50 extra)
Emeritus: \$50.00 (online journal only;
paper journal \$50 extra)
Corporate: \$450.00

New Members

Andersen, Knut, Stavanger, Norway
Bomann, Mark D., Dr., Los Gatos, CA
Burns, Rebecca, Capt., USAF, Cannon AFB, NM
Colon, Ismael N., M.D., Juncos, Puerto Rico
Corbin, Christopher J., MRCS, LRCP, Isleham, Ely, UK
Cornish, Sally A., M.D., Cobram, Victoria, Australia
Knight, Simon G., Frankston, Victoria, Australia
Kudla, Alexei, LT, USN, FS, San Diego, CA
Lafere, Pierre, Locmaria-Plouzane, France
Leibig, Jonathan S., LCDR, USN, Pensacola, FL
Lloro, Victor, Barcelona, Spain

News of Corporate Members

IFALPA Releases Position Paper

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots Association (IFALPA) has released a position paper on cruise relief pilots. In this paper, they reaffirm "that all pilots should be fully qualified on type, and therefore opposes the creation of a specific "relief pilot" license." In that context, they spell out the definitions that should be used "as a complement to the existing licensing concepts: Cruise relief PIC means a pilot who relieves the PIC of his/her duties at the controls during the cruise phase of a flight in multipilot operations above FL200. Cruise relief co-pilot means a pilot who relieves the co-pilot of his/her duties at the controls during the cruise phase of a flight in multi-pilot operations above FL200." The position paper then spells out the prerequisites, training, and training upgrades that should be used.

—To see the paper in full, please visit <http://www.ifalpa.org/store/14POS11%20-%20Cruise%20relief%20pilots.pdf> (pdf file).

MedCareProfessional Offers First Flight Paramedic Course

MedCareProfessional recently announced that, in cooperation with IAFP Germany and Med1Plus, they will be offering their first preparatory course for Flight Paramedics. The course will prepare candidates for the FP-C/CC-P examination at MedCare's new premises in Hattingen. More will be available soon at www.medcareprofessional.de or www.med1plus.de.

—Adapted from a news piece found at <http://www.medcareprofessional.com/?/6-1-News.htm>.

InoMedic Employee Receives NASA Award

Another InoMedic employee, Mary Kirkland, the Athletic Training Supervisor for the RehabWorks department at Kennedy Space Center, has been awarded the NASA Safety and Mission Assurance 'Silver Dollar.' She received the award for her personal efforts to improve the ergonomics and work practices at Delaware North's Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. These efforts resulted in a direct reduction in occupational injuries.

—Adapted from InoMedic's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=317099818427470&set=a.226324600838326.55205.109714139166040&type=1&relevant_count=1

UTMB Researchers Develop New Tularemia Treatment

Researchers at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)—Galveston have developed a new treatment that could be used against the bacteria that causes pulmonary tularemia, which has been identified as a potential bioterrorism agent. Known as cystatin-9, the substance is one of a group of naturally occurring human proteins that function to moderate immune responses. In cell culture and mouse experiments, the researchers found that it also directly affected the bacteria responsible for tularemia, acting against them both in cultured macrophages (the immune cells that make up the first line of defense against invading bacteria) and mice.

The out-of-control immune response that generally accompanies tularemia 24 hours after the bacteria has been inhaled is more dangerous to the infected person than the infection itself, because it causes extensive tissue damage. But treatment with cystatin-9 moderates immune responses without completely shutting them down, allowing the immune system to continue fighting the bacterial invasion. At the same time, cystatin-9 also has an effect on *Francisella tularensis*, disrupting the bacterial cell wall and making the bacteria less virulent. Researchers envision cystatin-9 being used as a prophylactic by U.S. military or other personnel in situations where they are likely to encounter aerosolized *Francisella tularensis*, which was weaponized by both the United States and the Soviet Union.

—Adapted from a press release at <http://www.utmb.edu/newsroom/article8849.aspx>.

Allianz Launches New Product

Australia's largest provider of international student health coverage, Allianz Global Assistance, launched a new insurance product recently, Overseas Visitors Health Cover (OVHC; www.oshcallianzassistance.com.au/default.aspx), to provide health insurance for international visitors staying in Australia on temporary resident visas. The Australian Government, through the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, requires all holders of a temporary resident visa to maintain OVHC during their entire stay in Australia. The new product provides coverage for in-hospital medical treatment, prescription medicines, surgically implanted prostheses, and emergency ambulance transport. Allianz Global Assistance offers two types of OVHC that overseas visitors can purchase, Budget Visitors and Visitors Plus.

—For more, see www.allianz-assistance.com.au/corporate/news/australian-media-releases/Allianz%20Global%20Assistance%20launches%20new%20OVHC%20product.aspx.

NIOSH Provides New Factsheets for Young Drivers

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently released two new factsheets, one for employers and another one for parents and young workers that provide recommendations on how to prevent motor vehicle crashes on the job. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of work-related fatalities among young people (ages 16-24) in the United States. It is important that parents, employers, and drivers understand the risks that can lead to crashes among young drivers and learn how they can help prevent motor vehicle crashes among young workers. These new fact sheets, available on the NIOSH website, outline the risk factors that place young drivers at greater risk of motor vehicle crashes, present case reports, and provide learning points and recommendations for young drivers, parents, and employers on how to stay safe on the job. Information on federal and state laws, as well as additional resources, is also provided. To download copies of the factsheets, go to www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-152/ and www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-153/.

—To read more about this, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-09-04-13.html>.

Cobham Launches New Mobile Cellular Network

Cobham is taking direct aim at the growing market for rapidly deployable mobile cellular communications with the release of Cobham SATCOM's new "Explorer Mobile Net" system. Available in GSM, 3G, or LTE variants, the Explorer Mobile Net provides an ultra-portable solution for instantly powering a coverage area of up to 7 km for mobile phones and smart devices within just a few minutes. The tactical single-case cellular network solution allows people to stay in touch under the

most challenging and demanding conditions by providing instant local communications without backhaul, as well as enabling global interoperable voice, video and data communications when paired with one of Cobham's Explorer BGAN or VSAT satellite terminals. Announced at the DSEI conference in London, the new product line is the latest addition to the EXPLORER portfolio of communication systems from Cobham SATCOM's Land business unit.

—Excerpted from pdf at www.cobham.com/media/946810/cobham_to_launch_new_satellite_optimized_portable_gsm-3g-lte_product_range.pdf.

Gentex Awarded DLA Contract for Helmets

Gentex Corporation, a provider of personal protection and situational awareness solutions for global defense and security forces, was awarded a fixed-price, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract by the U.S. Government's Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). Under the multi-year contract, Gentex will provide Lightweight Advanced Combat Helmets (ACH) to the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. A helmet systems supplier to the U.S. government for over 60 years, Gentex has been awarded multiple sequential contracts for their ACH. The Gentex Lightweight ACH is part of the company's comprehensive line of helmet systems for ground and air personnel, which includes an array of helmets and accessories all designed to seamlessly work together and provide advanced capability and protection for the modern soldier.

—For more on this, please see <http://www.gentexcorp.com/default.aspx?pageid=5299>.

Meetings Calendar

November 4-6, 2013; Advanced ATM Symposium and Workshops: Today's Opportunities for Saving Fuel and Reducing Emissions; Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Run by ICAO in partnership with ACI, CANSO, and IATA. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.icao.int/Meetings/AdvancedATM/Pages/default.aspx>.

December 10-12, 2013; Multi-Crew Pilot Licence Symposium; ICAO Headquarters, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For more info or to register, visit <http://www.icao.int/meetings/mpl>.

January 23-26, 2014; Flying Physicians Association Winter Board Meeting (open to all); Cape Coral, FL. Please visit www.fpadrs.org for details and registration information.

April 1-3, 2014; Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI) colloquium on Postmortem Forensic Toxicology in Aviation; Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, Oklahoma City, OK. For more information, please visit <http://www.faa.gov/go/toxmeeting>.

June 3-5, 2014; AirMed 2014 World Congress; Rome, Italy. For more info, please see the pdf flyer found at http://www.asma.org/asma/media/asma/pdf-meetings/airmed2014_world-congress.pdf.

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POSITION AVAILABLE

Looking for an associate/partnership in a very busy Aviation Medical practice in Phoenix, Arizona. Must be a Senior AME, Family Practice or Internal Medicine Board Certified preferred. The practice specializes in Aviation Medicine only. For more information, please contact Dr. Bryman at drbryman@gmail.com.

Check out the improved AsMA website!!!
<http://www.asma.org>

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Deutsche Akademie für Flug- und Reisemedizin



European School of Aviation Medicine

Scientific Award 2014

The European School of Aviation Medicine Award recognizes work that demonstrates excellence in clinical practice, education and/or administration in the field of aviation, aerospace, travel medicine and related scientific areas. Eligible candidates should have accomplished the scientific work in an **EASA member state**. Only manuscripts in English or German language can be accepted.

The award includes a

Honorarium of 10.000,00 €
Certificate as recognition of the award

The application form should contain:

- Three carbon copies of the scientific work.
- A two page curriculum vitae including a short bibliography.

Candidates should be aware that

- Only one manuscript per candidate will be considered.
- An individual may not apply for other awards with the same work submitted herein.

Award applicants are encouraged to send their work to the Scientific Board of the European School of Aviation Medicine, Lufthansa-Base, 60546 Frankfurt (DAF.Frankfurt@t-online.de).

Deadline for application will be 28 February 2014

